

Preparing for the Regents

- Create a chart that outlines the causes and lasting effects of the French Revolution.
- In what way was the French Revolution a turning point in global history?

Key Themes and Concepts

Nationalism

Feelings of nationalism often develop when a group of people is under the control of a foreign power. List other examples of people embracing nationalism and working together to drive out foreign rulers.

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- Explain the role of imperialism as a cause of the revolution in Haiti. Why would you expect other revolutions to occur in Latin America?



Vocabulary Builder

guerrilla war—(guh RIL uh wawr) *n.* a war fought by small, unofficial military groups who make surprise raids

Effects of the French Revolution

The French Revolution and the reign of Napoleon transformed both France and Europe in many ways.

Democratic Ideals Napoleon's conquests spread the ideals of democracy throughout Europe. Groups struggled to achieve the goals of the French republic: "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." People wanted liberty from absolute monarchs and unjust governments. They pursued equality by opposing social inequality and injustice. They expressed fraternity, or brotherhood, by working together for a common cause.

Nationalism Among the French, the revolution and the conquests of Napoleon inspired feelings of national pride. This pride and sense of national identity replaced earlier loyalty to local authority and the person of the monarch.

The conquests of Napoleon also increased nationalistic feeling across Europe and around the world. His conquests had a part in the eventual unification of both Italy and Germany. His weakening of Spain led to the Latin American independence movements.

Latin American Independence Movements

In the late 1700s, Enlightenment and revolutionary ideas spread from Europe and the United States to Latin America. Educated Latin Americans read works by Enlightenment writers. They debated about political and social reform. Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were eagerly read. The success of the American Revolution showed that foreign rule could be thrown off. Latin Americans also were inspired by what the French Revolution had accomplished. Beginning in the 1790s, they struggled to gain independence as well as other rights and freedoms.

Toussaint L'Ouverture

The French colony of Haiti was the first Latin American colony to revolt against European rule. In Haiti, French planters owned large sugar plantations. Here nearly half a million enslaved Africans lived and worked in terrible conditions. Moreover, the French gave few rights to free mulattoes (persons of mixed ancestry) living on the island.

In 1791, a self-educated former slave named **Toussaint L'Ouverture** led a revolt. Toussaint was familiar with the works of the Enlightenment thinkers and wanted to lead his people to liberty. Toussaint proved to be an effective military leader and gained control of much of the island. Haitian slaves won their freedom in 1798.

In 1802, Napoleon sent an army to Haiti to reestablish French dominance. Toussaint led a guerrilla war to gain Haitian independence. The French captured Toussaint, but yellow fever took a heavy toll on their forces. In 1804, Haitians declared their independence. Napoleon then abandoned the island. Haiti became a republic in 1820.

Simón Bolívar

In South America in the early 1800s, an educated creole named **Simón Bolívar** led resistance movements against the Spanish. Bolívar had become an admirer of Enlightenment ideas and the French Revolution during a stay in Europe. He was also inspired by the American Revolution. He vowed to fight Spanish rule in South America. Called "the Liberator," Bolívar became one of the greatest Latin American nationalist leaders of this period.



