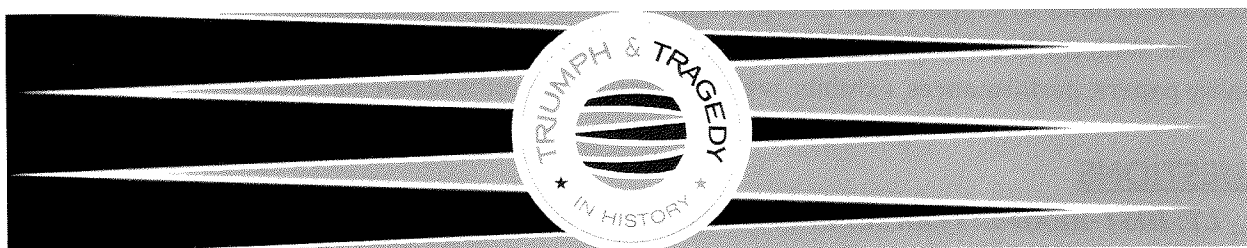


NHD Annual Theme and Topic Options

NHD 2019 Theme: Triumph and Tragedy

Every year, National History Day (NHD) has a theme. Just about any topic in history can be examined through these very broad themes. The theme is one tool to help students focus their research and think critically about a topic they choose. Having a theme is very useful to exploring the significance of a topic in history to our world today. After all, history is not a “dead” subject, it is an active, dynamic investigation into the past. It is an exploration of human behaviors and choices that help us to understand and make choices as we shape our world today.

“Triumph and Tragedy” is this year’s theme. Not all topics will fit within the theme the same way. Some may involve more triumph than tragedy or vice versa. Whether something is a triumph or tragedy depends on whose perspective we are using. It can also depend on when we are considering this question. For example, many people resisted imperialism in the past. Some did not succeed in their particular struggle, but generations after them more successfully built on their efforts.



From the NHD handbook:

What is triumph? According to Merriam Webster, the definition of triumph is “a victory or conquest by or as if by military force, or a notable success.” What does that mean in history? How can you define a historical event as a triumph? The first definition listed is victory by military force. Looking at military battles provides examples of triumphs, and tragedies, throughout history. Also contemplate the second definition, “a notable success.” How would you define a notable success in history? Consider the first organ transplant, or the first time Alexander Graham Bell [inventor of the telephone] spoke into the telephone and someone heard him at the other end. Does history remember those events as triumphs? If so, why? What makes them triumphant?

What is tragedy? Merriam Webster defines tragedy as a “disastrous event.” What are some examples of disastrous events throughout history? You could look to England in the mid-1500s. Many remember Lady Jane Grey [who was queen of England for just nine days!] as a tragic figure, but what makes her situation tragic? Or think back to America’s Trail of Tears [when American Indians were marched from their homeland in the eastern states to Oklahoma and thousands died]. What decisions allowed that event to come to fruition? What was the impact of those decisions? Who suffered the consequences?

Can one person’s triumph be another’s tragedy? Whether an event is considered a tragedy or a triumph depends on one’s perspective. Often a triumph for one is a tragedy for another. The American Civil War offers numerous opportunities for in-depth research on a single aspect of the war. There were many triumphs, the North over the South, unionism over sectionalism, freedom over slavery, but what tragedies resulted because of this conflict? [Certainly plantation owners believed the loss of slavery was tragic for their wealth and way of life. African Americans won a

victory over slavery; however, segregation laws were quickly enacted creating new forms of injustice.]

Can a person or group suffer both tragedy and triumph from a single event? Did Frederick Douglass triumph when he escaped from slavery? How did he use his freedom? What tragedies did he continue to face? Was he ever treated as an equal during his lifetime? Nuclear scientist Robert Oppenheimer triumphed with his most famous creation [the atomic bomb], but what tragic outcome came out of his invention? [The U.S. dropped atomic bombs on two human populations in Japan in World War II]. How did he view his work throughout his lifetime?

Examine the significance of the topic in history and show development over time. Your research should start with secondary sources, and then you can look for available primary sources. Using your research skills, you should clearly explain the topic's relationship to the theme Triumph and Tragedy in History.

Always remember to support your interpretations of your topic's significance in history with evidence. With the knowledge and understanding gained from your research, you can develop quality papers, performances, exhibits, websites, and documentaries for National History Day

QUESTIONS

— ***LT: HIST-READ-2: I can summarize the main ideas of a text.***

Write complete ideas in complete sentences.

1) What is the purpose of having a NHD theme?

2) Define triumph (in your own words):

3) Define tragedy (in your own words):

4) How could one event be considered both a triumph and a tragedy? (Min. two sentences)

NHD Theme and Topic Choices

Many groups in Asia, Africa and the Americas encountered European colonizers.

But did they fight back?

Themes:

Triumph and Tragedy



NHD 2019

DURING the AGE of
Imperialism and Resistance



World History II

How did a group of people use their **agency** to resist imperialism?
What were their triumphs? What were their tragedies?

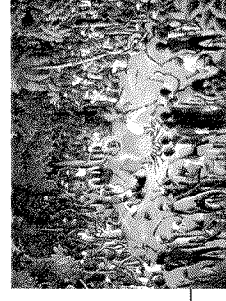
The Caribbean: Haiti

Haitian Revolution: While France was having a revolution, free and enslaved Africans in St. Domingue (Haiti) also had thoughts about freedom and equality!

Toussaint L'Ouverture



Dutty Bookman



The Caribbean: Jamaica

Maroons = runaway slaves in the Americas.
In Jamaica (as in other parts of the Americas), people of African descent
escaped plantations and formed rebel communities in remote areas.

Captain Cudjoe



Grandy Nanny



The Caribbean: Cuba

José Martí



The Caribbean: Puerto Rico

Ramón Emeterio Betances (Grito de Lares)



North America: Mexico

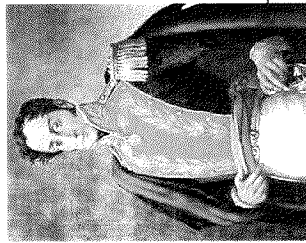
Father Hidalgo, leader of the Mexican War of Independence.
Hidalgo united indigenous peasants and mestizos to fight
against the Spanish rulers.



