



World Geography

SETON HOME STUDY SCHOOL

Lesson Plan ♦ Answer Keys ♦ Tests ♦ Quarter Report Forms



Course Manual

HIS121_19A

I. DEDICATION	5
II. INTRODUCTION	6
III. LESSON PLAN:	
A. FIRST QUARTER	9
B. SECOND QUARTER	20
C. THIRD QUARTER	31
D. FOURTH QUARTER	41
IV. TEXTBOOK ANSWER KEY	51
V. QUARTER TESTS (LOCATED AFTER THE ANSWER KEY)	
VI. QUARTER REPORT FORMS (LOCATED AT THE END OF THE COURSE MANUAL)	

Revised March 2017

Outer Cover: Mont Saint Michel, France

Inner Cover: Cardinal Mindszenty

Second Quarter

WEEK TEN

Day 1

Read, study page 232: Map & Graph Skills. Answer the questions on page 233.

Day 2

Read, study page 234: Chapter 9 Assessment & Activities. Answer the questions in a notebook or on the computer. Check your answers.

Day 3

Read, study pages 236-241: Chapter 10: Latin America Today, Living in Latin America.

Moreno's Ecuador: A Model Catholic Republic

The people of Latin American nations have experienced a great deal of change and upheaval, particularly in modern times. Latin American nations have experimented with different types of governments and economic systems. One of the key issues for the contemporary Catholic student of geography and political science involves the possibility of government oriented toward the Social Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The thoughtful Catholic student inquires, "Is Catholic government possible within the modern framework of society?" Likewise, the Catholic student may also ask, "Is a truly Catholic republic attainable?"

Certain events of relatively recent history indicate that the answer to these important sociopolitical questions is Yes. One Catholic source points out: "Catholic republics, such as Salazar's Portugal, Dollfuss' Austria, and Moreno's Ecuador have existed for the glory of Christ the King." With regard to Latin America, Gabriel Garcia Moreno's Ecuador is an excellent example of a Catholic republic.

Moreno lived from 1821-1875. He took power in Ecuador, amid a turbulent and unstable political climate, in 1859. He served as president until 1865, and then again from 1869-1875. In difficult, tempestuous times, Moreno remained a model of Catholic statesmanship. The online version of the Country Studies/Area Handbook Series, published by the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress, offers some interesting commentary:

President García Moreno saw Roman Catholicism as the ingredient of Ecuadorian culture that, through its emphasis on order, hierarchy, and discipline, could unite the nation and save it from the multiple crises and disorder of the 1850s. Catholicism thus held a prominent position in each of the two new constitutions that he introduced: the charter of 1861 named Catholicism as the exclusive religion, and its replacement in 1869, in addition to providing for a six-year presidential term and unlimited reelection, made citizenship dependent on one's adherence to the Roman Catholic religion. In 1863, García Moreno promulgated Ecuador's first concordat with the Vatican, bestowing vast powers on the Ecuadorian Roman Catholic Church, especially with respect to education. A decade later...

[Moreno] dedicated the republic to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Considering the above quotation, one may ask, “What has been the United States’ policy toward Latin American Catholic nations?” Catholic commentator Gary Potter, in “Gabriel Garcia Moreno, Statesman and Martyr,” says the following:

The very first envoy sent from the U.S. to Mexico after that nation became independent presided over his [Catholic Emperor Agustin de Iturbide’s] dethronement. Once he [Iturbide] was eliminated, ‘Freemasonry, so actively promoted in Mexico by the first minister from the United States, Joel R. Poinsett’—we are quoting from the old Catholic Encyclopedia (1913)—‘began gradually to lessen the loyalty which both the rulers and the governed had manifested toward the Church.’

Potter continues:

The anti-Catholicism of U.S. policy in Latin America has sometimes been stated explicitly by our leaders. It was by Theodore Roosevelt when he paid a visit to South America at the turn of the 20th century. ‘While these countries remain Catholic,’ he said, ‘we will not be able to dominate them.’

Moreno was assassinated on August 6, 1875. Potter explains:

On the Feast of the Transfiguration, August 6, 1875, a statesman, whom many would call the greatest the world has known since the so-called Reformation, was cut down by Masonic assassins on the porch of the cathedral in his nation’s capital. Moments before, until lured outside by a false message that he was urgently needed elsewhere, he had been adoring the Blessed Sacrament.

Day 4

Read, study pages 242-247: People and Their Environment.

Day 5

Optional: Read, study pages 248-249. Biodiversity at Risk. If you choose to read these pages, this is another good topic to discuss with your parents.

Do page 250, spend 15 to minutes on Creating an Outline. Spend the remainder of class studying page 251, Summary and Study Guide

WEEK ELEVEN

Day 1

Do page 252: Chapter 10 Assessment & Activities. Answer the questions in a notebook or on the computer. Check your answers.

Days 2–3

Read, study pages 254-259: Unit 4, Europe.

Updated 11/6/2019



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