

Intro to Latin America

Modernity & National Identity

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Aftermath of Independence

- Disillusion
 - Bolívar and San Martín die in exile in Europe
- Liberal constitutions
- Conservative backlash
- Desire to “de-colonize” and move beyond the past
 - Competing visions of the best way
 - Citizenry seen as holding back progress
 - Slavery seen as relic of colonial history

It is harder to maintain the balance of freedom than it is to endure the weight of tyranny.

Simon Bolivar



International Abolition Movements

- International Slave Trade Act (1807)-
England & U.S.
 - Netherlands (1814)
 - Spain (1820)
 - Portugal (1818)
 - France (1818)
- Multiple bilateral treaties to stop:
transatlantic trade, imports, slave
trading, and the institution of
slavery*



Gradual Abolition in Latin America

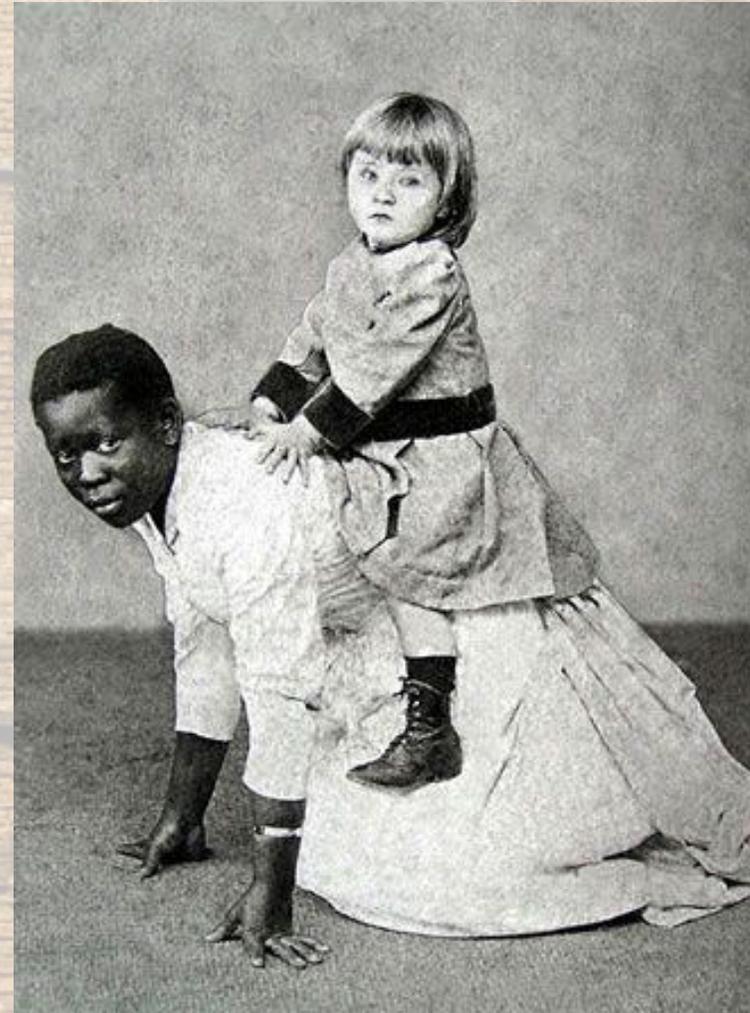
- Haiti (1804)- slavery abolished
- Peru (1821)- slave imports ban and gradual domestic plan
 - Re-legalization of slavery with other Latin American countries (1835)
 - Total abolition (1854)
- Mexico (1821)- slaves born in Mexico freed
 - Total abolition (1824)
- Gran Colombia (1821)- free womb law and compensation for owners
- Chile (1823)- slavery abolished
- Central America (1824)- slavery abolished
- Uruguay (1824)- slave trade ban
 - Total abolition (1830)
- Bolivia (1831)- slavery abolished
- Argentina (1853)- Total abolition
- Cuba (1862)- slave trade ban
 - Free Womb Law (1870)
 - Total abolition (1886)
- Brazil (1831)- slave imports ban, illegal slaves free
 - Bilateral treaty ending international slave trade (1850)
 - Free Womb Law (1871)
 - Sexagenarians Law (1885)
 - Total abolition (1888)



