The Caste War 1847-1901

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SJC
Objectives

• Describe what is the caste war.
• Describe the causes of the Caste war
The Caste War of Yucatan

- Began with the revolt of native Maya people of Yucatán, Mexico against the Yucatecos.
- Caste system: A class structure that is determined by birth. Loosely, it means that, if your parents are poor, you're going to be poor, too.
The Caste System

• Birth and ethnicity determined the social position
Capitalism and the Caste System

• A system based on private ownership of capital (land and wealth) and labor (laborers and labor).
  • Focuses on profits regardless of land or people
  • Agrarian issues are solved with violence
  • Modernization broke Mava traditions
Cause 1: Maya self-determination

- They wanted to control their own affairs
- Hostile against outsiders, resisted oppression, and fought to have their own state
Cause 2: Exploitation of Peasant workers

• Criollos and Pensinsulares imposed:
  • Government and church tax
  • Abuse of labor
  • Forceful removal of land (monopolizing land)
  • Racial oppression (Brutal repression)
Cause 3: Henequen

- High demand in the ship industry
- Creation of ropes
- The whites descended on Maya land
Class Work

- Design a pamphlet to discuss the causes of the caste war.
- Provide drawings and short descriptions