

# **UNIT 3**

## **LATIN AMERICA**

# CHAPTER 9

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA:  
FROM THE ANDES TO THE AMAZON

# 9.1: LANDFORMS AND RESOURCES

- Latin America spans 7,000 miles N to S.
  - Rio Grande to Tierra del Fuego
  - Covers part:
    - Surrounded by Atlantic and Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea



# Land

- Andes Mts.
  - Rockies (U.S)
  - Sierra Madre (Mexico)
  - Andes (S. America)
- Guiana Highlands
- Brazilian Highlands
- Llanos:
- Cerrado:
- Pampas:



# The Andes



# Rivers

- Mexico
  - Rio Grande
- South America
  - Orinoco River
  - Amazon River
  - Parana' River



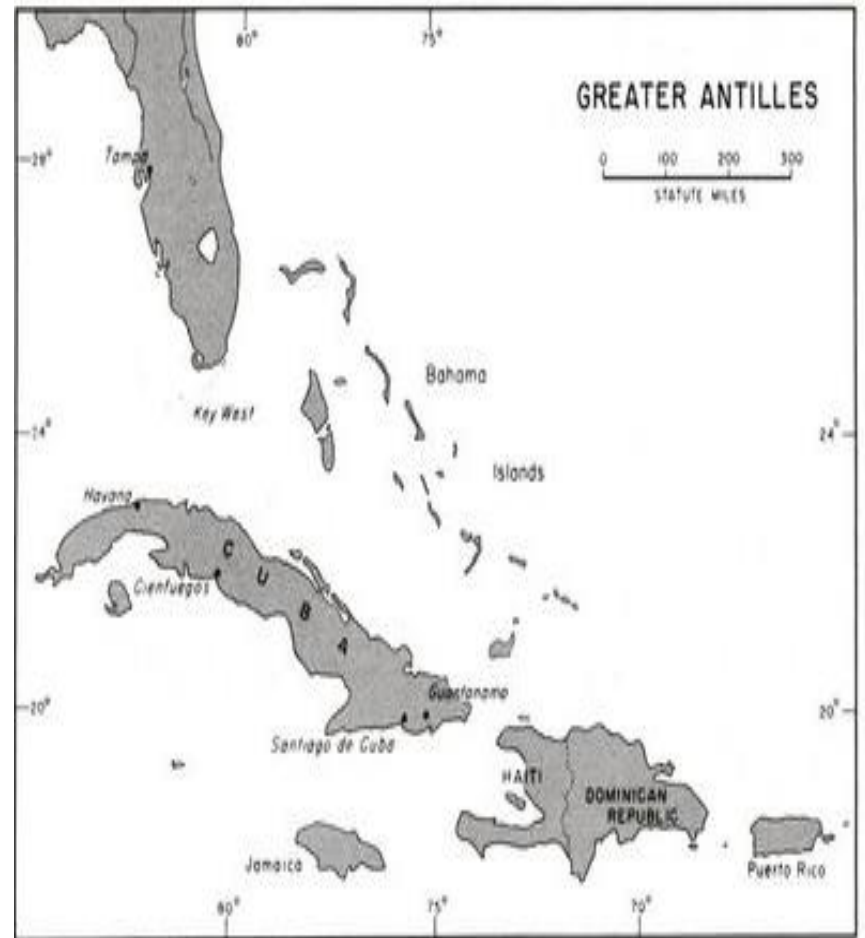
# The Caribbean

- Caribbean islands consist of three island groups:



