

100% Sheet

Colonial expansion: How did the Slave trade have “a devastating impact on Africans?”

Background information

The **Atlantic slave trade** or **transatlantic slave trade** involved the transportation by slave traders of enslaved African people, mainly to the Americas. The slave trade regularly used the triangular trade route and its Middle Passage, and **existed from the 16th to the 19th centuries.**

Timeline

1502: 1st reported African Slaves in the New World

1640-1680: Large scale introduction of Slaves into the Caribbean

1794: US prohibits slave ship building

1807: British Parliament bans the Slave Trade

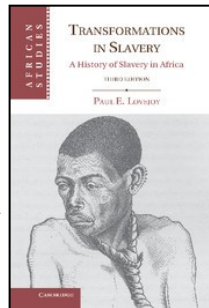
1815: Britain, Spain, Portugal, France, and Netherlands ban slave trading

1820: US makes Slave Trade Piracy, punishable by death

1839: The Amistad is captured off the coast of Long Island

Secondary interpretation/ debate about period

The slave trade left a **devastating impact** on Africans in Africa and also in Diaspora. First; it destroyed African homes and separated families through forceful removal. This isolated Africans from their homeland and alienated them from their mother cultures and traditions. It crippled Africa of its human resources and man power covering all corners of African continent. The slave trade affected the demographic balances in Africa because millions of Africans were displaced, killed & transported to New Worlds. It contributed to the massive loss of the population which affected the economic productions and social systems of most communities.— P. Lovejoy, Historian



Key knowledge 1: How did the Transatlantic Slave Trade work?



Keywords

- Middle passage
- Auction
- Plantations
- Cotton
- Tobacco
- Abolition

Key knowledge 2:

What happened on the Middle Passage?

- The journey from Africa to the Americas
- Slaves were crammed into ships and chained together in unsanitary and suffocation conditions
- Death toll was high— many died from disease, suffocation, malnutrition and mistreatment
- Slaves were treated badly, even killed by the crew
- Forced to exercise regularly on the deck

Key knowledge 3:

What happened when slaves arrived in the Americas?

- On arrival, slaves were prepared for sale
- Wounds were covered with tar and skin was oiled to make them look healthy
- Slaves were usually sold at auction, or at an agreed set price

Key knowledge 4:

What was life like on plantations?

- Slaves worked from dusk till dawn— harvesting crops
- As slaves had no rights, plantation owners were free to violently punish them
- Slaves were regularly whipped or tarred and feathered
- Runaway slaves were caught and sometimes hanged
- Life expectancy was short