Brazilian Independence
Heaven G. ~ Gillian B. ~ Kaitlynn T.
Pre-Colonization

➢ 2-6 million indigenous Indians lived in Brazil at the time of European contact (1500) → Encountered Tupians
  ○ Tropical rain forest farmers
    ■ Slash-and-burn; cassava, sweet potatoes, maize, beans, groundnuts, cotton, and dyes
  ○ Rivermen
    ■ Arrows, harpoons, canoes; turtles/turtle eggs, fish, and river mammals
  ○ Coastal navigators
  Patrilineal, emphasis on the extended

Columbian Exchange

➢ Smallpox introduced by Portuguese in 1562 → tens of thousands of deaths
➢ Horses gave Europeans an advantage since indigenous Brazilians weren’t as maneuverable
➢ Brazil became a major producer of coffee and sugar cane
➢ Slavery
  ○ ~35% of all slaves brought from Africa ended up in Brazil
  ○ In total, >3 million slaves were brought over to work (plantations)
Colonial Era

➢ Donatários
  ○ Favored persons given grants of land; similar to a Royal Governor or Lord Proprietor
  ○ King João III (John III) wanted to strengthen his authority by unifying the donatários

➢ Jesuits
  ○ Converted Indians to Christianity, raising the colony’s “moral” level
    ■ After conversion, they were settled into aldeias → protected from slavery

➢ Expansion
  ○ Treaty of Tordesillas forbade crossing 46° 30’ W → soon ignored
  ○ 3 groups: missionaries, cattlemen, and bandeirantes (explorers and slave hunters)
  ○ Paulistas (from São Paulo) were the most active in westward expansion
  ○ Brazil was held together by their shared Portuguese language and culture that separated them from the Spanish
Colonial Reforms

Marquis de Pombal, King Joseph’s PM, introduced social, administrative, and religious reforms to the colony:
- Abolished the donatário system
- Granted legal rights to Indians
- Encouraged immigration
- Created companies to oversee Brazilian trade
- Established a diamond monopoly
- Expelled the Jesuits
- Centralized Brazilian government
Independence

➢ Tiradentes
  ○ Started the first Portuguese rebellion (1789) → was executed and became a martyr

➢ Napoleonic wars
  ○ Portuguese prince Dom João (later King John/João VI) took refuge in Brazil
  ○ João set up his government in Rio de Janeiro → declared Brazil equal to Portugal
    ■ Eventually faced pressure from Iberian Cortes to return, so João left his son, Pedro I, in Brazil and appointed him as regent

➢ Pedro faced difficulties in Brazil → antagonism between Portuguese and Brazilians and poor policy making by the Cortes in Portugal
  ○ Parliament wanted Brazil to be restored to colonial status
  ○ Colonial reforms were reversed and Pedro was summoned to return to Lisbon
    ■ “Fico” (“I am Staying”) speech by Pedro announced his intent to remain in Brazil, which was met with much local support
Portuguese Cortes, 1822
Oscar Pereira da Silva (1865–1939)
Pedro I

- Founded the Brazilian empire → 1st emperor of Brazil
- Issued Brazilian independence on September 7th, 1822
- Lost popularity
  - Autocratic
  - lack of enthusiasm for a parliamentary government
  - deep interests in Portuguese affairs
- Became king of Portugal in 1826 with death of John VI
  - Became Pedro IV → issued a parliamentary charter for Portugal, leaving throne to his daughter Maria da Gloria
- Abdicated Brazilian throne to son Pedro II and left for Portugal in 1831
João VI

- Supported Spain against the French republic
- Retreated to Brazil in November 1807
- Made a united kingdom of Brazil and Portugal
- Annexed Montevideo → led to conflict with Spain
- Forced to agree to a liberal constitution that limited his power, but his subjects remained unsatisfied
  - Liberals wanted Brazil to revert to its former colonial status rather than equal to them
  - Son Pedro I remained in Brazil, declared its independence, and became its first emperor
José Bonifácio de Andrada e Silva

➢ “Patriarch of Independence”
➢ Became chief adviser for Pedro I
  ○ Supported his ideas of Brazilian independence
➢ Became the prime minister of the new empire of Brazil after the proclamation of Brazilian independence in 1822
➢ Exiled for opposing Pedro I’s advisor, but returned in 1829 to aid the prince again
  ○ Tutored Pedro II → become an effective and enlightened monarch thanks to the liberal education Andrada provided
Thomas Cochrane

