

## Minutes

In the valley of Aguililla on the first of December eighteen thirty-seven, the chief officers and other citizens who sign this document, [were] gathered together by order of the esteemed colonel Gordiano Guzmán, prior to the appointment of the secretary [the role of] which fell back onto the citizen José María Ramos, the same [Mr.] Guzmán took the floor, and said:

Comrades, and fellow citizens, I have summoned you in order to declare to you that I have escaped from among the beasts, and the steepest mountains abandoning that refuge to pronounce myself in defence of federal institutions, and against the current administration who have ruined everything and the last means we have left to see the peace in the Republic which so many of us crave achieved is in consideration of:

1. [The fact that] what destroyed the federal system which governed the fate of the Republic since eighteen-hundred and twenty-four, destroyed social rights along with it, and the people have experienced the most atrocious despotism in the name of the central republic, substituting [in] an illegal constitution in which the central system is established, under whose regime the authorities cannot meet the needs of the whole nation.
2. [The fact] that under this system, and as a result of its influence Mexicans' independence has been put in danger, Spanish tyranny provoking discord with the other nations and wearing down the dignity of the Republic through the conclusion of treaties to our government [which are] improper, and in which the inclusion of our old oppressors the Spanish is permitted.
3. That because of [that] same system a considerable portion of Mexican territory has been lost because it could not defend itself from Mexico's centre of government.
4. That for the same reason the Republican army has been destroyed by employing it in dispersed expeditions.
5. That the public treasury has been made the inheritance of a few enemies of our freedom leaving those worthy [people] who have given positive services to the homeland to perish without assistance.
6. That to fulfil the insatiable greed of those [enemies] laws destructive to property have been put into effect, attacking every livelihood.
7. And finally that neither in those same laws nor by the agents of the government are personal rights which are attacked in every way with impunity respected, promoting the persecution of the citizens and their interests [and] bearing no more fruit than the misery arbitrariness, grief and terror which all the people receive from the leaders of Mexico for such reasons I have resolved to reveal to you [for you to] consider the plan which must be proclaimed with or without your help, to which end I withdraw so that you can be well-convinced to act freely, since the plan is the following, the chief officers and other citizens asked the esteemed colonel to stay still and requested Mr. Ramos to read the plan to them, and having done so they explained: "Colonel we are persuaded by the sublime patriotic and liberal ideas, which you have always been gifted with we are satisfied of your honour and resolve in your political life, we know the justice of the plan, the good sense in your articles, and that there is no other judgement [to be made] in order to contain such insupportable calamity in which all the people of Mexico are oppressed by a few foreign Mexicans, we proclaim, and we swear, upon our honour to uphold it with our blood, and tie our fortune to that of a republican leader who after a long time will give the nation a day of glory."

Mr Guzmán immediately stood, embraced the senior officers, and fellow citizens, and when his joy permitted him to speak gave his thanks and concluded with these words: “Friends, may Divine Providence protect our endeavour which has no purpose other than to preserve the order of freedom, and may the nation say that the light which in other ages maintained freedom repeats again in south Jalisco.”

Thus concludes this record which is signed by the aforementioned colonel, the chief officers, and officials, and the nominated secretary; Gordiano Guzmán; on behalf of the civic captains, Rafael Reyes; on behalf of the lieutenants, Antonio Moret; on behalf of the second lieutenants, Pablo Benites; on behalf of the sergeants Dionicio Hernández; citizens: Guadalupe Marques, Eduardo Padilla, Vicente García, Raimundo Flores, Tiburcio Flores, León Escudillo, Nicolás Sauseda, Antonio Resendes, Francisco Monroy, Antonio Calderón, Antonio Días, Juan Senteños, Doroteo Hernández, Eugenio Cerrero, Teodoro [ilegible], Miguel Canuto, Teodoro Valencia, Manuel Álvarez, Irineo Camargo, Ildefonso Ibáñez, José María Ramos, and about thirty individuals who did not know how to sign.

This is a copy which I certify is taken from the original. José María Ramos, secretary.

The following plan is that which the [military] division I command has adopted today.

#### [The] Plan

Art.1: The current administration which has governed the Mexican Republic is unrecognised until it freely and in conformity with the federal constitution of eighteen-hundred and twenty-four, names its respective authorities.

Art. 2: The federal system is re-established in conformity with the constitution of eighteen-hundred and twenty-four.

Art.3: The states which are adopting this plan, will enforce their respective constitutions from then, putting into operation the authorities who had occupied their posts at the time of the declaration of the ill-fated Cuernavaca Plan in their respective states, whose civil servants will immediately proceed to issue a call for the reunion of the respective legislatures.

Art.4: As [will also happen for] all the taxes that the Mexican government has imposed, whatever the name or object.

Art. 5: As the leading generals and officials of the army declare themselves the [one who is] the highest-ranking, and who meets the requirements to become a member of the federal system will be recognised as general in chief.

Art. 6: The chief officers, and troops of the standing and active army, who adopt this plan will be provisionally awarded with promotions and ranks by the general in chief while the supreme powers of the nation are set up.

Art. 7: The civilians who serve in the federal army will be paid as the respective authorities [see fit] according to the merit they accrue from the prior recommendation of the general in chief.

Art. 8: Arms will not be set down until supreme general powers are established [and] the nation finds itself enjoying perfect freedom.

Art. 9: The salaries of the standing [and] active troops, and citizens who declare themselves [in support of] this plan, will be paid in full; and also the campaign bonus while it lasts.

The free camps above Aguililla. December 1<sup>st</sup> 1837.

Gordiano Guzmán