A nova lei tambem se presta a ser illudida.
- Uê! meu sinhô! e' é!
s. - Deixe rapaz; estou-te fazendo mais moço. Quantos
brancos não quereriam que lhe fizessem o mesmo

Aftermath

- Legal freedom
 - Continued coercion and exclusion
 - Economic
 - Social
 - Education
- Freedom with no structure
 - No support
 - No organization
 - No transition period
- Struggle to survive
 - Work
 - Health
 - Blamed for failures
 - “not prepared for freedom”
 - Justification for greater social control
- Continuity of thought
 - Racism/inequality



Political Modernity

- Liberalism (1870s into 20th c.)
 - Popular sovereignty
 - Separation of church and state*
 - Natural rights
 - Unstable and quickly overthrown
 - Economic “opening” to world
 - Problem: How to translate beliefs into stable governance?
- Conservatism (1820s to 1870s)
 - Maintain existing hierarchy for stability (avoid chaos)
 - Catholic Church to retain power
 - Alignment with colonial past
 - Strong, central leader
 - Economic isolationism/protectionism to spur domestic production
 - Problem: Why break from what “works”?



Caudillismo

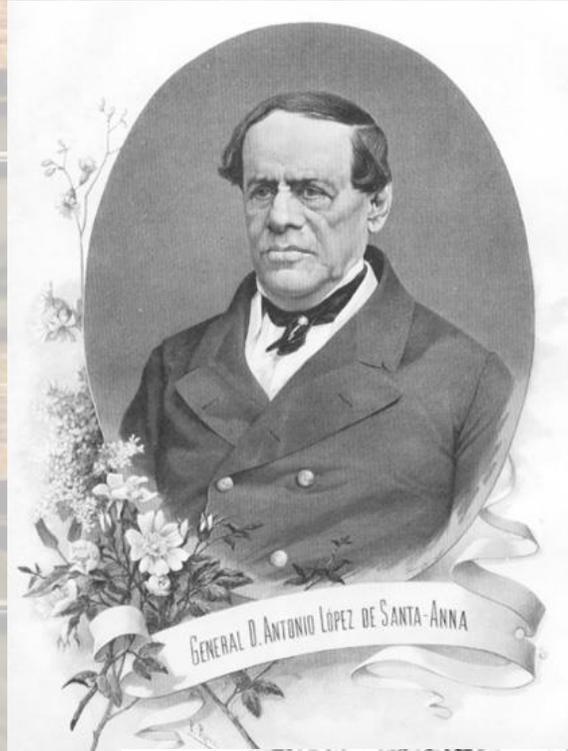
- Stability found in the power of white, land-owning elites
 - Source of patronage
 - Source of corruption
 - Power vacuum
 - Isolation in rural areas
 - Embodiment of masculinity and charisma
 - Clientelistic and populist
- Juan Manuel de las Rosas-
Argentina



Political Modernity: Mexican Case

- Internal conflict

- Mexican Empire of Iturbide (1822–23)
- Mexican Republic (1823-1833)
- Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna (1833-1853)
- Liberal reform (1854-1864)
- Second Empire- Emperor Maximilian I (1864-1867)
- Benito Juarez (1867-1872)
- Porfirio Diaz (1876-1911)
- The Mexican Revolution (1910-1920)



- International conflict

- Intervention by Spanish, French and U.S.
- Mexican-American War (1846-1848)