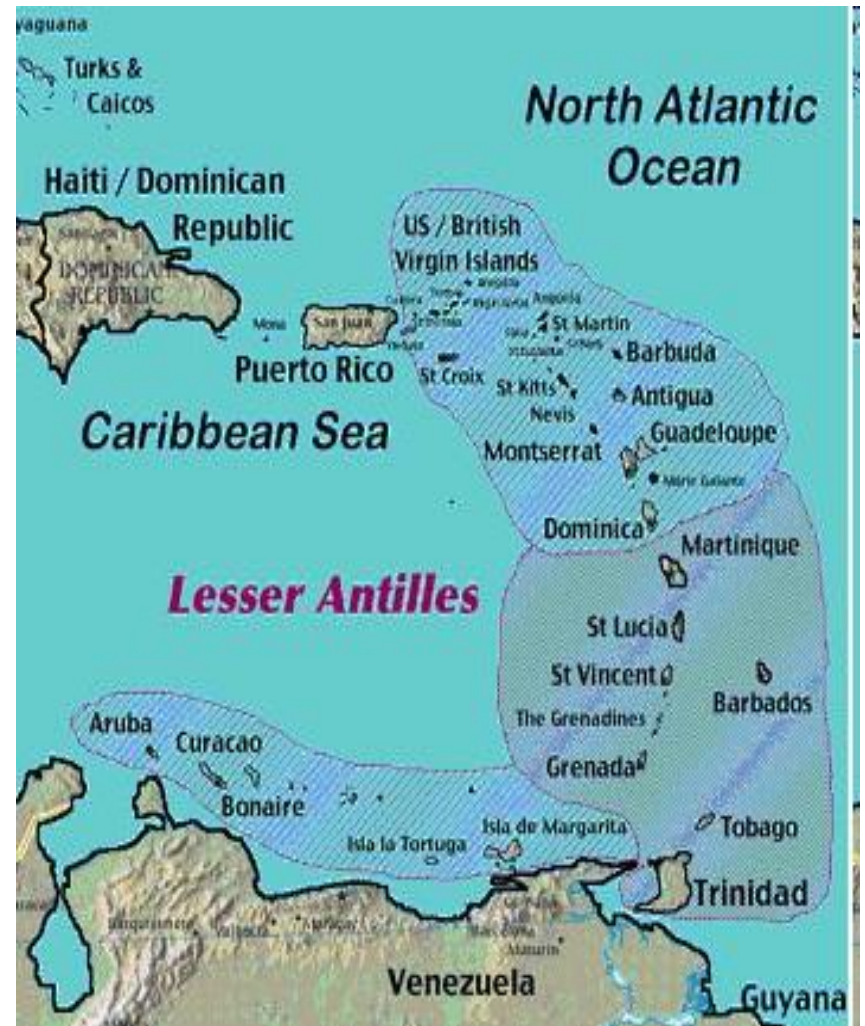
# Greater Antilles

- The **Greater Antilles** are the largest islands of the Caribbean. They include:
- The largest islands of the Greater Antilles have rugged mountains and lush, thick rain forests
- Hispaniola is home to two nations:



# Lesser Antilles

- The Caribbean islands that form an arc that stretches from :
- Together with the Greater Antilles they form the:



# The Bahamas

- The Bahamas is an archipelago, or a:
- People inhabit only about thirty of the Bahamian islands.



# Windward/Leeward Islands

- Climate of the Caribbean is affected more by:
- Temperatures average 80°F year-round, but humidity is high.
- Prevailing winds affect:
- On the **windward** sides of islands, facing the wind, experience:
- On the **leeward** sides, facing away from the wind:

# Physical Characteristics



## The Windward Islands:

- Windward Islands are the southern islands of the Lesser Antilles.

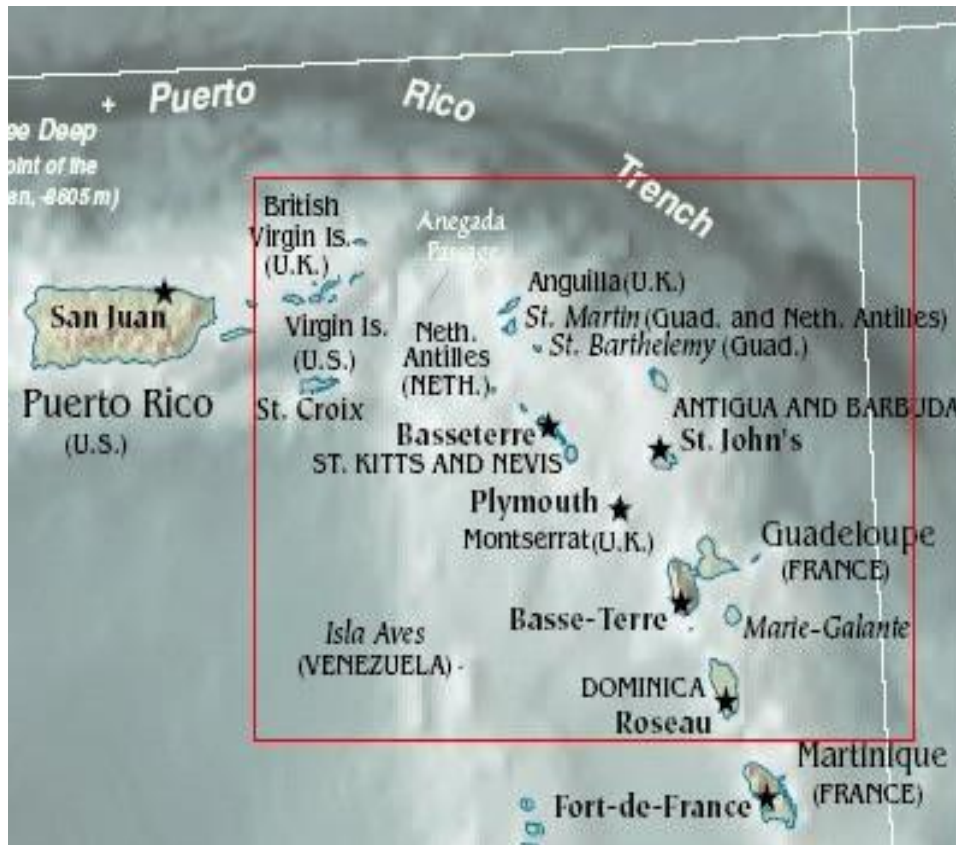
- The Windward Islands Include:

