**Religious Conflict**

* Church suspended all services in Mexico and boycotted all goods except necessities
* Militant Catholics took up arms - Cristeros (Catholic guerillas)
* Government schools and young teachers were targets
* Government repression was severe

Luke notes: *Calles wanted to not split loyalty and potentially lose followers, so he attacked the church.*

**Presidential Election 1928**

* Deal between Calles and Obregon
* Supporters in Congress change the Constitution to allow former presidents to be reelected after one term
* Term was extended from 4 to 6 years
* Two opponents for the office conspire against Obregon and Calles
* Calles has them arrested and shot
* Obregon is elected, then three weeks later he is assassinated by a fanatical Cristero in Mexico City

Luke notes: *Obregon is still around, and he changes the constitution so he didn’t have to step down (this makes him very much a dictator). Calles wasn’t much better tbh.*

**Calles - “El Jefe Máximo”**

* Calles places three different men in the office of president to fulfill Obregon’s term but he is the power behind the office. Each one resigns after displeasing “el jefe”
* Military uprising is crushed in 1929, the “last hurrah” of the military caudillos

Luke notes: *In most countries, the head of state does not control the military. As the military got mad at how little power they had, they (used American weapons and) did the uprisings.*

**National Revolutionary Party (PNR)**

* Calles institutionalizes the rule of the “revolutionary family” (military and political leaders since 1920)
* Under different names this party has been ruling Mexico since 1929
* Their official presidential candidate had never lost until the election of Vincente Fox
* After consolidating power the “revolutionary family” turns conservative
* Shift coincides with beginning of the Great Depression
* By 1933 a progressive wing of PNR emerges with General Lazaro Cardenas as leader of the reformers
* Has been a part of the inner circle of the party
* 1930 was named Party Chairman

Luke notes: *The leading party was the only one in power; no-one else’s voice was heard (which makes people either apathetic or angry.*