



Fernando VII, 1808 oath. During the colony the image of the king symbolized monarchy and its domains, as well as its political and religious power, as there was no representation of the territory and its inhabitants. The Oath was the ceremony of acceptance of a new monarch as he ascended to the throne. When Fernando VII was deposed by the French invader José I Bonaparte (March 1808), the American people showed their loyalty to the crown with the Royal Oath. During the celebration medals with the king's profile were distributed.

Anverso • 1819 • ø 41 mm • Ceca Bogotá • Acuñación en plata de vellón • Museo Nacional de Colombia



Obverse of a coin known as Chipi-Chipi. America is represented in an Indian woman profile printed over the Spanish Coin. This allegory of America was known as *La india de la libertad*. It appeared also in Cartagena's first currency, and in Cundinamarca's provincial currency, created during Nariño's presidential period.

Anverso • 1819 • ø 24 mm • Ceca Bogotá • Acuñación en plata de vellón • Museo Nacional de Colombia



Peso colombiano. "Colombian gold coins will have the bust of freedom wearing a roman suit and a head lace with the word Freedom inscribed, and the words República de Colombia written along the circumference". (Public Law, October 16th, 1821).

Moneda de un peso • 1826 • ø 14.5 mm • Ceca de Bogotá • Acuñación en oro • Museo Nacional de Colombia



2 / What symbol represents freedom?

This obelisk, drawn by Nariño had the phrase *Libertas nullo venditur auro* (Freedom won't be sold not even for all of the gold in the world). It came up for the first time at Nariño's trial in 1794, when he was accused of diffusing *The rights of man and the citizen*. This image was condemned by the Spanish crown.



Obelisco en conmemoración a los 150 años de la muerte de Antonio Nariño • 1973 • Piedra tallada • Museo de la Independencia - Casa del Florero

DURING THE INDEPENDENCE PERIOD, royal Spanish imagery was replaced for that of the republic, thus new imagery was created, like national shields and flags.

New images displayed ideologies, aspirations and projects of political transformation. The allegory of freedom is the symbol for rejection of the Spanish king.

Between 1810 and 1830 the republican symbols were represented in different ways, and Spanish symbols were replaced by those of the republic.

Which would be the symbol of freedom today?

CONSTITUCION DEL ESTADO DE CARTAGENA DE INDIAS SANCIONADA

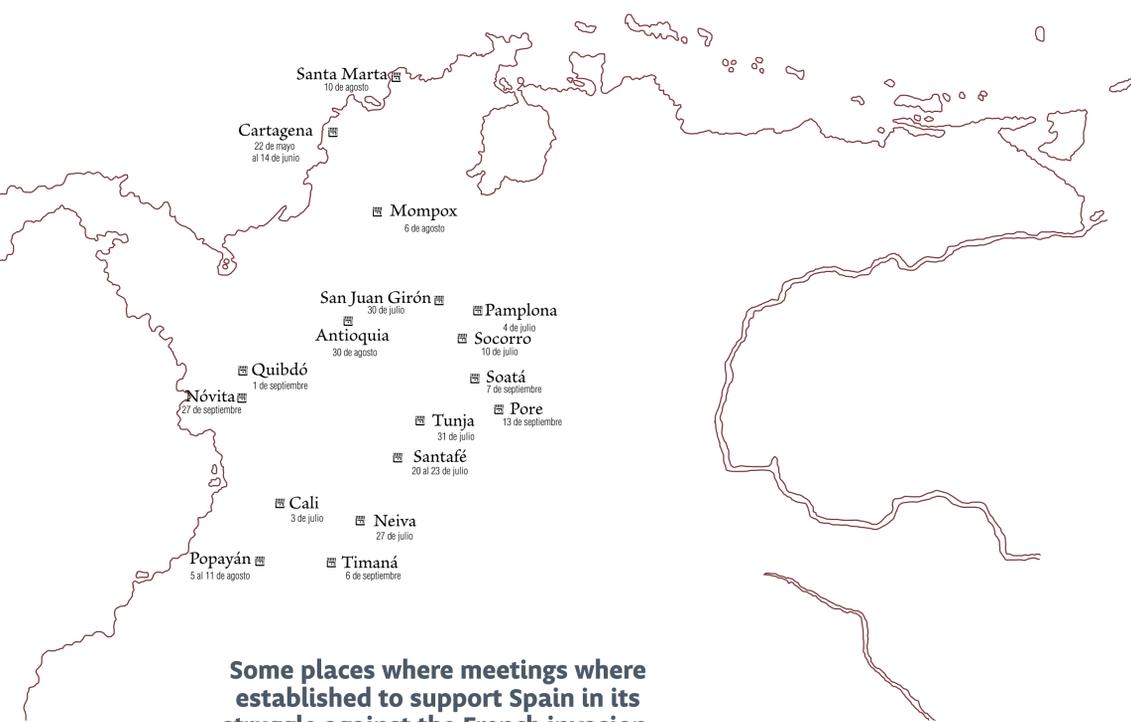
En 14. de Junio del año de 1812. Segundo de su Independencia.



CARTAGENA DE INDIAS: EN LA IMPRENTA DEL CIUDADANO DIEGO ESPINOSA

Conflicts between vice regal authorities and local meetings triggered the declaration of absolute Independence in Cartagena on November 11th 1811. America is represented by a woman holding a broken chain.

Portada de la Constitución del Estado de Cartagena de Indias 14 de junio de 1812 • Imprenta de Antonio Espinosa de los Monteros • Biblioteca Nacional de Colombia



Some places where meetings were established to support Spain in its struggle against the French invasion.

During the Independence war (1816-1824), Simon Bolívar was the ideal of freedom itself and could be found in all sorts of allegories, his portrait included. In this painting the image of the military hero was established and replaced that of the civil and political hero. His portrait was commissioned by the Cundinamarca Dignitary Assembly on behalf of his victory at the Puente de Boyacá Battle.

Bolívar Libertador y padre de la Patria • Pedro José Figueroa • 1819 • Óleo sobre tela • Casa Museo Quinta de Bolívar



En -Bolívar- Bolívar SIMÓN BOLÍVAR LIBERTADOR Y PADRE DE LA PATRIA.