- - Martinique
- - Saint Lucia
- - Barbados
- - Saint Vincent
- - The Grenadines
- - Grenada
- - Trinidad
- - Tobago

# Physical Characteristics

## The Leeward Islands:

- The Leeward Islands are the northern islands of the Lesser Antilles



- **The Leeward Islands Include:**
  - The Virgin Islands
  - Anguilla
  - Saint Martin (Guadeloupe (north part) and Netherlands Antilles (south part))
  - Saba (Netherlands Antilles)
  - Sint Eustatius (Netherlands Antilles)
  - Saint Barthelemy
  - Antigua
  - Barbuda
  - Saint Kitts
  - Nevis
  - Montserrat
  - Guadeloupe
  - Dominica

# Resources

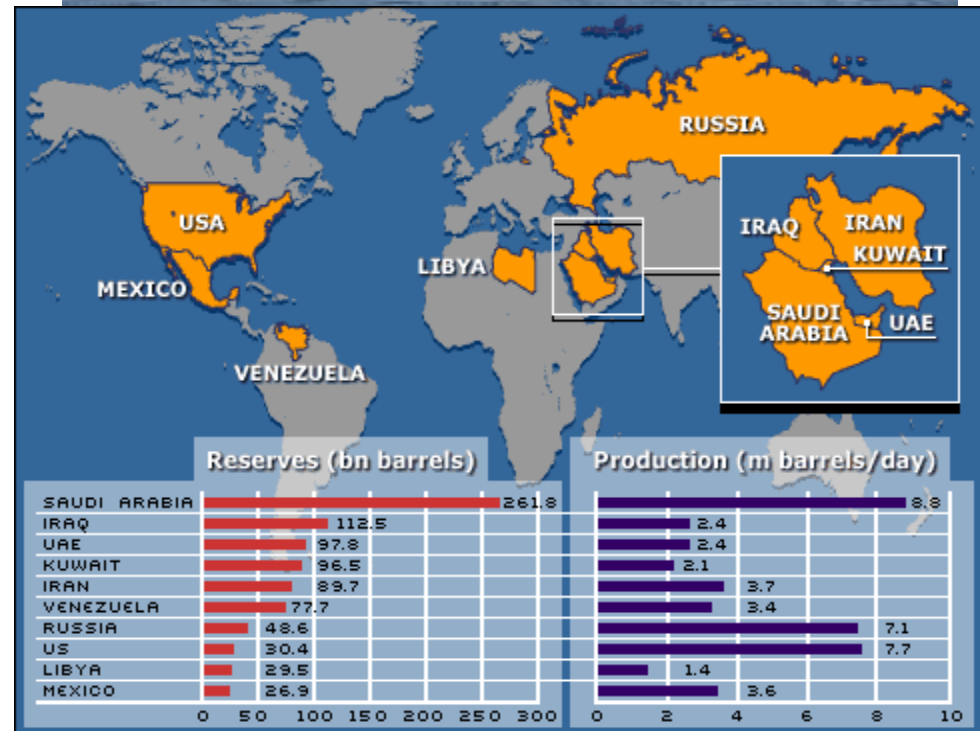


- Mineral Resources

- Gold, silver, iron, copper, bauxite, tin, lead nickel
- S. America =

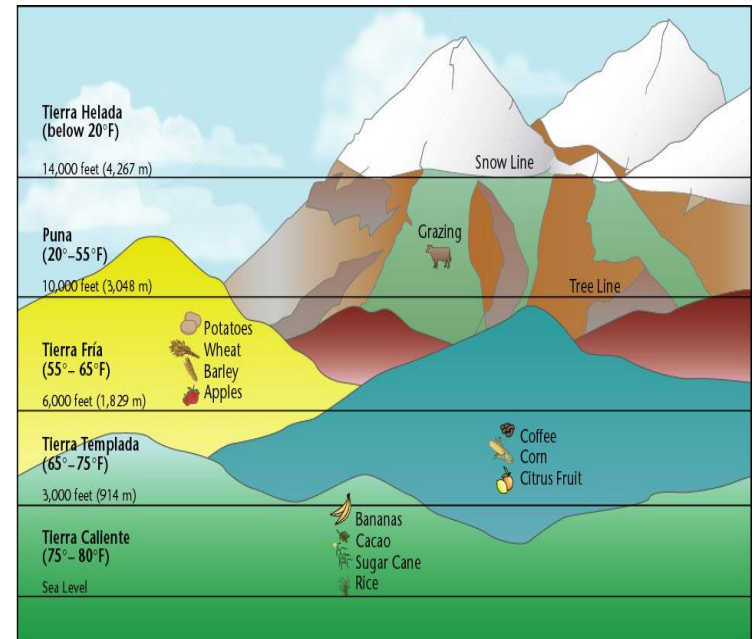
- Energy Resources

- Oil, coal, natural gas, uranium, hydroelectric power



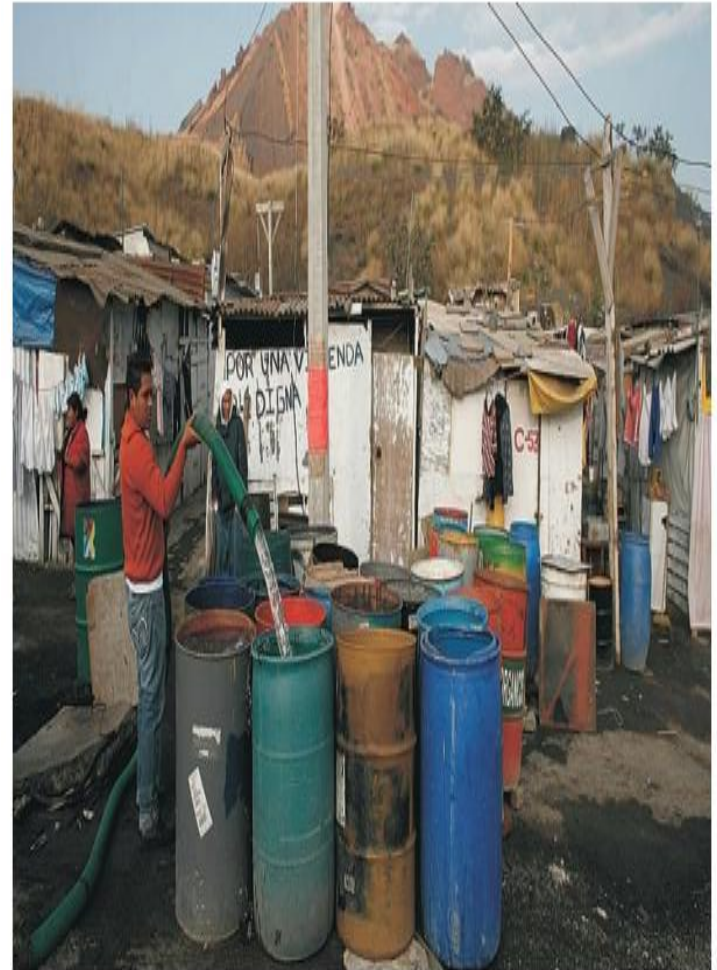
# 9.3 HUMAN ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

- Farming
  - Slash and burn agriculture
  - Terraced farming
- Most farmland is owned by a few wealthy families who:
- As a result, people in rural areas are often:



# Urbanization

- Cities have grown rapidly in Latin America
- In Argentina, Uruguay, and Venezuela:
  
- Cities offer better job opportunities and chances for education, and access to medical care than the countryside
- Yet, many urban dwellers in Latin America are:



# Urbanization

- Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, Bogota, and Santiago have:
- Mexico City is Latin America's:
- Unemployment, slums, crime, pollution, shortages of drinking water, and lack of:



# Tourism

- Climate, scenery, and cultural history make tourism an important source of income for:
- Tourism is a cleaner alternative to industry; Mexicans call tourism the:
- It provides:
- Resort construction can lead to debt and most hotels are foreign owned.



