

# UNIDAD EDUCATIVA PARTICULAR JAVIER BACHILLERATO EN CIENCIAS

# MONOGRAPH:

# "THE IMPORTANCE AND CONSEQUENCES OF LEON FEBRES CORDERO'S GOVERNMENT"

# STUDENT:

JOSÉ EMILIO ARÉVALO NUQUES

ADVISER:

LCDO. ANDRES CASTELSS

LCDA. PATRICIA SANCHEZ

THIRD OF BACCALAUREATE - COURSE C

2019 - 2020





# Gratitude

I would like to thank God for giving me life and giving me the opportunity to receive my education. I want to thank my mother for all the effort she has made for me and all the sacrifices she has made to be able to study. A great recognition to the teachers who have supported me and who have given me their disposition in all my years as a student. I would also like to thank my grandfather who takes care of me from heaven and supports me in every decision I have made.



# Summary

The topic on which the monograph to be read is based is about the government of León Febres Cordero. This government becomes important because it is a neoliberal government, which promised a lot from campaigns, giving a good impression from the presidential debate, but over time the methods used by such characters are criticized by different political camps, truth commissions An analysis is made from moments before the elections, which are historic, since they would be the second since democracy was re-established in Ecuador, also in this monograph is emphasizing the military dictatorship of the 70s. In addition, there is a small emphasis on the two previous governments which were preceded by Jaime Roldos Aguilera, and after his death was replaced by Vice President Osvaldo Hurtado, both governments are made an approach, and were considered as "the return to democracy. Sitting more in the government of León Febres Cordero, we analyze his political party and how he managed to win the presidency, we also show the percentages of votes he received in the second round, the problems he faces as: Taura, Restrepo Case, and so on. Not only in the social sphere, but also the economic problems faced by the country, and how to overcome the crisis caused by the "Phenomenon of the Child". How these events marked the history of Ecuador and what were the consequences of such acts against the government. It shows us in depth how the government is accused of having violated human rights, and the charges subsequent to its government faced by León Febres Cordero. The document to be read tries to show us two sides of the coin, since in spite of being a neoliberal government, it shows us the methods that were used to achieve peace and justice, even if human rights had to be violated.



# Index

| Gratitude                         | 11  |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Summary                           | iii |
| Index                             | iv  |
| Introduction                      | 1   |
| Chapter I                         | 3   |
| The rise of the right to power    | 3   |
| 1.1 Origins                       | 3   |
| 1.1.1 Background                  | 3   |
| 1.2 First years                   | 5   |
| 1.2.1 Economy Problems.           | 5   |
| Chapter II                        | 8   |
| Government Issues                 | 8   |
| 2.1 Problems of Leon's government | 8   |
| 2.1.1 Historical Events.          | 8   |
| Chapter III                       | 15  |
| Link to human rights violation    | 15  |
| 3.1 Post-Governments              | 15  |
| 3.1.1 Accusations.                | 15  |
| Conclusion                        | 19  |
| Recommendations                   | 21  |
| References                        | 22  |
| Or code                           | 23  |

#### Introduction

The following monographic work is an extensive investigation *on the importance and consequences of Leon Febres Cordero's government*, the same one that tries to make known the importance of this government, and as its neoliberal ideas, they achieved that it marks a "before and after" in the history of the politics of Ecuador. Leon's government lasted 4 years, from 1984 to 1988, and since then there has been much renewal of politics in Ecuador, and how human rights became important in the country.

The subject to be dealt with is of great importance, due to its background, it must be remembered that Ecuador had just returned from democracy, and suffered from several guerrilla attacks, this document clarifies the idea of how this government managed to combat these problems, through methods that were questioned at the time. It is a question of analyzing how this influenced much in the politics of that time, and how it influences until today in the taking of decisions without having major repercussions.

Many authors were used of references, by means of books as for example Eduardo Tamayo in his book "Resistance to authoritarianism". This book is used as most of the references of the monographic work to be read, and most of the quotations as well.

The government of Leon Febres Cordero arrived at an exact moment, it should be noted that Ecuador was only in its first years of regaining democracy, because it lived almost a decade under a military dictatorship, until it decided to call elections, which Jaime Roldos won, but died in a plane crash. Ecuador was also experiencing tense moments due to the guerrillas that were in the streets of the city of Guayaquil and Quito.

