



The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers)

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The Mexico Reader is a vivid introduction to *muchos Méxicos*—the many Mexicos, or the many varied histories and cultures that comprise contemporary Mexico. Unparalleled in scope and written for the traveler, student, and expert alike, the collection offers a comprehensive guide to the history and culture of Mexico—including its difficult, uneven modernization; the ways the country has been profoundly shaped not only by Mexicans but also by those outside its borders; and the extraordinary economic, political, and ideological power of the Roman Catholic Church. The book looks at what underlies the chronic instability, violence, and economic turmoil that have characterized periods of Mexico's history while it also celebrates the country's rich cultural heritage.

A diverse collection of more than eighty selections, *The Mexico Reader* brings together poetry, folklore, fiction, polemics, photoessays, songs, political cartoons, memoirs, satire, and scholarly writing. Many pieces are by Mexicans, and a substantial number appear for the first time in English. Works by Octavio Paz and Carlos Fuentes are included along with pieces about such well-known figures as the larger-than-life revolutionary leaders Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata; there is also a communiqué from a more recent rebel, Subcomandante Marcos. At the same time, the book highlights the perspectives of many others—indigenous peoples, women, politicians, patriots, artists, soldiers, rebels, priests, workers, peasants, foreign diplomats, and travelers.

The Mexico Reader explores what it means to be Mexican, tracing the history of Mexico from pre-Columbian times through the country's epic revolution (1910–17) to the present day. The materials relating to the latter half of the twentieth century focus on the contradictions and costs of postrevolutionary modernization, the rise of civil society, and the dynamic cross-cultural zone marked by the two thousand-mile Mexico-U.S. border. The editors have divided the book into several sections organized roughly in chronological order and have provided brief historical contexts for each section. They have also furnished a lengthy list of resources about Mexico, including websites and suggestions for further reading.



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Editorial Review

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This massive compilation of articles, essays, poetry, and photographs provides a wonderful introduction to the history and culture of Mexico. Joseph and Henderson are both historians with extensive backgrounds in Latin American and Mexican history. They have selected an eclectic mix of writers, many of them Mexican, including Carlos Fuentes and Octavio Paz. Topics range from the origins and growth of the Aztec Empire to the causes of the Mexican Revolution to the problems facing modern Mexico. There are well-thought-out political tracts here, as well as screeds against political corruption and economic exploitation that drip with outrage. What emerges is a portrait of the "many Mexicos" in which the wealthy, the growing middle class, and the impoverished indigenous peoples are all struggling to find their place in an exciting and rapidly changing land. This work is ideal for general readers, and one hopes it will encourage many to read and learn more about this important and diverse nation. *Jay Freeman*

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Review

"For any journey through Mexican history, politics, social movements, and popular culture, travelers should start with this fascinating collection. Expertly edited and translated, each document adds to the rich landscape and each is cogently introduced to the reader. The perfect source book for any college course on Mexico from the Aztecs and Mayas to the 21st century."—John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University

From the Publisher

"This is a discerning and skillful selection of readings on Mexico from the time of the Spanish Conquest to the turbulent modernity of our own era. It provides a valuable key to unlocking the doors of knowledge and understanding of Mexico's history, society, and politics—its modern culture as well as its ancient indigenous and Iberian roots. Whoever opens Gil Joseph's and Tim Henderson's Mexico Reader will discover unsuspected landscapes, and will want to read more and more."—Adolfo Gilly, National Autonomous University of Mexico

Users Review

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Teddy Mendoza:

The knowledge that you get from The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers) may be the more deep you looking the information that hide inside the words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to recognise but The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers) giving you excitement feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in selected way that can be understood simply by anyone who read that because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having that The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers) instantly.

Sarah Ruff:

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Laurence Terry:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the whole day to reading a reserve. The book The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers) it is rather good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

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