➢ Scottish naval flag officer, radical politician, and successful captain in the Napoleonic Wars
➢ Battle of Basque Roads in 1809
  ○ Used fire ships and explosive vessels to cause terror to the French
  ○ Lost the battle due to his Commander’s delay of the order to attack
➢ Elected into the House of Commons as an MP in 1806
  ○ Used his platform to attack the government’s conduct of the war against France and naval corruption
➢ Dismissed from the Royal Navy in 1814 → left Britain in 1817 → invited by Pedro to lead a new Brazilian navy in 1823
Manuel Marques de Sousa

➢ Came from an aristocratic family with a long line of military service
➢ War of the Ragamuffins → served on the loyalist side against separatist republicans of Rio Grande do Sul; victory for the Brazilian Empire
➢ One of the greatest military and political defenders of the Empire of Brazil
➢ Political involvement
  ○ Elected into the Provincial Assembly
  ○ Minister of Foreign Affairs
  ○ Provincial Secretary of War
Joaquim Gonçalves Ledo

- Democratic ideals of the Encyclopédistes (French writers’ society)
- Liberal and very patriotic
- Accused of being a republican by Bonifacio, and that he was secretly conspiring to overthrow the monarchy
  - Grand Orient of Brazil was closed; Ledo fled to Argentina to avoid being arrested and deported alongside the other members of the Orient
José da Silva Lisboa

➢ Economist, historian, jurist, publicist, and politician
○ Held many positions in the economic and political fields
■ Deputy of the Royal Junta do Comércio
■ Judge of the Casa de Suplicação
➢ Followed the theories of Adam Smith → proposed the opening of Brazilian ports
➢ “Mercantile Law and Marine Laws” (1801)
○ Covered maritime insurance, maritime exchange, damages, bills of exchange, merchant contracts, courts, and causes of trade
Conflicts and Issues leading to War
The Liberal Revolution, also known as the Constitutionalist Revolution, of 1820 had returned the Portuguese crown to Europe after it had taken place within the city of Porto in Portugal despite the fact that Napoleon and his forces had removed himself from the country in 1815. The Constitutionalist Revolution was a military insurrection that had spread peacefully throughout the entire country.

Causes of the Independence Movement

Political, Economic, Social
King Joao (John) VI

Dom Pedro I
Political

- Napoleonic Wars had drove Portuguese royalty to Brazil
  - In place of the royal family, Britain and Portugal's parliament had taken their place, rendering them unwelcomed when they came back in 1821
  - Dom Pedro I had at one point seen them as equals in terms of them being a country.
  - The Cortes (Portuguese Parliament) wanted to transform Brazil back into what it was prior to the crown temporarily migrating there after Napoleon’s invasion, which would put Brazil back into a state of pure colonial dependency.
    - This had involved many of the reforms of Joao VI to be repealed
    - Dom Pedro was also demanded to return back to Europe before he could take charge in an independence movement
Economic

- King João VI’s Reforms
  - While in Brazil, King João VI had expanded the bureaucracy trade of the colony, making the colony almost equal to the mother country
    - Taxes had been raised within the colony in order for the bureaucracy to be expanded, leading to the disapproval of the Brazilian people
    - Portuguese commercial monopoly on Brazilian trade was lifted
      - All harbors were opened to friendly nations, primarily Great Britain
    - Brazilian manufacturing laws had been repealed allowing for more direct Brazilian contact within commerce
  - Inconfidência Mineira was one of the first rebellions to take place under Tiradentes triggered by the Portuguese officials collecting back taxes.
Social/Influence of Enlightenment Ideals

- Inconfidência Mineira
  - Tiradentes/José Joaquim da Silva Xavier led the rebellion in 1789 against Portugal. He was inspired by the constitutions of the 13 states as well as many works of French philosophers regarding liberal ideals and advocated for Brazil’s independence.
  - This revolt had **failed in the long run**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiradentes
Impact of Independence
The Brazilian Empire

➢ Initial Tensions
  ○ Regional revolts resulted in many deaths, but the economy and central government remained intact
  ○ Emperor Pedro dissolved the constituent assembly, but also passed into effect a constitution with the Council of State (though it mostly worked to strengthen the power of the emperor)
  ○ Pedro I began to lose popularity, eventually leading to his abdication

➢ The Regency
  ○ Since Pedro II was too young (5 at the time) to assume the throne when Pedro I abdicated → triple regency took hold
    ■ Regents struggled to control the tumult, so Pedro II stepped into power at just 14
Pedro II