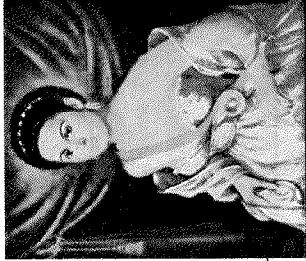
South America

Creoles in South America dreamed of independence and fought to liberate their lands from Spanish colonial rule.

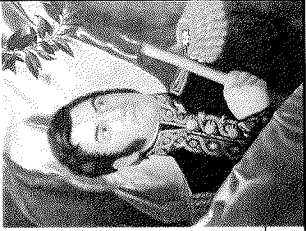
Simón Bolívar



Manuela Saenz



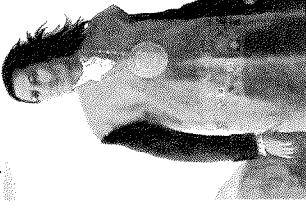
José de San Martín



Peru - Early Rebels

Amaru and Bastidas led the first major armed rebellion against Spanish colonial rule in South America, mobilizing thousands of indigenous peasants.

Túpac Amaru II



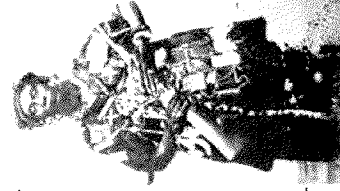
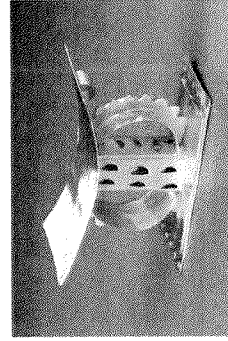
Micaela Bastidas



West Africa: Ghana (Gold Coast)

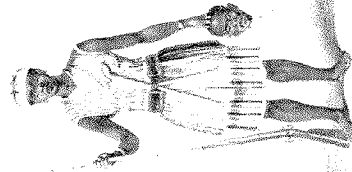
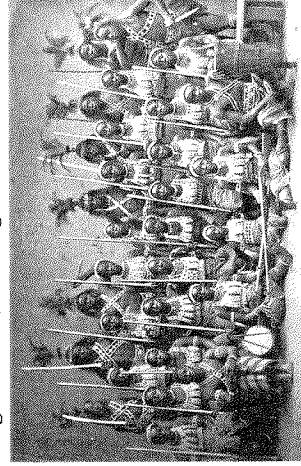
Queen Yaa Asantewa and the Ashanti people fought for their kingdom in the face of British colonial invasion.

War of the Golden Stool



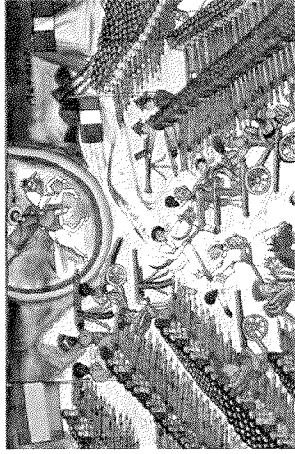
West Africa: Benin (Dahomey)

The women warriors of Dahomey were highly trained, fearsome fighters who defended their king and lands, including from French invasion.

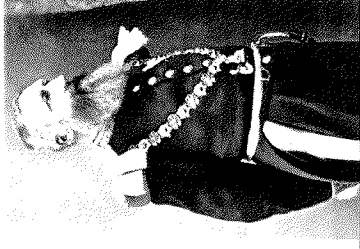


East Africa: Ethiopia

King Meneik II prepared his country against colonial conquest and succeeded in defeating Italian invaders.



Central Africa: Congo



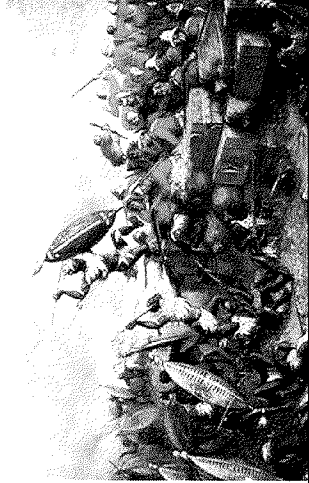
King Leopold II

AP Photo. British photographer, Sir J. R. Taylor. (London, England, 1904). <https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/stock-photo/king-leopold-ii-royal-photographer>. A.B.P. (London, 1904).



Southern Africa: the Zulu

In the Anglo-Zulu War, the Zulu put up an incredible fight against the superior weapons of the British.



Pan-Africanism

- result of these events: realization that it would benefit blacks to work together in an effort to solve problems such as slavery, colonization, and racism
- Pan-African Conferences: 1900, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1927, and 1949 included some of the most influential black people from our history like W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Sylvester Williams, and Kwame Nkrumah

20th Century African Independence Movements

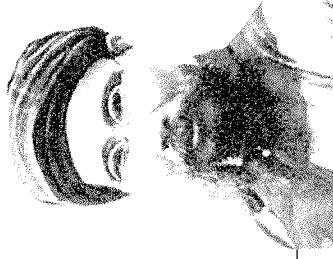
Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana),
Patrice Lumumba (Congo),
Jomo Kenyatta (Kenya)



Asia: Vietnam

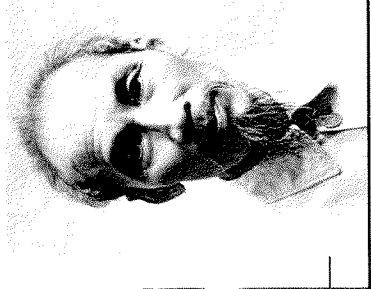
Phan Boi Chau

Cần Vương movement



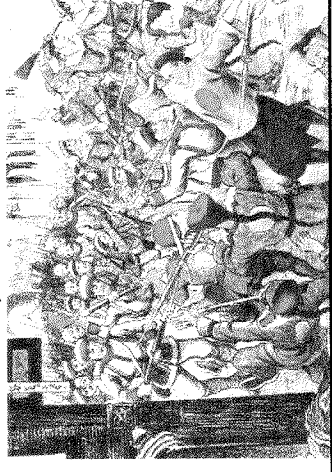
Asia: Vietnamese independence movement

Ho Chi Minh



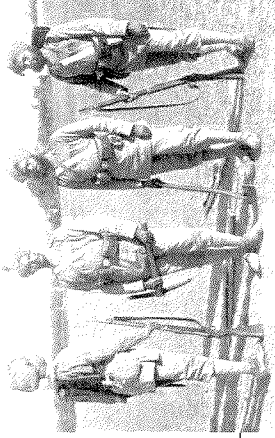
Asia: China

The Boxer Rebellion: a martial arts movement rose up to push out Western imperialists from China.



