Chapter 19

Early Latin America
By the end of the 17th century, a society that fused Hispanic culture and indigenous elements had emerged in Spanish America.
Chapter Overview

I. Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest
II. The Destruction and Transformation of Indigenous Societies
III. Colonial Economies and Governments
IV. Brazil: The First Plantation Colony
V. Multiracial Societies
VI. The 18th-Century Reforms
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1450 C.E.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1492</strong> Fall of Granada, last Muslim kingdom in Spain; expulsion of the Jews; Columbus makes landfall in the Caribbean</td>
<td><strong>1500</strong> Cabral lands in Brazil</td>
<td><strong>1630–1654</strong> Dutch capture northeastern Brazil</td>
<td><strong>1755–1776</strong> Marquis of Pombal, prime minister of Portugal</td>
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<td><strong>1493</strong> Columbus’s second expedition; beginnings of settlement in the Indies</td>
<td><strong>1519–1524</strong> Cortés leads conquest of Mexico</td>
<td><strong>1654</strong> English take Jamaica</td>
<td><strong>1759</strong> Jesuits expelled from Brazil</td>
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<td><strong>1493–1520</strong> Exploration and settlement in the Caribbean</td>
<td><strong>1533</strong> Cuzco, Peru, falls to Francisco Pizarro</td>
<td><strong>1695</strong> Gold discovered in Brazil</td>
<td><strong>1756–1763</strong> Seven Years War</td>
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<td><strong>1494</strong> Treaty of Tordesillas</td>
<td><strong>1540–1542</strong> Coronado explores area that is now the southwestern United States</td>
<td><strong>1702–1713</strong> War of the Spanish succession; Bourbon dynasty rules Spain</td>
<td><strong>1759–1788</strong> Carlos III rules Spain; Bourbon reforms</td>
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<td><strong>1541</strong> Santiago, Chile, founded</td>
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<td><strong>1763</strong> Brazilian capital moved to Rio de Janeiro</td>
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<td><strong>1549</strong> Royal government established in Brazil</td>
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<td><strong>1767</strong> Jesuits expelled from Spanish America</td>
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<td><strong>1580–1640</strong> Spain and Portugal united under same rulers</td>
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<td><strong>1781</strong> Comunero revolt in New Granada; Tupac Amaru rebellion in Peru</td>
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<td><strong>1788</strong> Conspiracy for independence in Minas Gerais, Brazil</td>
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Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• Iberia
  – Zone of cultural contact
  – Arab Muslims invade in 8th century
    ▪ Long multicultural period
  – Reconquest
    ▪ Small Christian states to unification
    ▪ Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile
    ▪ 1492, completed
      • Jews expelled
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• Iberian Society and Tradition
  – Strongly urbanized
  – Iberian commoners seek to raise their status.
  – Slavery
  – Centralized governments
  – Close ties to church
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

- The Chronology of Conquest
  - First stage, 1492-1570
    - Foundations
  - Second stage, 1570-1700
    - New society, institutions take shape
  - Third stage, 1700s
    - Reform, reorganization
    - Discontent, unrest
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

- The Caribbean Crucible
  - Hispaniola
    - Encomiendas (large estates)
      - Patriarchal culture
    - Native peoples become laborers
      - Depopulated by disease
  - Cities
    - Grid
    - Central plaza
  - Professional bureaucrats
The major islands and surrounding mainland coasts were explored and conquered between 1493 and c.1570. The Caribbean outposts were also the staging areas for most expeditions into the American continents, few expeditions sailed directly from Spain.
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• The Caribbean Crucible
  – 16th century
    ▪ African slaves, Spanish women - new society
  – Bartolomé de las Casas
    ▪ Opposes abuses of Indians
The Portuguese colony was mostly limited to the coast where sugar plantations thrived until the 18th century when gold discoveries attracted settlers and prospectors to the interior. The vast Amazon region was sparsely settled, mostly along the major rivers.
Figure 19.2
St. Augustine, Florida. As the oldest city in the United States (founded in 1565), it was established to guard the Spanish sea route from the Caribbean that the silver fleets traveled back to Spain.
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• The Paths of Conquest
  – Not unified
  – Mexico
    ▪ 1519, Hernán Cortés into Mexico
      • Attacks Aztecs
      • Tenochtitlan
        – Moctezuma II killed
        – Replaced by Mexico City
    ▪ By 1535, central Mexico under New Spain
    ▪ Kingdom of New Spain
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• The Paths of Conquest
  – Inca
    ▪ Weakened by civil war
    ▪ Francisco Pizarro
      • 1532, begins conquest
    ▪ Cuzco falls, 1533
    ▪ New capital at Lima
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

