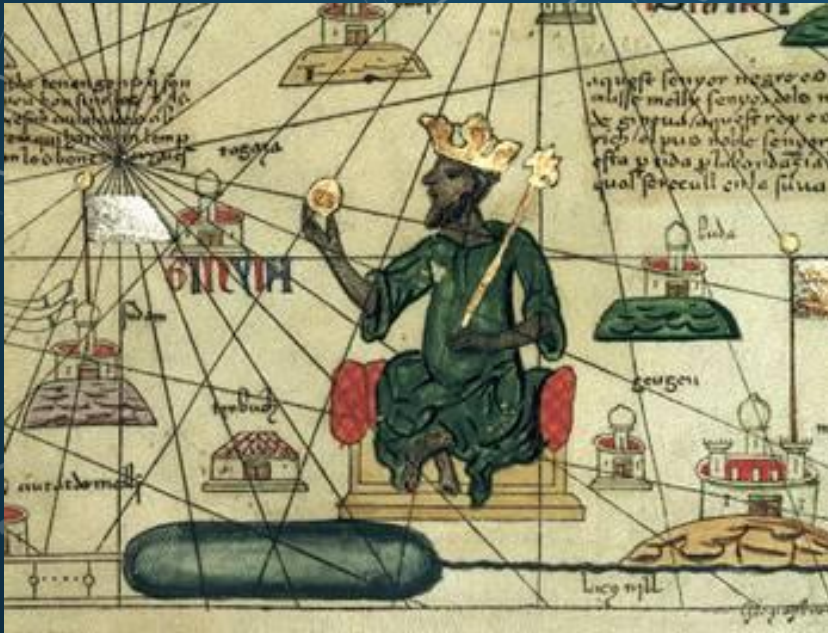


THE SLAVE TRADE & ITS LEGACY IN THE US

Week 3:

The Emergence of Chattel Slavery



OSHER WINTER 2021
DR. ANGELA SUTTON

ANGELA.C.SUTTON@VANDERBILT.EDU

SCHEDULE

- First time: PIRATES! (The 1722 Battle of Cape Lopez)
- Last Time: What was slavery in America like at the time of the battle and how did that happen?
- Today: The battle resulted in British supremacy in the trade → The emergence of chattel slavery.
- Feb 2: The spread of chattel slavery to British American territories & beyond
- Feb 9: Slavery in the US compared to other places in the Americas
- Feb 16: Legacies

Last Time: Roman Slave Law



- Roman society had racism, but their slavery was NOT race-based
- No moral justification of enslavement
- Slavery was a state of being, not an identity
- Enslaved people were granted human rights and legal protections
- Enslaved people often held prestigious careers (education, medicine, politics, accounting)
- The Enslaved had opportunities of social mobility
- Enslaved could attain Roman citizenship after manumission



