Story, Dale

Mexican Politics--INTRODUCTION

- Overview: Economics, Demographics, Politics
    - [British Foreign Office](#)
    - BBC
        - [Country Overview](#)
        - [Timeline](#)
    - [Timelines.org.uk](#)
    - [Mexicanhistory.org](#)
    - [CIA World Fact Book](#)
    - [Library of Congress](#)
    - Current President: Enrique Peña Nieto (PRI)
    - Parties: PRI, PRD, PAN
- Geography
    - Area—3rd largest in Latin America; 14th largest in the world
    - [Map](#)
        - [States](#)
        - [Copper Canyon](#)
            - [Tarahumara Indians—ultra-runners](#)
            - [Tarahumara Indians—surviving modernity?](#)
            - [Tarahumara Indians—endangered?](#)
            - [Born to Run](#)
    - Geography: includes high, rugged mountains; low coastal plains; high plateaus; rain forests; and deserts.
    - Population: size, primate cities, growth
        - 1988 = 85 mn. 2011= 113 mn.
        - Mexico City (Distrito Federal—D.F.) = 20 mn. Third largest in the world.
        - Mexico City, Monterrey, Guadalajara = 25% of total
        - Population growth: 3.4% annual in 1960s, 2.0% annual in 1986, 1.1% annual in 2011. Became 50% urban in 1960. 77% urban in 2008.
    - Centralization: political, economic, population, cultural
    - Poverty in Mexico
        - [Data](#)
        - [Nezahualcoyotl](#)
        - [Garbage People](#)
    - 32 federal entities (31 states & DF).
    - Informal regions:
        - North - close to U.S. border - independent - U.S. influenced. Monterrey closer to San Antonio than Mexico City.
        - Center North - torn between North and Center.
        - Center - D.F.
        - West – Guadalajara
        - East - Vera Cruz
        - Southeast – Yucatan

- South - rural, poorest
  - 2000 mile border with U.S. Southern border with Belize and Guatemala
  - Natural resources: minerals: silver, gold, oil
  - Ethnicities, language, religion, assimilation
    - Indigenous - many and varied - Aztec and Mayan most well known.
      - National Museum of Anthropology
      - Dance of the Deer (Ballet Folklorico)
      - Malinche - Cortes' Indian mistress - bore him a son - viewed as treasonous today in folklore.
      - Prophecy of Quetzacoatl
        - Diego Rivera
      - Moctezuma and Cortes
      - Cuauhtemoc
      - Tenochitlan
    - European
    - Black
    - Mestizo
  - Religion. Catholic (90%--but practicing?). Secular state
  - Development goals
    - Political stability & democracy
    - Economic growth & equity
    - Data