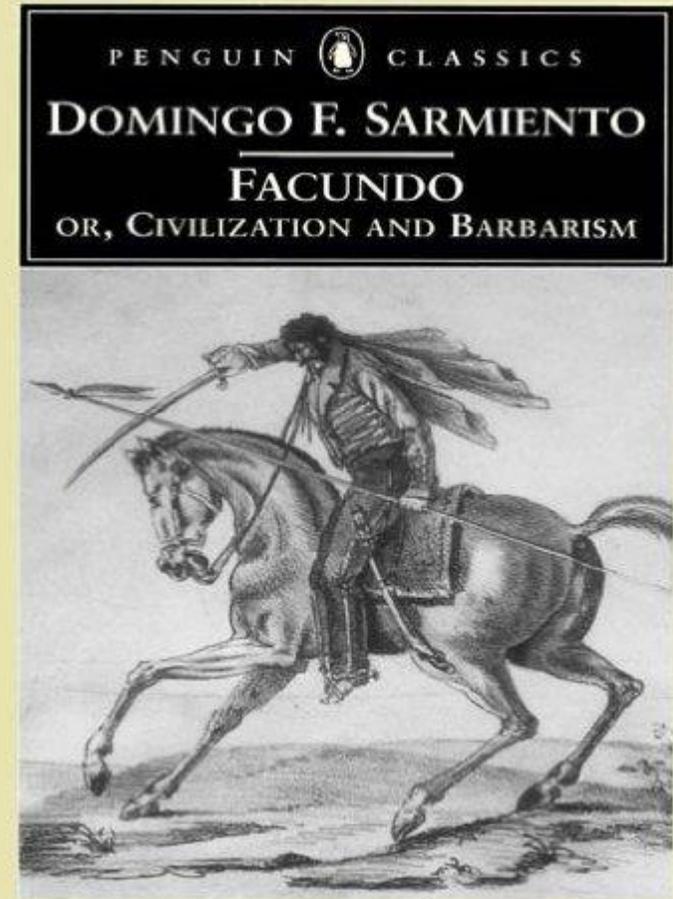
Economic Modernity

- Foreign investments and borrowing
- Boom and bust cycles
 - Guano (1840-1870)
 - Rubber (1870-1912)
- Transportation
 - Railroads
 - Roads
 - Steamships
- Telegraph
- “outward-oriented growth”
- Concentration of wealth
 - Rich/poor gap



Intellectual Modernity

- Written by Domingo Faustino Sarmiento (1868)
- About the life of an Argentinian *gaucho*
- Rural vs. Urban
- Anti-caudillismo
- Need for immigration
 - “gobernar es poblar”