It is worth mentioning that in 2008, the government of former President Rafael Correa created a Truth Commission, expressly to find out the events that occurred since 1984, from the Commission hundreds of cases of torture were denounced, as well as dozens of

disappearances of people who were linked to guerrillas or could be a future threat to the State or to the peace of the citizenry at that time that is spoken of in the text to be read.

# Chapter I

# The rise of the right to power

# 1.1 Origins

# 1.1.1 Background

# 1.1.1.1 Previous governments.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s there had been a great alternation of governments with different ideologies. In the decade of the 70s Ecuador went through a military dictatorship which was led by General Guillermo Lara, soon after this dictatorship became a triumvirate, this hard around 7 years, the same that decided to end it for the good of the people. After this "controversial" government, democracy managed to return in a tight election which had as its main opponents Sixto Duran Ballén and Jaime Roldos Aguilera. Roldos emphasized the previous government and how the votes were handled, all this through a debate that was transmitted live, prior to the elections. Remaining words for history, quoted by Roldos (1978), "In Ecuador this electoral process controlled by the dictatorship, led by the dictatorship, (...). That is to say an absolute control of the dictatorship of the process".

After the triumph of Roldos by the party Concentration of Popular Forces in the elections, he was named president of Ecuador, but this position only lasted 2 years, this ex-president suffered an air accident which made him lose his life together with his wife. After this accident, the vice-president in charge, Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea, assumed the presidency as successor of Roldos, a post he held until 1984, when new elections were to take place.

# 1.1.1.2 Country's status life in that moment.

Ecuador was going through a difficult time when referring to the social and political state in which they were, we must remember that Ecuadorians came from living a military dictatorship for almost 8 years, which was a radical change in the social field by the

"curfews" and the little citizen participation at that time, also by not having electoral elections that allow an alternation of government. All the changes previously mentioned were important to define the type of life that Ecuadorians had, after this dictatorship came to an end through a schedule that defined the return to democracy. It could be said that it breathed a "new" air, soon after elections were called to define who would be the next president in charge, except that these elections were prohibited the participation of former presidents among those José María Velasco Ibarra, Carlos Julio Arosemena, among others.

In the economic sphere, the country was going through a great debt that the military dictatorship of Guillermo Lara or better known as triumvirate had left behind. At first the country went through an oil dependency which served as financing for 45% of public expenditures until 1983. On the one hand the price of oil had fallen, but the State assumed a new economic plan which was going to support the industry with high import taxes. These changes increased the number of jobs from 97,348 to 255,314.

#### 1.1.1.3 Previous elections.

In 1984, presidential elections were held to find out who was going to be the successor of the then outgoing president Osvaldo Hurtado. For these elections two rounds were held; the first was on January 29, and the second round was on May 6. Nine was the number of presidential binomials that ran and appeared on the ballot that Sunday, January 29, but the eyes were on two presidential binomials, which were formed by León Febres Cordero-Blasco Peñaherrera (National Reconstruction Front), and on the other side was Rodrigo Borja-Aquiles Rigail (Democratic Left).

León's campaign for the first round had a lot of publicity, especially his slogan "Pan, Techo y Empleo" (Bread, Roof and Employment), which caught the attention of Ecuadorians by associating the three needs they most needed. Febres Cordero focused on seeing how the

condition of the citizens could be improved, but for all this he required help from greater foreign investment. For the second round, things changed because León focused more on debating and discrediting the proposals and the lack of preparation of candidate Rodrigo Borja. León (1984) exclaimed, "Learn the basics in economics, through the abundant supply of market mechanisms Dr. Borja, when there are more potatoes, the price of potatoes drops, he understands me; when the price of sugar drops, there is more sugar". This debate was transmitted live which was the help Febres Cordero needed to win the second round.

The first round was won by the Democratic Left party led by Rodrigo Borja with 28.73% (634,327 votes), while in second place was the National Reconstruction Front led by León Febres Cordero with 27.20% (600,563 votes). These results indicated that a second round was going to be held in order to know which binomial was going to be elected. León Febres Cordero won the second round by 3 points, which left him with 51.54% (1, 381,709). This left Rodrigo Borja with 48.46% (1, 299.084), proclaiming León Febres Cordero as the winner.

