

slave trade

The Atlantic slave trade started a lot earlier than you think. The Portuguese began trafficking African captives in the 1440s. In England, the Wars of the Roses had yet to begin. It wasn't initially a transatlantic trade. In the early days, enslaved Africans were brought to Portugal or to Atlantic islands like Madeira to work in agriculture. The USA was not a significant destination for slave ships. When we picture slavery, we habitually draw upon images of the American South. In fact, less than five per cent of the victims of transatlantic slavery were landed on the coast of the present-day United States. Most enslaved Africans were carried to the Caribbean (45 per cent) or to Brazil (45 per cent). The Atlantic slave trade lasted longer than you imagine. The British abolished their slave trade in 1807, So did the Americans. The trade continued to flourish, however, down to the 1850s. The last known slave ship, which carried captives to Cuba, sailed in 1866



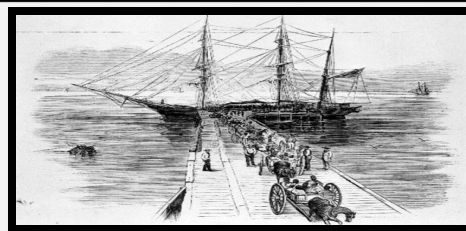
**TODAYS FIGHT
FOR
TOMORROWS
FREEDOM**

**TRIANGULAR
SLAVE TRADE**

The 'triangular trade' wasn't always triangular. We commonly think of the Atlantic slave trade as a three-leg affair. Slavers sailed from European ports carrying manufactured goods. Slavers traded those goods for captives on the African coast. Slavers then sailed to the New-World, sold their prisoners, and returned to Europe, completing the triangle. Much of the trade to Brazil, however, was bilateral. Slavers left Rio de Janeiro, headed to Angola, and came straight back to Brazil.

During the late 16th to early 19th centuries, Carrying slaves, cash crops, and manufactured goods between West Africa, Caribbean or American colonies and the European colonial powers, with the northern colonies of British North America, especially New England, sometimes taking over the role of Europe

- The trading system was a general exchange of manufactured goods, labor, and raw materials through shipments crossing the Atlantic. Graphically, the route forms a triangle.
- The Triangular Trade had three stages: first, the ports of Liverpool, Bristol, and London served as trading points in Europe where the ships were loaded with manufactured goods such as rum, guns, and cloths. These goods were then transported to the Gold Coast in West Africa. Second, the goods were traded along with enslaved Africans who filled the slave ship. Slaves were either captured within their small villages or bought from the chiefs by the African traders. After walking for miles, they were densely packed inside the ship.
- Slaves in the Americas were commonly placed in plantations due to the extensive demand for labor. In 1863, President Lincoln ended slavery.



THE TRADING SYSTEM

The deaths of slaves were inevitable due to the poor conditions during the Middle Passage. The spread of diseases, starvation, and injuries caused the high death toll among the slaves while in transit going to the West Indies. Third, the slaves were sold through auctions and scrambles in the Americas. Rigid physical examination was a must in determining the value of each slave. Healthy slaves were sold at a higher price. Then, American traders filled the ship bound for England with raw materials such as cotton, tobacco, coffee, and sugar to complete the triangular trade.

In 1789, the autobiography of Olaudah Equiano was published in England. He described the conditions during the middle passage, which gave way to the abolition of slave trading by the English Parliament in 1807.

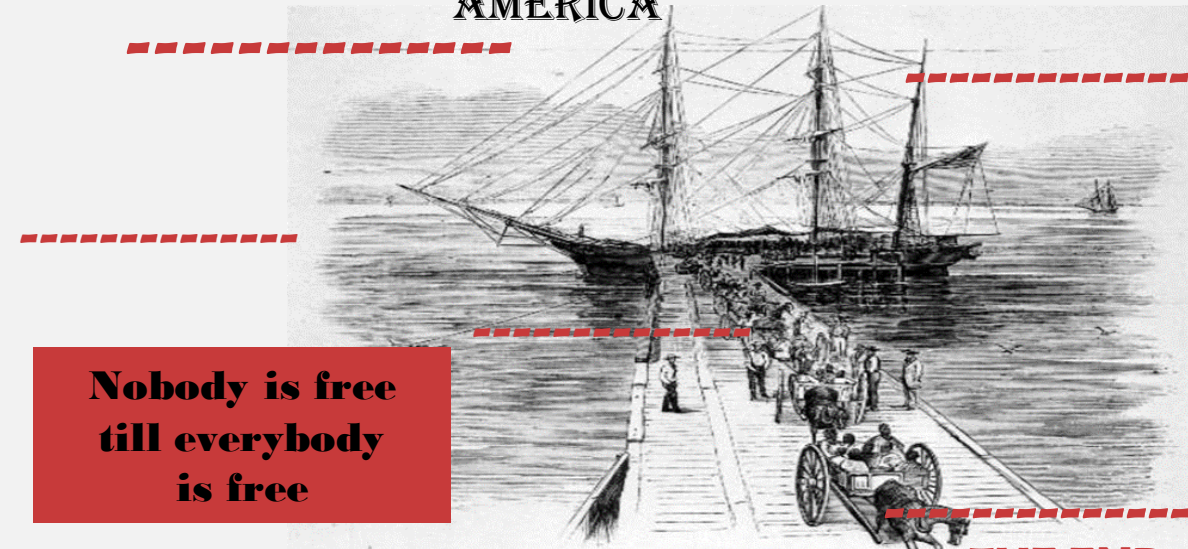
Did you know - - 3/11/21 - -

- The average cost of a slave in America in 1850 was about \$400 (about \$12,000 in today's money)
- Slavery was abolished throughout the British Empire in 1833 but the Modern Slavery Act, outlawing human trafficking and forced labour, was only passed in 2015.
- From 1526 to 1867, some 12.5 million slaves were shipped from Africa to the Americas with only about 10.7 million surviving the journey.
- When Britain abolished slavery, compensation was paid to 46,000 slave owners. The 800,000 freed slaves received nothing.

What's going on today?

IN ALMOST HALF OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES, THERE IS NO CRIMINAL **LAW** PENALIZING EITHER **SLAVERY** OR THE **SLAVE** TRADE. IN 94 COUNTRIES, YOU CANNOT BE PROSECUTED AND PUNISHED IN A CRIMINAL COURT FOR ENSLAVING ANOTHER HUMAN BEING.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT SLAVERY IS PROHIBITED WORLDWIDE, MODERN FORMS OF THE SINISTER PRACTICE PERSIST. MORE THAN 40 MILLION PEOPLE STILL TOIL IN DEBT BONDAGE IN ASIA, FORCED LABOR IN THE GULF STATES, OR AS CHILD WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA OR LATIN AMERICA



**Nobody is free
till everybody
is free**

THE END...