

1542 - Father Bartólome De Las Casas writes "A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies," in which he vividly documents the atrocities inflicted on the indigenous populations. The manuscript is not published until 1552, and it remains in print to this day.

March 16 1826. Francisco Agüero y Velazco and Andrés Manuel Sánchez are executed in Puerto Príncipe for opposing the Spanish empire's control over Cuba, becoming the first martyrs of the independence movement.



Rebel rhetoric and ideology always emphasized an anti-racist agenda, and this became part of the Cuban identity that eventually went to war against Spain.















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Spaniards arrive in the New World | Carlos Manuel de Céspedes | Students executed in 1871 | Maximo Gómez | Martí | Maceo | The USS Maine in Havana harbor, 1898

Tainos in Cuba | Spaniards Arrive | Hatuey burned | Diego Velasquez | Map of Cuba | Father Felix Varela | José María Heredia (top) | Narciso López | Carlos Manuel de Céspedes | Antonio Maceo (standing) | Calíxto García | Spanish General Martinez Campos | Flor Crombet (top) | Martí & Maceo (standing) | Mambises | Maceo Crossing the Trocha | Maximo Gomez fighting on horseback (top) | Spanish General Weyler | Death of Maceo