#### 1.2 First years

# 1.2.1 Economy Problems.

The first 2 years of government Febres Cordero focused on fulfilling his campaign proposals which were to raise wages to improve the lives of citizens, attract foreign investment to reduce foreign debt, among other things. Things began to become difficult when the price of oil fell violently, this made our main source of income to meet the expenses of the state is lost. The delays in the payments to the Central Bank and the increase of the external debt to 7,368.8 million dollars did not contribute much to the economic crisis, but certain efforts made by León managed to extend the payment term of the sucretización from 3 to 7 years, debt that had left the previous government.

The actions taken by Febres Cordero were questioned by his political opponents, and by many citizens because to cover the expenses and debts they had to pay he had to increase the prices of gasoline, 19 agricultural products and only in the first year of government.

Decisions that were questioned because in his electoral campaign he had said that he was going to focus more on citizen problems and then on the problems of the state, making his discourse that prices were going to go down totally false. "Between the official speech and the concrete facts there is a great abyss since they are oriented to pay the campaign debts and to mock the hopes deposited by the homeless, without bread and without employment" (Tamayo, 1994, p.10).

#### 1.2.2 Social Problems.

Every presidency of Ecuador has always been involved in social scandals, and León's is no exception, if not the most questioned. This presidency has always been criticized for the supposed waste of money, disappearances, marches, bad decisions, among other things. One of the most talked about issues in this government is the guerrilla movement called "Alfaro Vive Carajo!" "The Alfaro Vive Carajo guerrilla movement will give much to talk about in the period 1984-1988, (...). They create a climate of terror and collective fear trying to disarticulate the whole popular movement and the democratic opposition" (Tamayo, 1994, p.9).

This government was always recognized as a neoliberal government, but also as a totalitarian one, which did not agree with the press and was always in dispute with the other political parties that at some point could become a threat to them. Many journalists and columnists questioned the decisions of this government and since they did not fulfill what was promised in the campaign, they always questioned the fulfillment of human rights, the rise in prices, marches made up of students, workers, politicians, etc.

They made many promises in campaigns which were not fulfilled, there was much criticism of the fact that much of the promises were directed towards the popular sectors, which at the end of the mandate were the most harmed.

In this case, the biggest social problem that this government had to face was the guerrilla or, as it is mostly known in the country, the "Alfaro Vive Carajo" guerrilla group. The actions taken against this group were mostly questioned by the violence employed.

Not even the acts of violence carried out by AVC, such as the death of several police officers, kidnappings and robberies, can justify the state terrorism with which Febres Cordero responded. VCA militants were to be tried according to current legislation and had the right to defend themselves. (Tamayo, 1994, p.9)

This group was identified as a violent group, which was against any government that did not comply with the ideology of this guerrilla. The group gained strength in 1983 and 1984. AVC carried out various actions to provide itself with resources, such as the assault on the Banco del Pacifico. (Tamayo, 1994)

All these social problems and unfulfilled promises led the country to the occurrence of uprisings, marches and problems that would mark the history not only of this government, but the entire history of Ecuador. What came were the consequences and some of these marked a milestone in history.

# Chapter II

#### **Government Issues**

Ecuador has had several historic moments; the government of León Febres-Cordero is no

# 2.1 Problems of Leon's government

#### 2.1.1 Historical Events.

#### 2.1.1.1 Taura.

exception. In his 4 years of presidential mandate, he faced several difficulties, but if we have to talk about one in particular is Taura, an event in which for the first time a president is kidnapped and threatened by the military themselves. This historic and regrettable event has as its protagonists León Febres-Cordero, General Frank Vargas Pazzos, the defense minister General Luis Piñeiros, the military subordinates of the Taura air base, among others. It should be noted that at that time the relationship between General Frank Vargas Pazzos and León Febres-Cordero was strong, since the latter was the godfather of Vargas' son. Every problem of such magnitude has antecedents, in this case Taura has as antecedents several denunciations, and armed conflicts between different military bases. The beginning of all this conflict began in the month of March 1986, General Frank Vargas Pazzos denounced overpricing in the purchase of a Fokker plane for the company Tame. This denunciation was made to the Minister of Defense, General Luis Piñeiros, but it was totally rejected in a full communiqué that was transmitted by television. This makes Vargas take command of the Eloy Alfaro air base in Manta with the support of some high command officers and troops of the air force. When people saw that Vargas had the support of several troops, they thought that a state coup was going to happen, but after a short time everything became clear. Vargas (1986) expressed: "Democracy is maintained, there is a vice president, there is a president of Congress, a president of the court, General Vargas will never take any political possession, but that the constituent order is respected" (s.p).

