



161

DEPICTION OF THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY AND SLAVE CULTURE

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Abstract

Jeremy Black's *History of Slavery in the World* attempts to raise awareness of the issue of slavery by using global references. Slavery is shown in this issue via the lens of ancient global culture, namely that of major civilizations. The study covers the many forms of slavery as well as how it has evolved in terms of shape and style via global allusions. In this comprehensive history, Jeremy Black describes how slavery originated in antiquity and continues to this day in the shape of modern offenses like human trafficking and forced labor. He illustrates the various manifestations of slavery throughout history and the world, including the West Indian plantations, the Spartan insurrection, and the brutal forced labor of the gulags and concentration camps. Slavery shaped new global cultures like those in America and Brazil and contributed to the consolidation of transoceanic empires. Black



examines the activists and the horrific testimonies of the slaves as he traces the protracted struggle for abolition in the 19th century. Slavery still exists today, and contrary to popular belief, forced labor may be found far closer to home.

Key Words: Abolition, Culture, Empire, History, Slavery, World Slavery

The dank, subterranean cells at Cape Coast Castle and other West African forts aren't the only places you can see the terrible brutality of slavery in action; nonetheless, they are a sobering reminder of the heinous crime, particularly considering that about 12.5 million Africans were enslaved and transported on about 35,000 transatlantic voyages. 2. Nicholas de Nicolay's writings about the Atlantic slave trade really dealt with Tripoli, which is now in Libya. It was in this city where many Christians were captured and sold by North African Barbary pirates. In order to prove that their captives were free of physical flaws, slave traders would parade them nude and subject them to the same kind of inspection as horses, paying special attention to the feet and teeth.

This book's goal is to give a thorough history of slavery and the slave trade, with a particular emphasis on the previous 500 years but also include older eras. Slavery and conflict are similar. In a way, you can tell it when you see it, and enforced servitude is easy to define, much like large-scale, violent conflict. That being said, discussions about slavery and other forms of conflict and violence often overlap with those about war, with definitions of force and servitude being subject to disagreement.

Because they were paid in tokens that could only be spent in company stores, workers in numerous nineteenth-century Northern company towns and black slaves in the American South were compared by Southerners. Print discussion of this contentious matter took place on both sides of the Atlantic. As males fought for control of the country, Edward Yates penned A Letter to the Women on Slave in the American South. He admitted that "white slaves" existed in the North and Britain, but he distinguished between the two regions, stating unequivocally that the South was the only region where African-Americans were deprived of the right to vote, had their wives abducted, and tortured with the lash.



An crucial aspect of human history, slavery doesn't seem to have had a distinct origin, but it seems to have been there from the start. The earliest date when slavery originated in the prehistoric world is up for speculation because to the lack of written records, and interpreting artifacts or images is a subjective endeavor. Other groups were regarded as animals in this sense, and there was a great deal of overlap, so slavery probably had a special effect in this way. One type of ceremonial sacrifice served as a reminder that slavery had both short- and long-term objectives by capturing both humans and animals for the purpose. In certain communities, such as steppe societies and Egypt in the third millennium BCE, a ruler's family and attendants were likewise buried with him. 2. Before slavery was outlawed in Dahomey, West Africa, slave sacrifices persisted there.

A fundamental aspect of the known world and the Classical era was slavery. As early as 1900 BCE, in the Babylonian regulations of Eshnunna, and as late as 1750 BCE, in the Code of Hammurabi, slavery was mentioned.⁴ Slaves were brought to Egypt from Nubia, a region in what is now southern Sudan, in the north. various of these captives were survivors of the various wars that plagued Nubia. At least four wars were carried out in Nubia by Khakura Senusret III (c. 1870–1831, BCE), who enslaved women and children and killed men. Trading caravans were sent to Punt in search of products, such as slaves, as early as the Fifth Dynasty (2494–2345 BCE), which was likely located in eastern Sudan or Eritrea. 5. The nations of the Levant were among the many that contributed to Egypt's growing slave trade. When Egypt became a part of the Hellenistic (332 BCE) and Roman (30 BCE) empires, the arrival of slaves from Anatolia and other regions sped up this process. Furthermore, slave apologists in the American South in the 1800s claimed that the Old Testament really acknowledged and even practiced slavery in Israel. Slavery existed across Bronze Age Europe as well. For instance, slaves can be seen on etched stelae, or stone slabs, found in southwest Spain from around 850 BCE, which depict warriors encircled by their possessions.



Influential Greek philosopher Aristotle (384–322 BCE) described slavery as a component of a developmental paradigm, where development was defined as the usage of human slaves as opposed to animal slaves and the establishment of stratified political organizations. He made the case in Book One of Politics that those who were inferior because they were limited to using their body because of a flawed logical faculty were inherently slaves.

The Tempest (1611), a drama by William Shakespeare, fictionalized this concept of the "other" and was partly inspired by stories of English colonization and transoceanic travel. The tale claims that Caliban, the only resident of the island, is cursed by his mother, a witch, and father, the Devil. After being exposed to alcohol, he is first sold into slavery by the wise but exiled Italian ruler Prospero, and subsequently by two inebriated Italians. Caliban is a forced laborer who is given the task of gathering wood. They call him "abhorred slave" and "thou poisonous slave."

An illustration of this trait may be seen in Aztec Mesoamerica, a central Mexican kingdom that ruled from the middle of the fourteenth century until 1521. If slaves could prove they had been abused, they could buy or earn their freedom. Before the Spanish arrived in Mesoamerica at the beginning of the sixteenth century, slavery developed in the region through financial bondage, purchases made from relatives, and punishment. Slaves worked a range of jobs, including domestic service, and slavery was widespread.

Prior to the Atlantic slave trade, slave-owning and hierarchical kingdoms existed in several regions of Africa, including western Sudan (modern-day Mali), at least as early as the eleventh century, during the height of the Ghanaian dynasty. This, however, would indicate more the effects of the trans-Saharan slave trade to North Africa than the native roots of these dynasties. Slavery, similar to the rise of serfdom in Europe, was a desperate attempt to secure agricultural labor on a continent like Africa, but how much of a boost it was to the supply of slaves available to European traders remains a mystery. Slaves were easily commodified by the Africans for use in trade and as money since manpower was a form of value that could be seen as both tangible and symbolic. African cultures not only owned slaves but also had laws governing who could and could not be enslaved.



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Most African polities were not very far-flung, and most of the continent's control was fractured, especially in West Africa. Because most Africans sold as slaves were taken prisoner during battle, and others were taken in conflicts waged specifically for the purpose of capturing people, this division facilitated the fighting on the continent, which in turn supported the slave trade. Some debt seizures resulted in the enslavement of Africans. In other societies, like the Maori of New Zealand, and in North America, where Native American slaves interbred with African slaves, those who were captured also lost their tribal identity. As a result, by the 1860s, many African Americans had a mixture of Native American, European, and African ancestry.



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