# Mexico



# CHAPTER 10

## HUMAN GEOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA: A BLENDING OF CULTURES

# 10.1: MEXICO

- Many different native people occupied Mexico prior to Spanish conquest
- The **Maya** occupied the :
- The :
- **Tenochtitlán** occupied the site of :



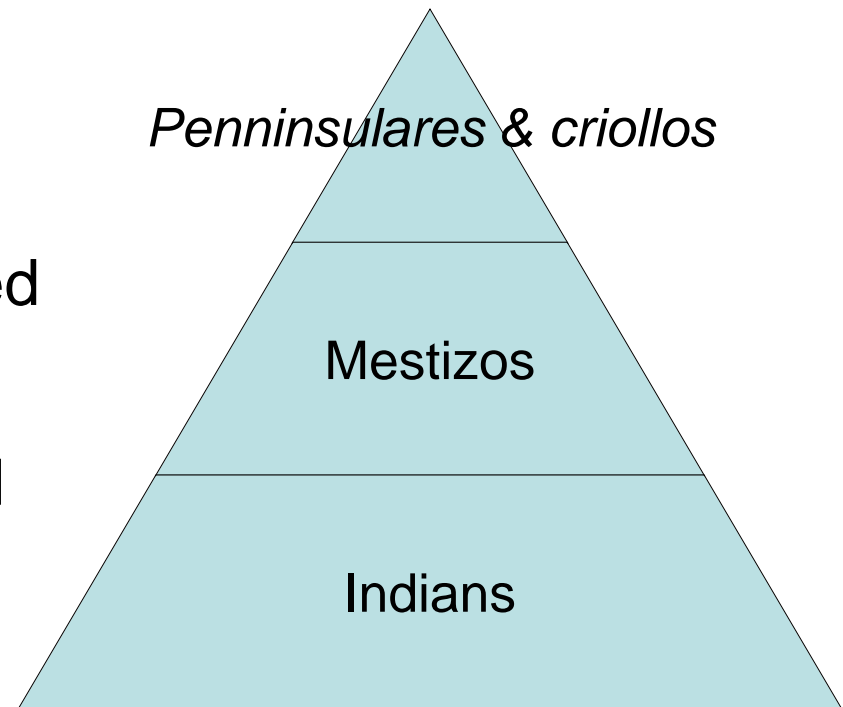
# Spanish Conquest

- **Hernán Cortés**, a Spanish adventurer, marched his soldiers into Tenochtitlán in 1519.
- Within two years, the Aztec empire was destroyed.
- The territory won by Cortés became the:



# Spanish Rule

- The Spanish brought their language and Catholic religion, both of which continue to dominate in Mexico today
- Under Spanish rule:
- Four social classes emerged in New Spain based on conceptions of “whiteness”
- The Spanish king rewarded the conquistadors by granting them both:



# Mexican Independence

- Mexico remained part of Spain's empire until the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Mexico achieved:
- **Benito Juarez** led a reform movement and became president of Mexico in
- Juarez worked for separation of church and state, land reform, and other improvements



# Mexican Revolution

- Juarez's successor **Porfirio Diaz** was a harsh dictator whose 30 year rule ended with:
- The new constitution of 1917 redistributed ~:



# Struggle for Democracy

- In 1929 the:
- The **National Action Party (PAN)**, broke the PRI's hold on power with the election of **Vincente Fox** (2000) and **Felipe Calderon** in 2006.
- The PRI returned to power with the election of :
- Fraud and corruption continue to plague Mexican politics today despite the progress made in recent years.



