

Comunero Movement *Plan de Capitulaciones*
presented to the Governor's
peace commission at Zipaquirá (5 June 1781)

1. That it has to come to an end in the whole branch of the Royal Treasury called Barlovento, so perpetually, that such a name will never be heard again.
4. That the sealed paper [used for legal purposes], attentive to the misery to which this Kingdom is constituted, only remains current the sheet of half real for ecclesiastics, religious, Indians and poor, and the sheet of two reales for the titles and litigants of people of some comfort, and not another of any stamp.
9. That the alcabala [sales tax], from now on forever, will not continue to be collected on all the edible fruits, and of only two percent of the income generated by the Castile [trade], canvas, blankets, cocoa, sugar, preserves, tobacco, horses, sales of land, houses, cattle and other trade; and cotton is exempted from this tax, because it is the plant that only the poor sow and harvest and we ask that this be established by general point.
16. That having been the motivating cause of the circular disgusts of this New Kingdom and that of Lima, the imprudent conduct of the Visitors [new officials sent out under the Bourbon Reforms], they wanted to squeeze blood from a stone and terrify to the extreme with their despotic conduct... Don Juan Francisco Gutierrez de Piñeres, Visitor of this Real Audiencia, ... in which our Catholic Monarch, with reflection to the results of his overriding operations, will arrange what corresponds to his person, and that never ever send us such an official, or people who send us and treat with such rigor and imprudence, because whenever another such treat us, we will join the whole Kingdom, bound and confederated, to tackle any oppression that again for any title or cause we are trying to do.
17. That the people of Socorro ask that in those towns there be a Corregidor of Greater Justice, to whom the salary of one thousand pesos is given each year, and that in this there is no jurisdiction of the capital of Tunja [a province in the interior of New Granada], provided that those who practice this job must be Creoles born in this Kingdom, without claiming primacy of either of these towns, but dwell in one of the two, which are San Gil and Socorro.
22. That in the first, second and third level jobs, the nationals of this America must be placed before and privileged to the Europeans, because they daily manifest the antipathy that they maintain against the people of this country, but that it suffices to reconcile them the corresponding will, since they are ignorantly believing that they are the masters, and the Americans all without exception their inferior servants; and so that this blind discourse may be perpetuated, only in case of necessity, according to their ability, good inclination and adherence to the Americans, can they be equally occupied, as that all of us who are subject to the same King and Lord must live in solidarity; and to the one who will try to master and anticipate more than what corresponds to equality, by the same fact be separated from our sociability.