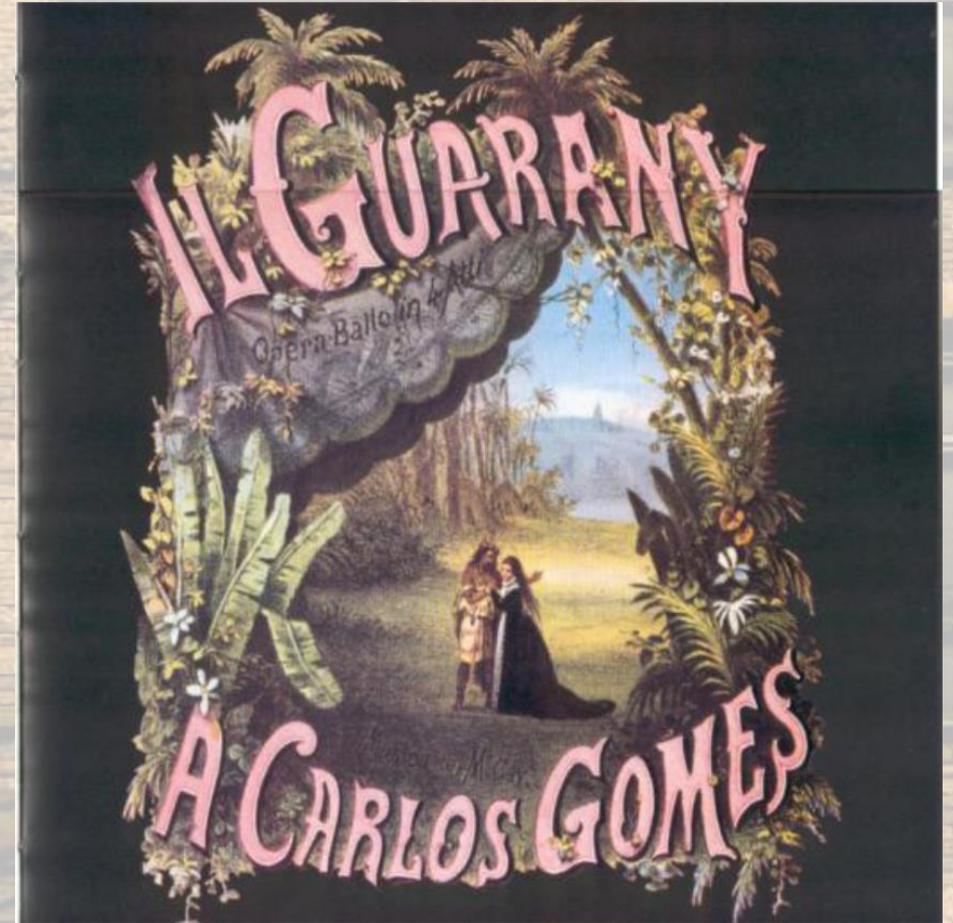
Order and Progress

- August Comte (1798-1857)- French philosopher
- Positivism- knowledge derived from empirical evidence from natural environment, reason and logic
 - Science as replacement for religion
 - Key to social reformation
 - Break with spirituality and superstition of past
 - Respect for “noble savage” as original citizen
 - **Only** way to become modern nation
 - If followed, will solve all problems in society.
 - “Love as the base. Order as the means. Progress as the goal.”



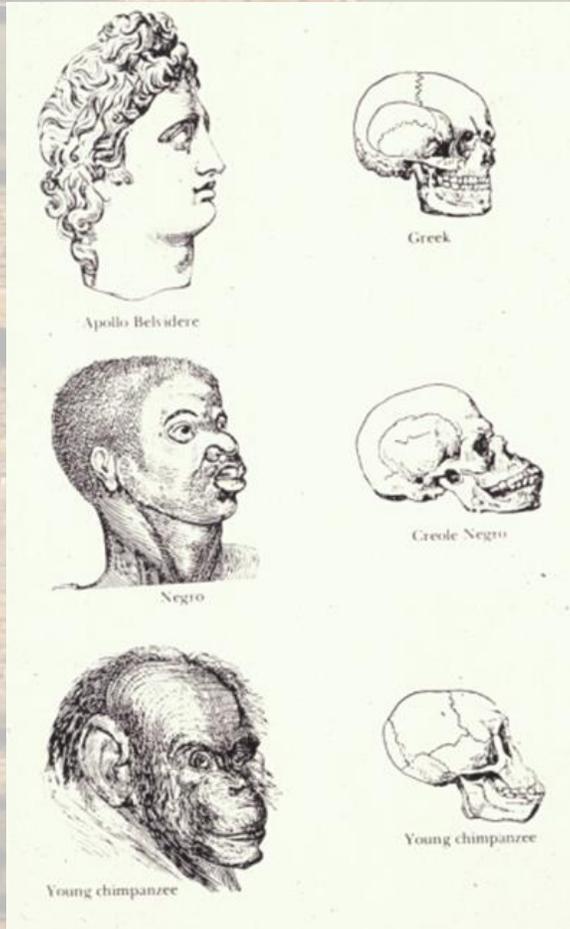
Cultural Modernity

- Opera
 - *Il Guarany* (1870) by Antônio Carlos Gomes
 - Indigenous past
 - Beauty of Latin America
 - Nationalism
- Poetry
 - *Modernismo* movement
 - End of 19th century
 - Reaction to popular French poets
 - Blends romanticism, symbolism and Parnassianism
 - “art for art’s sake”
 - Rubén Darío
 - Nicaragua



