

Social Classes in Colonial Latin America

- When Spanish and Portuguese colonies were established a caste system formed.
 - Caste System: social hierarchy system passed through _____. One's social class was directly tied to how "pure" his _____ was and his place of birth.
- The kings wanted to keep the colonies under their control and only have "_____" people in high-ranking positions.
- The most important indicator of status in society was _____ blood.
 - The more European blood you had, the more power (high-ranking jobs in government, military, trade, and church), wealth, and privilege you had.
- At the top were _____ - men and women who were born in _____.
- _____ - Children of the peninsulares, with full European blood, but born in the Americas
 - Controlled large plantations and mines, but could not obtain high-ranking jobs in society
- Below them were _____ - European + Indigenous. Those with lighter skin were higher in social standing.
 - They were small farmers, overseers in mines and farms, and shopkeepers.
- _____ and free black: Mulattos were people of mixed African and European blood.
 - More so than in North America, blacks in Spanish America could buy their freedom.
- _____: People who lived in Latin America before the arrival of the Spanish
 - By law, they had to work in mines or haciendas (what plantations were called in Latin America)
- _____: people from Africa who under colonial law, were considered property and could be bought and sold
- The lack of equality among the social groups over time caused a lot of unrest in colonial Latin America.
- In the 1800s, Latin American countries are going to fight for independence from Spain and Portugal to remove _____ from power.