

S. AM INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS: SIMON BOLIVAR



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Thank you, Bolívar!

Simon Bolivar

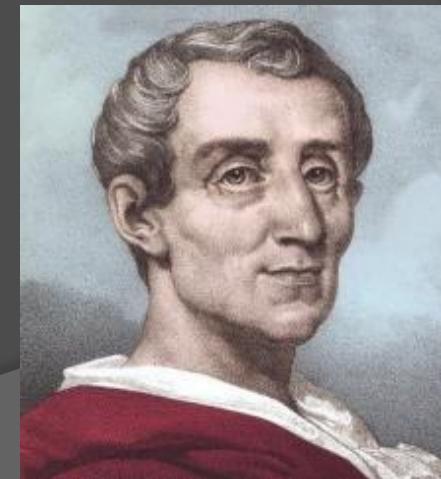
- 1783 Creole born in Caracas, Venezuela
- Enlightenment education
- “[...] symbol and hero of liberation struggle” (Keen 161)



John Locke



Voltaire



Montesquieu

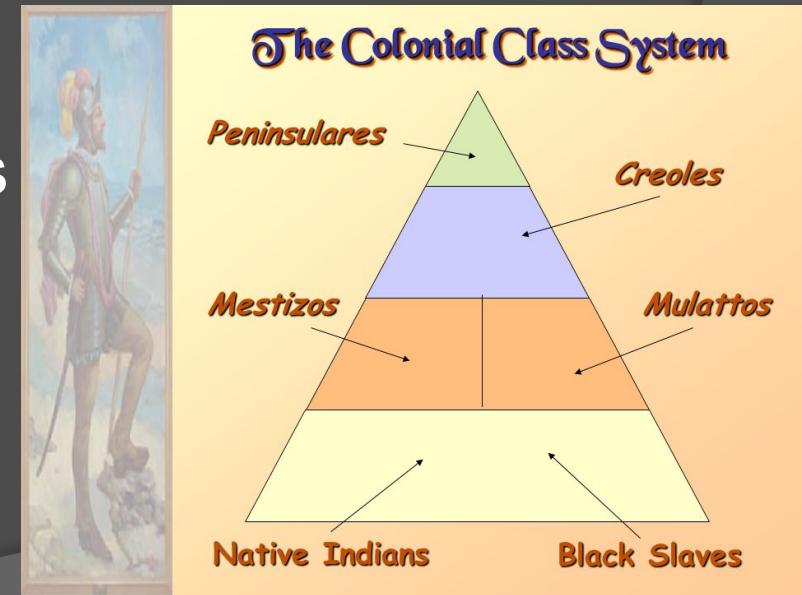
General Causes

- Creoles vs. Peninsulares

- Different POVs: empire (mercantilism) vs. nativism
- “Institutionalized discrimination” (Keen)

- Enlightenment influences

- French, American Revolutions
- Free press disseminate ideas



General Causes

- ◉ Napoleonic Wars

- Charles IV and Ferdinand VII imprisoned → juntas
 - Creoles' dream of self-rule = more realistic (Keen)

- ◉ Want free trade! (with Britain, maybe)

- **1749** Venezuelan merchant revolt
 - **1781** Comunero Revolt
 - **1793** Consulado de Caracas



Development of Revolutions

1. **1810-1814** → Initial start and expansion of movement
2. **1814-1816** → Resurgence of royalist (peninsulares) domination
3. **1817-1824** → Actual independence



Opposition in Venezuela

- 1810 formation of creole-dominated junta
- 1811 Venezuelan independence
 - Continuing conflict b/t patriots and royalists
- Patriots lose several battles under Miranda
 - Miranda flees Venezuela → Bolivar prevents
- Spain declares terror against all patriots



Stirrings in Colombia

- Bolivar to New Granada (Colombia)

- Manifesto to the Citizens of New Granada
 - Venezuelan independence=Colombian security (Bolivar)

- 1813 victory at Cucuta

- General Bolivar uses guerilla warfare
 - Promotes based on merit



To the Rest of Spanish Am.

- General Bolivar leads 500 men to Caracas
 - Declares counterterror against all Spaniards
 - Spaniards retreat



- Bolivar triumphant entrance to Caracas
 - Title of liberator
 - Was granted dictatorial powers

Royalist Resurgence

- ◎ 1814 fall of Napoleon
 - Ferdinand VII restored to Spanish throne
 - More Spanish troops to colony



Internal Conflicts

- **Slaves** continue to struggle for equality
- Venezuelan **Ilaneros** (cowboys) dislike reforms
 - Violated customary rights
- 1814 Boves leads rebellion → Bolivar flees to Colombia
 - End of 2nd Venezuela republic



Spanish Take Everything Back

- ◉ 1814 Colombia's provinces are not united
 - 1815 Bolivar leaves “hopeless” situation
- ◉ Spanish General Morillo reconquers of Venezuela
- ◉ Siege to Cartagena
 - Colombia also recaptured