During all this time, former president León Febres-Cordero did not negotiate or attend to Vargas' orders until he threatened to take over the country's air bases. Leon agrees and sends an intermediary to negotiate with Vargas, they reach an agreement. The general and Leon meet and travel together to Quito, but what happened there would change everything. Frank Vargas Pazzos claims to have been betrayed by the government and takes over the air base in Quito.

The seizure of the Quito air base did not last long, and culminated on Friday, March 14, 1986, all this ended with the intervention of the army that resulted in 7 deaths and 14 injuries. This bloody episode also ended with the capture of General Vargas.

The capture of the general led to his imprisonment, but 6 months later, Congress gave him an amnesty, but Leon prevented it from being published in the official register and therefore it was not complied with. Vargas was still imprisoned at the Eplicachima barracks in Quito. The months went by until Friday, January 16, 1987, when the event known as "Taurazo" occurred. That day was celebrated the day of the Jaguar squadron, an event which was not invited any leader, for the reason that it is a celebration of the military themselves, but the then commander of the armed forces unduly invited the former president to the ceremony. Leon arrived with his security team, when all who came down from the plane was greeted with shots to the sky of honor, but this led to the officers' subordinate notes and surround the president and his entourage. A shooting was recorded that caused 2 deaths; 1 sergeant and 1 corporal. These two died trying to protect the president.

The president and his entourage were taken to a bus where they were held for 12 hours, but León was taken along with the interviewed Teresa Arboleda to the offices so that an agreement can be drafted where an exchange is made for General Frank Vargas Pazzos.

Despite the written agreement to release the general, there was also a part that said no

retaliation should be taken against the subordinate officers who participated in the kidnapping.

The subordinate officers forced Leon to record testimony in a camera. León (1987) said he have ordered the immediate release of General Frank Vargas Pazzos, and that his government would not initiate any kind of legal, criminal or retaliatory actions against of the General.

The president and his entourage were transferred to Guayaquil, after having been kidnapped for 12 hours, they were received by multitudes of people supporting them.

As a result of this act, the agreement that had been signed was broken, and the government imprisoned the subordinate commandos, this occurred 5 days after the kidnapping of the president. The officers and subordinate commandos were taken to various military barracks: they received cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

These commandos and officers only recently received amnesty in the government of Rodrigo Borja, but it took 3 decades later to receive Congress' pardon and their rights to be restored. All this event that took place at the Taura base and even much earlier was an episode or a sad event for Ecuador, claimed the lives of 9 people in the seizure of air bases, dozens of wounded, kidnapped a defense minister and the president of the republic. That day it can be assured that democracy had a big fall, but at the same time it managed to reemerge through the support of the citizens.

#### 2.1.1.2 Restrepo.

Carlos Santiago and Pedro Andrés Restrepo were two boys born in Quito in 1971 and 1974 respectively. Their parents were Colombian, but had been living in Quito for 20 years. These two children are recognized not only nationally, but worldwide for having disappeared without a trace.

In 1988, on the eve of the end of León Febres Cordero's mandate, a last tragedy occurred, but they did not imagine that sometime later it would be considered a violation of human rights.

Santiago was the older brother, he was 18 years old, unlike Andrés who was only 15 years old. These brothers were going to become part of the story on Friday, January 8, 1988. They went to pick up a friend and drop him off at the airport, but none of them had a driver's license. None of the two arrived at their destination, at first the family received the call that they were arrested and taken to the Provisional Detention Center, then General Miguel Arellano confirmed that the Restrepo brothers were being investigated by the police.

The bad part started when the CDP denied that they were being detained, so the parents hired a second lieutenant named Doris Morán, who was thought to be cheating them, since he increased their fees to 80,000 sucres, and in just 10 months did not provide any clue that would serve to advance the investigation.

