Brazilian Independence

Annika Morris, Lilly Kocurek, Erin Lawlor, Camille Bennett
☆ King João ☆

- Escaped to Brazil when Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Portugal
  - His presence in Rio de Janeiro brought European influence and free trade
    - The economic boost helped soothe independence-driven issues with colonialism
  - He eventually brought Brazil up from the status of colony to kingdom
- Upheld close alliance with Britain
- Retreated from Brazil for Portugal, leaving it to his son (Pedro I)
- Allowed Pedro to claim the crown of Brazil were they to demand independence in a secret letter (which ended up being needed)
Road to Independence

- 1807- Napoleon invaded Portugal and the Royal family and royal court fled to the Americas
- Portuguese prince regent Dom João decided to take refuge in Brazil
  - arrived at Rio de Janeiro on March 7, 1808
- Reformed and improved Brazil
  - He abolished the Portuguese commercial monopoly on Brazilian trade, opened all harbours to the commerce of friendly nations (mainly Great Britain), and repealed laws that had prohibited Brazilian manufacturing
  - installed in Rio de Janeiro his ministry and Council of State, Supreme Court, exchequer and royal treasury, Royal Mint, royal printing office, and the Bank of Brazil
  - He also founded a royal library, a military academy, and medical and law schools
- His decree of December 16, 1815, designated the Portuguese dominions the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil, and the Algarves, thus making Brazil coequal with Portugal much to Portugal's dismay
Portuguese desired Joao return after the French withdrawal, but he remained away as Iberian troubles mounted.

Eventually this unrest put an end to the king’s long stay in Brazil, when his return to Portugal was demanded by the revolutionaries.

- On April 22, 1821, he appointed his son Dom Pedro as King of Brazil.

Portugal upset with Brazil's equal imperial treatment.

- Cortes of Lisbon instituted a series of short sighted policies.
- The majority in the Cortes favoured restoring Brazil to its formerly dependent colonial status, and the parliament began repealing most of the reforms introduced by John VI.
- The revolutionaries also sought to restore Portuguese exclusivity in the trade with Brazil, reverting Brazil to the status of a colony.
- It was officially reduced to a “Principality of Brazil,” instead of the Kingdom of Brazil, which it had been for the past five years.
★ Prince Dom Pedro I ★

- Brazil was given to him to rule over when King João left for Portugal
- Declared Brazil independent on September 7, 1822
  - Called for “Independence or Death!” (Cry of Ipiranga)
- “Constitutional emperor” (Didn’t like the Constitution that was written so he dissolved the assembly that wrote it and handpicked a new one that gave most of the governmental power to the emperor (himself))
  - Primarily supported by the Brazilian aristocracy
- Abdicated the throne to his eldest daughter to become ruler of Portugal
- Then abdicated his Brazilian throne, too, because he could not deal with both
  - Especially since there was a rise in instability in Brazil after the French Revolution in 1830 and the rise of the ideas in Brazil
• September 7, 1822, with a speech known as the “Dia do Fico” (“I Am Staying”)  
  ○ Day Brazil became independent

• On October 12, the prince was acclaimed Pedro I, first Emperor of the newly created Empire of Brazil, a constitutional monarchy

• The declaration of independence was opposed throughout Brazil by armed military units loyal to Portugal
  ○ The ensuing Brazilian war of independence was fought across the country, with battles in the northern, northeastern, and southern regions

• The war lasted from February 1822, when the first skirmishes took place, to March 1824

• Independence was recognized by Portugal in August 1825

• The first decades of independence were difficult though not as chaotic as in Latin America’s republics

• Brazil had political stability, vibrant economic growth, constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech, and respect for civil rights of its subjects, albeit with legal restrictions on women and slaves, the latter regarded as property and not citizens.
Brazil underwent a series of regional revolts, some of which resulted in thousands of deaths, the national economy remained strong and the central government largely intact.

The emperor tended to be impulsive and make bad decisions about government action and policy.