Bolivar to the Rescue

- Vision for L. Am:

- Formation of several countries
- Monarchy= “foreign to the genius of L. Am”

- Support from mulatto president Petion (Haiti)

- Bolivar promises abolition of slavery



Bolivar to the Rescue

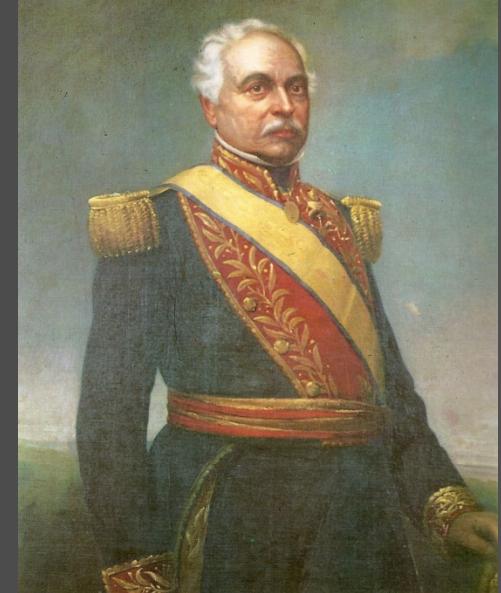
- ◎ **March 1816** Bolivar to Margarita
 - Attempts to land on Venezuela beaten back

- ◎ **1816** Establish base in Angostura
 - In Orinoco River valley—
 - Farther from Spanish forces
 - Wanted loyalty of llaneros



Turning the Tide

- Paez, Llanero chieftain, supports Bolivar
- Supplies bought with English merchant loans
- Ferdinand VII refuses to make concessions
 - If he had, “the Spanish Empire in America might have survived much longer” (Keen)



Path to Victory

- 1819 Llaneros distract Spanish forces in N. Venezuela
- Bolivar to Bogota
 - Quick victory in field of Boyaca
- Bolivar leaves Santander to organize gov't
 - Bolivar returns to Angostura



Path to Victory

- ◎ 1820 Spanish revolt →
 - Restoration of liberal constitution of 1812
 - Ferdinand must give up colonial reconquest
- ◎ July 1821 Bolivar and Paez victory at Carabobo
 - Venezuela free



Path to Victory

- Bolivar prepares to attack Quito
- Sucre to port of Guayaquil
 - Reinforcements from San Martin →
 - Victory on Mount Pichincha
- 1821 Gran Colombia established by Bolivar
 - Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama



Victory at Last

- **1823** Bolivar to Peru to unite it
- **December 9, 1824** Sucre victory at Ayacucho

- Last major engagement of war
- “The work of continental liberation was achieved”
(Keen)

- **1826** Spanish garrison at Callao (Peru) surrender



Venezuelan Independence Round 3

- **1819** Bolivar presents constitution for Venezuela
 - Nondemocratic features like hereditary senate
- Congress rejects Bolivar's constitution
 - New constitution echoing many ideas
 - Bolivar becomes president



New Granada Government

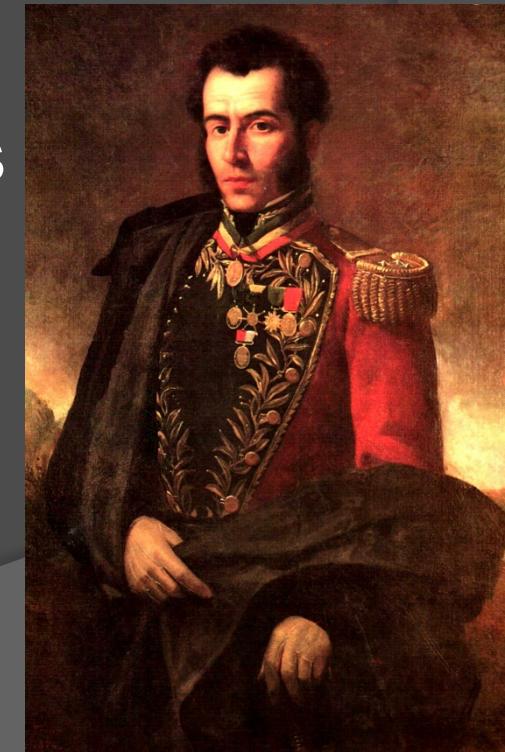
- Bolivar as president
- Santander as vice president
- Bolivar favored democratic government



Peru and Bolivia



- 1825 Upper Peru becomes Bolivia
 - 1826 slightly-modified constitution that Bolivar wrote adopted
 - Separation of powers → 4 branches
 - President has life-term
 - First president was Sucre
- Similar constitution for Peru



Implications of Independence

- Economic

- Free trade— no mercantilism
- Depletion of workforce, land/crops/mines destroyed
- Trade disrupted during fighting

- Social

- Slaves freed
- Some class/color lines blurred