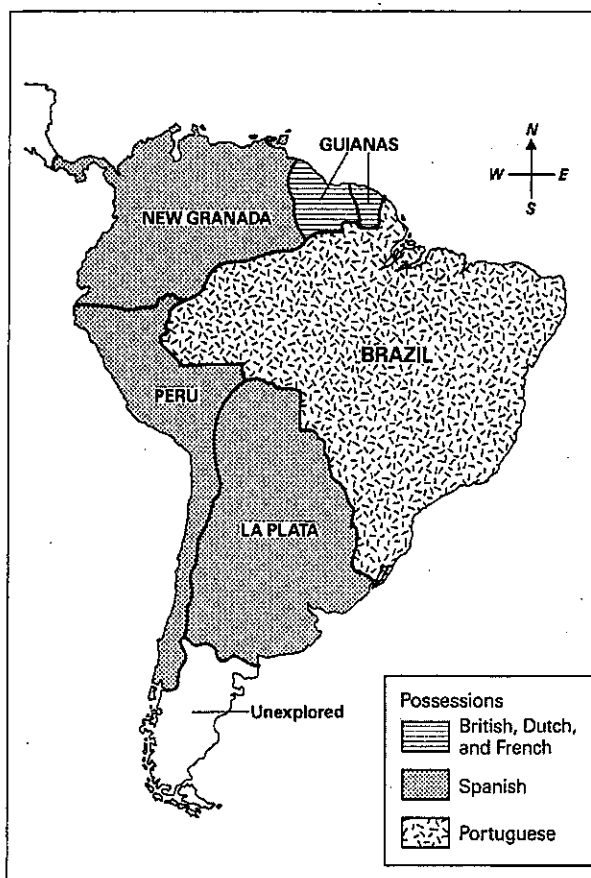
Struggle For Independence In 1810, Bolívar started his long struggle against the Spanish. Over the next 12 years, he led a series of military campaigns that won independence for Venezuela, New Granada (present-day Colombia), Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. He then joined forces with **José de San Martín**, who had defeated the Spanish in Argentina and Chile in the 1810s.

Difficulties Ahead Despite his victories against the Spanish, Bolívar failed in his attempt to create a large, united Latin American state. Spain's former empire thus became divided into a number of separate independent states. These nations faced a long struggle to gain stability, achieve social equality, and eliminate poverty.

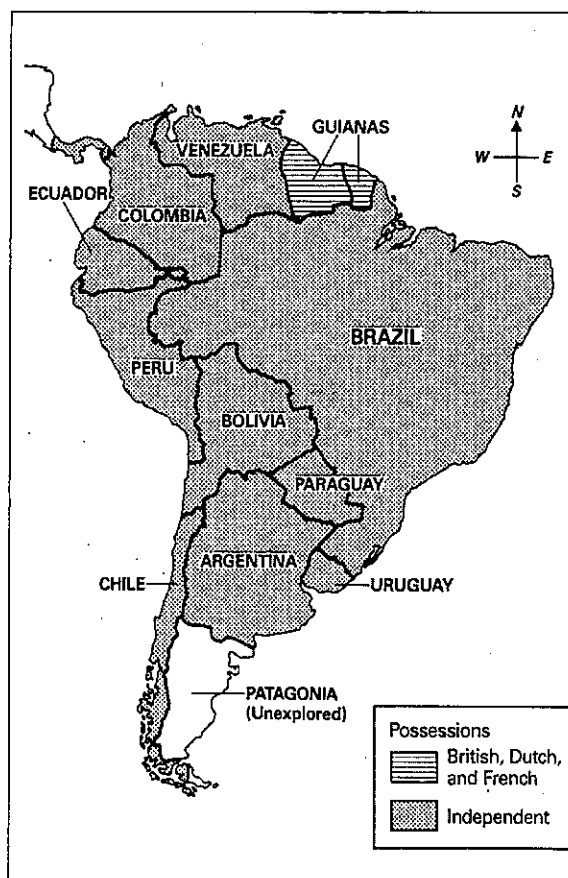
Summarize

- Who were the key revolutionaries for independence in Latin America?
- What were their accomplishments?

South America, 1790



South America, 1828



Summary

Enlightenment ideas about natural rights and rejection of absolutist authority inspired major revolutions in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Colonists in America declared independence from Great Britain in 1776 and created a government based on the ideas of Locke and Montesquieu. Influenced by the American Revolution, revolutionaries in France overturned the monarchy and created a new social order. Napoleon helped spread revolutionary ideals across Europe. Both the American and French Revolutions contributed to revolutions in Latin America in the early 1800s. Leaders such as Toussaint L'Ouverture and Simón Bolívar led popular movements to overthrow European rule.

Key Themes and Concepts

Change

The revolutions of the late 1700s and early 1800s had several lasting effects. These included the creation of the United States, the spread of nationalism and democratic ideals, and the establishment of independent republics in Latin America.