- 1823 he dissolved the constituent assembly,
- the emperor and his Council of State subsequently wrote a constitution that was liberal and advanced for its time, although it strengthened the hand of the emperor, which meant the people had even less input
- constitution helped centralize the government by granting the emperor power to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, select members of the Senate, and appoint and dismiss ministers of state
- Pedro I’s popularity continued to declined after because he lost Brazil’s Cisplatine province following a costly war with Argentina, appointed few Brazilian Creoles to high office,
overly preoccupied himself with Portuguese affairs, failed to get along with the legislature, and signed treaties with Great Britain that kept import duties low and exacted a promise to abolish the slave trade.

Unable to deal with both Brazilian and Portuguese affairs, Pedro I abdicated his Brazilian throne on April 7, 1831, in favour of his five-year-old son, Dom Pedro II.

The next decade proved to be the most agitated period in Brazilian history.

Pedro I became the king of Portugal after death of Joao

- abdicated the Portuguese throne in favor of his eldest daughter
- Two years later, she was usurped by Pedro I’s younger brother Miguel
“Dia do Fico”

In 1822, a Court Order was issued to Pedro de Alcântara, prince regent of Brazil, for his return to Portugal. However, Pedro was petitioned to stay by the Brazilian people and decided accordingly to remain in Brazil. The day of his decision became known as the Dia do Fico (I’ll Stay Day), marking the first step toward the country’s independence. This piece is inspired by this event and is depicting an iconic portrait of Dom Pedro standing in his emperors uniform with the words Dia do Fico above him in the name of independence.
Specific Social Causes

- Dom José I (1750-1777) made decrees that affected the social structure of colonial Brazil
  - Amerindians who became Catholic would be on same political standing as White settlers
    - Did not apply to black slaves or mulattos
  - Benefits for white settlers with connections to Armidians
- King Pedro attitude toward natives affected who was in ruling positions in Brazil
  - King correspondence with viceroys and governors in Brazil said native Brazilians were lazy, immoral, etc. so it was hard for Brazilians to get positions in government
    - Ordered mass genocides of Native people
    - Maintained slavery
    - Almost all people in Government were white
  - Huge tensions between Brazilians and whites but they went away when João open trade to everyone
    - Natives were pensive with money problems and still discriminated against
  - When João opened trade, the tensions between the white and Brazilians blessed while the tensions between the Portuguese elite and Brazilians heightened
  - Large emerging merchant class as a result of the Royal family in Brazil and opening or new ports and trade opportunities
  - Merchant class neutralize the power of the land aristocracy by evening out the economic strengths
  - With the rise of the merchant class, came the falling of the land aristocracy
    - The tensions between Brazilian landowners and prosperous Portuguese merchants was increasing
    - Weakening of farm culture and economic strength of plantations, strengthening of mining economy
  - Rift in interests in Brazil
    - Land owners were suffering under the colonial government with new trade laws, and the Portuguese merchants were greatly gaining from the new colonial government of trade with anyone caused an odd
Religious

- Hegemony kept in place by the catholic church
  - Portuguese wanted to keep portuguese elite in power and keep the natives/slaves/mulattos at the bottom of the social structure and keep them out of government positions
- Ideals of Liberty and Liberalism started the English and French Revolutions which in turn, triggered all the Latin American Revolutions
  - Reformists approached the colonial administration in Brazil. They brought political and economic ideas. The new ideas proved to be really important and helped to see a new view of the empire
  - The ideas influenced many, like Tiradentes, to create revolutionary groups to fight for independence and see new ways of living and coexisting
  - Reformists took it upon themselves to bring new ideas to Portugal rule in Brazil. The ideas showed new rules and help Portugal administration co inside with Brazil's new enlightenment ideas.
- After King leaves for Portugal and Portuguese assembly threaten to take away power of elite, Brazilian elite want to rebell under the idea of nativism and popular sovereignty
- Pombal expelled the Society of Jesus from Brazil in 1759 caused the secularism of missionary Jesuit colleges
- Dom Pedro and the people of Brazil sought separation from Portugal because they were being oppressed and discriminated against because of their distance from the continental kingdom
- movement preached, in its French origins, the predominance of reason as an instrument of knowledge of the world as one of its lines of force by placing this same reason as a basic component of the human condition, eventually equalized all the men, giving them, according to the theory of John Locke, certain rights, which would be natural
The people of Brazil desired equality, and there eventually came a point where they had to physically fight against Portugal for their independence.

