

Causes of the Mexican Revolution

Porfirio Diaz (Krauze)

- Ruled 1876-1911 8 Presidential terms; New Creole
 - Begins as a liberal reformer (ala Juarez), but becomes more authoritarian with time
- Reforms: Separation of powers & new civil liberties
- Like a Habsburg viceroy; feudal (Krauze 217)
- Pure liberal, but lacked passions of a Jacobin (226)
- 34 years of order, peace, and progress? (232)



Krauze's Social Situation under Diaz

- Still "country of inequality" (Humboldt)
 - Supported by rich, intellectuals & technocrats (cientificos)
 - Diaz promised financial support & public education
- Diaz tried to work with **Yaquis** Indians, but doesn't work; ends up slaughtering & deporting them south
- Two Majesties: Church & State (229)
 - Restored Church & national heroes revered side-by-side







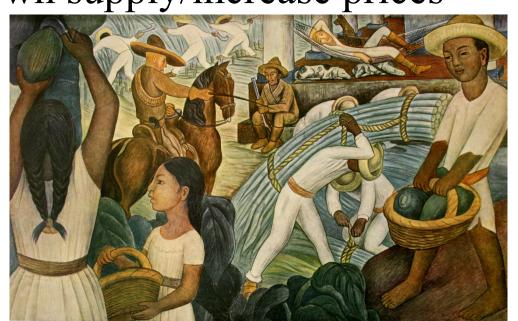
Toward Conservatism

- Economic Pressure \rightarrow Returns to *hacendados*
- Pan o palo (bread of the club) (Keen 221)
- Bribes officials & arrested opposition
 - 1888 opposition essentially eliminated
- Congress = $caballada \rightarrow$ stable of horses
- Army Just like Santa Anna; special favors
- Church Gets support through repealing liberal
 - anti-clerical laws



Land Ownership (Keen)

- Mexico 70% rural; 50% infant mortality (Krauze)
- Fewer than 1000 families owned all of MEX (Burns)
- 1883 Survey law = more land for Diaz supporters
- 1890 Law to give natives more land → hacendados duped them (much like Reconstruction) & most left land fallow to drive down supply/increase prices
 - Food shortage by 1900



Economics & Labor

- US/UK companies dominate MEX oil & mining
- 12-15hr. workday; 11¢/day unskilled-75¢ high skill
 - Strikes in 1906 & '09→ lead to inflexible unions, anarchism, syndicalism, deaths
- *Intelligentsia* teachers, lawyers, journalists call for reform \rightarrow even *cientificos* lose faith in Diaz

Short Term Causes

- 1906-07 Depression spreads from US→ unemp ♠
- 1907-10 Crop failures → food prices ↑
- 1908 Diaz turns 80
- June '10 **Francisco Madero** arrested for "preparing armed insurrection" → jailed
- 6/21/10 Diaz wins "election" by "landslide"