After 43 days they were able to find the car where the brothers were transported, but it was in a ravine. The pope then declared and gave certain observations of the event.

The vehicle was apparently robbed before being thrown into the ravine: neither the engine nor the gearbox appeared. The cans seemed to have been passed by a heavy roller. Technical tests carried out to the supports of the engine, demonstrated that the engine did not detach by impact, the engine was taken out. (Restrepo, 1988, s.p)

There have been many speculations about this case, as to this day the body or remains of these two boys have not been found, it is believed that they were killed by the police. The Truth Commission in 2008 made investigations into this case, and confirmed that the boys were interrogated by the police, but seeing that they had no information, came to think that they were hiding it, so methods of torture were used. One of the brothers is believed to have died in the interrogation because of a breathing problem, and the other, being the only witness, decided to kill him and throw their bodies into the Yambo lagoon.

Three decades have passed since this disappearance, multiple attempts by several governments to find the bodies and those responsible have failed. The only thing left by this

disappearance was suffering to this family and many questions to Ecuador. Why did these 2 children without a criminal record disappear without leaving a trace?

#### 2.1.1.3 Filanbanco.

In the 80s there was an insurgent group called "Alfaro Vive Carajo", this guerrilla group was looking for a national balance, which was not to depend on foreign investment or their products. This guerrilla group had between 200 and 300 people in its ranks, its attacks and robberies intensified in the government of León Febres Cordero.

Like any guerrilla or terrorist group, there is always an attack that characterizes them, and in this case, it is no exception. Filanbanco was one of the largest banks with clients, also with the highest income, so much was its success that it managed to have even its own soccer team.

This guerrilla group had been robbing several banks, a few months before it had robbed the Banco del Pacifico, but their number one target was Filanbanco, but they realized that their security was great, so they decided to kidnap the general manager of the bank which was Nahim Isaias Barquet.

This previously mentioned character was known for being a philanthropist, manager and owner of many companies, so much power he had that he donated 8 million sucres to the presidential campaign of León Febres Cordero that was the exact point where his friendship with the then president was established. Nahim was one of the richest people in Ecuador along with Luis Noboa Naranjo, some testimonies of some ex-guerrillas stated that their first plan was to kidnap Noboa, but as he lived in New York, they set their sights on Isaiah, so the kidnapping took place.

On August 7, 1985, in the late hours of the night, the kidnapping took place, a group made up of guerrillas from Alfaro Vive Carajo and the M-19, the latter from Colombia. Three guerrillas intercepted Nahim in the country house "Las Alturas" which is located at kilometer

8 of the Guayaquil-Daule road. The kidnappers took him to a house located in Urdesa, located in Ficus and Cuarta streets, but his residence there did not last long, since on August 25, 1985 he was transferred to another house in the La Chala sector.

Nahim tried to negotiate with the terrorists by offering 10 million sucres, but they refused, since they needed his public figure to call the president's attention and thus negotiate the release of some imprisoned guerrillas, and a quantity of money which will be used to finance new attacks. After so many days of searching, it was confirmed to the police on August 31 that Nahim Isaías was in the house of La Chala. Hundreds of military and police forces came to the place in a few minutes, tried to dialogue with the terrorists so that they would release the banker, but in a press conference President León Febres Cordero announced that the guerrillas gave an ultimatum until September 2 to assassinate the banker, the conditions for releasing him were to deliver a million dollars, a plane to go to Quito to take refuge in the Nicaraguan embassy.

As was already public knowledge, no government negotiates with terrorists, especially this government that had an aggressive policy against these insurgent groups, so as planned the house was assaulted in an operation led by Leon himself, but this operation did not end well, as they managed to kill the 4 guerrillas, but in a bullet crossing was also affected and badly injured Nahim Isaías, who was immediately taken to the nearest hospital, but failed to survive.

This decision was much criticized to Leon, but later years it became known that the only mission that Leon had was to completely eliminate this guerrilla, and pay the 8 million that Isaiah had donated for his campaign. All these events were soon to be investigated in a Truth Commission created in 2008, to corroborate if any human rights were violated.

