Conflicts Leading to the War

- **1820** - Liberals took control of Spain and promised reforms
  - Conservative Mexican Creoles were upset
  - Supported independence as a way to maintain their social status

- **1821** - Agustín de Iturbide
  - Negotiated the Plan of Iguala with Vicente Guerrero
  - Mexican became an independent constitutional monarchy
  - Creoles would be of equal status as Peninsular, while non-whites or mixed still retained less rights

- **1822** - Emperor Iturbide
  - Dismissed congress and ruled through an appointed 45-man junta
  - Provided an opportunity to rebel
Nativism

- Creole induced strategy to rile the native populations towards independence
  - Needed more numbers to achieve independence
  - Revolution was for selfish reasons
    - Never intended to create more equality, or erase social hierarchy
**Political and Military Leaders**

- **Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**
  - Launched War for Independence
  - After success, was captured and executed in 1811
  - Inspired later movements

- **José María Morelos y Pavón**
  - Joined Hidalgo’s army in 1811
  - Took control after death of Hidalgo
  - Turned to guerilla tactics to consolidate control
  - Called Congress to draft a constitution in 1813
    - Declared Independence
  - Was captured/executed by royalist forces
Political and Military Leaders (Cont.)

- **Mariano Matamoros**
  - Second in command to Morelos
  - Was promoted by Morelos through their military campaign
  - Was eventually captured by the Royalists
    - Morelos offered to trade for his release
  - Eventually executed by firing squad

- **Vincent Guerrero**
  - Began his military career in 1810
  - Joined forces with Iturbide in 1821
  - Was instrumental in the Mexican independence from Spain
  - Became president shortly in 1829
    - Later removed and executed
Political and Military Leaders (Cont.)

- **Agustín de Iturbide**
  - 1797, joined the Spanish Army fighting against the Patriots
  - Was unwilling to join the Patriot cause
  - Charges of violence led to his removal in 1816
  - After a Liberal Movement in Spain, began to fight for independence
  - Became ruler of the Independent Nation of Mexico in 1822
Military Campaigns

● The Siege of Guanajuato
  ○ On September 16, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo summoned his followers in the town of Dolores and told them the time had come for action
  ○ On September 28, 1810, the massive army arrived at the rich mining city of Guanajuato and massacred Spaniards and colonial officials who were barricaded inside

● Allies at Monte de las Cruces
  ○ Hidalgo’s army met an improvised Spanish army outside of Mexico City
  ○ The Spanish royalists possessed superior weaponry, however, the large number of Hidalgo’s followers forced the royalists to surrender
The Battle of Calderon Bridge

- In early 1811, there was a stalemate between a well-equipped Spanish army and Hidalgo’s massive army that was constantly being replaced by unhappy peasants.
- Spanish General Felix Calleja had a well-trained and equipped army of 6,000 soldiers (probably the most formidable army in the New World at the time).
  - He led his army towards the rebels at the Calderon Bridge outside of Guadalajara.
  - The unlikely royalists victory sent Hidalgo and his followers fleeing and drag out the Mexican War for Independence.
Foreign Diplomacy

- The US and Spain were in territorial debates constantly
  - Territory borders were the root of the problem
  - US agrees to pay US citizen land claims against Spain
- 1823, The Monroe Doctrine
  - Was a US policy toward the Western Hemisphere
  - After Mexican Independence
  - Wished to separate western and European affairs
- Mexico prohibited immigration from Texas
- US captured Mexican leader and forced him to grant Texas to the US
  - Mexico was furious
- After Mexico declined further land purchases, US sent troops to Mexico prepared to fight
Foreign Diplomacy

- US and Mexico Relations
  - Very tense relations between the two
  - Santa Anna was captured by the US and forced to sign treaty granting Texas and parts of the Southwest to the US
    - Mexico broke diplomatic relations with the United States in reaction
  - In 1845, US wished to purchase California and New Mexico from Mexico and make a new border
    - Mexico quickly declined this offer
    - In reaction to this, along with other impactful events, US sent armed troops to Mexico
- This eventually led to the Mexico and American War
CHANGES TO THE UNITED STATES–MEXICO BORDER FROM 1835 TO 1848

1820 - Spain opens the northeastern region of Mexico (later the Mexican state of Coahuila and Texas) to Anglo-American settlement.

