

Zapatistas ^[1]

Type of Speech:

noun ^[2]

Definition:

Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN), which launched an uprising in Mexico in 1994. Radicals, the poor, and indigenous rights groups frequently employ the imagery and name of Zapata, who never made claims to national power, but resisted "bad government" regardless of their high minded rhetoric. On January 1, 1994, an insurgent army of Mayas in the state of Chiapas called the EZLN burst onto the scene of Mexican and world politics by launching an uprising. After a few weeks, the fighting was largely halted by a cease-fire, and since that time a series of tense negotiations and occasional military and police action has persisted in Chiapas, Mexico's poorest state. At the time of writing (1999), no one knows how the situation will be resolved.

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