# Chapter III

# Link to human rights violation

# 3.1 Post-Governments

# 3.1.1 Accusations.

# 3.1.1.1 Restrepo's case.

Every human being has rights; in no way can a person violate the rights of another person in any country. In the 1980s, there was a lot of hope for governments, because totalitarian governments had long been ruled that repressed people. In Ecuador it was known that with

the end of the dictatorship that lasted much of the seventies, democracy could return, or as many people called it "a new air of hope". In the government of León Febres Cordero there was a neoliberal idea that is to say that the people were going to have more influence in political decisions. Human rights and this new type of government went hand in hand, because both wanted the return of democracy, but this was frustrated more than once.

The Restrepo brothers were two young minors: Carlos and Andrés. These young people passed into the history of Ecuador, when in a morning going to the airport they were going to run into the end of their lives, not knowing that it was going to be the last time they would leave home alive. The disappearance of these brothers was so questioned in the government of Febres Cordero, because many official agents and private detectives were involved in this case.

The Restrepo family received many threats from unknown people, also from officers in charge of the police, who did not want this to be made public. The relatives of Carlos and Andrés denounced police mistreatment of these two boys and provided false information about their whereabouts. During several months of extensive search, they publicized this case to seek help from the media and the government, but the results were the same. The crashed car was found in a ravine, but after analyzing it, it was found to have been stolen some time ago. Another issue that was much criticized was that the police, taken to the juvenile detainee station, apparently arrested the young people then the parents were notified that they were there, but at the time the parents arrived they found nothing.

In relation to the violation of human rights, many testimonies were collected, but the hardest and most pointed towards the State were those of the father of the disappeared children.

Pedro Restrepo (2010) said it is one of the emblematic cases of human rights violations in Ecuador.

The Restrepo case brought many consequences in all sectors, in the police sector was prohibited the use of force against detainees, also in the government of Rodrigo Borja signed an agreement with the Red Cross and medical school students, was going to proceed to verify that the detainee has not suffered any kind of police abuse. The police suffered a loss of authority, which brought more protests from the uniforms, who claimed that people defied them to the point that they believed they could commit any type of crime without receiving any punishment.

One of those persecuted by the justice system was former General Gilberto Molina, who he believes was in charge of ordering the torture of the brothers. Molina was sentenced to 6 years in prison, but managed to escape without being captured, no one knows his whereabouts today.

The Truth Commission formed in the government of Rafael Correa carried out searches and analyzed the cases of disappeared in the government of Febres Cordero, resulting in an accusation to this ex-president for trying to cover up these criminal acts made by the National Police, also denouncing the death of two minors.

In another area, since the partial knowledge of the truth in the Restrepo case, there has been a greater awareness of the need to defend human rights. The Restrepo case demonstrated that human rights violations do not only affect political prisoners or subversives. (Barraza, 1995, p.45)

#### 3.1.1.2 Economy.

Talking about economics at a certain point can be difficult to understand, but when we analyze the expenses made by presidents in their terms, it can be a little easier to see when it was spent and how much was collected. In the government of Febres Cordero he is accused of giving false and populist speeches, it is important to emphasize that the slogan of his campaign, which was "Bread, roof and employment", did not turn out to be so realistic apparently.

At the beginning of his government it was thought that he was going to fight the debt left by the government of Osvaldo Hurtado with the famous "sucretizacion", when Leon began to explain that he was going to start investing in private enterprise, and also to attract foreign investment, it sounded like a great idea for his voters, but over the years it was not like that. He is accused of increasing public spending, which leads to state indebtedness. All this was questioned in the last months of his presidency, but he is also associated with Ran Gazit, an important figure in the fight against the guerrilla, it is certified that León paid 150,000 sucres to the Israeli, in order to torture the guerrillas or the prisoners of war, since the ex-mandatory dedicated a great part of his mandate to eliminating these combatant groups.

It is believed that Febres Cordero received a bad economic advice so the criticism began to arrive with respect to his way of attacking the businessmen, etc.

"Febres Cordero counterattacks with his typically aggressive style, complaining about the behavior of the businessmen, and especially the bankers, who instead of investing to strengthen the future of the economy, speculated looking for high profits in the short term" (Grindle. 1992, p.62).

#### 3.1.1.2 Murders.

In the final instance are deaths, disappearances and torture. The accusations against this government are based on the cruel treatment of war heroes, guerrillas, or any other person who turned out to be a threat to the state, or who gave a bad image to the government.

