

## COLONIAL EMPIRES IN LATIN AMERICA

- Latin America: Colonial and post-colonial parts of Central and South America that speak languages derived from Latin (French, Spanish, and Portuguese)
  - Spain controlled most of S. America, and parts of C. and N. America
  - Portugal controlled Brazil
- European colonies attempted to imitate culture of homeland
  - Social pyramid based on status



## COLONIAL EMPIRES IN LATIN AMERICA

- Marriage between Europeans and native Americans was allowed; mixed offspring called mestizos
  - Mixed offspring of Africans and Europeans called mulattoes
- Coexistence of mestizos, mulattoes, Europeans, natives, and more produce a unique multiracial society
- Mixed groups were seen as inferior to pureblood Europeans
  - Mixed population continues to grow; status slowly increases

Peninsulares Officials that were born in Iberia (Spain or Portugal)

Creoles  European descendants born and raised in the New World

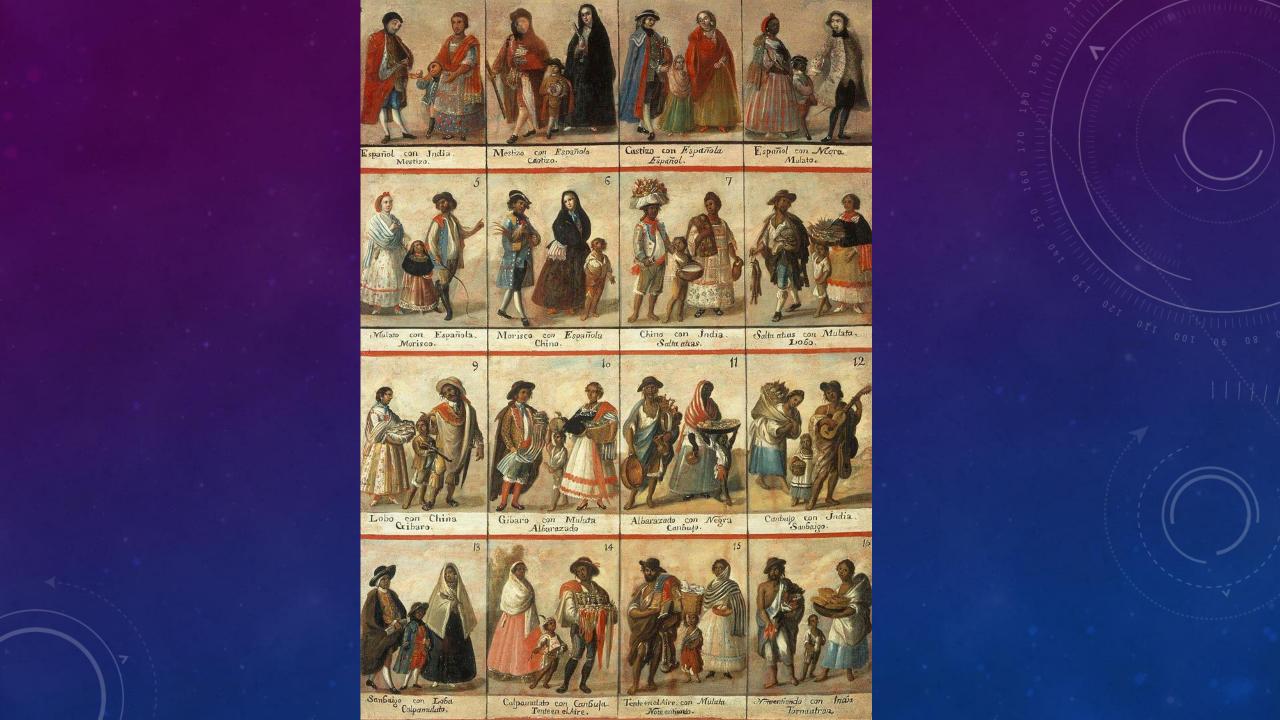
Multiracial groups

Mestizos and mulattoes

Africans and Natives

Slaves and conquered natives

- 1. Español (fem. española) white, of European ancestry; a blanket term, subdivided into Peninsulares and Criollos;
- 2. Peninsular a European born in Spain;
- 3. Criollo (fem. criolla) a White person with Spanish or European descent born in the Americas;
- 4. Castizo (fem. castiza) a person with 3/4 español ancestry, 1/4 indio; the offspring of a castizo and an español was considered español.
- Mestizo (fem. mestiza) a person of mixed White European and Amerindian ancestry;
- 6. Indio (fem. India) someone of pure indigenous ancestry.
- 7. Pardo (fem. parda) a person of mixed white European, Native American Indian and African Black ancestry;
- 8. Mulato (fem. mulata) a person of mixed White European and Black African ancestry;
- 9. Zambo a person of mixed native African and Native American Indian Ancestry;
- 10. Negro (fem. negra) a person of African descent



## ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS

- Europeans profited off their colonies through resource extraction-collecting natural resources from the colonies and exporting them to Europe
- Precious metals extracted from colonies financed Spain's wars and continued colonization
- Farming proved most valuable
  - Europeans created immense plantations to farm cash crops
  - Plantation system destroyed local environments
- Encomienda system still at work to provide labor
  - Harsh labor system led to further decline in native populations







Most, but not all, Europeans were okay with encomienda or slavery:

"[T]he Spaniards, from the beginning . . . were no more solicitous of promoting the preaching of the Gospel of Christ to [the Native Americans], than if they had been dogs or beasts, . . . laying many heavy [burdens] upon them, daily afflicting and persecuting them, that they might not have so much time and leisure at their own disposal, as to attend their preaching and divine service; for they looked upon that to be an impediment to their getting gold."

## STATE AND CHURCH

- Communication between Old and New World was difficult
  - European monarchs could not keep a close eye on colonial affairs
  - Colonial officials inconsistently carried out royal policies
- European kings appointed viceroys (representatives of the king) to manage colonies
- Iberians determined to Christianize native populations
  - Iberians were Catholic; Catholic Church held immense power over New World society
- Jesuits converted many natives, taught them European languages
- European women found more freedom in the New World