Last Time: Roman-style slavery in 5 colonial territories

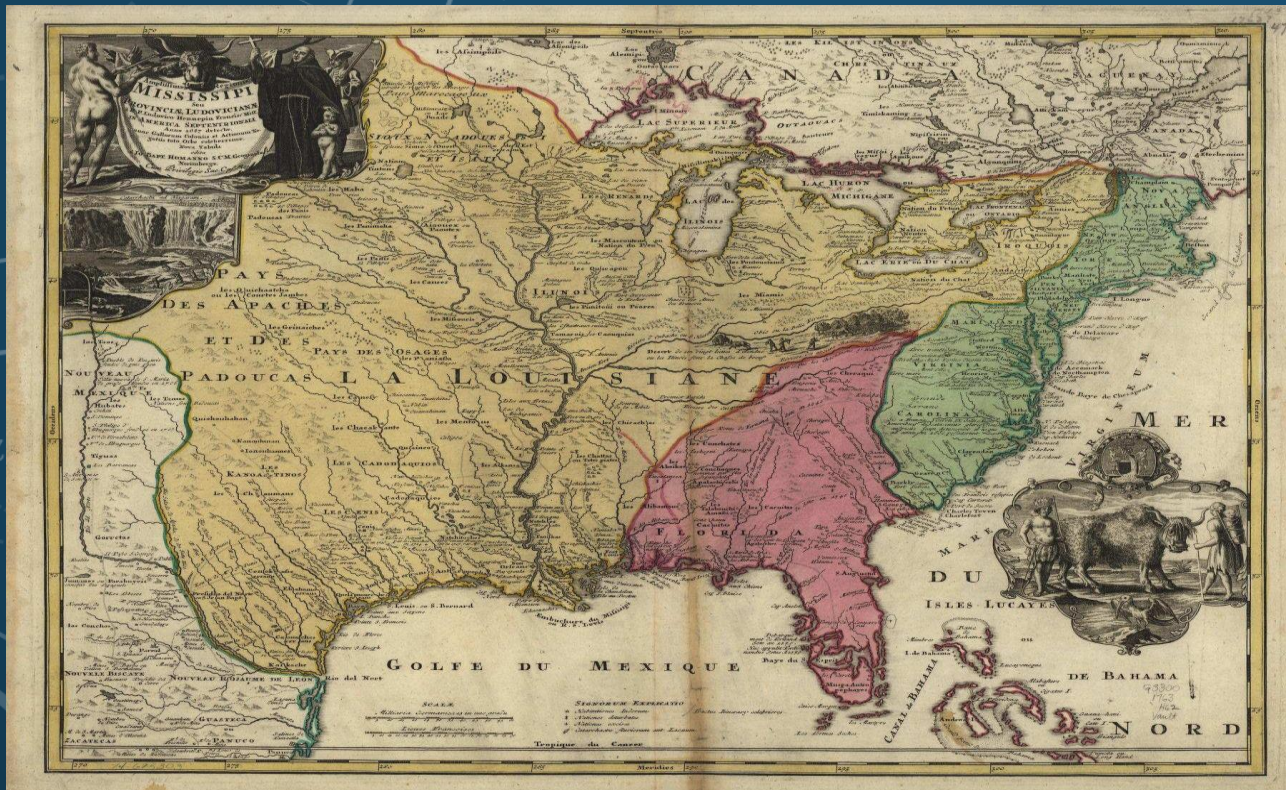
Spanish Florida: 1513-
1763, 1783-1821

British North America
(13 Colonies): 1607-1776

