A COMISSION FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

(MATERIAL FOR SEGUNDO MEDIO)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Analyze the role of Patricio Aylwin during the process of transition to democracy, considering the recognition of human rights through reparative policies.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Recognize the role played by Patricio Aylwin as president of the transition to democracy.
- Analyze the importance of the recognition of human rights by the State of Chile during the process of transition democracy.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS:

- The activity is designed to take place before, during and after the museum visit. It is suggested to work with the material in pairs or groups, so that they may contrast opinions when analyzing sources.
- Learning objective (Objetivo de aprendizaje (OA in Spanish): OA 20, as stated in the curriculum of the for 2° medio History, Geography, and Social Sciences.
- Historical thinking skill: historical importance.

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BEFORE THE VISIT: THE RETTIG REPORT

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

DATE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

We will now review the relevance of the Rettig Report by the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, for the transition to democracy in Chile during Patricio Aylwin's administration.

To do so, review the following sources and answer the questions.

1

"(...) establish as complete as possible picture of the serious human rights violations, their background and circumstances; gather information that would allow for the identification of the victims and determine their fate and whereabouts; recommend the measures of reparation or recognition (...) that should be adopted to prevent or avoid the commission of further serious human rights abuses." (Report of the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, p. 1)

Retrieved from: https://bibliotecadigital.indh.cl/server/api/core/bitstreams/7b2a0e4e-f308-43e3-b896-4c4acb83b117/content

Considering that the Commission was created during the first democratic government after the military dictatorship, why do you think it was so important to produce this report? Use excerpts from the source in your answer.

_____

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_____

2

"Pinochet had said that he would be alert to ensure that none of his men were touched, but the report of the Rettig Commission had an enormous impact; there were still many who did not believe that truth, and it was like officially confirming it. Then came other steps, and the fact is that we advanced in truth and justice more than many other transitions." (Interview with Patricio Aylwin, January 23, 2012)

Retrieved from: https://fundacionaylwin.cl/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2.-Entrevista-con-Patricio-Aylwin.pdf)

Considering the source and the historical context of the transition, how do you think Patricio Aylwin felt about promoting the preparation of this report? What do you think his expectations were? Use excerpts from the source to support your answer.



DURING THE VISIT: THE DELIVERY OF THE RETTIG REPORT

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

DATE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

In exhibition room 2, look for the photograph where President Aylwin receives the report prepared by the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation from the hands of Raúl Rettig. Considering the work done prior to the visit and the content of this source, answer:



1. Provide a description of the scene (components, attitude of the characters).

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2. What significance do you think the public delivery of the report had for President Aylwin, for the victims of human rights violations, and for the country?

"In the Pisagua Prison Camp, all detainees were interrogated, and all interrogations were preceded or accompanied by beatings and the application of electricity. Daily, some detainees were chosen for degrading treatment (...) At the end of an interrogation day, twenty or thirty prisoners who had undergone it were often left lying in the open air for up to 48 hours, under the daytime heat and the nightly cold..." (Report of the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, p. 99) https://bibliotecadigital.indh.cl/server/api/core/bitstreams/7b2a0e4e-f308-43e3-b896-4c4acb83b117/content

3. Based on the excerpt from the Rettig Report quoted above and considering the context, what impact do you think it had on Patricio Aylwin and on Chilean society to learn about the findings of the Commission?

AFTER THE VISIT: PATRICIO AYLWIN ASKS FORGIVENESS ON BEHALF OF CHILE

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

DATE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

Review the excerpt “Patricio Aylwin pide perdón tras leer el Informe Rettig | Yo amo los 90’s | Episode 3”, where you can analyze the impact that the content of the report had.

Retrieved from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iik-boL7WVE&t=1s&ab_channel=Canal13



Next, answer the following questions:

1. Why is the preparation of the report considered one of the first measures of reparation for the human rights violations committed during the dictatorship?

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_____
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2. Why did these measures represent a change at the time and a benefit for democracy?

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3. Using the information obtained during the visit, create a newspaper headline for the context of the transition to democracy. This headline should highlight the impact of the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation at the time.

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EVALUATION GUIDELINE

The following are the evaluation criteria that will guide your responses. Remember to review them each time you answer a question.

Criteria	Description
Transition to democracy	Recognize, relate, and reflect coherently with the historical context regarding the relevance for democracy of the decision made during Patricio Aylwin's government to carry out the preparation of the Rettig Report.
Historical importance	Identify, relate, and reflect coherently with the presented sources regarding the impact generated by the Rettig Report during the transition to democracy.
Source analysis	Describe, compare, and reflect coherently and clearly - based on the content of the historical sources worked on - the relevance of the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation report for the process of transition to democracy.