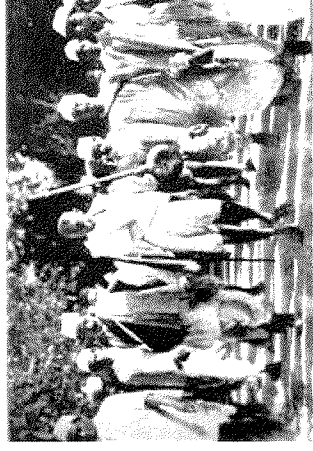
Asia: India

The Sepoy Mutiny: hired soldiers of the British East India Company rose up against British occupiers in India in the mid-1800s.



Asia: Indian Independence Movement

Gandhi, Indian Nationalist Movement



Asia: the Philippines independence struggle

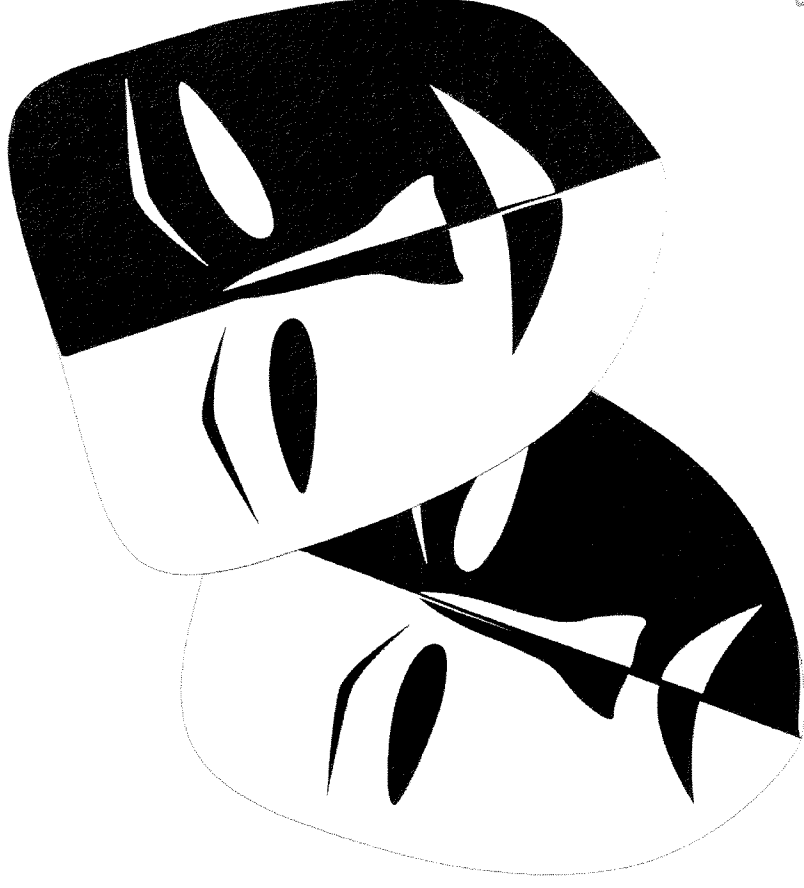


NHD Theme: Triumph and Tragedy

You must explain how your topic was either a triumph or a tragedy.

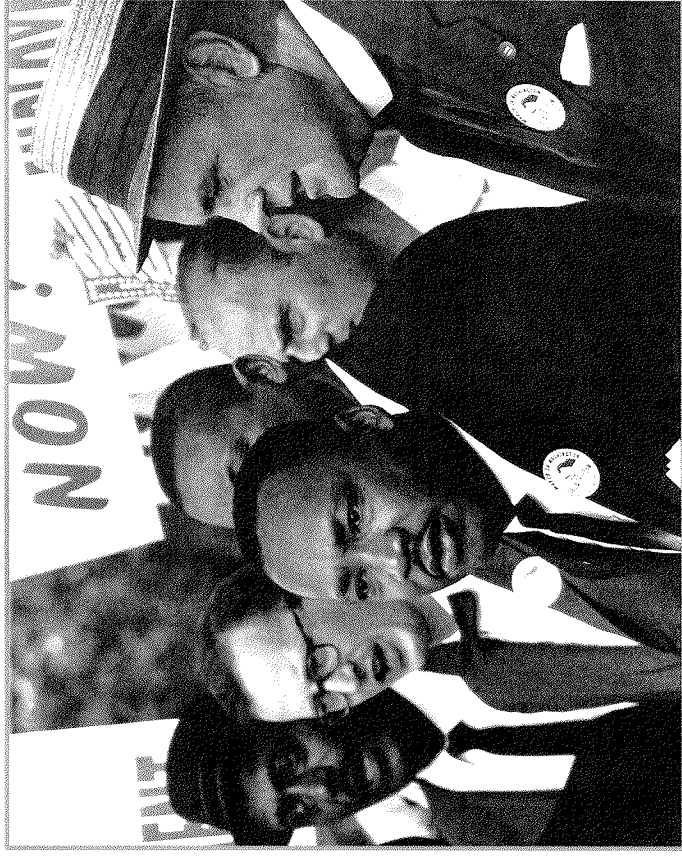
OR how it was a triumph for some and a tragedy for others.

OR how lots of people think something is a triumph, but really it's a tragedy.



NHD Theme: Triumph and Tragedy

Martin Luther King, Jr. - triumph or tragedy?



