

An Alternative Path to Independence: Brazil



Portuguese Kings, Brazilian Land

- 1807 = Napoleon invades Portugal
 - Continental System violations!
- 1808 = Portuguese royals land at Rio de Janeiro
 - Maria I (r. 1777-1816)
- 1815 = United Kingdom of Portugal & Brazil est.
- 1816 = João VI becomes king (r. 1816-1822)



Royal Changes to Brazil

- New intellectual culture
 - Printing presses
 - Primary school education
 - Medical schools
 - Military academy
- Rio de Janeiro's economy explodes
- Impact on average Brazilians?



Brazilian Unrest

- Not everyone loves the king . . .
- 1817 = revolt in Pernambuco
 - Resentment of Brazilian military
 - Declared a republic
 - Liberals
 - Suppressed by king within two months



Brazilian Independence

- August 1820 = revolt in Portugal
 - Wanted a constitutional convention
 - Demanded João VI return to Portugal
- 21 April 1821 = João VI sails for Portugal
 - Leaves Pedro I (r. 1822-1831) behind
- Pressure on Pedro to leave . . .
 - 7 September 1822 = Pedro becomes “Constitutional Emperor and Perpetual Defender of Brazil”



Brazilian Independence

- 1826 = João VI dies
 - SUCCESSION CRISIS!!!!
- Pedro I vs. Miguel (r. 1828-1834)
 - Maria II (r. 1834-1853)
 - 1831 = Pedro abdicates, sails to Portugal
- Pedro II (r. 1831-1889)
 - 1841 = proclaimed Emperor of Brazil
- November 1899 = coup ousts Pedro II
 - Brazil becomes an independent 'republic'



“Big Questions”

- Differences between Brazil and Spanish America in declaring independence?
- Similarities between Brazil and Spanish America in declaring independence?
- Race in Latin America?
 - Impact on race in all of the Americas?