




# Independence Movements in Latin America



# **Essential Question:**

## **Why and how did the independence movement occur in Latin America?**

**Standard:**

**SS6H2c: Explain the Latin American independence movement: include Toussaint L'Ouverture, Simon Bolivar, and Miguel Hidalgo**

**Independence Movements were occurring all over the world as oppressed people fought to be free.**

**We will focus on three main independence movements in Latin America for this unit.**

# Toussaint L'Ouverture



Which area(s) did he  
fight to help free?



# Why did he fight?

- ▶ He wanted to free the black African slaves from their white masters
- ▶ He believed that God wished to abolish slavery and had called him to lead

Was he successful during his life? OR Did the movement carry on after his death?

It was not until after his death that the African slaves of Haiti were able to finally gain their freedom.

# What happened to L'Ouverture?

L'Ouverture was tricked by the French and thrown in jail in France where he died.



# Other Facts:



The Haitian Revolution marked the only time in history that African slaves successfully rose up to overthrow their European oppressors.

# Simón Bolívar



# What areas did he fight to help free?

▶ Venezuela

▶ Panama

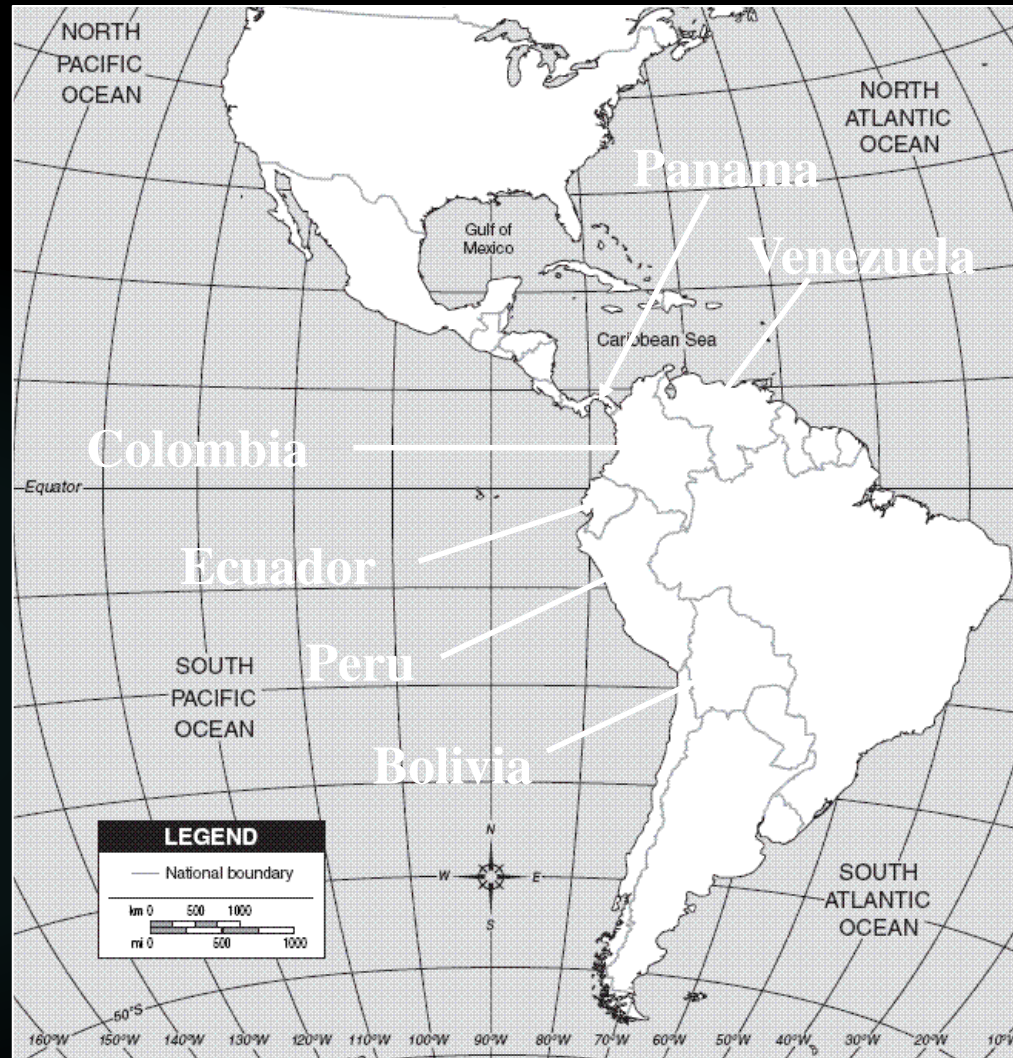
▶ Colombia

▶ Bolivia

▶ Ecuador

▶ Peru

# Nations freed by Simón Bolívar.



# Why did he fight?

- ▶ As a person with Spanish parents who was born in Latin America (Criollo), he was tired of being ruled by European policies that were unfair
- ▶ His life's goal was to liberate (free) his homeland
- ▶ He once said “I have been chosen by fate to break your chains...Fight and you shall win”

Was he successful during his life? OR

Did the movement carry on after his  
death?

