

Glossary

<i>acapadores</i>	middlemen who brought up the harvest for resale in larger markets
<i>acordada</i>	constabulary
<i>agraristas</i>	recipients of or petitioners for land grants from the federal government
antifanatical	efforts at eradicating elements of Catholicism deemed excessive, wasteful, backwards and superstitious
<i>apareceros</i>	tenant farmers
<i>apertura</i>	historical opening
<i>Arreglos</i>	“arrangements” between federal government and episcopate to end the Cristero War, they restated the Mexican polity’s secular nature and prevented the state from interfering in the Church’s internal affairs
<i>asistentes eclesiásticos</i>	chaplains/guides appointed by Catholic Action
<i>atentados al pudor</i>	sexual assault
<i>ayuntamiento</i>	town council elected to govern a municipio (both the town or city designated the county seat and the entire county, including the county seat and administratively subordinated villages and hamlets); at times governors would overturn elected ayuntamientos and directly appoint a council
<i>beatas</i>	activist Catholic laywomen
<i>besamanos</i>	submissive kissing of hands
<i>cacicazgos</i>	domain of cacique

<i>caciques</i>	petty bosses who rule outside and above the law and formal institutions, mediating between the grassroots level and overarching political, economic, and social systems
<i>caciquismo</i>	rule by caciques
<i>campechano/a</i>	resident of the state of Campeche
cargo system	a civil-religious hierarchy in indigenous communities historically linked to a <i>cofradía</i> , it often controls social, political, and economic lives
<i>clericales</i>	pro-Catholics
<i>cofradía</i>	colonial lay brotherhood devoted to the cult of a saint, indigenous communities modified it to make it the basis of the cargo system
<i>comisario</i>	roughly justice of the peace, the lowest ranking civil officer with jurisdiction over hamlets, small villages, and haciendas who lacked municipal status and was administratively subordinated to the county seat of a county (both termed <i>municipio</i>); a <i>comisario</i> could be either elected or appointed from the county seat
<i>comodines</i>	sellouts
<i>compadrazgo</i>	godparentage
<i>corrido</i>	folksong
<i>corvé</i>	unpaid labor draft exacted from indigenous people by local authorities
<i>costeño</i>	resident of coastal region
<i>costrumbres</i>	customs
<i>coyotes</i>	corrupt government officials
<i>creyente</i>	believer
Cristiada	Cristero War (1926–29)
<i>cristeros</i>	rebels in the first Cristero War (1926–29)
<i>cuadrilla</i>	hamlet or smaller village under the jurisdiction of the county seat (<i>municipio</i>)
Damas Católicas	See Unión de Damas Católicas Mexicanas in the Abbreviations
<i>decente</i>	moral, proper
defanatization	efforts to eliminate Catholic practices deemed excessive, wasteful, backwards, and superstitious

defensive segunda violence	spontaneous mob attacks (at times involving women and even children) against perceived enemies of or offenses to Catholicism
<i>defensas rurales</i>	agrarian militia raised and armed by the federal government from loyal peasants
<i>defensas sociales</i>	paramilitary police raised by state or local authorities, often from conservative elements or even white guards
<i>delahuertistas</i>	followers of Adolfo de la Huerta's rebellion against President Álvaro Obregón and his candidate for the presidency, Plutarco Elías Calles, in December 1923–May 1924
<i>delegados municipales</i>	justices of the peace
<i>diezmos</i>	Church tithes, usually 10 percent of income
<i>la educación</i>	roughly, good morals
<i>ejidatarios</i>	peasants who received collective land grants
<i>ejidos</i>	collective land grants made by the federal government after a petition signed by eligible recipients was investigated and approved by federal bureaucrats. At times interference by state or local officials or appeals by affected landowners could delay grants for years.
<i>escobaristas</i>	supporters of Gonzalo Escobar's March 1929 coup
<i>faena</i>	labor service. See also <i>corvée</i>
<i>gente de razón</i>	a colonial term referring to whites
<i>gobiernistas</i>	pro-government
Green Party	a clique of civilian classical Liberals who dominated regional politics in Guanajuato; see the Confederación de Partidos Revolucionarios de Guanajuato (CPRG) in the Abbreviations
<i>gremios</i>	similar to the colonial confraternities, these lay fraternities or guilds oversaw religious practices in Campeche and Yucatán
<i>guanajuatense</i>	resident of the state of Guanajuato
<i>guardias blancas</i>	paramilitaries organized by landowners, usually to oppose agraristas, at times designated as <i>defensas sociales</i>
<i>guerrerense</i>	resident of the state of Guerrero
<i>hacendado</i>	landowner
<i>Hidalguense</i>	resident of the state of Hidalgo

