The Shining Path

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How did the Shining Path form?

- Early 1960’s, the Communist party of Peru, or PCP, split into pro-moscow and Pro-Beijing factions
- PCP Bandera Roja/ Red Flag identified with Maoist teachings.
- The two groups disagreed over the role of the armed struggle
- As a result the groups dissipated, and split off and the Shining Path was created by Abimael Guzman, former member of the PCP Bandera-Roja
Beginnings

- Also known as Sendero Luminoso
- Originated in Ayacucho, Peru

- Abimael Guzman, Leader
Objectives

- Shining Path’s main objective was the insurgency of power.
- Sought to install a “nationalistic”, “indian” and “popular democracy”
Doctrines

- Stemmed from Maoism
- “Attack the glue that holds society together”
- Target important individuals within society
The Path’s Failure

- Abimael Guzman was arrested on September 12, 1992. Counterinsurgency efforts by the government, along with Guzman’s arrest, marked the end of the Shining Path.