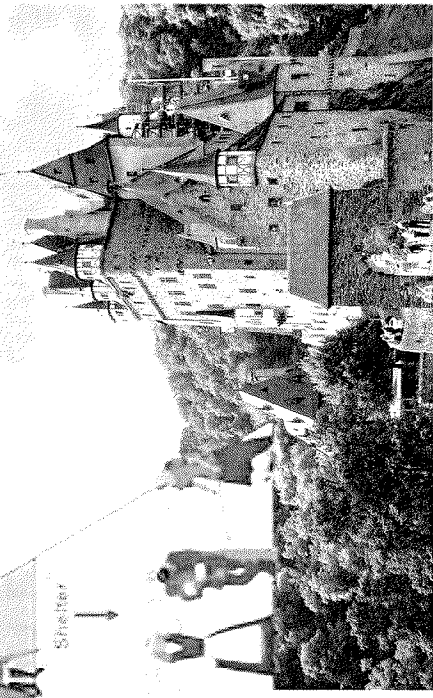
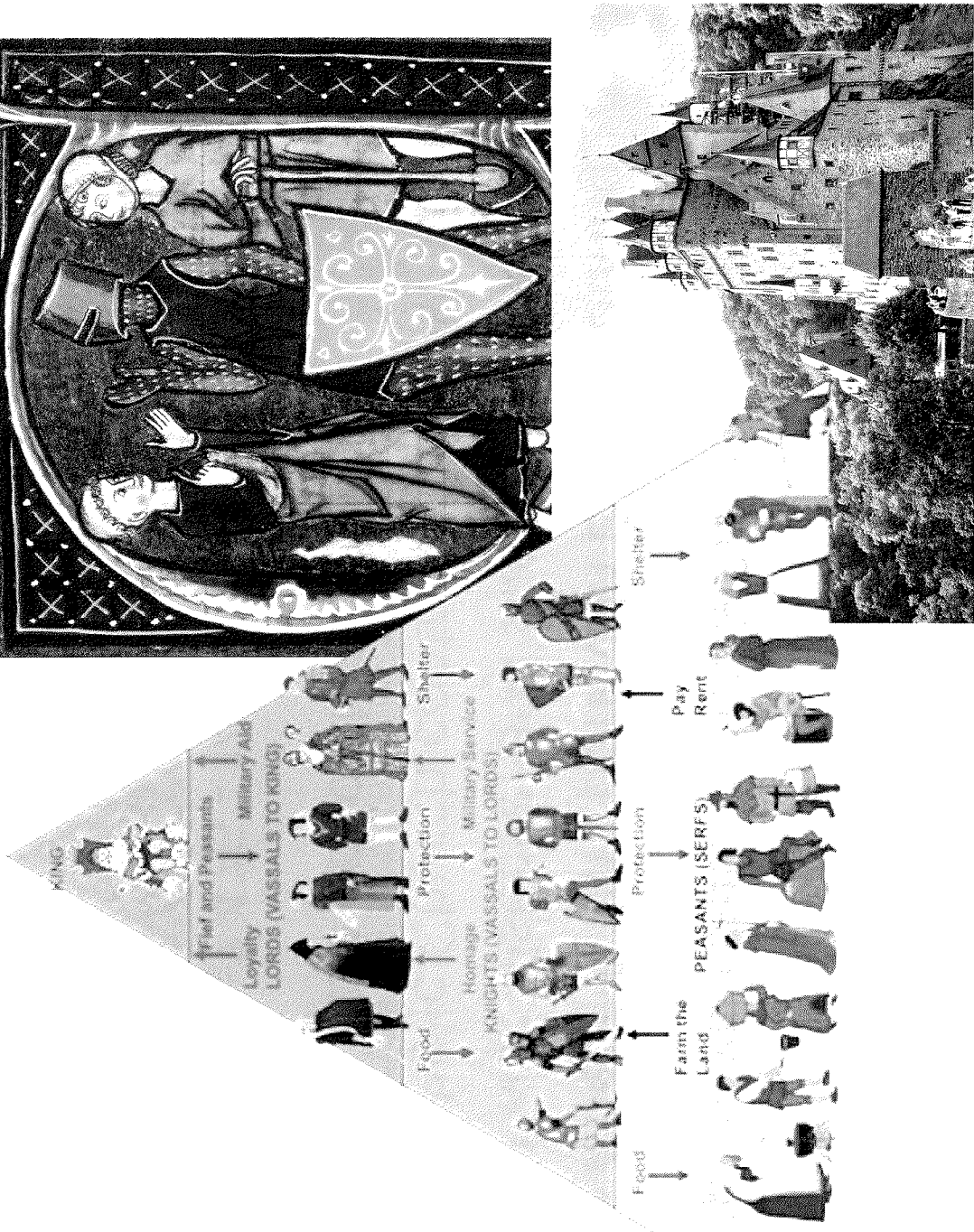
NHD Topics

All World History I topics will relate to the Middle Ages.

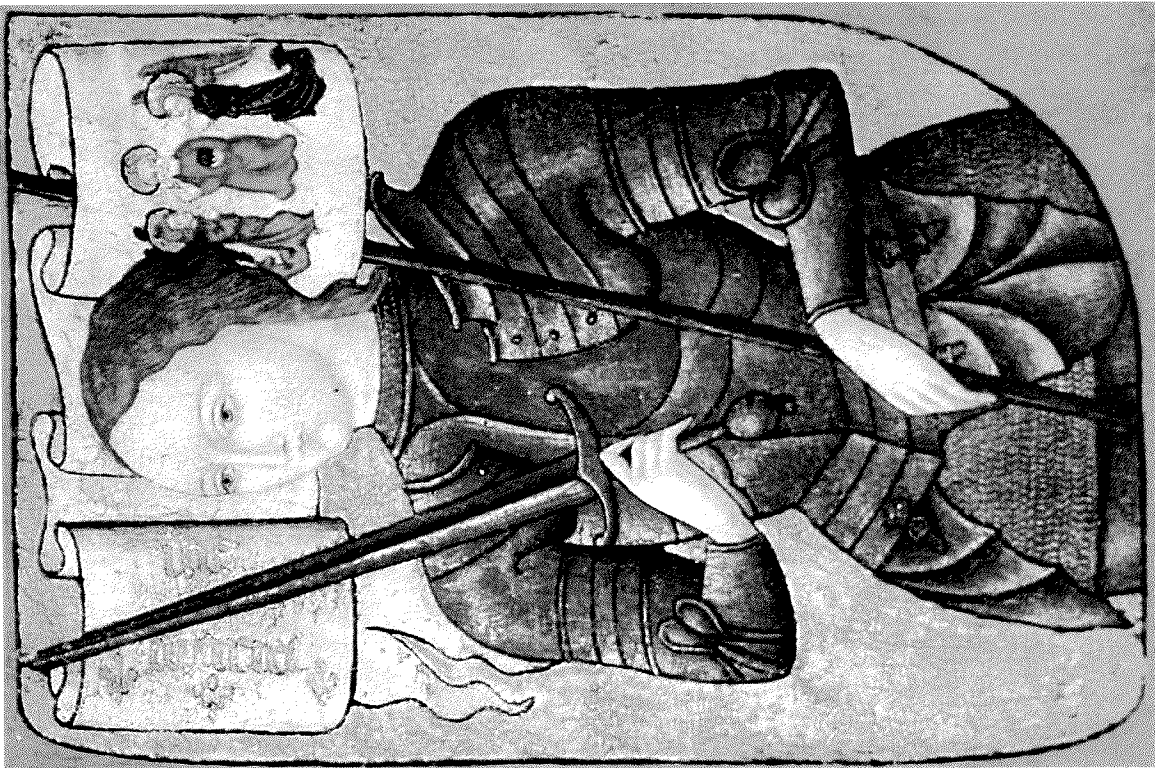
What are the Middle Ages? A time period in Europe during which there was lots of war, disease, and social class issues. During this time, the Catholic Church controlled almost everything, and there was little education.