➢ An age of prosperity; Pedro II was much more democratic than his father, and he supported intellectual pursuits
➢ The empire under Pedro II was more involved in foreign affairs, from helping Argentina overthrow a dictator to trying to take control of Uruguay
  ○ Paraguay thought Brazil was encroaching on their land and power, so the dictator Francisco Solano López declared war on Brazil, then Argentina
➢ War of the Triple Alliance (Paraguayan War)
  ○ Incredibly costly, bloody war that resulted in the eventual victory of Brazil/Argentina/Uruguay and devastation of the Paraguayan military and population
Impacts of Independence

**Economic**
- Coffee Presidents
  - Brazilian Republic
  - Wealthy leaders who promoted their own interests in office
- Today, Brazil is a major exporter of coffee, sugar, and soybeans (brought during the Columbian Exchange)

**Political**
- Independence → Empire of Brazil (Pedros) → Republic of Brazil (Coffee Presidents, Vargas Era) → Democratic Experiments
Impacts of Independence – Social

➢ Brazil was the last in Latin America to abolish slavery (1888)
  ○ Rio Branco Law 1871
➢ Social structure prior to independence continued to exist
➢ European immigration to Brazil increased greatly, changing the demography
➢ Modernization
➢ Indigenous people: 1931 legislation equated them equal to children (incapable of autonomy) with the goal of eventual assimilation
  ○ Their rights were protected under the “Justice of Orphans,” which is similar to the juvenile court in the US
  ○ This discrimination continued even in 1916, where in the Brazilian Civil Code they were labeled “relatively incapable” of exercising their rights along with children and the mentally ill
Caudillo Rule

Brazil’s Leaders after Independence
Brazilian Empire

- Founded by Pedro I after he declared independence
  - Began as a liberal leader who would bring change to the empire, but quickly spiraled into becoming a tyrant → abdicated after his popularity dropped
- Son Pedro II was to assume the throne, but he was too young, so a triple regency acted as the interim ruler
  - Regency was unpopular, so Pedro II was made emperor at 14 so the nation could rally behind him
- Pedro II was a very intellectually-minded, so Brazil prospered under his rule
  - Valued education, involvement in foreign affairs, and was generous (nicknamed “the Magnanimous”)
Brazilian Empire ➔ Brazilian Republic

- Military coup led by Manuel Deodoro da Fonseca led to Pedro II’s abdication
  - Became provisional president of military government; separated powers of church and state and created a new constitution
  - Overthrow of monarchy and abolition of slavery that occurred during Pedro II’s rule created a fundamental shift in Brazil → New Brazil
- Economy: Brazil’s emerging capitalist system was better suited to a republic
  - Increasingly based on coffee trade and industrial products
- New Brazil’s social, economic, and political changes accelerated modernization
Brazilian Republic – The Coffee Presidents

➢ First civilian leaders; mostly wealthy men from the southern states
   ○ Pros: ensured peace, reformed financial institutions, increased coffee exports
   ○ Cons: little real democracy → voting restricted to a select landowning minority, frequently fraudulent elections, regional faction leaders had near impunity if they supported the president
➢ Political and economic centers shifted from sugar-growing north to coffee-growing south
➢ Immigration increased and urbanization accelerated; port activity increased
➢ Literary renaissance during the period examined traditions, turmoil, and the changing nature of Brazilian society (ex: divide between rural and urban “two Brazils”)
➢ Territorial expansion also occurred, though foreign diplomatic relations were still respected
➢ Growing urban middle class grew resentful of their favoritism towards wealthy individuals, and junior officers (tenentes) organized moe uprisings that added to the unrest
   ○ Movement emphasized nationalism and reform over democracy
Brazilian Republic – The Vargas Era

- Coffee Presidents fell due to general unrest, a financial crisis, and an attempt by the elites to install another national president in 1830
  - Getúlio Vargas was the losing candidate of said election, but he led a revolt that put him into power
- Great Depression occurred at the beginning of Vargas’ rule
  - Put economic stress on Brazil, while led to an attempted (unsuccessful) revolt
- New 1934 constitution gave the government more authority, but also provided universal suffrage
- Second uprising in 1937 → Vargas seized additional power and made another constitution
  - Established the Estado Novo (“New State”)
- Vargas’ changes essentially thwarted any possibility for democracy at that time, but he also enacted social legislation that benefited the working class, promoted industrialization, and diversified agriculture
Role of Foreign Intervention

Portugal, Britain, France
The people of Portugal had longed for the return of Joao VI after the Napoleonic Wars, eventually leading to him leaving, putting his son Dom Pedro I as regent.