# Mexico's Economy

- Oil
  - Large deposits of oil in Gulf of Mexico have made the oil industry:
- Manufacturing
  - Manufacturing has played the most important part in Mexico's economic development
  - *Maquiladoras* are factories that assemble products for export to the United States, are:

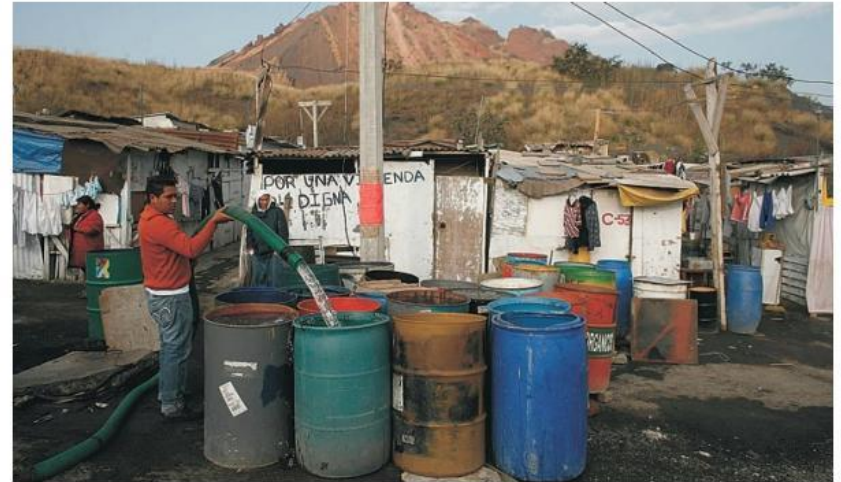


PEMEX



# Modern Challenges

- NAFTA
  - Eliminated:
  - Has hurt:
- Urbanization
  - Increasingly young, urban population
- Cartel Violence
  - Thousands of deaths:



# Modern Challenges

- Emigration
  - Illegal immigration strains relations with U.S.
  - Decline in **remittances** sent back by:
- Education
  - Key to reducing high rates of unemployment
  - 85%:



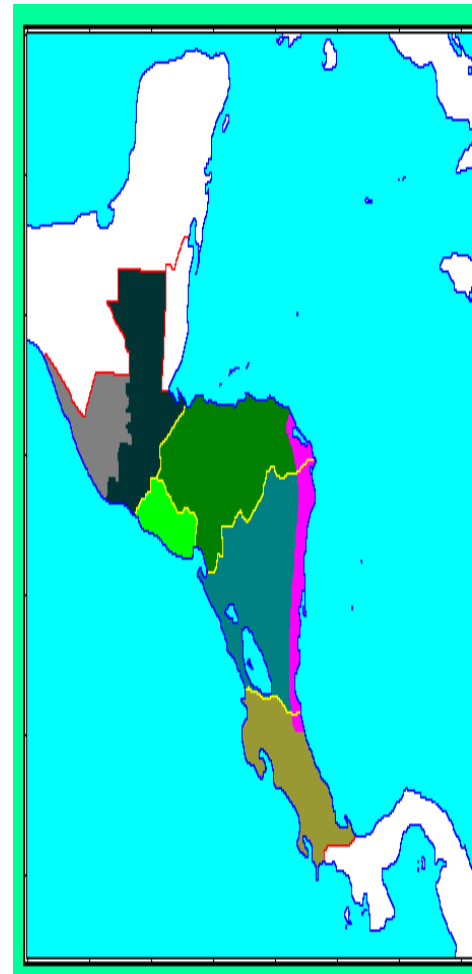
## 10.2: CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

- Central America is an:
- Occupied by Mayan people who built cities and temples in region
- Tikal in northern:



# European Conquest: Central America

- Spanish governed Central America from Mexico beginning in the 1500s
- In 1823 the region declared its independence and formed the:
  - Panama (Colombia) and Honduras (Britain) separated later