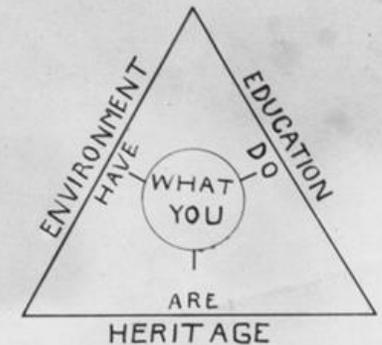
Racial Modernity

- Scientific racism
- Eugenics
 - Positive
 - Negative
- Education
 - Sanitation
 - Health
 - Nutrition



UNFIT HUMAN TRAITS SUCH AS FEEBLEMINDEDNESS, EPILEPSY, CRIMINALITY, INSANITY, ALCOHOLISM, PAUPERISM AND MANY OTHERS, RUN IN FAMILIES AND ARE INHERITED IN EXACTLY THE SAME WAY AS COLOR IN GUINEA-PIGS. IF **ALL MARRIAGES WERE EUGENIC** WE COULD **BREED OUT** MOST OF THIS UNFITNESS IN **THREE GENERATIONS.**

THE TRIANGLE OF LIFE



YOU CAN IMPROVE YOUR *EDUCATION*, AND EVEN CHANGE YOUR *ENVIRONMENT*; BUT WHAT YOU REALLY **ARE** WAS ALL SETTLED WHEN *YOUR PARENTS* WERE **BORN**. **SELECTED PARENTS** WILL HAVE **BETTER CHILDREN** **THIS IS THE GREAT AIM OF EUGENICS**

Migration and Immigration

- Migrants from rural areas to cities
- Rise of European immigration
- Europeanization agenda



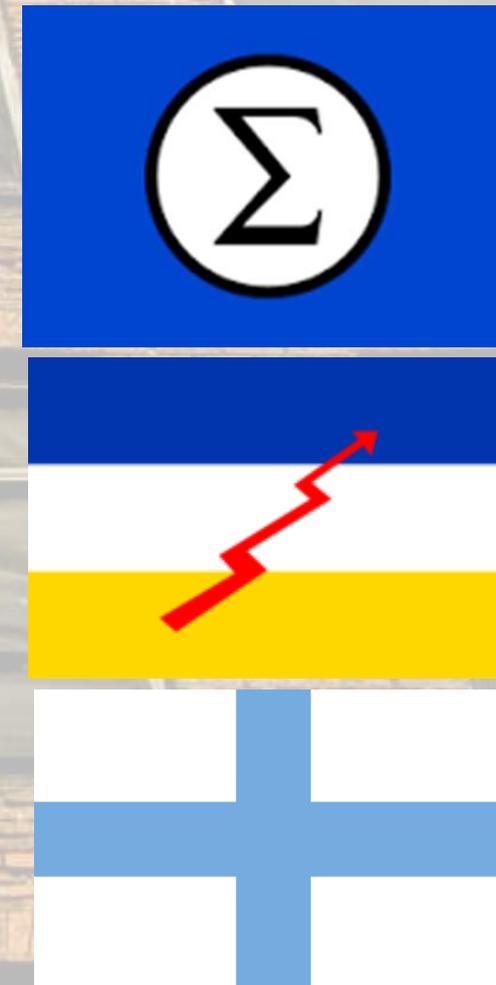
A New Century

- Millenarianism
 - Canudos- Brazil-(1897)
 - Madre Matiana- Mexico
- The Great Depression (1929)
- Communism
- Invention of the “Third World”



World Wars and Fascism

- WWI and disillusion with Old World
- Fascist sympathizers
- Join Allies or Axis Powers?
- Fight injustice abroad but still at home
- Refuge for Nazi-sympathizers in post-war period
- Populist leaders/dictators
 - Juan Perón (1946-1952); (1952-1955)



Mexican Muralism

- Mexican Revolution (1910-1920)
 - Legacy of division and distrust
 - Need for unity
- José Vasconcelos appointed head of Ministry of Public Education
 - Looking for way to memorialize the Revolution
 - How to clarify national identity