- The Paths of Conquest
  - American Southwest
  - Francisco Vázquez de Coronado
    - Exploration in the 1540s
  - Chile
    - Pedro de Valdivia
      - Conquers central Chile
      - 1541, founds Santiago
  - By 1570, 192 Spanish towns
Figure 19.3 Father Bartolomé de Las Casas. This former conquistador became a Dominican friar and a noted theologian who spent much of his life seeking to protect the Indians from exploitation and abuse.
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• The Conquerors
  – Contracts between crown and leaders of expeditions
    ▪ Followers get booty
  – Technological edge
  – Took advantage of internal divisions
Figure 19.4

This 1519 Spanish painting, The Meeting of Cortés and Moctezuma, represents the Spanish view of the conquest of Mexico.
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

- Conquest and Morality
  - Conquests questioned
    - Indians considered sub-human
    - Conversion a duty
  - Las Casas' work lessens abuses
Spaniards and Portuguese: From Reconquest to Conquest

• The Destruction and Transformation of American Indian Societies
  – The example of Mexico
  – Indigenous population
    ▪ 25 million to fewer than 2 million
The Destruction and Transformation of Indigenous Societies

• Exploitation of the Indians
  – *Encomiendas*
    ▪ Add to decline of native populations
    ▪ Modified by crown, fearing threat
  – *Mita*
    ▪ Native system of forced labor
    ▪ Natives used for state projects
Colonial Economies and Governments

- 80 percent work in agriculture, ranching
- Mining crucial
- The Silver Heart of Empire
  - Mexico, Peru
  - Potosí, Bolivia
    - Largest
  - Zacatecas, Mexico
  - Mercury in Huancavelica, Peru
Figure 19.6
Silver production in Spanish America, 1516–1660.
Colonial Economies and Governments

• Haciendas and Villages
  – *Haciendas*
    ▪ Spanish agricultural estates
    ▪ Produce for domestic use
    ▪ Give rise to aristocracy
Colonial Economies and Governments

• Industry and Commerce
  – Sheep raising
    ▪ Textile sweatshops
  – Silver trade preeminent
    ▪ Only for Spaniards
    ▪ Convoys cross Atlantic
      • Protected by *galleons*
Colonial Economies and Governments

• Industry and Commerce
  – Board of Trade
    ▪ Oversees commerce
    ▪ Consulado, merchant guild
An Atlantic History

• Themes
  – Movement of people
    ▪ Europeans
    ▪ African slaves
  – Movement of plants, crops
  – Movement of animals
  – Movement of diseases
  – Circulation of ideas, beliefs
    ▪ End to relative unity in Atlantic world
Colonial Economies and Governments

• Ruling an Empire: State and Church
  – Treaty of Tordesillas, 1494
    ▪ Spain and Portugal
    ▪ Portugal gets Brazil
    ▪ Rest to Spain
  – Bureaucratic system
    ▪ Letrados
    ▪ Recopilación, 1681
      • Codified laws
Colonial Economies and Governments

• Ruling an Empire: State and Church
  – Spanish Empire
    ▪ King at top
    ▪ Council of Indies
    ▪ Viceroyalties
      • Mexico City, Lima
      • Audencias
    ▪ Viceroy
Colonial Economies and Governments

- Ruling an Empire: State and Church
  - Spanish Empire
    - Clergy
      - Religious and secular functions
      - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz
    - Inquisition
Figure 19.7  Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz was a remarkable Mexican poet and writer whose talents won her recognition rarely given to women for intellectual or artistic achievements in colonial Latin America.
Brazil: The First Plantation Economy

- 1500, Pedro Alvares Cabral
  - Only interested in dyewoods
- 1532, new system developed
  - Captaincies
  - Spurred by French interest
  - Land grants to increase colonization
- 1549, governor creates administration
  - Capital at Salvador
Brazil: The First Plantation Economy