According to the Truth Commission created by former president Rafael Correa, 500 cases of torture and 150 disappearances were reported during the government of León Febres Cordero.

León was the first former president to receive a preventative prison warrant for his actions against the guerrillas. He is also accused of having created military force squads or also known as "death squads".

This government marked a before and after in the history of Ecuador, it is important to emphasize that it was the second government elected after a decade of dictatorship, this government could have made its mistakes, but it is important to emphasize that León Febres Cordero became part of history because of this. History will be in charge of giving the degree of importance to this deceased ex-president, both for his achievements and for his mistakes.

#### Conclusion

At the end of this monographic work it is concluded that:

- The monographic work read is a clear example of a trip back in time where relatives
  of people, already with an advanced age, lived key moments in the history of Ecuador.
- León Febres Cordero is a name that will go down in history, his political figure stops talking about things as much good as bad. His government is identified as a neoliberal government, in other words as a government with new ideas that broke with the continuity of conservative ideas, that from the beginning of the campaign this government promised things that made the people dream of better days, but only the people can judge if the work that was done and filled with the expectations of the people was really enough.
- In spite of being the second government established since the return of democracy, it
  has been one of the most criticized governments and even qualified as "authoritarian,"
  but in spite of everything, the figure to be highlighted was former president León
   Febres Cordero himself, a guayaquileño who never hesitated to put a firm hand in the

- moments that were lived in tension, even preventing the death of many people, always sought the welfare of his country, but at the time of seeking this had to use methods a few extremists, so much so that after his mandate he was charged with having violated human rights.
- Many obstacles were presented to Leon in his 4 years of Government, problems that almost cost him his position as president, but he knew how to handle it in the best way. One of the topics or problems that is taken in the monographic work is Taura, place where the president was held hostage for 12 hours by a military command that demanded the liberation of its general, who was accused that he had been unjustly arrested and imprisoned.
- Not only did social or political problems arise, economic problems also arose, which led the country to live hard times, due to the fall in the price of oil, one of the biggest falls of this product, almost at the same time experienced the natural disaster of "El Niño". And finally, this government was accused of having violated the human rights of people, prisoners of war, military commandos, etc.
- not to live among guerrillas as Colombia or other countries of the world do, and everything is due to this government and its decisions a few extremists, but thanks to these decisions Ecuador can say that it is a country free of guerrillas or any group that aims to destabilize the state and alter the peace of citizens. In conclusion, this government leaves a lot to talk about, it also leaves many questions unanswered, but one thing is clear and that is that this former president marked a before and after in the politics of Ecuador, with all the decision making that I do so that Ecuador achieves to be like today, even many consequences of those decisions are reflected today.

#### Recommendations

At the end of this monographic work it is recommended that:

- Before reading this monographic work, one should investigate a little more about the
  events, also the spatial environment, and the consequences of the acts that had the
  radical decision making.
- One should not commit the same mistakes that this neoliberal government made,
   regardless of how many human rights violated without knowing the consequences that
   this would bring, also as it would influence the area of justice, and at a certain point as
   the criminal was going to end up being the beneficiary.
- There is no doubt that this government did what other governments have not done
  through years, and that is putting hard rules to not let other guerrillas exist here in
  Ecuador, and disturb the peace of many Ecuadorians.
- One should know what happened when this government ended his mandate and to the public figures who were associated to this group that led the country for four years.
- Finally, it should be analyzed how the decisions based on eliminating the guerrillas
  had repercussions in the next government and how it contributed to bring the peace to
  the life of all the Ecuadorians and for the future of the country.

# References

- Díaz. V. (2013). Restrepo Arismendi: 30 años de una lucha por la verdad
- Gallardo. J. (2015). León a viva voz
- Montúfar. C. (2000). La reconstrucción neoliberal: Febres Cordero o la estatización del neoliberalismo en el Ecuador, 1984-1988
- Rengifo. M. (2014). Seguimiento de la cobertura de la prensa sobre personas desaparecidas y atropellamiento a los derechos humanos, estudio comparativo en los diarios EL Comercio y El Universo 1987-1988
- Tamayo. E. (1994). Resistencias al autoritarismo. Recuperado de: https://www.alainet.org/sites/default/files/Luchas-populares-LFC.pdf

# Qr Code