1821 - Mexico wins its independence from Spain.

1830 - Wary of the swelling influx of immigrants from the United States, the Mexican government legislates against further settlement in Coahuila and Texas by Anglo-Americans.

October 1836 to April 1836 - Texas Revolution

May 14, 1836 - Republic of Texas recognized by Mexico in the Treaty of Velasco.

1845 - United States annexes Texas.

January 1846 - U.S. troops commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor cross the Nueces River (considered the border by Mexico) and advance to the Rio Grande (considered the border by the United States).

April 1846 to February 1848 - Mexican-American War

February 2, 1848 - Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo signed. Mexico cedes to the United States nearly all the territory now included in the states of New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, Texas, and western Colorado for $15 million.
Over 500,000 Mexicans died during the War for Independence, yet independence did not change Mexico very drastically. Although independence was sought after as a ‘complete change in lifestyle’, the realistic effects were much smaller than imagined.
Public funds were insufficient to pay the army, so the soldiers would revolt and capture the government.

They would negotiate high interest loans.

- No money for education or social reforms.

Problems would occur shortly after.
54 Million Pesos

The amount of Mexican foreign debt by 1843. The War for Independence was a very costly war and resulted in a large debt that had to be paid off eventually.
19 Different States were created in order to separate power and avoid an overpowered central government. This allowed Mexico to prevent a government overthrow and spread the power between many different regions.
Caudillo Leadership

- Caudillo leadership was based on the patronizing relationship between the leader and its subordinates.
- Leaders earned their positions through their charisma and authoritative personality.
- Caudillismo caused political instability in Mexico because most caudillos wanted to be in politics for self-gain.

Antonio López de Santa Anna
Antonio López de Santa Anna

- **Major Caudillo ruler of Mexico**
  - At first fought for the Spanish but later switched to aid Agustín de Iturbide
  - His reputation strengthened after the Spanish tried to reconquer Mexico
  - Lifted candidates into presidency with military force

- **Political Ideologies**
  - Believed in a centralized less-democratic form of government
  - Suspended the Mexican Constitution
  - Fought against the rebels of the Texas Revolution
  - Overconfidence led Sam Houston to win the Battle of San Jacinto
Comparison to American Revolution

- Miguel Hidalgo
  - Was a revolutionary priest who led the Mexican War of Independence as well as initiating it
  - Considered the Father of Mexico
  - With the Cry of Dolores people rose up (mostly poor indigenous and mestizos) in arms to defend their country from Spanish upper-class citizens
  - After success in arming the people, who was later captured and killed
  - Though his accomplishments were not lasting ones, Hidalgo’s name became the symbol of the independence movement for most Mexicans.

- Plans
  - He established the “Nine Laws to Avoid Disorder and Bloodshed” as a civilized plan to call out for mercy for those who surrender and death for those who stand in the way of the Revolution
Comparison to American Revolution (Cont.)

- George Washington
  - Considered as the Father of the United States
  - He was Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolution
  - Led the Patriots to victory with various battles
  - Led the Battle of Valley Forge
  - Victory at Yorktown – October 19, 1781
  - Supported the oppressed people and became the leader in liberating the colonies
Effects of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity in Mexico

- Sentiments of the Nation
  - Was formal document written by Jose Maria Morelos
  - The Sentiments of the Nation is basically a preemptive piece that lays the groundwork for Morelos y Pavón’s Constitutional Decree for the Liberty of the Mexican America.
  - Point eleven, which was minimally amended in the final decree, states that the country shall not be free until it replaces a tyrannical government with a liberal government and rids the land of the “Spanish enemy, who has declared himself against this Nation.”
  - It also calls for the abolition of slavery “forever” as well as distinction by castes, resulting in an equal citizenship
Effects Part 2

