

Caste War- The revolt of native Maya people of Yucatán (Mexico) against the population of European descent (called Yucatecos) in political and economic control.

Groups involved

Yucatecos- descendants of people of European heritage- the elites

Mestizo- mixture of European and Maya heritage+ often alliance with the Yucatecos

Icaiche Maya- group of the west- referred to as los pacificos

Santa Cruz Maya- talking cross+ also referred to as Cruzob-followers of the cult of the talking cross

Causes of the War

Social structure; the Maya were at the bottom of the social pyramid

The European Yucatecos were expanding their territory and having private ownership of lands (HENEQUEN and SUGARCANE) + CAPITALISM- economics based on the private ownership of capital/resources and production

The Maya were defending their communal lands+ ownership of land as a community

Course of the War

The Maya attacked constantly- **Guerilla Tactics**= form of irregular warfare in which a small group of combatants such as paramilitary personnel, armed civilians or irregulars use military **tactics** including ambushes, sabotage, raids, petty warfare, hit-and-run **tactics**

The Maya+ buying gunpowder from the British

Yucatecos- surrender independence of Yucatan for Mexican national army assistance + Yucatan becomes part of Mexico

Outcome of War

The Mexican army managed to gain control over Chan Santa Cruz

The Maya retreated and still waged attacks

1870 Marcus Canul Attacks--

1879- last Icaiche attack

Relevance to Belize

Mestizo & Maya Migration into Belize+ Maya launched raids on British Mahogany camps+ agricultural revolution= with these migrants came the agriculture of sugarcane production in the north of Belize

1886- Great Britain & Mexico re-opened border negotiations + the border between Belize and Mexico was formed as a means to effectively defeat the Maya



Battle for Orange Walk



Fort Barlee



Fort Mundv