Dutch New Amsterdam:
1624-1664

Swedish New Sweden:
1638 – 1655

French Louisiana (New
France): 1682-1769,
1801-1803

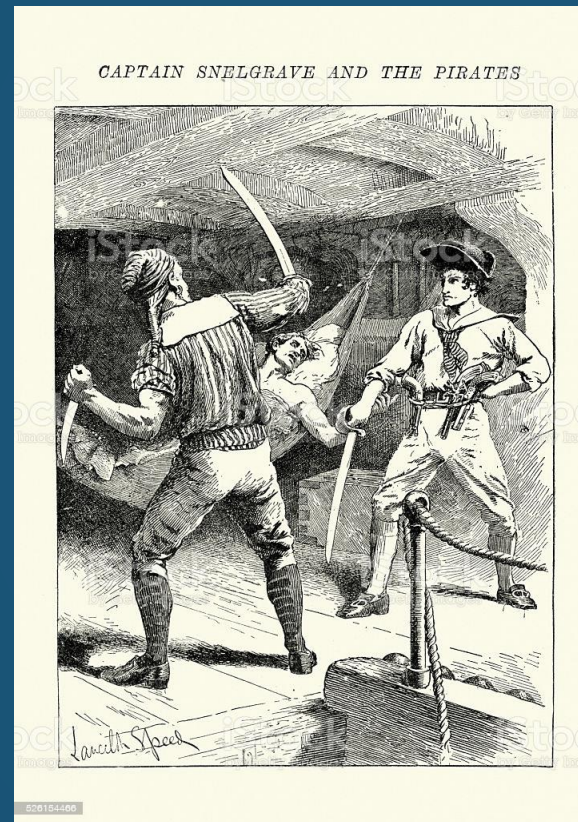
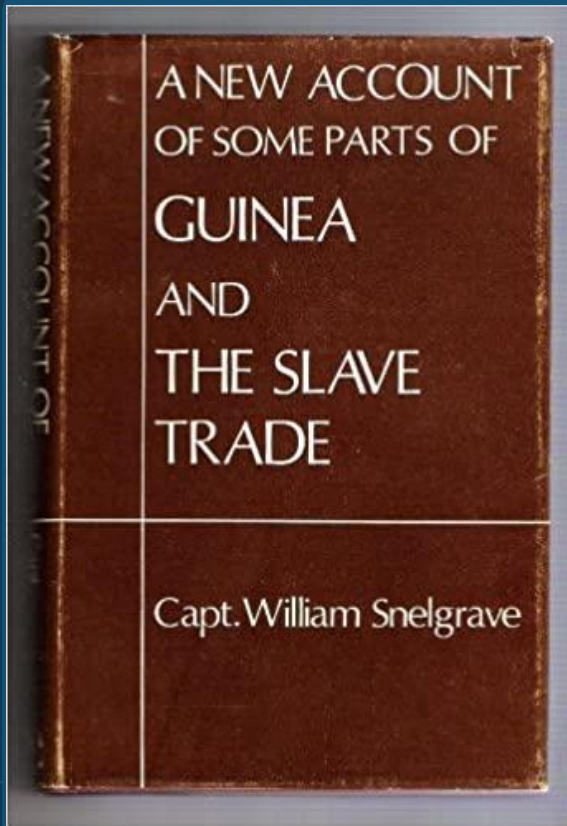