- ▶ Bolívar was successful in his life to liberate (free) countries in South America
- ▶ He was never able to unite all of them as one country as he wanted

# What happened to Bolívar?

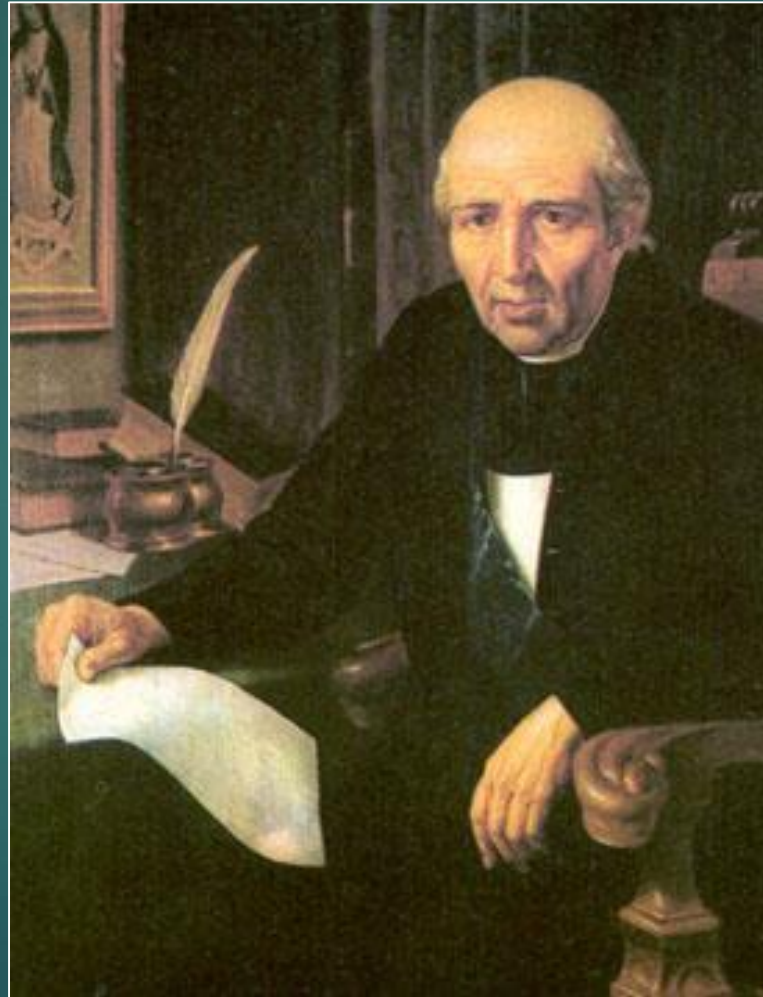
When Bolívar realized he was never going to be able to unite South America into one country, he retired from politics (with poor health)

# Other facts:

- ▶ He was a wealthy Venezuelan criollo (Born in Latin America to Spanish parents)
- ▶ Known as “The Liberator”
- ▶ Called the “George Washington of South America”
- ▶ In nearly every town plaza in South America, there is a statue of Bolívar



# Miguel Hidalgo



# What areas did he fight to help free?



# Why did he fight?

- ▶ Spaniards had exploited (abused) and oppressed (dominated) Mexicans for generations and Hidalgo wanted to stop them
- ▶ Hidalgo wanted Mexicans to recover the land that had been stolen from their forefathers

Was he successful during his life? OR  
Did the movement carry on after his  
death?

- ▶ Hidalgo was not successful during his life
- ▶ However, his movement continued until Mexico finally won its independence 11 years later

# What happened to Hidalgo?

Hidalgo was captured while trying to escape into the U.S. and he was executed to send a message to others who wanted to rebel

# Other facts:

- ▶ Hidalgo is known as “The Father of Mexican Independence”
- ▶ Hidalgo was a criollo
- ▶ Hidalgo was excommunicated (ejected) from the Roman Catholic Church
- ▶ Every year on September 16<sup>th</sup>, Mexican Independence Day, they reenact the ringing of the church bell by Hidalgo