- Shut down cultural and intellectual centers, banks, university, medical academy
- Nobles sent their sons to Europe to be educated at collages like the University of Coimbra, and their sons brought back Enlightenment ideas

This, when in 1817 was still a captaincy, was the scene of an insurrection that went down in history by the name of Pernambuco Revolution which also called the revolution of the priests

- This term is due to the fact that many clerics participated in the revolt because they were imbued with French Enlightenment ideals and political and economic liberalism
- There were many Masons and Enlightenment clerics who wanted the overthrow of the monarchy, but the Catholic Church remained allied with the state

Conflict on religious freedom

- Catholicism was Brazil's main religion and other beliefs were banned from being practiced in public and were genuinely looked down
- Advocated for religious freedom in order to attract more immigrants and increase economic and industrial diversity
- After long and heated debates, an understanding of freedom of worship was reached at the 06/11/1823 Session. Thus, the following articles on the religious issue were approved by the Constituent Assembly
- D. Pedro I dissolved the Constituent Assembly and granted the 1824 Constitution which reads in Article 5 that “The Roman Apostolic Catholic religion will continue to be the Religion of the Empire. All other religions will be permitted with their domestic or private worship in designated houses, without any form of temple exterior.” Thus, D. Pedro I reversed the freedom of worship to the condition soon after the signing of the 1810 Treaty of Trade and Navigation. Politicians of the Brazilian citizen, article 5 is supplemented: “No one shall be persecuted on the grounds of religion, provided he respects that of the state, and does not offend public morals.” These two articles were in force until 1889 when the military ended the Brazilian monarchy.
Specific Characteristics Of Independence

- Like all of the Latin American Colonies there was a major push for a National Identities
  - After people grew tired of the Crown in Brazil, and especially after he left they started greatly associating with the label of Brazilians vs. subjects of Portugal
- Overall it was relatively peaceful compared to all of the other Latin American Revolutions - remained relatively civil from 1808 - 1822
- Unlike the other colonies, much of the movements towards independence came from a royal (Dom Pedro I), not form the people
- Remained relatively unchanged in government after wards (language and laws)
  - Truly post-colonial
Music

- The enlightenment brought around a new era of classical music, but Independence movements created the romantic era
- **Pedro I** composed the Hino de Independência - served as the national anthem until his abdication
- **Francisco Manuel da Silva** - composed the Hino Nacional Brasileiro
- Combination of cultures
Propaganda - Use of Lyrics

Independence Anthem:
Brava gente brasileira!
Longe vá... temor servil:
Ou ficar a pátria livre
Ou morrer pelo Brasil.

Brave Brazilian people!
Let it go, the servant fear:
The homeland shall be free
Or we shall die for Brazil.

Flag Song:
Mas se ergues da justiça a clava forte,
Verás que um filho teu não foge à luta,
Nem teme, quem te adora, a própria morte.

But if thou raisest the strong gavel of
Justice,
thou wilt see that a son of thine flees not
from battle,
nor does he who loves thee fear death itself.
Prince Dom Pedro II

- When his father abdicated the Brazilian throne, he was left (age 5) to rule with a weak regency that lead to Civil wars
  - Regency taken into the hands of moderate liberals
- Created stability when he was of age to rule himself
  - Lots of immigrants and a flourish of arts, literature, and culture (European influence but uniquely Brazilian at the same time) happened under his rule
  - Free trade upheld helped cultural mixing, supported it
- Left the empire to deteriorate with no “viable” (male) heir to the throne
  - Believed that the monarchy should be replaced by a republic and tried to do so by letting the monarchy die out
- Was overthrown by a coup d’état by military who wanted a dictator-led republic on November 15, 1889
United States Relations During the Empire (1822-1889)