United Provinces of Central America  
1824-1839

Provinces with Member Status

Guatemala

El Salvador

Honduras

Nicaragua

Costa Rica

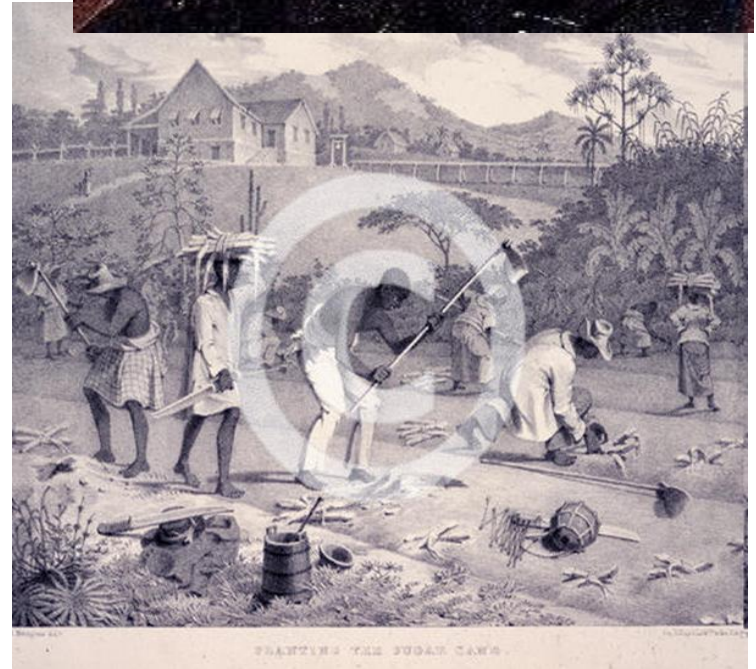
Los Altos (1838-1839)

Mosquito Coast

since 1655 a British protectorate,  
unrecognized by Spain, Mexico and the  
United Provinces of Central America.

# European Conquest: the Caribbean

- The **Taino** people were the:
- European colonists arrived with:
- Indian population decreased dramatically during colonial era.
- The colonists then brought and enslaved Africans to work on their:
  - Their descendants account for most of the population of the Caribbean today



# European Conquest



# Caribbean Independence

- Slave revolt led by Toussaint L'Ouverture in Haiti marked:
- Haiti won independence in 1804, Cuba in 1898
- Others achieved full independence later, and some remain:



# Cultural influences

- Spanish:
- Spanish, French, British, Danish, and Dutch influences in Caribbean
  - Languages
  - Religions



# Economics

- Economies of Central America and the Caribbean depend:
- Many work in low-paying jobs as either farm laborers in industries related to agriculture or on the docks to load and ship exports across the globe.
- Among these countries:



# Panama Canal

- Constructed by:
- Completed in 1903
- Connects Atlantic and Pacific ocean
- Facilitates trade in goods and:



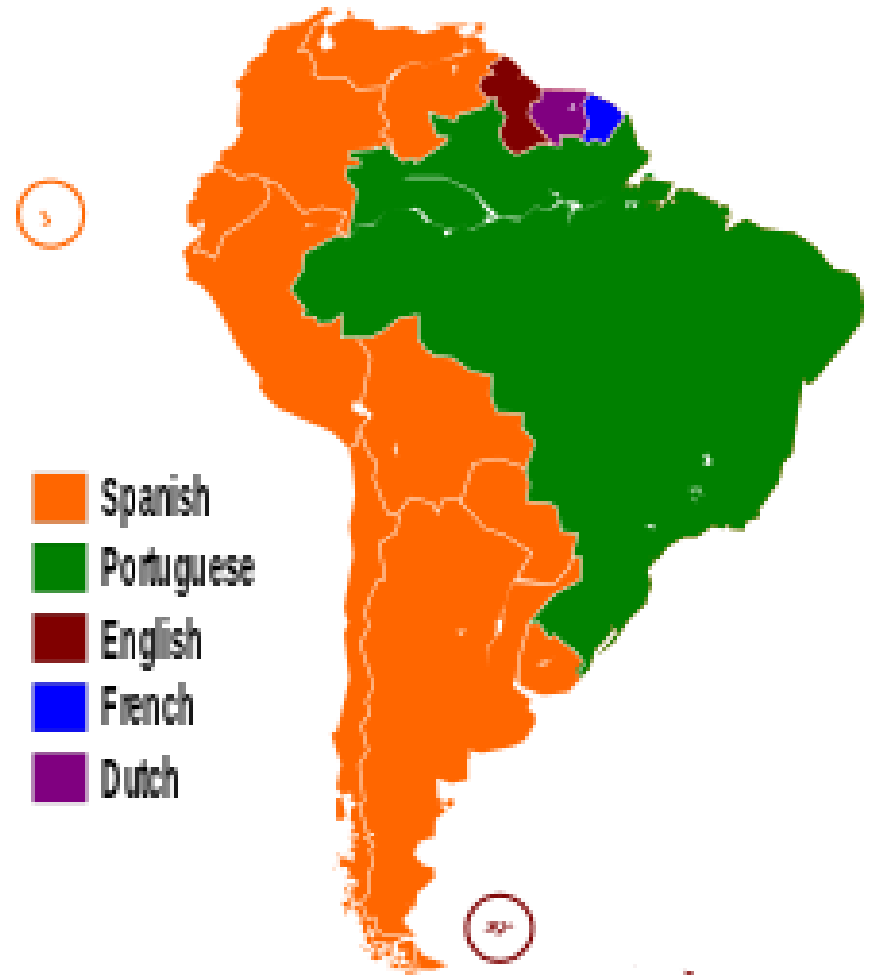
# Culture, Tourism, Jobs

- Population of Central America =
- Calypso and Reggae music have Caribbean roots
- Tourism = increasingly important industry
  - Attracts people to cities to find work
  - Some end up finding jobs in the “informal economy”



## 10.3: SPANISH-SPEAKING SOUTH AMERICA

- South America is divided into two main regions:
- Spanish-speaking countries include: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela



# Spanish Conquest

- Prior to the Europeans, the **Inca** built a vast empire based:
- Spanish under the command of **Francisco Pizarro** conquered the Incas in the early 1500s
- Spanish forced the natives to work in:
- Spanish language and Catholic religion established
  - Millions of native peoples still speak **Quechua**



# South American Independence

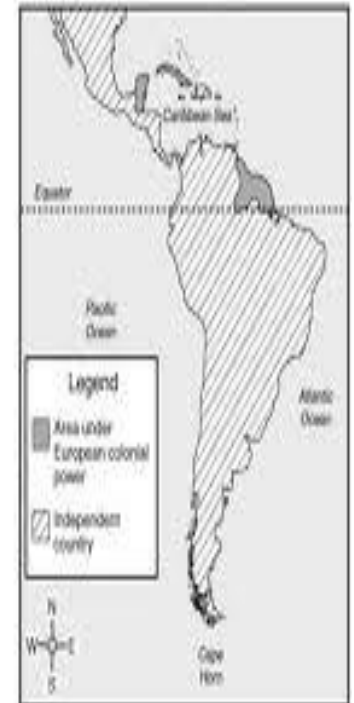
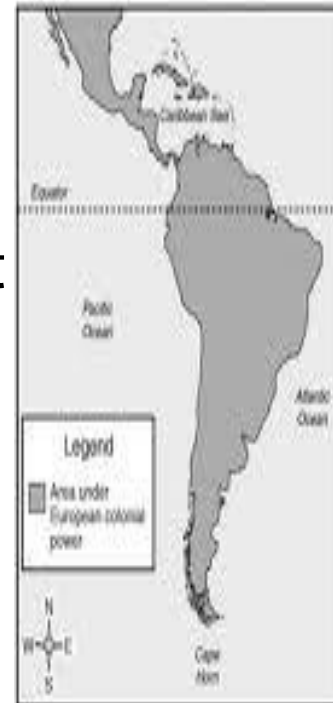
- Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin lead movements to:
- Argentina and Chile:
- Concentration of population along the coasts with mountains and forest keeping them apart caused difficulty in promoting development and political stability
- Countries governed by:
  - Developing working democracies continues to be a challenge for Latin American countries today



Latin America, 1800

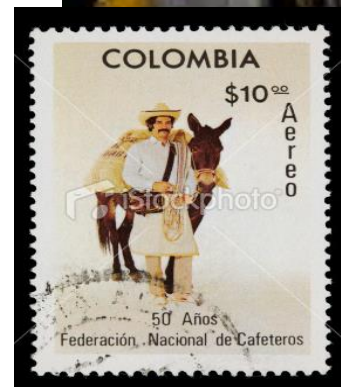


Latin America, 1830



# Economics

- Most countries economies based on:
- Steep income gap between rich and poor:
- Different countries of region produce wide variety of products from:
- Chile's exports from its mines and fields have enabled it to participate in the global economy and made it South America's greatest success story



# Mercosur Trade Group

- The Mercosur regional trade organization formed in 1991
- Its purpose was to establish a common market and a common trade policy toward outside nations
- Organization focuses on creating a larger internal market for goods and services produced by Mercosur partners



# Contemporary Challenges

- Education
  - Higher literacy rates for men and women in South America than rest of Latin America overall
  - State-supported schools
- Natural disasters
  - <http://reliefweb.int/report/world/new-action-plan-launched-south-america-promote-resilience-risk-reduction-and>
- Region

