



## **Mount Signal / El Cerro del Centinela is part of the Imperial and the Mexicali Valley histories for many reasons**

The historical content of “Mount Signal” is made of a various ethnicities with different cultures that arrived a long time ago to the Imperial and Mexicali Valleys. “Mount Signal” is located in Baja California, Mexico. Some of the ethnic groups that I mention are the Spaniards, the Cucapa Indigenous, and the Chinese. The history of “Mount Signal” relates back to the past time when the Spaniards came to America and they were looking for path ways to explore the land. The Cucapa Indigenous are an Indian group located in the Mexican side and they are dedicated to hunting, fishing and agriculture. The Chinese people came to the Mexicali Valley with plans to immigrate to the United States. They started a community in the valley when they found good resources to cultivate the land, like fresh water provided by the Colorado River.

The mountain is part of the Imperial and the Mexicali Valleys history for more reasons. Because the mountain is next to the international border that divides the United States of America and Mexico. The international border was made in 1846 and became an indicator to show the location of the border dividing the United States from Mexico. A very important asset in the mountain is the large amount of water supplied through the mountain by the use of pipes. “Infrastructure such as the aqueduct to Tijuana Baja California, Mexico. Water is transferred from the Colorado River to the population uphill in the cities of Tecate and Tijuana Mexico.

The monument is used in many different ways, some of the events that take place there are; Off Road Races, hunting, professional hiking, bicycle riding, ultra-light planes, and astronomy observations. Other important events that have taken place are massive concerts, some movies have been filmed there and important experiments of remote control landing of full size passenger airplanes have also taken place in the area.

The monument value is that “Mount Signal” is a symbol of protection. The mountain is guarding and securing the valley. People from Baja California are called “Cachanillas” The characteristics of a Baja Californian are pride, trustworthy, achiever, and hardworking people.

Local companies and organizations in the Imperial Valley use “Mount Signal” as the logo that represents them, for example the Imperial County uses the mountain for the county logo, and another example is the maximum security prison located in Seeley California that has the name of “Centinela Prison”. “Mount Signal” represents the agriculture of the Imperial Valley thanks to the farmers that have made the Imperial Valley one of the great agricultural areas of the world.