- 1815: The first United States Consulate was established
  - Trade increased with rubber from the Amazon Forest and the arrival of the crown in Brazil
- 1822: Independence was declared by Brazil, not yet recognized by the U.S.
- 1824: Diplomatic relations were officially instituted when the U.S. recognized the formation of the new country with Brazil’s new constitution - Key Enlightenment Idea
  - First constitution because Brazil had declared independence from Portugal 16 days before Portugal had instituted their first constitution.
- 1825: U.S. established legation in Brazil with American Chargé d’Affaires, Condy Raguet
- United States did not get involved in the Brazilian wars with Argentina and Paraguay (yet)
The Monroe Doctrine

Put in place on December 2, 1823, the Monroe Doctrine was issued as a warning to European countries to warn them against trying to re-institute their power over the newly independent Latin American countries. The main goal of this was to leave the United States as the main economic power in the western hemisphere, and the main trading partner of Latin America. The U.S. and British navies were the military backers of the doctrine as they both wanted to limit other European Countries’ control over the Western Hemisphere. Though this was the main motive, the doctrine had some other beneficial consequences. The limitation on European involvement gave Brazil and the rest of Latin America a chance to regrow in their post-colonial time.
Early British Relations

- British pressured Prince João to open the colonial trade to everyone. The opening of trade affected a lot and allowed the country to thrive more and realize the potential of independence.
- Prince João was pressured by the British to do something about slavery so he caved in partially and legally restricted slave trade:
  - Hoped to turn slaves into consumers in the economy (which helped expand British market of goods).
  - Angered the many slave owners of Brazil (remember their economy was based on gold and silver, both of which require a lot of slaves).
- After the defeating the French, Portugal was kind of under the control of Britain with the King in Brazil, so they were Brazil’s main European contact during that time.
- A Key trading partner and later supporter of the Monroe Doctrine to keep economic power in the Americas.
Benjamin Constant of Auguste Comte and Floriano Peixoto

- **Benjamin Constant of Auguste Comte**
  - Founder of the positivism doctrine (closely aligned with republicanism)
  - Had a stress on science with a dictatorial republic
    - NOT popular sovereignty, did not trust the public
  - Along with Marshal Floriano Peixoto, overthrew Pedro II and claimed a positivist republic alongside Marshal Deodoro da Fonseca

- **Floriano Peixoto**
  - Became president of Brazil after the coup

- **Deodoro da Fonseca**
  - Took over from President Peixoto via another coup (he was vice president before) because the economy crashed
Berta Lutz and Francisca Senhorinha da Motta Diniz

- Brazilian feminists!!!!
- Berta Lutz
  - Created the Brazilian Federation for the Advancement of Women to campaign for the rights of women
  - Wanted women’s suffrage, published a sort of feminist manifesto
  - Got “sex” included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”
- Francisca Senhorinha da Motta Diniz
  - Ran a journal dedicated to female emancipation and education
Impact of Napoleonic Wars

- King João and Portuguese royal court flees to Rio de Janeiro to escape Napoleon’s invasion 1808
  - Greatly increases amount of economic and administrative power in Brazil → develops local manufacturing and foreign trade
  - Difficult to put Brazil back at colonial status so raises Brazil to status of a kingdom in alignment with Portugal
  - Didn’t want to leave Brazil, but doesn’t want to lose Portugal’s support so back to Portugal in 1821
Wars for Independence

- **Constitutionalist Revolution**: 1820 political revolution in Portugal, results in return of Portuguese Royal Court in 1821
  - King João leaves son Dom Pedro as prince regent of Brazil, who declared Brazil independent from Portugal in 1822
- **Beginning of Wars for Independence** (1822-1824) between Empire of Brazil and United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and Algarves
  - Ended with surrender of last Portuguese garrison, Montevideo, to Commander Kersey
  - Independence recognized by Portugal by 1825
- **Known as a government with general political stability, economic growth, freedom of speech guaranteed by constitution, respect for civil rights of subjects (except for women and slaves)**
  - Slaves considered property rather than citizens
First Republic of Brazil (1889-1930)

- Positivism: ideology stressing importance of scientific analysis of human history and how to accelerate/improve society
  - Adopted in 1889 → constitutional monarchy replaced by decentralized republic ruled by elite
  - Takes positivist stance with slogan “Ordem e Progresso”
- Oligarchic republics and liberal dictatorships begin to spread to other Latin American countries
- Falls in 1930 when overthrown in a military coup d’état in Brazilian Revolution
  - Installs Getúlio Vargas as dictator of Brazil
Positivism Propaganda