WHAT CHANGES AFTER THE 1722 BATTLE OF CAPE LOPEZ?



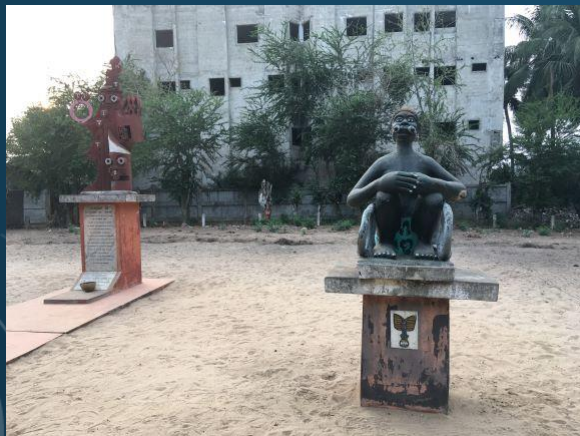
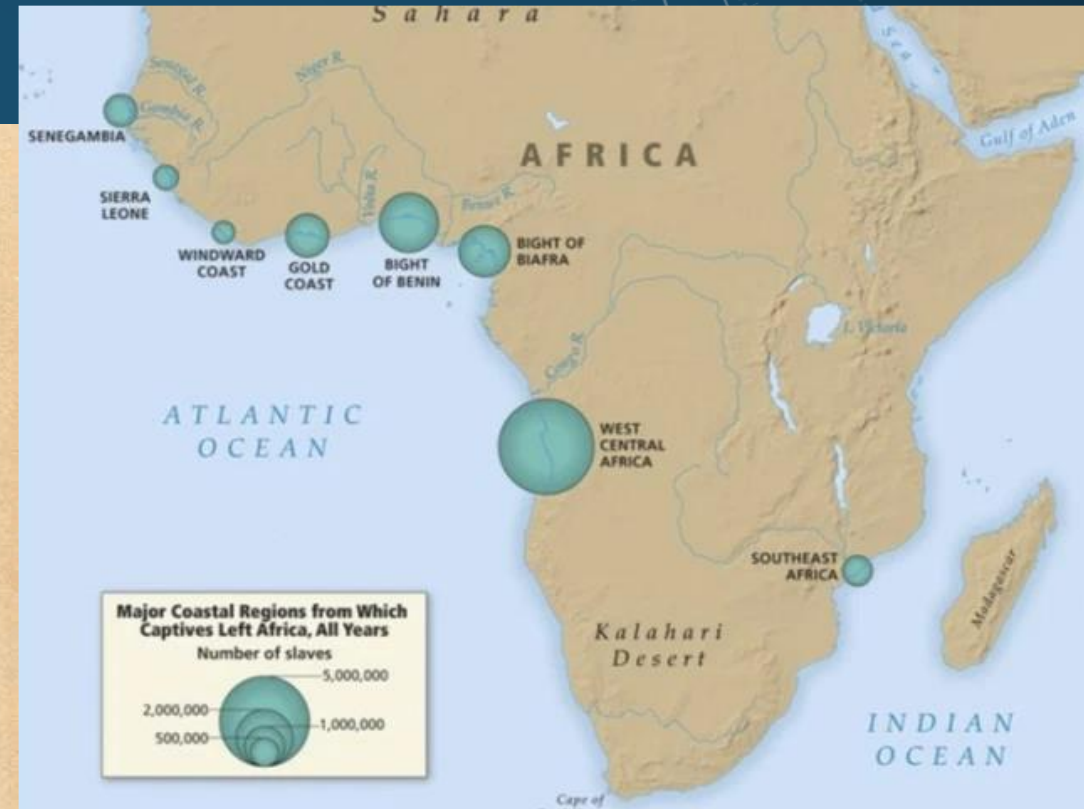
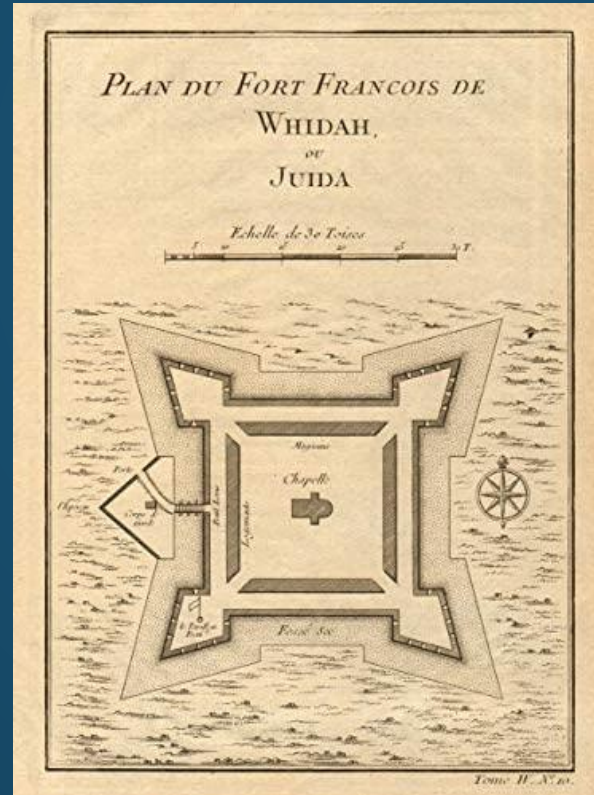
Chattel Slavery: slavery is no longer an economic status, but an entrenched, race-based social caste. Enslaved PEOPLE were considered “slaves” who had the same status as objects or livestock. Their children were also deemed property, creating a hereditary system in which the enslaving society denied all human rights of the enslaved.

