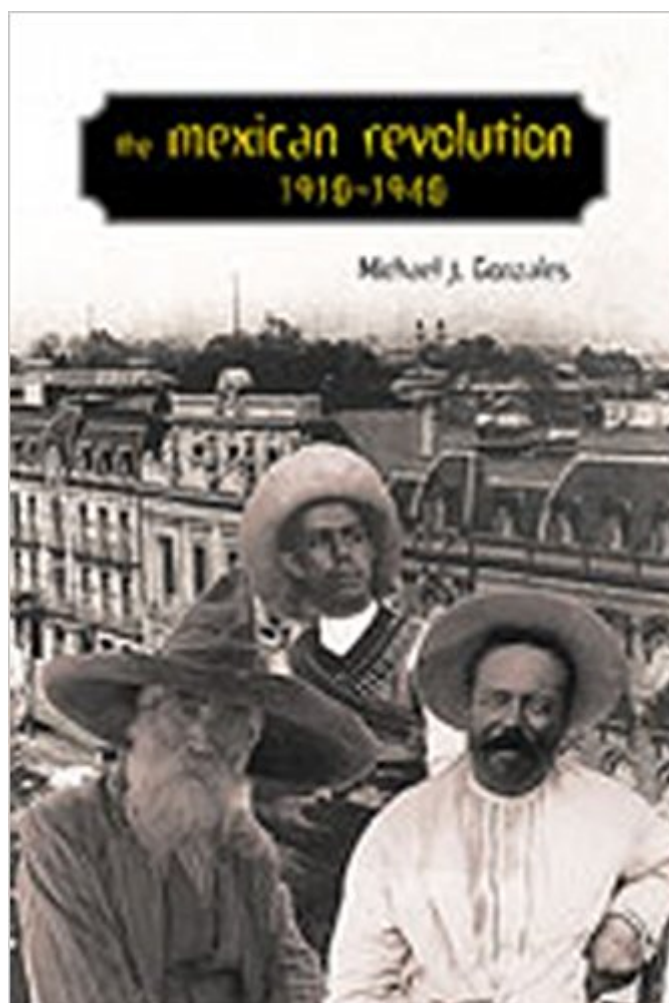


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The Mexican Revolution, 1910-1940 (Diálogos Series, No. 12)



Synopsis

This judicious history of modern Mexico's revolutionary era will help all readers, and in particular students, understand the first great social uprising of the twentieth century. In 1911, land-hungry peasants united with discontented political elites to overthrow General Porfirio Díaz, who had ruled Mexico for three decades. Gonzales offers a path breaking overview of the revolution from its origins in the Díaz dictatorship through the presidency of radical General Lázaro Cárdenas (1934-1940) drawn from archival sources and a vast secondary literature. His interpretation balances accounts of agrarian insurgencies, shifting revolutionary alliances, counter-revolutions, and foreign interventions to delineate the triumphs and failures of revolutionary leaders such as Francisco I. Madero, Pancho Villa, Emiliano Zapata, Alvaro Obregón, and Venustiano Carranza. What emerges is a clear understanding of the tangled events of the period and a fuller appreciation of the efforts of revolutionary presidents after 1916 to reinvent Mexico amid the limitations imposed by a war-torn countryside, a hostile international environment, and the resistance of the Catholic Church and large land-owners.

Book Information

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#310 in Books > History > Americas > Mexico

Customer Reviews

A readable and relatively balanced overview of one of the most significant topics in Latin American studies. --The Latin Americanist

Dialogos series --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a book every American should read and heed - everyone on the continent, that is. It's set up in such a way that it could serve as a textbook, which helps. The author writes always factually, seldom critically, in a clear, readable style. There are one or two (very rare) malapropisms which seem to derive from literal translation of Spanish idioms or homonyms - easily unscrambled. The maps do not display well on my Kindle Keyboard, but are not really needed once you learn which states are near the northern border, which near the Yucatan, and which near Mexico City. In summary (though the author doesn't summarize it this way), Mexico can have only one party and a one-term president because if there are two parties there's a war, and if a president can succeed himself there's a dictatorship-for-life (said life not always terminated by natural causes) with corruption-squared. The current three-party equipoise (late 2013) is thus an interesting experiment: will the outcome be escape from the one-party straitjacket, or just a worse-organized war?

good historical and cultural information.

Fact-packed, provides a good review of the immediate events that led to the Mexican Revolution. The author repeats a lot of things which helped me to learn this unfamiliar subject more thoroughly. If you would like insight into why Mexico is in the fix it's in today, this is a good book to read for the relevant facts. Growing up in California's Central Valley in the 60's and in southern California in the 70's, and now on Colorado's Front Range, I've been exposed to a lot of the issues influenced by the events and people covered in this book. It was definitely worth the read.

Much written about the revolution can be found in books that really aren't history, but minor recounting of the major players. In that the revolution still informs both MÃ©jican culture and politics, this thorough history through 1940 is better than most I have read. If histories do not cover this period, major components of the revolution are missed, ie, land distribution, anti-clerical actions and etc, it is difficult to understand how the revolution affected MÃ©jico.

This is what I ordered and what I wanted.

Book was in great condition

Its a good read on the Mexican revolution a a timeline of events and important revolutionary people of that time.

Nice and to the point explanations about the leaders of the Mexican Revolution. It is not too detailed but leaves you with a sense of understanding about the major characters and events.

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