“Los Tres Grandes”

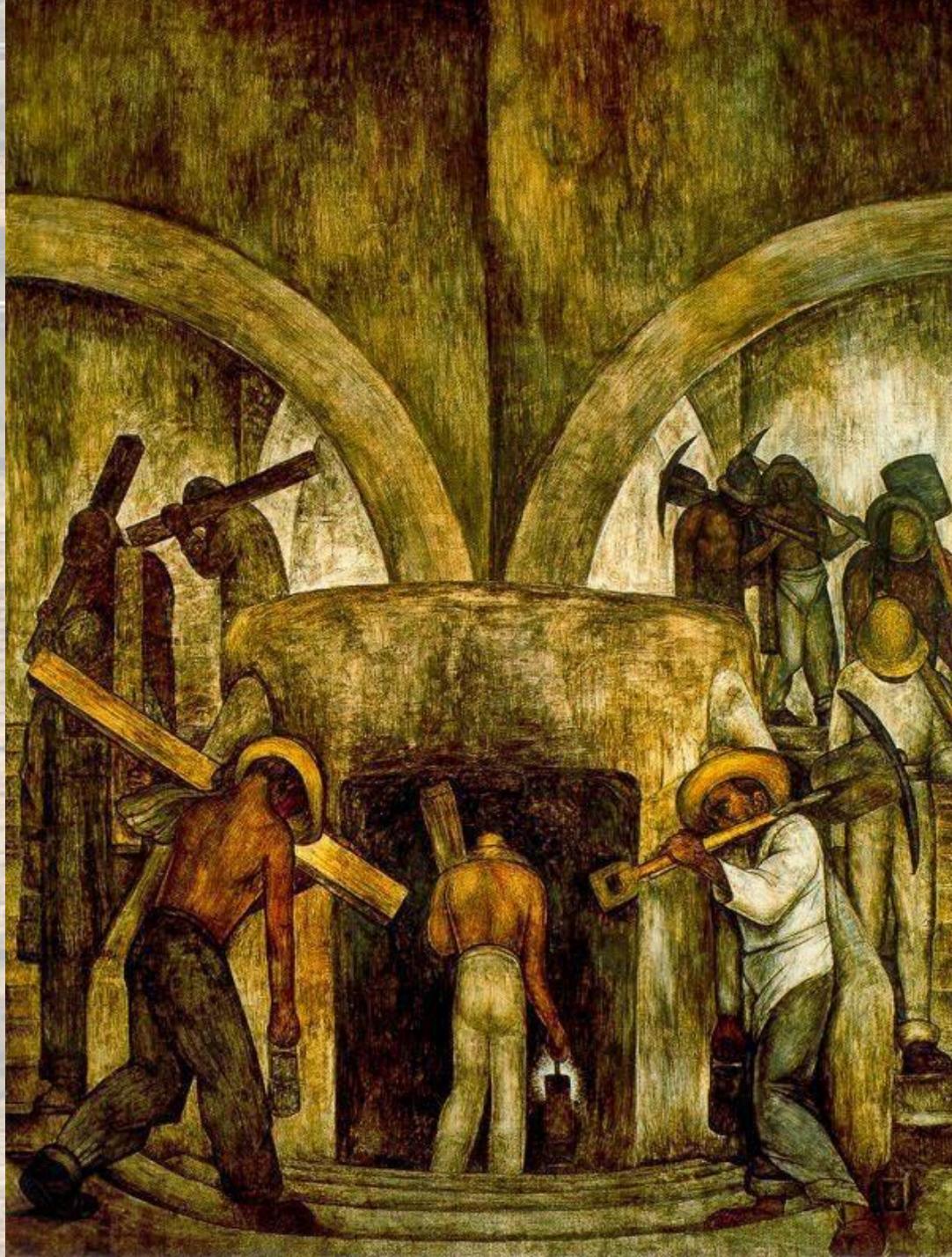
- Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco and David Alfaro Siqueiros
 - Age of Mexican Muralism (1920– 1950s)
 - Commissioned by Vasconcelos
 - Government/Artistic partnership
- Themes:
 - Mexican Revolution
 - Mestizo heritage
 - Indigenous culture/symbols
 - Rural life/Marxism