WILLIAM SNELGRAVE'S TIMELINE

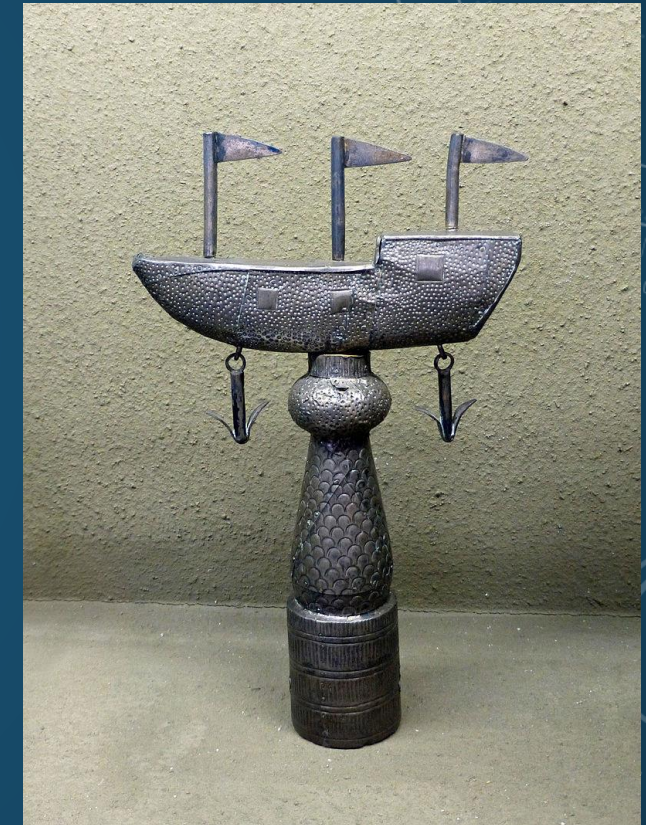
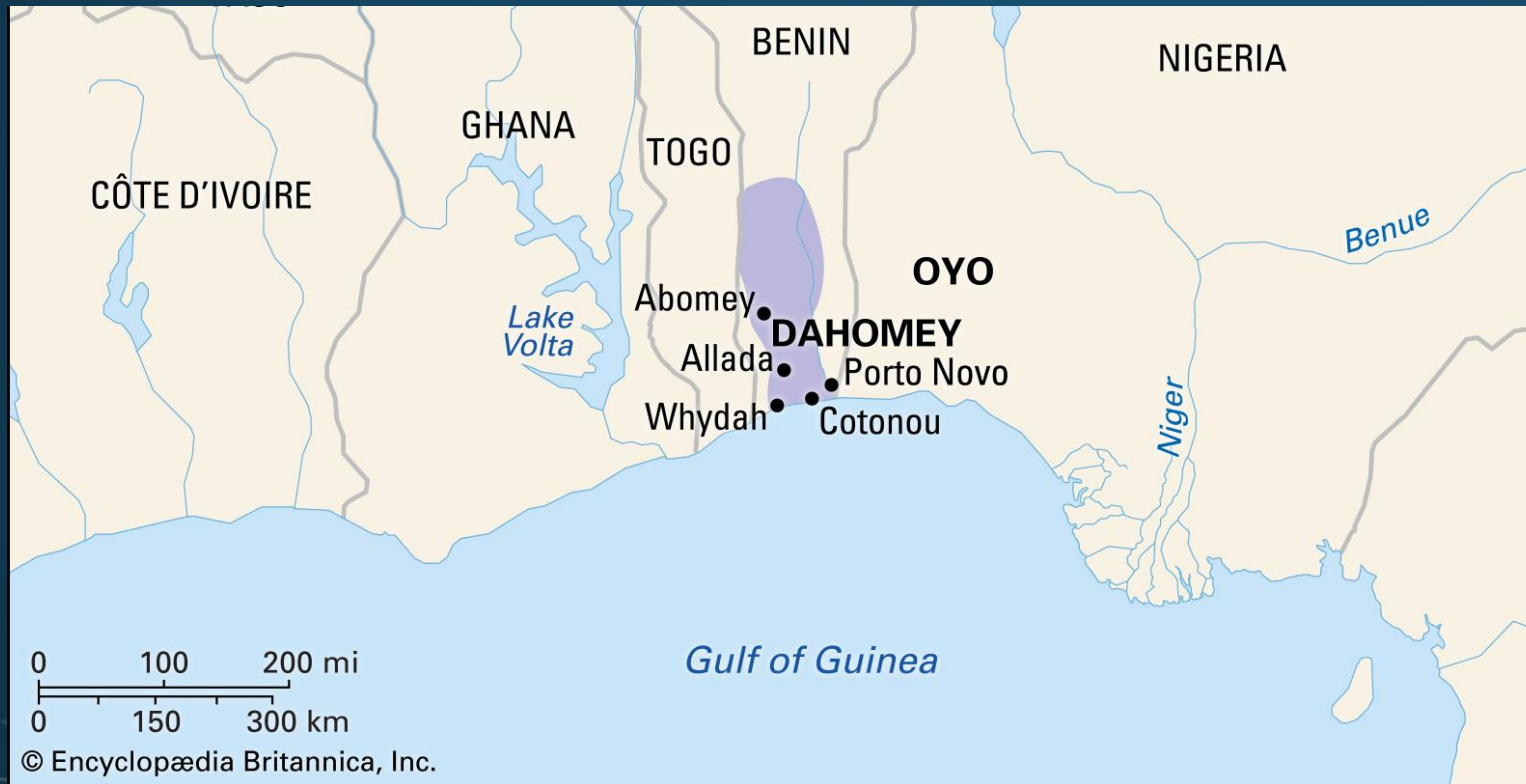