- Mexican Revolution
  - the first major reason the Mexican Revolution took place was due to the existence of an increasingly corrupt, inflexible, and violent dictatorship in Mexico at the start of the twentieth century.
  - Enlightenment influenced people revolted against Porfirio Diaz because of dictatorship and corruption
$15,000,000

The price for Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Colorado, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, and Oklahoma
Immediately After the War for Independence

- Over half a million Mexicans died in the war
- Agriculture and Mining suffered during and after the war
- Little changed with the Mexican culture as a whole
Effects on the Economy

- A few small changes could be seen
- Bajio insurgency destroyed commercial hacienda production
  - Used to store maize until the prices would surge and the maize could be sold for profit
- Mine shafts were left flooded
- Haciendas were deserted
- Economy became stagnant
- The number of ships entering Mexican ports rose by nearly five hundred from the years 1823 to 1826
  - Exports couldn’t keep up with imports, which led to a trade deficit
Effects on the Economy cont.

- Robberies were so bad that travelers to or from the capital city were nearly guaranteed to get robbed.
- The English made more than 32 million pesos worth of loans to the new nation.
  - Only 11 million pesos were paid out.
- By 1843 Mexican foreign debt had reached more than 54 million pesos.
- Britain invested in the old mining industry and reopened flooded mine shafts.
Political Effects

- 1821 - Agustin de Iturbide rides into Mexico City and becomes the first emperor of Mexico
- 1823 - Fall of Iturbide clears way for the establishment of a republic
- 1824 - A constitution goes into effect
  - Nineteen states were created
- 1833 - Liberal achievements were at an all time high
Political effects cont.

- Treaty of Córdoba established Mexico as an independent constitutional monarchy
- Mexico was divided into liberal and conservatives
  - Conservatives wanted to use the old Spanish way of running the government
  - Liberals wanted a system similar to that of the United States
- Agustín de Iturbide takes the crown for himself
  - He was an extravagant and incapable leader
  - Abdicated the throne after Antonio López de Santa Anna threatened an overthrow and exile
  - He is a prominent hero of the war for independence in the Roman Catholic Church
- Antonio López de Santa Anna and Guadalupe Victoria set up a new republic
  - Guadalupe Victoria was named as the first president of the new republic
Religious Effects

- The church still held considerable economic and spiritual power
- Lost monopoly on education
Religious Effects cont.

- Catholicism remained the most prominent religion in the new nation
- Immediately after independence, only catholics were counted as citizens
  - In effect until the 1850s
- The church responded by supporting conservatives
- Priests weren’t allowed to wear clerical clothes in public
- Eventually priests were banned from talking about politics from the pulpit
- Catholic christianity now represents 83% of the Mexican population
Impact on Different Social Groups

- Before independence, indigenous peoples were given very few political and civil rights
- Hidalgo’s call to arms was to everyone, even indigenous peoples
- Many of the armies fighting for independence were made up of indigenous people or people of mixed race
Outcome of Independence

- Hard for Mexico to go from being a Spanish colony to a self-governing nation.

- The North American invasion or The Mexican War (1846–1848)
  - Initially caused by a dispute over the boundary of Texas.
  - Decisive cause was the Polk administration deciding to acquire California and New Mexico as well.
  - Decisive cause was the Polk administration deciding to acquire California and New Mexico as well.
Leadership

● Agustín de Iturbide
  ○ First emperor after independence was declared
  ○ Fought during the war
  ○ Ruled for less than one year

● General Antonio López de Santa Anna
  ○ Elected after Iturbide was removed
  ○ Eventually led the war with the US

● Guadalupe Victoria
  ○ Elected as first president under the new constitutions
Long Term Effects of Independence

- Half a million Mexicans perished
- Agriculture and mining suffered
  - Repairs and growth stopped
- Economy
  - Left stagnant
  - Exports vastly outnumbered imports
- Crime exploded
- Increasing debt
  - High interest loans
Stop Motion Video of Mexican Silver Mine

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