Madero & Huerta
The Apostle of Democracy

- Believed in democracy by the elite (Keen 282)
- Traditional 19th century liberal; did not work (Burns 197)
- Believed himself preacher, apostle, & medium for political spirituality (Krauze 249)
Background

• Not a peasant or a worker → heir to business empire
• Believed himself a legit Christian medium (Krauze)
• Self-discipline & self-denial; “dominate matter”
• Believed himself Prince Arjuna in *Bhagavad Gita* & Benito Juarez (249)
Change

- Modest reforms to peasants & workers; education
- Wrote a book *The Presidential Succession of 1910*
- Needed return to 1857 democratic constitution.
- Plan of San Luis – Written while imprisoned & revealed after escape to US (Krauze 255; Burns 197)
Viva Revolution!

• 11/20/1910 – Revolution begins (Keen 283)

• Supported by N. MEX bandits (Villa in Chihuahua) & S. MEX native farmers (Zapata in Morelos) → control of most states seized from federal army by end of 1910

• Maderistas lead challenge to Diaz in Mexico City
Treaty of Ciudad Juarez

• 5/21/1911 – Diaz steps down → flees to EUR & dies in 1915

• 6/7/11 – “When Madero arrived, the earth trembled”
  – Dharma: Free the people of Mexico & give the people the chance to govern himself (Krauze 260)
Provisional Government

- Maintained status quo; federal troops dispatched to stop rebels from redistributing haciendas to peons
- Left Diaz’s bureaucracy largely intact (Ke 284; Kr 261)
- Madero elected in landslide in October ’11
- Interim president De la Barra & Zapata at odds
Madero’s Reforms

- Allowed trade unions, strikes
- Calls for disarmament of Zapata
- Didn’t believe in true land redistribution → only national land, didn’t mess with haciendas
- Lost US support b/c he didn’t give them trade favor
- Denounces the revolution (Krauze 263)
Krauze’s Faults of Madero (263-64)

- Bad diplomat
- Unstable cabinet/Senate opposition
- Support of free press hurt him
- Lack of support for rebels hurt him
Achievements

• Political unrest hid his achievements (266-67)
  – Creation of Department of Labor, first convention of textile industry, legalize labor unions/strikes, primary schools, new roads/infrastructure
  – Respectful of separation of powers & universal manhood suffrage; consistent with his values, but problems with his purity of ends & means (267)
Tragic Ten Days

- 2/9/13 – Felix Diaz sieges palace → seizes citadel
- Gen. Victoriano Huerta – Had taken down previous rebellions against Madero stages coup
- US Ambassador Henry Wilson hated Madero & favored Huerta due to pro-US trade stance (Ke 287)
  - Wilson @ the very center of the plot. Wants to do it now b/c Woodrow Wilson won’t want to (Kr 269)
- Madero refuses to resign & is brutally murdered by Huerta’s men
Madero’s Legacy

• Krauze: Death of a just man (273)
• Burns: Ineffectual, but he started a social revolution (197)
• Keen: Unjustly murdered, and it severely backfired on Huerta (287)