SEM 1-2 Chapter Analysis Assignment Andrade

Sem1-2 Textbook Chapter Analysis

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I understood the chapters to be about many movements made by many scholars and/or explorers, such as the Romans, the Europeans, and the Spaniards, coming over into the native Mexican lands bringing forth teaching of faiths, resources and invasion/conquests. There are also readings of complications with shortcomings like disease, murder, slavery, and other many terrible mayhems. However, I believe what I had concluded is that the Mexican heritage only grew richer with an influence on the United States having one of the largest Catholic and largest Spanish-speaking population in the world. When it came to the settlement of Mexico, the atrocity of Acoma was devastating. For a total of 800 civilians to either die in cold blood, one foot cut off or sold into slavery is just thoughts of inhumane torture, especially for the children, so it would seem.

When I further read and researched into the expeditions among certain famous or not so famous explorers, such as Columbus, I found it quite interesting that most of the textbooks or history told by many say he discovered America. However, when one point was made out that how he could have “discovered” America when there were already so many citizens and people making a life on these lands he so-called discovered? That was one of the most mind-shocking statements I have never truly thought about till after reading this book or researching this subject matter.

Before reading this book, I knew nothing. So at first and right now juggling my capstone project in another language and deadlines around every corner in such short times, there is a lot of information from both sides of cultures to analyze and study. As I read on through the readings of “Mexicanos” and internet search of further subjects, I felt it would get more and more difficult to understand in detail everything completely. To some truth, yes; but I have to admit, as hard and over-whelming these first few weeks had been, I have gotten interested into a new culture I never had thought I would have at this time in my life. I am not sure how to feel about his historical portrayal upon this book. When I read this book, I am not only flooded with facts and history of a new culture, yet I am feeling weighted down and depressed for what these people had gone through. I feel each I turn I have either read about death, murder, disease, failure, hostility and torture. I do know that as I read the book, I feel he may be bias in some of the scripts within the writing.

I think he sounds legitimate and accurate on his view of the Mesoamericans. There are times within the books that relates to how the Native Americans or Indians have suffered beyond compare to be where they are now in history. Although, I think the bias is only when there is a great advantage on an explorer’s conquest or no advantage climatically fused within the next period or expedition that he explains.