• Sugar and Slavery
  – Sugar
    ▪ Labor intensive
  – Society
    ▪ White plantation owners dominate
    ▪ Slaves at bottom
    ▪ Great variety in between
Sugar was introduced to the Caribbean in 1493, and Brazil became the greatest producer by the next century. Sugar plantations using slave labor characterized Brazil and the Caribbean.
Brazil: The First Plantation Economy

• Sugar and Slavery
  – Administration
    ▪ Staffed by lawyers
    ▪ Regional governors
    ▪ Missionaries run ranches, schools
Brazil: The First Plantation Economy

• Brazil's Age of Gold
  – European conflict affects Brazil, 1600s
    ▪ Dutch occupy Brazil until 1654
  – Dutch, English, French
    ▪ Sugar plantations in Caribbean
    ▪ Price of sugar drops, slaves more expensive
  – Paulistas
    ▪ Explorers into interior
    ▪ Discover gold, Minas Gerais, 1695
Brazil: The First Plantation Economy

• Brazil's Age of Gold
  – Government controls production
    ▪ Interior developed
  – Rio de Janeiro
    ▪ Closer to mines
Multiracial Societies

- *Castas*, mixed races
- The Society of Castas (*sociedad de castas*)
  - Miscengenation
    - Sexual exploitation of Indian women
    - Mestizo population
  - *Peninsulares* v. *Creoles*
Figure 19.9

The contact between Europeans, Africans, and Native Americans eventually produced large numbers of castas, people considered to be of mixed racial origin. By the 18th century, especially in New Spain, a genre of painting flourished that depicted a husband and wife of different racial categories and their child who would fit one of the casta designations. The purpose and public for these paintings is unclear, but they illustrate domestic relations and material culture as well as racial ideology.
Changing ratios of ethnic categories in Mexico and Peru.
Women in colonial Latin America engaged in agriculture and manufacturing, especially in textile workshops, but social ideology still reserved the household and the kitchen as the proper sphere for women, as seen in this scene of a kitchen in a large Mexican home.
The 18th-Century Reforms

- **Amigos del país**
  - Plan reforms

- **The Shifting Balance of Politics and Trade**
  - Spain weakened in 18th century
    - Conflict with France, England, Holland
      - Loss of overseas territories
The 18th-Century Reforms

• The Shifting Balance of Politics and Trade
  ▪ Silver imports drop
  ▪ Colonies more self-sufficient
  – 1701-1713, War of the Spanish Succession
  ▪ Bourbons victorious
The 18th-Century Reforms

• The Bourbon Reforms
  – Charles III (1759–1788)
    ▪ Reforms
    ▪ Jesuits expelled from Spain, empire, 1767
    ▪ French forms introduced
  – José de Gálvez
    ▪ Reforms
    ▪ Creoles lose high office
The 18th-Century Reforms

• The Bourbon Reforms
  – Spain and France allied at this time
    ▪ Spain involved in Anglo-French wars
  – Seven Years War
    ▪ English take Havana
The 18th-Century Reforms

• The Bourbon Reforms
  – Seven Years War
    ▪ Reaction
      • Better defenses of New World territory
      • Frontiers extended
      • California settled
      • State takes more control of economy
        – Monopoly companies develop new regions
Bourbon reforms created new viceroyalties in order to improve defense, taxation, and administration. In Brazil, central control was enhanced from the new capital of Rio de Janeiro after 1763 while the northern Amazonian region was brought directly under Lisbon’s control by strong governors.
The 18th-Century Reforms

• Pombal and Brazil
  – Marquis of Pombal, 1755 to 1776
    ▪ Authoritarian
    ▪ Jesuits expelled from empire, 1759
    ▪ Reforms
      • Monopoly companies to develop agriculture
      • Rio de Janeiro the new capital
      • Slavery abolished in Portugal
The 18th-Century Reforms

- Reforms, Reactions, and Revolts
  - Mid-18th century
    - Great economic growth
    - Population, production up
    - Traditional leaders threatened by reforms
  - New Granada
    - Comunero Revolt, 1781
  - Peru
    - Tupac Amaru II