When were the Middle Ages? 476 - 1453

Middle Ages



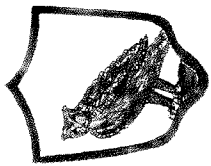
Joan of Arc



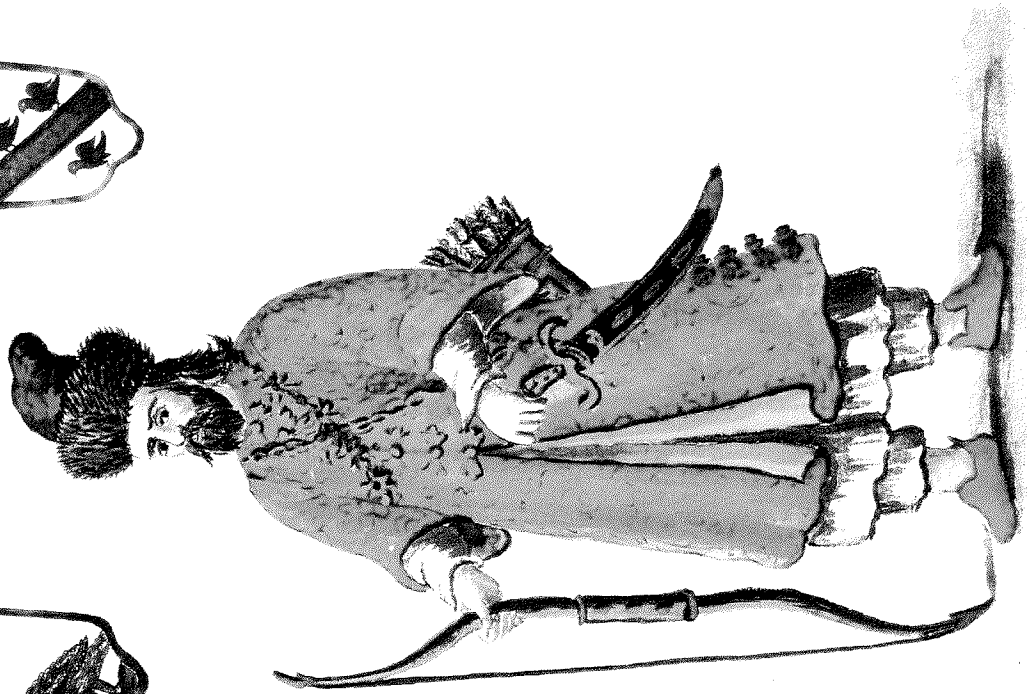
The Crusades



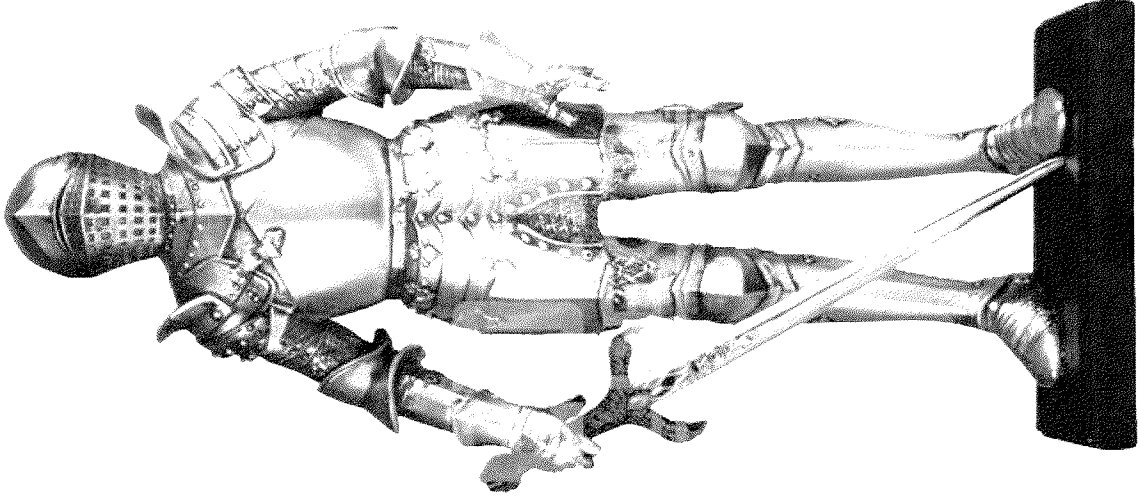
Marco Polo

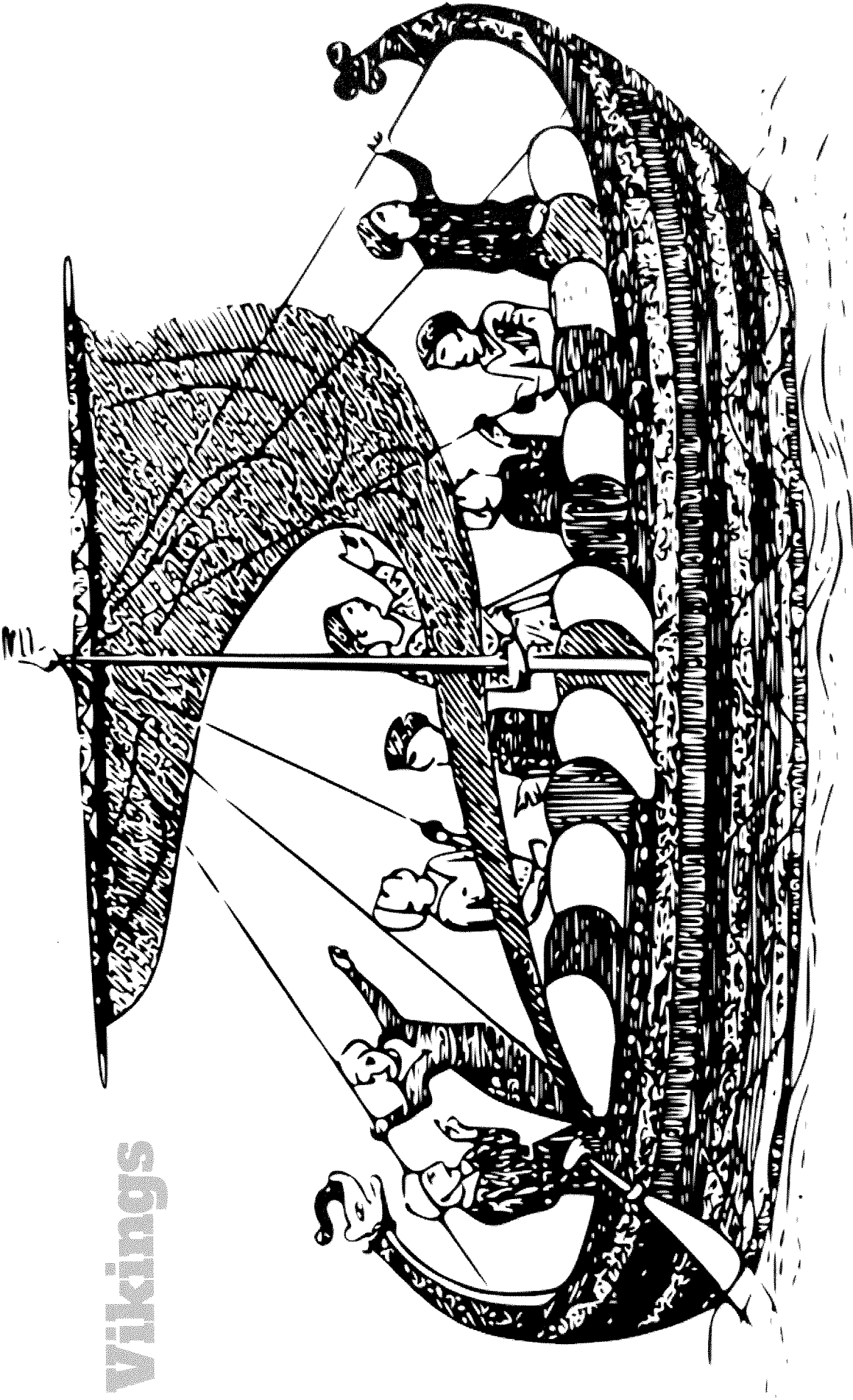


Lot



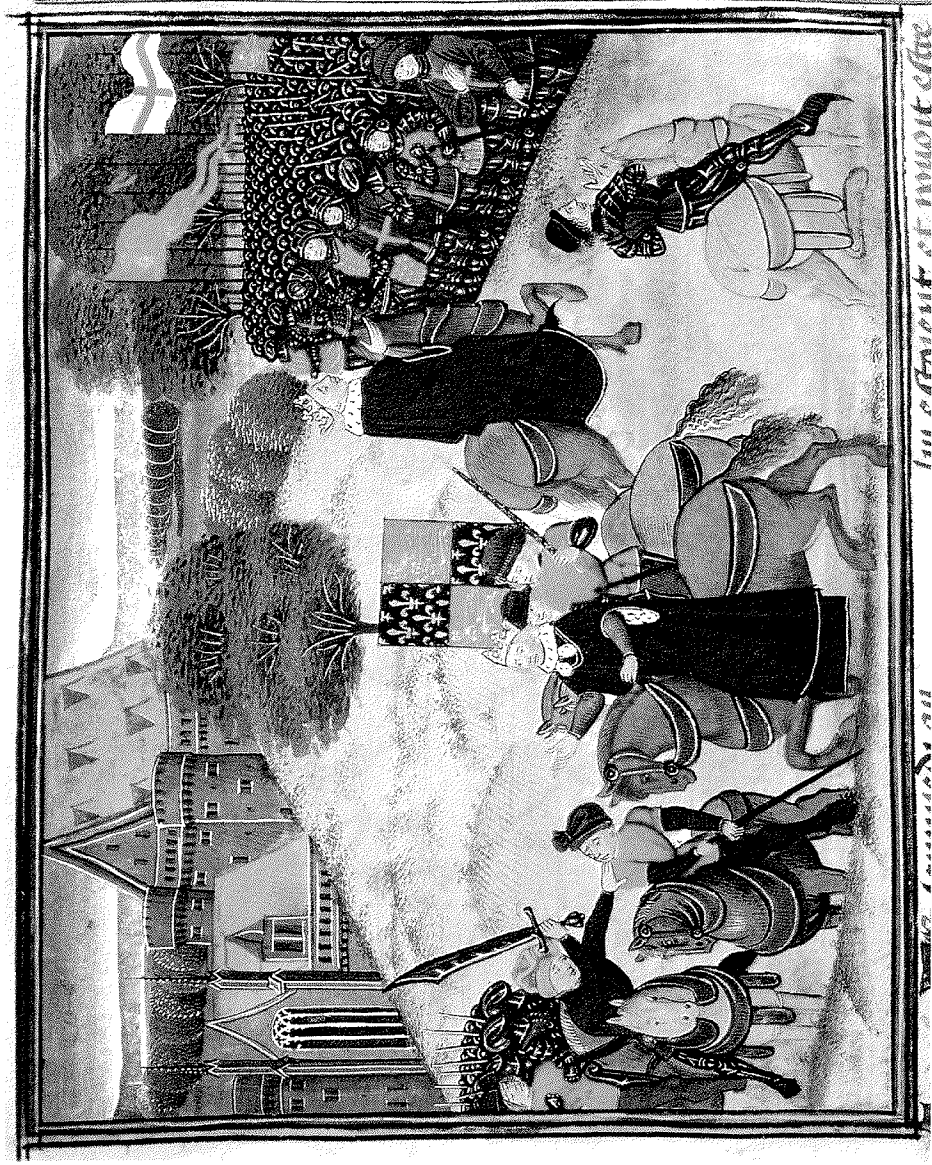
Knights



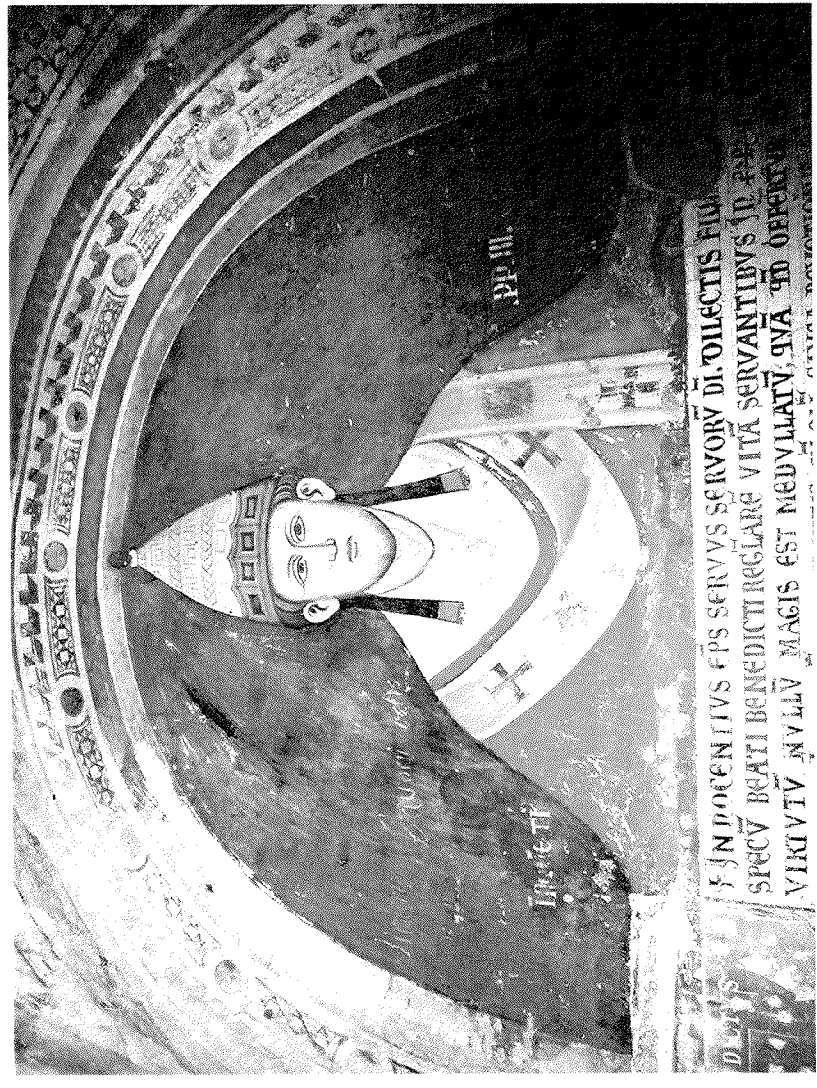


Vikings

Peasant Revolts



Pope Innocent III



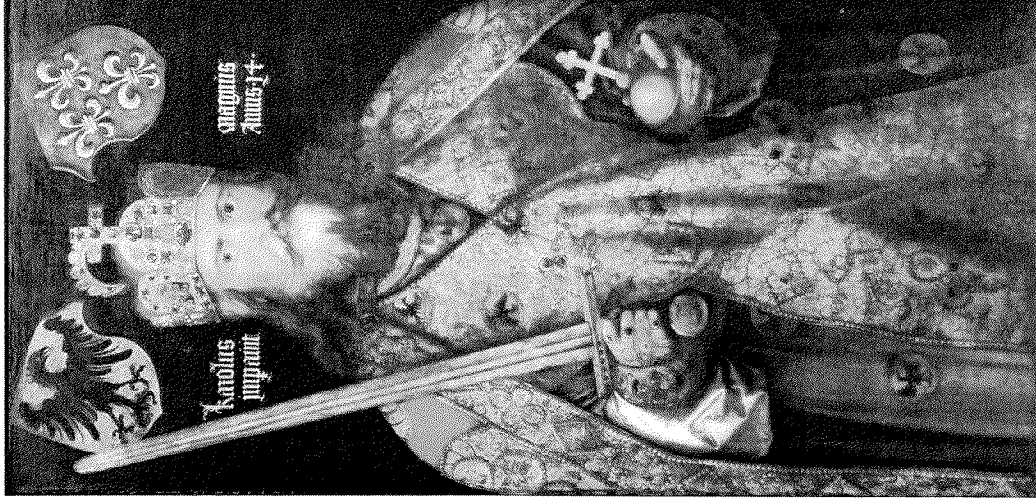
Charles Martel - "The Hammer"



Leprosy



Charlemagne



Bartolome de las Casas



National History Day (NHD) Possible Topics 2019

National NHD theme: "Triumph and Tragedy"

WH2 unit theme: Imperialism and Resistance

Time period: The Modern Era (1500-1900s)

Background:

Many countries in the Americas, Africa and Asia were once ruled by a foreign, imperial power from Europe within the last 500 years. In all cases, local peoples fought back in a variety of ways against domination. Early efforts to beat back European imperialism were usually forceful but unsuccessful. However, these acts of self-defense, pride and determination inspired later generations of leaders and fighters who were eventually successful. Almost all peoples in colonized lands won their independence in the decades after World War II (in the mid-twentieth century).

In most of these topics, you will see conflict between European powers and native peoples as Europeans attempted to take over their lands. In some topics, you will also see ways native peoples either compromised with Europeans or with other targeted people to increase their power to resist.