indigenism	nationalist ideology valorizing the indigenous past as the font of national identity, while encouraging the incorporation of contemporary indigenous people on the state's terms
<i>jefe máximo</i>	maximum chief
<i>jefes políticos</i>	prefects appointed by Mexico City
<i>juez</i>	judge
<i>juntas vecinales</i>	neighborhood councils that took over custody of churches closed under anticlerical legislation
<i>levitical</i>	a community where the Church defined social, educational, and often political life
<i>ley de cultos</i>	anticlerical regulations passed by states to enforce article 130 of the Constitution
<i>licenciados</i>	lawyers
<i>liderismo</i>	domination by charismatic strongmen
<i>liviana</i>	flighty or flirty
<i>maestros rurales</i>	rural teachers in SEP service, they often organized peasant unions and peasant agrarian petitions
<i>mancuerno</i>	political alter ego
Maximato	a historical period in Mexico from 1928 to 1934 that was named after former president Plutarco Elías Calles; as the <i>jefe máximo</i> (national boss), he functioned as a super-executive more powerful than presidents Emilio Portes Gil, Pascual Ortiz Rubio, and Abelardo Rodríguez.
<i>mayordomías</i>	stewardships devoted to the cult of a local saint, a high office in the cargo system
<i>medieros</i>	sharecroppers
<i>militares</i>	soldiers
<i>milpa</i>	a small field that is used throughout Mesoamerica for growing maize and other complementary crops
<i>mocho/a</i>	overly religious
<i>municipio libre</i>	municipal democracy
<i>obreras</i>	female workers
offensive segunda violence	premeditated, organized attacks by gangs of men against perceived enemies of Catholicism
<i>organizadoras</i>	female catechists

<i>Padres de la Familia</i>	literally, Parents of the Family, name or variant adopted by a number of Church front groups opposing socialist education
<i>parcelas</i>	private plots
<i>la patria potestad</i>	domestic patriarchy
<i>pláticas</i>	chats
<i>plebecito</i>	primary election
<i>Porfiriato</i>	the era of Porfirio Díaz's government from 1876–1911
<i>posadas</i>	nine days of Catholic religious celebration from December 16 through December 24 that reenact Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem
<i>prestanombres</i>	fictive owners
<i>primicias</i>	gifts, such as the first fruits from a tree or first egg from a chicken, customarily given to the clergy
<i>el pueblo</i>	the people
Psychological Revolution	Plutarco Elías Calles's proclamation in July 1934 calling for an educational, social, and cultural revolution to secularize the minds of the next generation of Mexicans through socialist education
<i>quemasantos</i>	saint burning
<i>rancherías</i>	hamlets; small communities
Ranchero group	a coalition of landowners, lawyers, and military men who had long controlled Guerreran politics
<i>recristeros</i>	veterans of the first Cristiada who fought in the Segunda (second Cristero War)
Red Shirts	organizations of leftist, ardently anticlerical youth and young adults started by admirers of Tomas Garrido Canabal of Tabasco
Reds	the Green's rival party, supported by most agraristas and organized labor in the state. It gained the support of Plutarco Elías Calles; nationally, referred to the informal group of supporters of Calles who opposed President Ortíz Rubio in 1930–32.
<i>retablo</i>	miracle
Revolutionary Family	the inner circle of the leaders of the postrevolutionary regime
<i>riquillos</i>	“little rich men,” a derogatory term used by leftists to refer to the local bourgeoisie

<i>rodriguista</i>	supporters of Matías Rodríguez
Rosary Belt	a term used by Carlos Monsivaís to describe the center west Bajío (the states of Colima, southern Guanajuato, Jalisco, Michoacán, Nayarit and southern Zacatecas) that has long enjoyed a reputation for exceptional religiosity
Segunda, the	the second Cristero War in the 1930s
<i>segunderos</i>	fighters in the Segunda, the second Cristero War
<i>serranos</i>	highlanders
<i>sexenio</i>	the single six-year term served by a president
Sinarquismo	a national conservative and Catholic organization avowedly apolitical and covertly linked to the institutional Church, it defended private property, opposed the left and Cardenismo. Its extremely nationalist ideology and militaristic organization reminded many of fascism.
<i>teoxipan</i>	domestic altars
<i>tequitlato</i>	an office in indigenous civil-religious hierarchy responsible for organizing labor drafts
<i>Terciarios</i>	Third Order of the Franciscans, an elite lay organization that often collected taxes for the clergy
<i>tienda de raya</i>	the company store on a hacienda or mine
<i>trabajo comunal</i>	communal work often owed in indigenous communities
<i>uniones libres</i>	free unions
<i>voto morado</i>	literally, “the purple vote”; figuratively, the Catholic ballots cast in supposedly revolutionary politics
white guards	See <i>guardias blancas</i>
Whites	partisans of President Pascual Ortíz Rubio in 1930–32, in the struggle against the pro-Calles Reds
white terror	violence carried out by landowners against agraristas
Zapatismo	the legacy of revolutionary caudillo Emiliano Zapata (d. 1919), an ideology of agrarismo and decentralized democracy
<i>zahorines</i>	traditional Nahuatl spiritual specialists