- English Slave Trader (England -> West Africa -> Virginia)
- Captured in West Africa by Black Bart's crew back in 1719
- 1722 Battle of Cape Lopez- pirate threat to the trade diminished
- Returned to the slave trade
- 1727 arrives at Whydah/Ouidah and meets King Agaja of Dahomey, who has come down to the coast to oversee the trade
- 1734 publishes his account, dedicates it to other slave traders

THE PORT CITY OF WHYDAH/OUIDAH

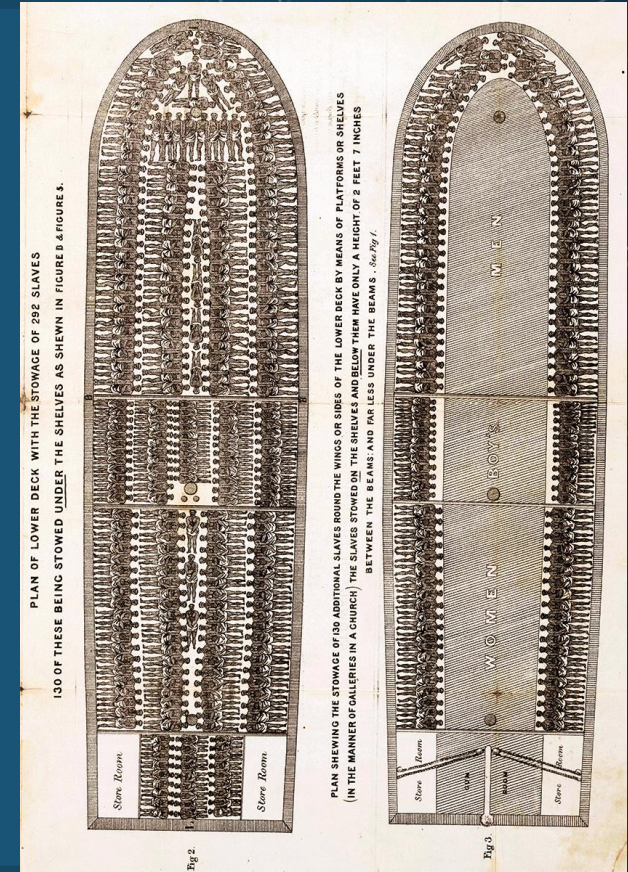
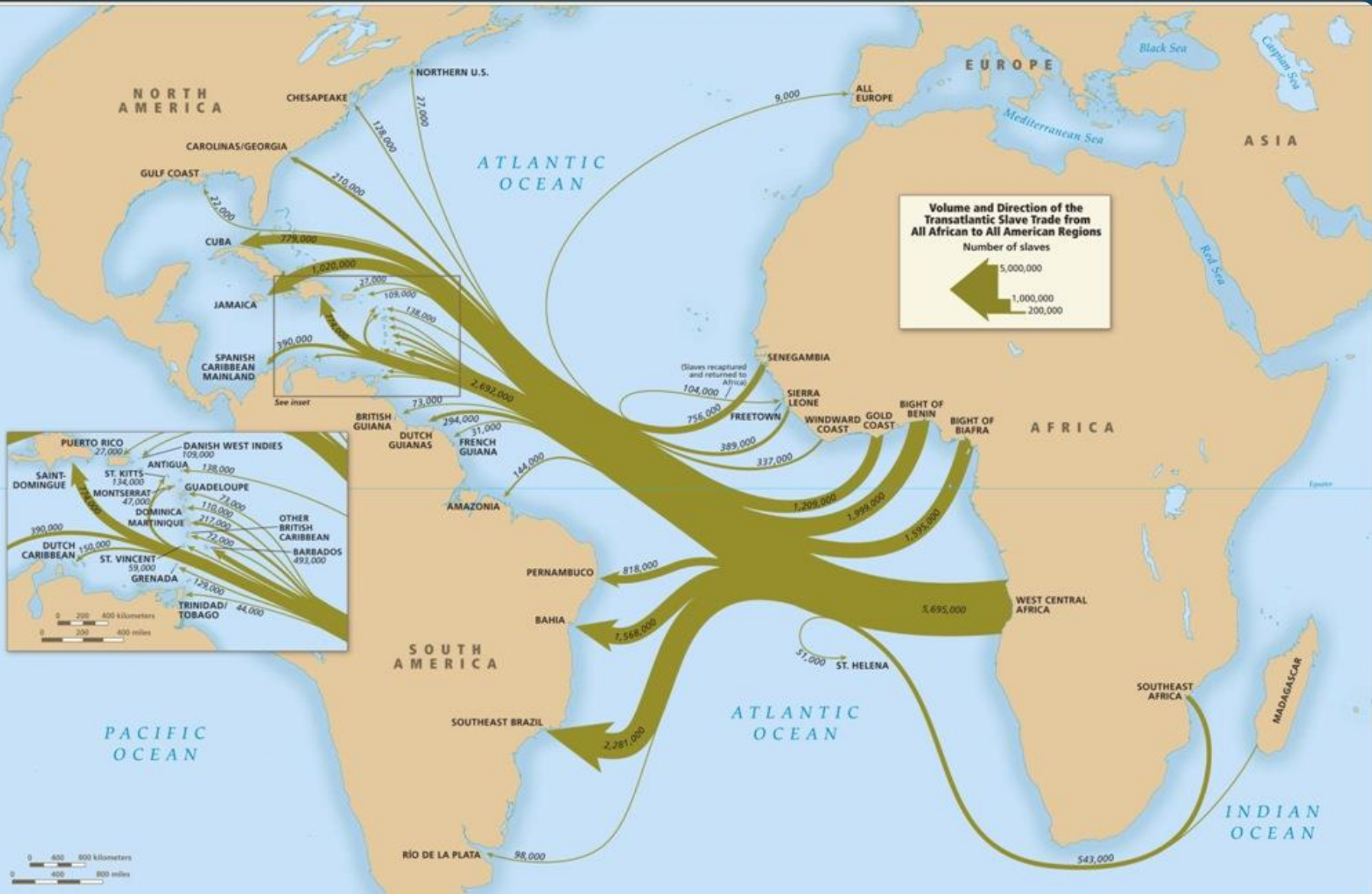


