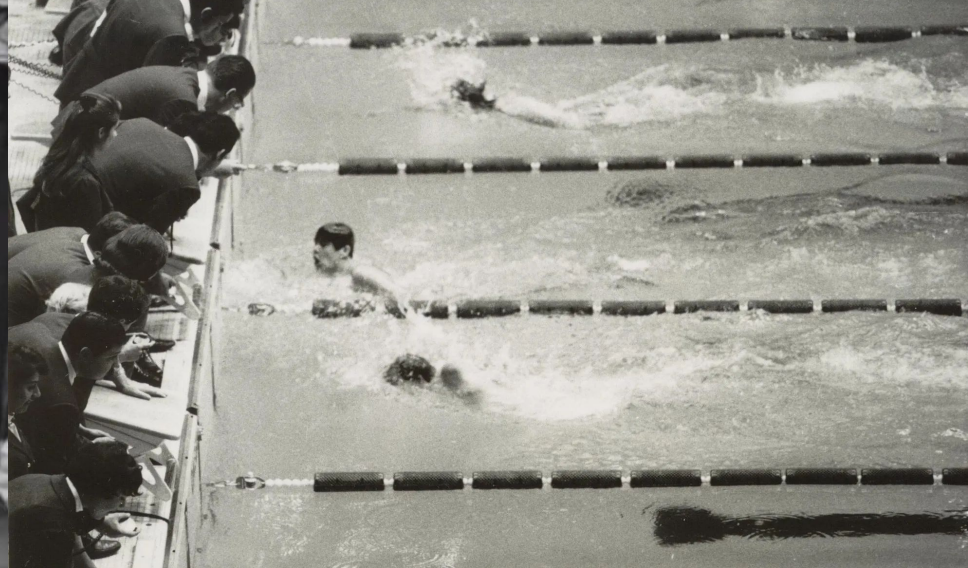


# National Politics Forged Through International Competition

How Mexican Presidents Have  
Used Olympic Performance to  
Shape Proprietary Political  
Comments



# 1968: An Unlikely Celebration

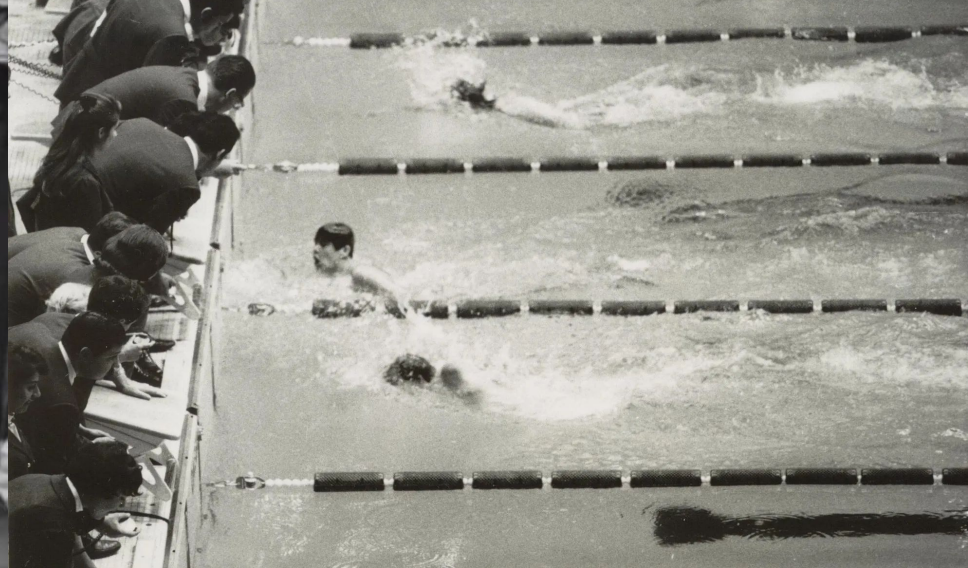




# 20 Days Before: The Massacre of Tlatelolco



# 1968: An Unlikely Celebration



The background of the image features the five Olympic rings, which are rendered in a faded, semi-transparent style. The rings are arranged in their standard interlocking pattern. The colors of the rings, from left to right, are blue, yellow, black, green, and red. The text is centered over these rings.

Throughout Mexican history, presidents have used the Olympics to paint a false picture of the political state of the country and silence their critics.

# Chronological Outline

1968: Significant socio-political year under Gustavo Diaz Ordaz

1992: Significant Olympic performance year under Carlos Salinas de Gortari

2020: Significant economic year under Andrés Manuel López Obrador

# 1968: Gustavo Diaz Ordaz :: 1968 Mexico City

- Massacre of Tlateloco
- Opening of the Games: “La Olimpiada de la Paz”
- Closing Statements of the Games





# 1992: Carlos Salinas de Gortari :: 1992 Barcelona

- Good public opinion in 1992, but it started to change throughout his presidency
- Expansion of CONADE (Comisión Nacional de Cultura Física y Deporte)
- Expectations for the Mexican Delegation in 1992
- Carlos Mercenario, the only silver medal of the Olympics
- Comments to Mercenario after his win





# 2020: Andrés Manuel López Obrador :: 2021 Tokyo

- Coronavirus in Mexico and AMLO's handling of the situation
- Reallocation of government funds away from sports
- Mexican performance in the 2020 Tokyo Games
- Press conference about country celebration of the Mexican victories



# Critiques of these Presidents

- Each president has faced critics who have accused them of not being fully loyal to Mexico or their Mexican nationality
  - Diaz Ordaz share of ideals with the U.S.
  - Salinas trade-promoting deals in NAFTA and others
  - AMLO handling of COVID and relations with the U.S.
- Each needed a way to silence their critics and prove loyalty through national celebration

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