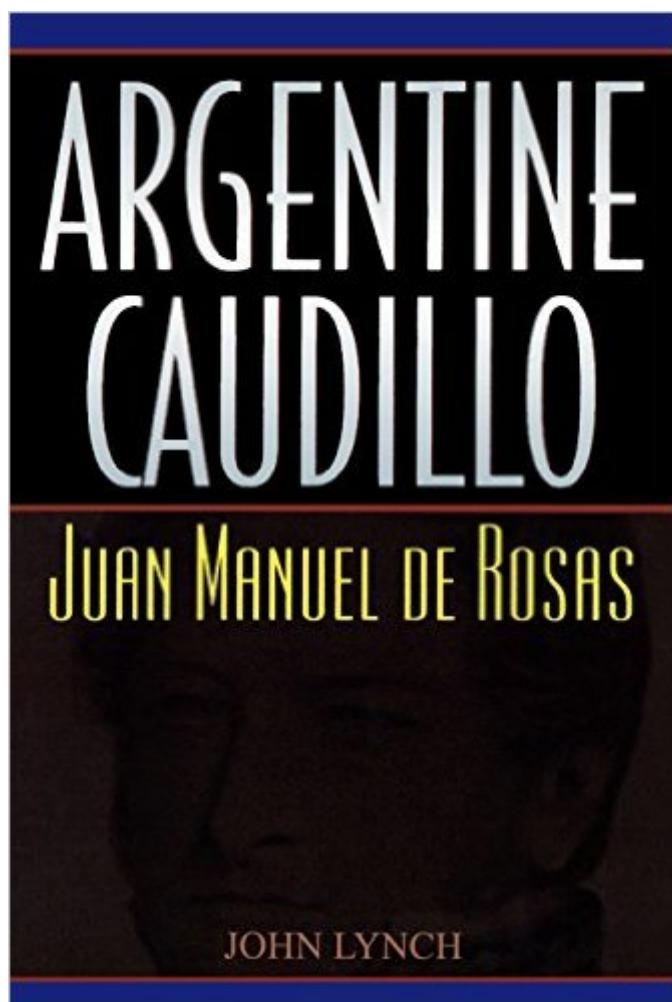


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# Argentine Caudillo: Juan Manuel De Rosas (Latin American Silhouettes)



## **Synopsis**

Argentine Caudillo: Juan Manuel de Rosas, is John Lynch's new edition of his 1981 book, which is now out of print. The original has been shortened, making it well-suited for classroom use. The figure of Juan Manuel de Rosas dominates the history of Argentina in the first half of the nineteenth century. Charles Darwin, who met him on campaign against the Indians, described him as "a man of extraordinary character," the lord of vast estates and, for over twenty years, absolute ruler of Buenos Aires and its province. The present book studies the forces which made and sustained Rosas, and examines through him the roots of the caudillo tradition in Argentina. It reconstructs the world of great estates and the rise to power of their proprietors, establishing the relation of patron and client, of master and peon, the basis of political allegiance at that time. Argentine Caudillo follows the career of Rosas as a classical caudillo, who rescued his people from fear and anarchy and delivered them into the hands of a great dictatorship. Leader of the gauchos, yet representative too of the powerful landed proprietors and cattle exporters, Rosas established an early prototype of a totalitarian state and employed systematic terror to defend his rule. The book helps to elucidate the concept and practice of caudillismo, or personal dictatorship, in the Hispanic world, and the use of violence to seize and defend power. It does this against a backdrop of transition from colony to independence, and then from anarchy to absolutism. Argentine Caudillo provides a detailed study of the use of state terror as an instrument of policy, one of the few such studies for any period of Latin American history. There is no book which duplicates this work either inside Argentina or outside. In Argentina, Rosas has become a subject of fierce controversy, partly because of his nationalism, partly because of his reign of terror. Consequently, while there is a vast bibliography on Rosas, much of it is polemical and

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

John Lynch is a master in whatever he presents and this book is no exception. Rosas was the strongman of Argentina and unified the country during his reign. Lynch not only assesses the idea of a Caudillo and the cult of personality that leads to their power. If you are starting out in Latin American history this is an excellent place to start. This book will take you through the unification of Argentina and lay the framework for one of the most important parts of Latin America. The book is very well written and like all of his stays on target.

Rosas was the leader of Argentina from around 1830 to the early 1850's. He ran the country with an iron fist, which included death squads. This is a basic bio of his life that did not go into great detail as to what made him do what he did on a local, national or international level. During this time there were two main groups, the Federalists and the Unitarianists. Rosas was a Federalist and wanted to keep Argentina a loose federation of states with Buenos Aires as the entire power base and the rest of the country as colonies or weak provinces. By the early 1850's his power eroded and his base left him and he was forced to flee to Great Britain where he spent the remaining 25 years of his life working on his farm. An ok bio, not great and not in-depth.

An excellent book, in perfect shape; much better than expected, and much earlier than expected. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thankyou for the textbook, here in a hurry and now I won't be behind in the reading:)

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