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Quito flag

Read the next text:

History and origin of the flag of Quito

The flag of Quito is composed of the **city shield** and a **background with three vertical stripes.** Two of them in color **blue** and the central color **Red**. This is a very representative civic symbol of the city, along with the coat of arms and the hymn.

Regarding the **origin of the flag** of the city, the first of which there is evidence dates from **May 17, 1944**. It was by order of the**city Council** the creation of a flag representing the City of San Francisco de Quito.

At that time, the shades of red and blue in the background were quite different from the current ones and in the center of the flag there was not the coat of arms but simply a castle. This had a wide meaning and made reference to the strength, the nobility and the loyalty of the inhabitants of Quito. Years later,**in 1974**, the official tones that we see today were chosen. They became «**gules**»(In heraldry, bright red color) and "**azure**»(In heraldry, deep blue color) and **the castle was exchanged for the coat of arms of the city**.

The **February 19, 2014**, the **Article number 2 of the Ordinance related to the symbols of Quito** establishes that the coat of arms must always be in the design of the flag. This will have to be under the standards defined by the Royal Decree of the**May 14, 1541,** in which the **King Charles V** describe said civic symbol to your liking.

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Meaning of the flag of Quito

Regarding the design of the Quito flag, it is divided into **three vertical stripes** The two outer ones being blue and the inner, wider one, red. It is said that the**color blue** represents the sky of Quito and the **Red color** the blood of its inhabitants.

• The shield of the city represented in the center of it, in this one highlights a **Castle** that shows the values of the inhabitants of Quito: **loyalty, honor, strength**... At the top end of the pole hangs a **san francisco gold colored cord** surrounding the shield.

Through the center of the shield, apart from the castle in silver colors and fortified with three towers, we see **two mountains** in the same tone with a green door each.

• These mountains do **reference to the mountain range on which the city is located** Quito. On the castle he perches a **golden latin cross** with their green foot, from where they hold with their claws **two black eagles**.

Finally the shield goes **stamped by a helmet** with the crest composed of gules and azure feathers. Also, the shield is**adorned by feathers** at each of the upper ends, as well as a quatrefoil on each of the central sides from where **hang a bunch of fruits**. In addition, the shield that forms this flag**was decorated with flowers, laurels** and other floral motifs representing the vegetation of the Quito territory.

Choose the right answer:

1) What did the 1944 Quito flag have in the center?

to. A castle

b. San Francisco Gold Color Cord

c. The weapon shield

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2) What color does the sky of Quito represent?

to. Red

b. Blue

c. Yellow

3) What does the castle in the center of the shield represent?

to. The Andes Mountains

b. Loyalty, honor and strength

c. The royalty

4) What does a helmet with a crest made of feathers mean?

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to. An animal with feathers on its head

b. A feather duster

c. TOAncient armor that covers and protects the head and face

In the following video we can hear the **anthem** of the same composed of **Fray Bernardino Echeverría** and **Fray Agustín de Azkúnaga** in July of the year **1944**.

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THE HYMN TO QUITO: IDENTITY WITH THE FREEDOM REVOLUTION

Juan J. Paz and Miño Cepeda
Historian - Chronicler of the City

The Hymn to Quito was written by **Fray Bernardino Echeverría** and the music was composed by **Fray Agustín de Azkúnaga**, in 1944. The text of the Hymn has a Chorus and **six stanzas**. Each stanza represents something in the process of the city's history. The **Chorus** introduces an exaltation to Quito and that is why he speaks of "Glory to you", that our breasts "greet you immortal city" and recognize in the city "in your very noble and loyal history." Then the**first stanza** alludes to Quito on the slopes of the Pichincha. The**second** It recognizes Quito as an Andean city with that double Spanish and aboriginal aspect and that is why it says "Because Atahualpa made you, you are great, and also because Spain loved you." The**third**, alludes to Quito's culture and its heroes. The**quarter** it says, exactly: "When all America slept, / oh very Noble City was You, / the one that, in a new and triumphant rebellion, / was the light of all America." Here clearly refers to the Quito Revolution of August 10, 1809, pioneer in starting the process of independence when the rest of America was still under colonial rule, that is, "asleep." Quito was called, precisely in Chile, at the initiative of Fray Camilo Henríquez, the city "Light of America", because it is the one that started the fight for freedom. The**fifth stanza** recognizes another feat of Quito, which is the discovery of the Amazon, a river that is incorporated into the Quito and Ecuadorian identity; and finally the**sixth stanza** recognizes the historical trajectory of Quito as the basis of "the glory" of its present and its "faith."

The Quito Revolution lasted between 1808 and 1812, and the independence process only culminated on May 24, 1822, with the Battle of Pichincha.

DATA:

The Hymn to Quito is composed of 1 Choir and 6 stanzas. In most acts it is performed in full, in fast acts the chorus is sung along with stanza I and IV.

Answers:

1) **Why** Are we considered the "Light of America"?

_____
_____
_____

2) **That** stanza is what you like the most and **Explain** the why?

_____
_____
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