

Transformations Around the Globe**Lesson 3**

Turmoil and Change in Mexico

Key Terms and People

Antonio López de Santa Anna leader in Mexico's fight for independence

Benito Juárez leader of *La Reforma*

La Reforma movement in Mexico aimed at achieving land reform, better education, and other goals

Porfirio Díaz dictator who came to power after Juárez

Francisco Madero enemy of Díaz who believed in democracy

"Pancho" Villa popular leader of the Mexican revolution

Emiliano Zapata leader of a powerful revolutionary army

Before You Read

In the last lesson, you read about Japanese imperialism.

In this lesson, you will read about revolution and reform in Mexico.

As You Read

Use a chart to compare the major accomplishments of the Mexican leaders discussed in this lesson.

SANTA ANNA AND THE MEXICAN WAR

Who was Santa Anna?

Antonio López de Santa Anna was a leading figure in the early history of independent Mexico. He fought for Mexican independence from Spain in 1821. He fought against Spain again in 1829 when Spain tried to recapture Mexico. He served as Mexico's president four times.

But in the 1830s, Santa Anna was unable to stop Texas from winning independence from Mexico. In the 1840s, the United States annexed Texas. This angered many Mexicans.

When a border dispute between Mexico and Texas turned into armed conflict, the United States invaded Mexico. Santa Anna led his nation's army and was defeated. Mexico surrendered huge amounts of land to the United States.

1. What losses did Mexicans suffer under Santa Anna?

Lesson 3, *continued*

JUÁREZ AND LA REFORMA

What was *La Reforma*?

Another important leader of the middle 1800s was **Benito Juárez**. Juárez wanted to improve conditions for the poor.

He led a movement called ***La Reforma***—“the reform.” *La Reforma* aimed to break the power of the large landowners and give more schooling to the poor. Juárez and his supporters won control of the government in 1858.

But conservatives who opposed *La Reforma* did not give up. They plotted with France to retake Mexico. In 1862, Napoleon III of France sent an army that captured the country in 18 months. Napoleon III named a European noble as emperor. But Juárez and his followers kept fighting. Five years later, they drove the French from Mexican soil and executed the emperor.

- How did conservatives oppose *La Reforma*?

PORFIRIO DÍAZ AND “ORDER AND PROGRESS”

Who was Porfirio Díaz?

Juárez again pressed for his reforms. He made some progress but was ousted by a noted general named **Porfirio Diaz**. Porfirio Díaz was a leader in Mexican

politics for more than 30 years. Díaz brought order to the country. He brought some economic growth, but he limited political freedom.

- What were the benefits and drawbacks of Díaz’s rule?

REVOLUTION AND CIVIL WAR

Who were Villa and Zapata?

In the early 1900s, calls for reform got louder. A leader named **Francisco Madero** called for the overthrow of Díaz. Francisco “**Pancho**” **Villa** and **Emiliano Zapata** called for better lives for the poor. They raised armies and forced Díaz to step down. But political unrest continued. For many years, leaders struggled for power. In 1917, Mexico adopted a new constitution that survived all of the turmoil.

Conflict continued until a new political party gained control of Mexico in 1929. The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) brought some peace and political stability to a troubled land.

- What were the main goals of Villa and Zapata?

Lesson 3, *continued*

As you read this lesson, take notes to answer questions about revolution and reform in Mexico.

What were the major accomplishments of each leader? What was the political legacy of each?	
1. Antonio López de Santa Anna	
2. Benito Juárez	
3. Porfirio Díaz	

What role did each of the following play in the Mexican Revolution?	
4. Francisco Madero	
5. Francisco "Pancho" Villa	
6. Emiliano Zapata	
7. Venustiano Carranza	