- As Dom Pedro had been appointed prince regent, he had been under the pressure of both Brazil and Portugal. Under Dom Joao VI, many acts had been put into place that essentially put the colony on par with the mother country in terms of trade and commerce, leading to the resentment of the Portuguese government.
  - Dom Joao VI had administered the colony’s executive and legislative branch, bank, and military along with fields of education within medicine and law.
- Once Dom Joao VI had returned to Portugal, Parliament had begun to repeal his acts, especially those regarding the commerce of the state. This had been done in order to keep Brazil a dependent colony, similar to that prior to the reforms instigated by Dom Joao VI. In return, Dom Pedro had retaliated by defying the Cortes through public speeches and by forming a ministry and legislative assembly to aid in the proclamation of independence from Portugal.
During the actual independence movements itself, Britain stayed back.

Many Portuguese people had resented the power and influence that Britain had on Portugal, leading for there to be a movement to re-establish the Portuguese constitutional monarchy through the Liberal Revolution.

**Britain**

**France**

- The Napoleonic Wars along with the invasions of Napoleon amongst the European nations, including the Iberian peninsula. With the Iberian peninsula being invaded, King Joao VI along with the royal family as well as other wealthy Portuguese families made their way to Rio de Janeiro.
The Monroe Doctrine
The Monroe Doctrine

Summary
➢ Set up American foreign policy
➢ Asserted the idea of separate spheres for America and Europe
➢ Stated that America would no longer tolerate colonization or puppet monarchs
  ○ person given local authority by a greater power to act in their interests

Causes
➢ United States generally welcomed the independence South American independence, but was skeptical that they would remain independent and become democracies
➢ Crisis in 1823 when France invaded Spain to assist King Ferdinand VII → widely believed that France was intending to assist Spain in retaking its American colonies
  ○ British government also alarmed at the idea of France and Spain joining forces

Effects
➢ Doctrine was essentially forgotten since no European intervention occurred
  ○ Threat of the British navy
➢ Reaffirmed by Polk in 1845 and evoked as part of Manifest destiny
  ○ Cited as an expression of American dominance in the West
➢ Asserted American nationalism with an “us against them” message
US–Brazilian Relations

➢ The United States was the first country to recognize Brazil’s independence in 1822
➢ They’re the two largest democracies and economies in the Western Hemisphere
➢ Both share a commitment to expanding their economies, promoting human rights, and strengthening defense cooperation
➢ US interest in Brazil piqued after WWII and investments increased as it gained global prominence (late 1950s)
➢ Overall very positive; Brazil and the US have maintained a close friendship with Brazil striving to match the US in progress
Characteristics of Independence Progresses

Comparisons
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<th>Characteristics</th>
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<th>Differences</th>
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| **Brazil**      | ● Westward (hinterland) expansion  
                 ● Integrated indians into society (lower social standing, but surprisingly racially equal comparatively)  
                 ● Heavily pressured by the Napoleonic Wars  
                 ● The mother country intended on keeping the colony dependent | ● Maintained a monarchy (for a while at least)  
                 ● Very little rebellions and wars actually took place within Brazil  
                 ● The Mother Country had actually aided the aspects of the country that were suffering under their rule  
                 ○ Taxes being levied  
                 ○ Manufacturing laws being repealed  
                 ○ Ports being opened to all  
                 ● Relations between Portugal and Brazil remained strong throughout the entirety of the movement  
                 ○ Direct royalty had actually resided within Brazil |
| **Argentina**   | ● Generally had a more well trained non-Iberian militia  
                 ● Heavily pressured by the Napoleonic Wars  
                 ● The mother country intended on keeping the colony dependent | ● Fought Native Americans  
                 ● Rebellions were primarily violent  
                 ● Clear distinctions within social class that made tension great between the Iberians and the Amerindians and Creoles |
| **Mexico**      | ● Hinterland expansion  
                 ● Integrated indians into society (lower social standing)  
                 ● Tried to instate a monarchy (iturbide i think), but it quickly fell apart due to a lack of justification  
                 ● Heavily pressured by the Napoleonic Wars  
                 ● The mother country intended on keeping the colony dependent | ● Clear distinctions within social class that made tension great between the Iberians and the Amerindians and Creoles |