Diego Rivera, "The History of Mexico" (1929-1935)

Diego Rivera,
"Entry in the
Mine" (1923)



La raza cósmica (The Cosmic Race)

- Essay written by José Vasconcelos in 1925
- Mexico is source of new, “fifth” race
 - Reality of mixed-race past
 - Reverse Social Darwinism
- New race will create a future civilization in the New World
 - Superiority
 - Historical redemption
 - Greater purpose





1910s

Brazilian Samba & Carnival



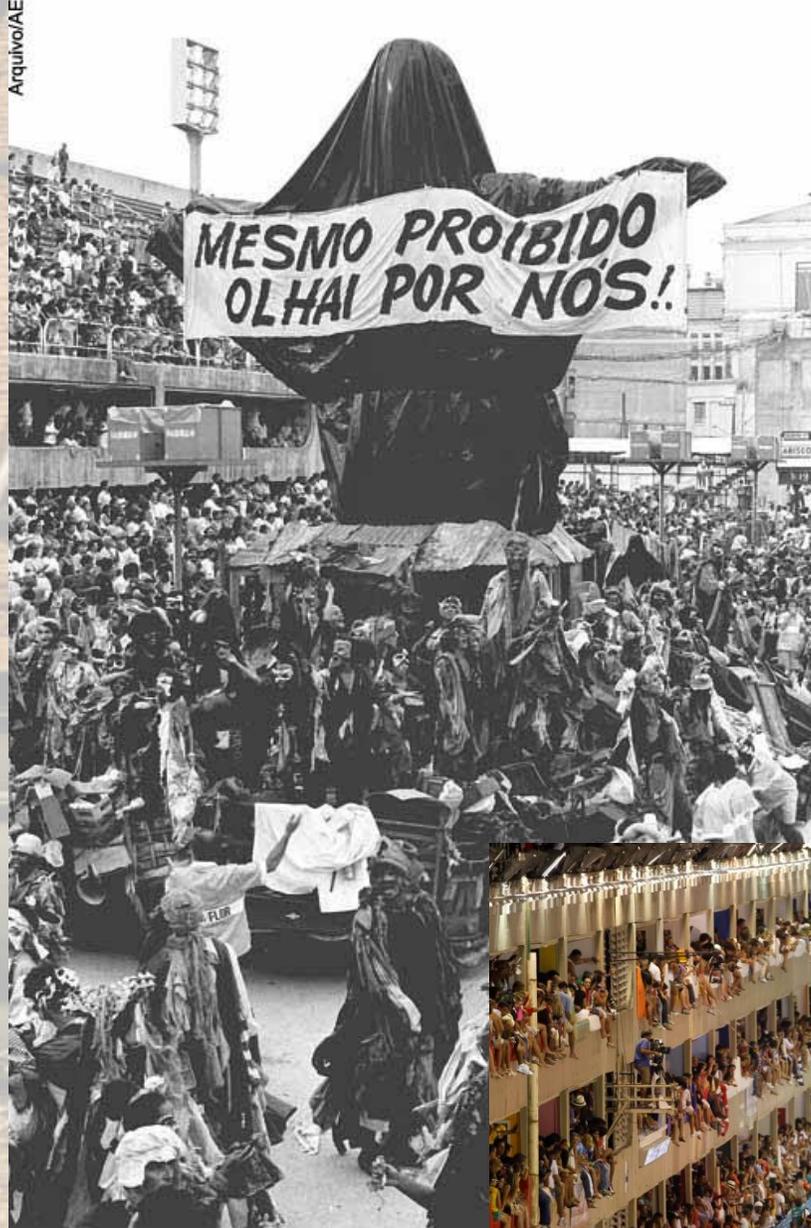
1920s



1930s



1950s



1967



2000s