Steps to select your NHD topic:

- Browse through this topic list to consider a topic that interests you
- You may propose another topic to your teacher(s), if you're interested in one not listed here
- Choose an individual/group who experienced tragedy and/or triumph resisting imperialism
- Investigate: How did the individual or group use their agency to press for dignity and freedom?

Resistance efforts:

LATIN AMERICAN RESISTANCE TO COLONIAL RULE		
<i>(Country)</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>Overview</i>
Haiti	Toussaint L'Ouverture	The Haitian Revolution was the most successful rebellion by enslaved Africans against colonial rulers. L'Ouverture was the most prominent leader of the revolution which successfully beat the French out of Haiti. Haitians started the first independent republic in the Americas run by people of African descent.
Haiti	Dutty Bookman	Bookman was a maroon (runaway slave) and vodou priest who was part of the Boi Caiman ceremony that began the Haitian Revolution. The revolution was at its core a grassroots rebellion that leaned on the power of African folk religion (i.e. Vodou).
Jamaica	Grandy Nanny	Known as Granny Nanny, Grandy Nanny, and Queen Nanny. She led a maroon community in Jamaica. Maroons were runaway slaves who escaped to remote areas and built independent communities.
Mexico	Father Hidalgo	Roman Catholic priest and revolutionary leader who is called the father of Mexican independence. He successfully mobilized Indians and Mestizos in an early effort to end Spanish rule.
Gran Columbia	Simón Bolívar	"The Liberator." Seen as the most important leader of the struggle for independence from Spain in South America. Helped to free what are now called Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Panama.

Peru	Manuela Sáenz	Revolutionary heroine of South America who supported the revolutionary cause by gathering information, distributing leaflets, and protesting for women's rights. Sáenz became the lover of Simon Bolivar and an important partner in his efforts to liberate South America.
Peru	Túpac Amaru II (José Gabriel Condorcanqui)	Leader of massive indigenous uprising in 1780 against the Spanish in Peru. Although unsuccessful, he later became a mythical figure in the Peruvian struggle for independence and indigenous rights movement
Peru	Micaela Bastidas	Wife and revolutionary partner of Condorcanqui (Tupac Amaru) who supported the mostly indigenous rebellion against Spanish rule
Cuba	José Martí	Poet, journalist and "Apostle of Cuban Independence."
Argentina, Chile and Peru	José de San Martín	Perhaps Bolivar's most important partner. He helped liberate large parts of South America from Spain.
Puerto Rico	Ramón Emeterio Betances	Betances was the main leader of the Grito de Lares revolution. He is considered to the father of the Puerto Rican independence movement and as the "El Padre de los Pobres" ("The Father of the Poor"). He was also a medical doctor and surgeon.
	More on women revolutionaries	http://www.ipsnews.net/2009/09/latin-america-women-in-history-more-than-just-heroines/
AFRICAN RESISTANCE TO COLONIAL RULE		
	Background reading:	http://exhibitions.nypl.org/africanaage/essay-colonization-of-af-rica.html
19th Century		
Ghana	Asanti War/Queen Yaa Asantewa	Queen Yaa Asantewa led the Ashanti people in a final battle to try to remove the British from the Gold Coast (Ghana). Hostilities arise over British commander insisting on having access to the Golden Stool (like a throne, but with magical powers).
South Africa	Anglo-Zulu War	The Zulu warriors were perhaps the fiercest in Africa. They took on the British, who were colonizing their lands. They had a surprisingly successful battle, but were defeated by superior weapons.
Ethiopia	Menelik II vs. Italians	Ethiopia was the only successful country to resist European conquest in the "Scramble for Africa" at the end of the 1800s, beginning of the 1900s. Victory came at the decisive Battle of Adwa.
Congo	Opponents of King Leopold II	Leopold II, the Belgian king, oversaw the most brutal colonial operations in Africa. Many Congolese groups, African American, European and other outsiders fought hard to end his rule.
Benin (Dahomey)	Women Warriors of Dahomey	The famous Women Warriors of Dahomey battle the French in an effort to stop colonization of their land. These women built a military tradition over 200 years.

Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)	Matabele (Ndebele) War	The Ndebele warrior nation fight the British, who wanted to expand into their cattle-grazing lands)
	Pan Africanism	A movement of people of African descent from around the world who united behind the idea of being one united African peoples. They were committed to the end of slavery, the independence of African countries from colonial domination and the racial equality of Africans in the U.S., Britain and beyond.
20th Century Independence Movements		
Ghana	Kwame Nkrumah	Nkrumah was a pan-African leader and leader of one of the first successful African independence movements (in his country).
Congo	Patrice Lumumba	Patrice Lumumba was the first prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, calling for national unity and overall African independence.
Kenya	Jomo Kenyatta	African statesman and nationalist, the first prime minister (1963–64) and then the first president (1964–78) of independent Kenya.
ASIAN RESISTANCE TO COLONIAL RULE		
Vietnam	General Exploration	http://alphahistory.com/vietnamwar/resistance-to-french-colonialism/
	Cần Vương movement	Early nationalist movement, seeking independence from France.
	Phan Đình Phùng	Vietnamese revolutionary and hero who led rebel armies against French colonial forces in Vietnam.
	Phan Boi Chau	dominant personality of early Vietnamese resistance movements, whose impassioned writings and tireless schemes for independence earned him the reverence of his people as one of Vietnam's greatest patriots.
	Ho Chi Minh	Led the Vietnamese nationalist movement for more than three decades, fighting first against the Japanese, then the French colonial power and then the US-backed South Vietnamese. He was President of North Vietnam from 1954 until his death.
Philippines	Independence movement	Philippines independence struggle against Spain
China	Boxer Rebellion	This was a peasant uprising in 1900 that attempted to drive all foreigners from China. "Boxers" was a name that foreigners gave to a Chinese secret society known as the Yihequan ("Righteous and Harmonious Fists"). The group practiced certain boxing and calisthenic rituals in the belief that this made them invulnerable.
India	Sepoy Mutiny	Also known as "the Indian Rebellion of 1857." Indian sepoys, or soldiers hired by the British East India Company (a British trading group that helped Great Britain colonize India) rebelled against the British amidst rising tensions over British domination. It was sparked by rumors of a British insult to Indian religious practices.

