

Name:

Date:

Class/Period:

The Big Picture

The Constitution of 1824 vs. San Jacinto Resolutions - Accommodated Comparing the Claims of the Texians against the Mexican Constitution of 1824

Instructions: Read the background information and analyze the various articles of the Mexican constitution. Answer the document analysis questions below.

Background Information:

After Mexico defeated Spain in the Mexican War for Independence, they established a new government and a new set of laws known as the Federal Constitution of the United Mexican States (more commonly referred to as the Constitution of 1824). Early Anglo-American colonists settled in Texas under the newly established laws of the Republic of Mexico. However, the laws changed rapidly over the span of about 10 years and resulted in major conflict between two main groups: government officials who wanted all the power in the central government, known as Centralists, and government officials (including the Texians) who wanted the power to remain divided between states or provinces, known as the Federalists. On August 8, 1825 a group of Texians in San Jacinto met together to document the changes in the Mexican government. During their meeting, they wrote a letter of warning to all Texans titled “San Jacinto Resolutions” and published it in The Texas Republican (the local newspaper; the most modern form of media during that time). Compare and contrast the select articles of the Mexican Constitution below to the claims Texans made against the Mexican government in the San Jacinto Resolutions.

Document A, The Mexican Constitution of 1824

Article	What it says:
Article 1 Established Mexico as a free nation.	The Mexican nation is forever free and independent of the Spanish government and of every other power.

Article	What it says:
Article 2 Established provinces (or state borders) within Mexico in order to establish federalism, or shared powers, among the states.	A constitutional law will be made for designating the boundaries of the Federation as soon as circumstances will permit.
Article 3 Established Catholicism as the official religion of Mexico.	The religion of the Mexican nation shall perpetually remain Roman Catholic and Apostolic.
Article 4 (1) Established a democratic form of government giving power to the people through voting rights. (2) Divided power among the states and National government.	The Mexican nation adopts for the form of its government a popular representative and federal republic.
Article 6 Created a checks and balances system	The Supreme power of the Federation as to its exercise, is divided into the legislative, executive and judicial powers.

Analysis Questions:

1. Based on the information in document A, which article gave states power? Support your answer with text evidence.

The article that gives states power is

I can tell this because the text states that

Document B, San Jacinto Resolutions, August 8, 1835

(Section 1)

We are sad that the main Government of Mexico and the states throughout Mexico have lost their power granted in the constitution and that Santa Anna has been made Dictator. The people's militia (small army) is gone and now a violent army is making sure that the people listen to Santa Anna and the Central Government. The people of Texas want to express their concerns and worries about this matter.

(Section 2)

The original agreement that was promised in the constitution has been broken.

(Section 3)

Because the original agreement was broken we the people of Texas no longer have allegiance (vocabulary word) to the Mexican government.

(Section 4)

It is the duty of all of the people to stand back and carefully study the facts of the situation before jumping into a scary Civil War.

The Texas Republican. September 19, 1835, Volume 1, Edition 1, Number 53.

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth80271/m1/1/?q=Whereas>

Analysis Questions:

2. Using the information from Section 1 in Document B, what type of government has Santa Anna established?

The form of government Santa Anna established is a

He did this because