

SEVENTH PERIOD (1941 to 1970)

World War II ends in Europe. The Cold War between the United States and Russia begins. In 1956 Lázaro Cárdenas visits Poland, the Soviet Union and China upon invitation of the respective governments.



At the end of his presidential administration, Lázaro Cárdenas was appointed as Military Commander of the Pacific zone and shortly after that he became an executive member of the Balsas Commission and the Tepalcatepec Commission. Lázaro Cárdenas supports the democratic leaders of the Latin-American countries. Fidel Castro in Cuba, Jacobo Árbenz in Guatemala, Ernesto Che Guevara in Bolivia and Salvador Allende in Chile.

Lázaro Cárdenas dies on October 19, 1970 in Mexico City.

Ambiance areas

There are four ambiance areas distributed throughout the Museum that exhibit objects donated by people from Jiquilpan and the surrounding region, to provide visitors with an idea of the objects in use during Lázaro Cárdenas' lifetime.



Opening Hours:
Tuesday -Friday: 09:00 to 14:00
16:00 to 19:00 h
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Guided visits: Tuesdays - Fridays *by appointment*

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Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Coordinación de Humanidades

Unidad Académica de Estudios Regionales (UAER)

MUSEUM *Life and Work of* **Lázaro Cárdenas del Río**

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Brief guide to the Museum

The Museum depicts General Lázaro Cárdenas' biography from the time of his birth, in 1895, until his death in 1970. The intention is to foster public awareness of his political and social life; that is to say, to provide an historical overview of his personality within the domestic and international context of his lifetime. Accordingly, the exhibition was structured into panels that are divided into three levels: the upper section shows international events for the period, the middle section shows Cárdenas' biographical developments at the time, and the bottom section shows national events. This provides the visitor a wide-angled vision of the most important domestic and international events occurring during his lifetime, and also highlights those in which he played a significant role. The panels cover seven periods:



FIRST PERIOD (1895 to 1913)

At the international level imperialism is expanding worldwide while widespread industrialization of the European developed countries is taking place. This is the time of Lázaro Cárdenas' early childhood and adolescence in Jiquilpan, early school years and his first job in the revenue office.

Domestically, life under the dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz is shown: the workers and farm laborers' dire life and working conditions and control over the country's

resources that were in the hands of foreign capitalists. This unfair state of affairs fostered popular uprisings: the miners in Cananea, state of Sonora went on strike, the Flores Magón brothers created the *magonista* movement and were precursors of the Mexican Revolution. In Puebla, the Serdán brothers involvement was uncovered two days before November 20, when the revolutionary movement erupted. Francisco I. Madero was elected by popular vote to the presidency in 1911. Victoriano Huerta usurped political power in 1913 and had President Madero assassinated. Venustiano Carranza's forces took over power and banished Huerta from the country.

SECOND PERIOD (1913 to 1916)



Lázaro Cárdenas joins the revolutionary forces under the command of Guillermo García Aragón, in the region known as *Tierra Caliente*. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel for his performance in the field during these first military campaigns.

Throughout the country the revolutionary forces group together under agrarian and popular leaders: *Villistas* under Villa, *Carrancistas* under Carranza and *Zapatistas* under Zapata.

THIRD PERIOD (1917 to 1928)

World War I comes to an end. In Asia and Eastern Europe popular movements arise that bring about the fall of the monarchy and the establishment of the First Republic in China, under the government of the Chinese leader Sun-Yat-Sen, while in Russia the tsarist regime falls and the socialist system is established as a result of the Russian revolution of 1917, led by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and Leon Trotsky.

During this time Lázaro Cárdenas rose to the rank of general for merits earned in campaign and was appointed as Head of Military Operations in the Huasteca region.



In Mexico a Democratic Republic is established under the 1917 Constitution. The succeeding administrations under presidents Venustiano Carranza, Álvaro Obregón and Plutarco Elías Calles ensued from 1917 to 1928.

FOURTH PERIOD (1929 to 1932)

At this time major movements in Latin America arose against United States imperialism. In Nicaragua the leader at the head of the anti-imperialist drive was César Augusto Sandino. In 1929 the great economic recession and widespread unemployment hit the United States.

Lázaro Cárdenas is elected as Governor of the state of Michoacán. He participated in the federal anticlerical war campaign, during the uprising known as the *rebelión cristera*, in Michoacán. His contribution to the pacification of the state was outstanding, since he was able to bring the *cristero* rebels led by Simón Cortés, to deposit their arms without bloodshed and accept the amnesty offered by the government.

The Mexican president during this period was Emilio Portes Gil, and José Vasconcelos and Pascual Ortiz Rubio were conducting active campaigns as candidates to the presidency.



FIFTH PERIOD (1933 to 1934)

European countries were experiencing major political crises during these years. The German and Italian powers embarked upon intense militarization processes. In India, Mahatma Gandhi was leading the peaceful fight for independence of India from British dominance.

At this time, Lázaro Cárdenas becomes the Minister of War and the National Revolutionary Party launches his campaign as candidate to the presidency. During this period, known as the "*maximato callista*" Pascual Ortiz Rubio and Abelardo L. Rodríguez were presidents of the Republic.



SIXTH PERIOD (1935 to 1940)

World War II breaks out in Europe. Haile Selassie, the Ethiopian emperor is overthrown. Francisco Franco, with the support of the Fascist regimes of Germany and Italy, leads the fight against the Second Spanish Republic.

This was the time of General Lázaro Cárdenas' administration. Mexico opens the door to the refugees from the Spanish civil war. Asylum is also granted to the Soviet leader Leon Trotsky. Land reform goes forward, and the oil expropriation is promulgated. Mexico's foreign policy espouses free self-determination for all countries.

Forest reserves and national parks are created around the country. The First Inter-American Congress for Indigenous People is organized. The National Polytechnic Institute is created in 1937 and also the Workers' Education Department. Rural normal schools and the National School for Teachers are reorganized. The Department of Artistic, Archeological and Historical Monuments becomes the National Institute of Anthropology and History.