- Furthering of humanity and research
- “Ordem e Progresso” or “Order and Progress” is also written on the Brazilian flag (which the bird is carrying)
World War I

• Enters WWI with a neutral stance like the rest of the Latin American nations, besides Mexico
  ○ Instigated when a German U-boat sank a Brazilian merchant ship (Parana) off the coast of France
  ○ Brazilian US ambassador, Domenico da Gama, writes to US Secretary of State, Robert Lansing, and revokes position of neutrality in the war

• Declares war on Germany in 1917 along with announcement of siding with the Allies
  ○ Was only able to offer a medical unit and some airmen, earned them influence in post-war bargaining

• Was one of the Latin American countries to sign the Treaty of Versailles
  ○ Was able to send 3 officials to Paris Peace Conference (1919) which angers Portugal who sent 60,000 soldiers to fight and was allowed only 1 delegate
  ○ Based on population
WWI Propaganda

- Since World War I did not directly affect many Brazilians, there was not much appeal for anyone to join the military, so propaganda was necessary.
- A lot of inspiration taken from this poster:
United States Relations In The First Republic (1889 - 1930)

- 1889 - 1890: The United States hosted the Pan-Am conference where multiple countries (including Brazil) discussed international projects
- 1904: Monroe Doctrine is used again to help support Latin American Countries form paying european debts
- 1905: A United States embassy was established
- 1917: Brazil declared war on Germany during WW1
  - Brazil actually participated very little, but because of it got representatives at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. However, since representatives were based on population, Brazil got 3 while Portugal only got 1. This interaction strengthened Brazil/U.S. relations and Portugal's evident frustrations with the situation didn’t come to any fruition
- 1920’s-30’s: Tensions between Portuguese speaking Brazil and Spanish speaking Argentina rose again with foreign policies. Because of this Brazil strengthened their ties with the U.S.

“the United States and Brazil have enjoyed friendly, strong, and active relations encompassing a broad political and economic agenda.” - United States of America Office of the Historian
Social/Cultural Impacts of Independence

- **Limited loosening of social hierarchy**
  - João and Pedro keep the patriarchal system in place and enforces importance of social classes
  - Brazilian elite stay on top because they interact most with the Portuguese court and have the most influence during their stay in Rio

- **Social hierarchy strengthened by maintaining slavery** → needed for the sugar and tobacco plantation economy in Brazil
  - Many Latin American countries ended the importation of slaves or abolished slavery, but Brazil and Cuba rely on it
  - Abolished slavery by 1888

- **Improvement of transportation methods increases nationalism and connectedness between the people**
  - Air travel allows them to travel to places that were previously reached by coastal steamers
  - Increased cultural blending and unification
Economic Impacts of Independence

- Manufacturing booms in Brazil with preliminary cheap textiles and simple trade goods in competition with foreign imports
  - Sao Paulo praised as a manufacturing hotspot in Latin America
  - New banking and finance systems allow for a rise in manufactured goods and expansion to smaller areas by wealthier groups
  - Rio de Janeiro becomes a sophisticated urban center with inspiration from the French Reformation that glorifies Parisian architecture and culture

- Modern wage system and different methods of farming introduced by European immigrant workers
  - Began to reduce flow of immigrants to save jobs for native inhabitants who were in competition with foreign travellers

- Large export economies push back local plantations/farms
  - South Central coffee plantations reduce success of small foodstuff developments
  - Greater dependence on world economy and needs to support price of coffee
    - Implements “valorization” program that keeps coffee of the market and limits exportation while producing surplus, raising prices
    - Tried in 1906, briefly during WWI, reinstated by 1920
How does this affect today?

- Multiple Republics
- Military Dictatorships
  - Suspended constitutional guarantee of rights
- Civilian Government restored in 1985
- Now have 26 States
- Now has three separate branches (legislative, executive, judicial) like the U.S.
President Bolsonaro stamp of approval