KING AGAJA AND THE DAHOMEY CONQUEST OF WHYDAH/OUIDAH 1727

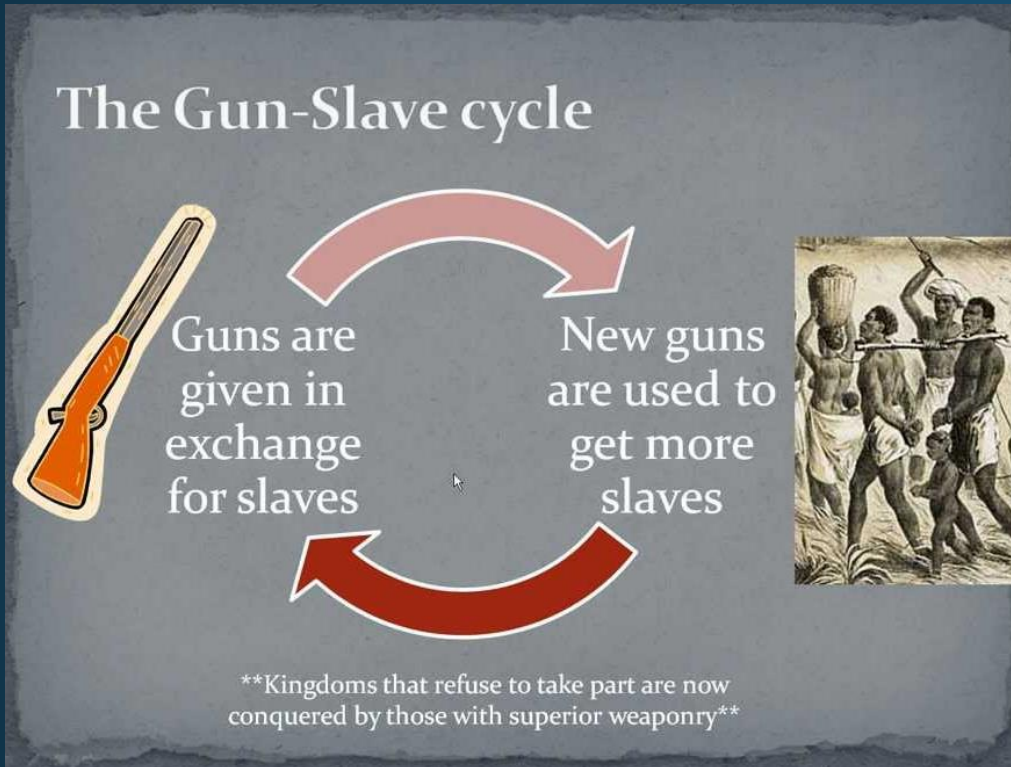


King Agaja (1673-1740), ruled Dahomey 1718-1740

SLAVE TRADE STABILIZATION



CHATTEL SLAVERY FROM AFRICA TO THE AMERICAS



Gun-Slave cycle, first named by Walter Rodney, Guyanese intellectual who was assassinated for his work in 1980.

“One-Drop Rule” – Colloquial term for a number of laws passed in various states of the US, in which anyone of African ancestry was legally considered “Black,” and therefore not eligible for the human rights that white Americans had. The law is one consequence of chattel slavery.

“All children borne in this country shall be held bond or free only according to the condition of the mother.” -Virginia House of Burgesses

CHATTEL SLAVERY IN THE US

"Durin' slavery there were stockmen. They was weighed and tested. A man would rent the stockman and put him in a room with some young women he wanted to raise children from."

—Maggie Stenhouse, formerly enslaved in Arkansas

Work Projects Administration, *Slave Narratives: A Folk History of Slavery in the United States from Interviews with Former Slaves, Arkansas Narratives, Part 6,*



Right: Former enslaver's whip from the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Advertisement for "Fancy Girls," African-descended enslaved women sold for sex in Tennessee.

Negroes Again.
I HAVE a large number of Negroes on hand, that must be sold, and amongst them some valuable Families, and as I never separate families, I will give good bargains. Also, several **FANCY GIRLS**, and I do expect the best Cook in Tennessee I mean what I say. **REES W. PORTER.**
mar22—dtf.

THE "DEVIL'S HALF-ACRE" IN RICHMOND (1830S - CIVIL WAR)



RUNAWAYS.

RAN AWAY—\$10 REWARD.—Ran away from the Midlothian Coal Pits, a NEGRO MAN, named AARON FUTTON, about 30 years of age, and weighs from 160 to 175 lbs., of dark color, some 5 feet 6 or 8 inches high, down look when spoken to. He has a wife living with Mr. Pearce, on Shockoe Hill. He has been seen frequently in the city, in which place no doubt he is still lurking. I will give the above reward for the apprehension and delivery of said negro to me, or confinement in **Lumpkin's Jail**, in this city.

RO B LYNE, Agent,
(For Mrs L CORBETT,
Office over Bodeker's Drug Store,
No 10 Main street.

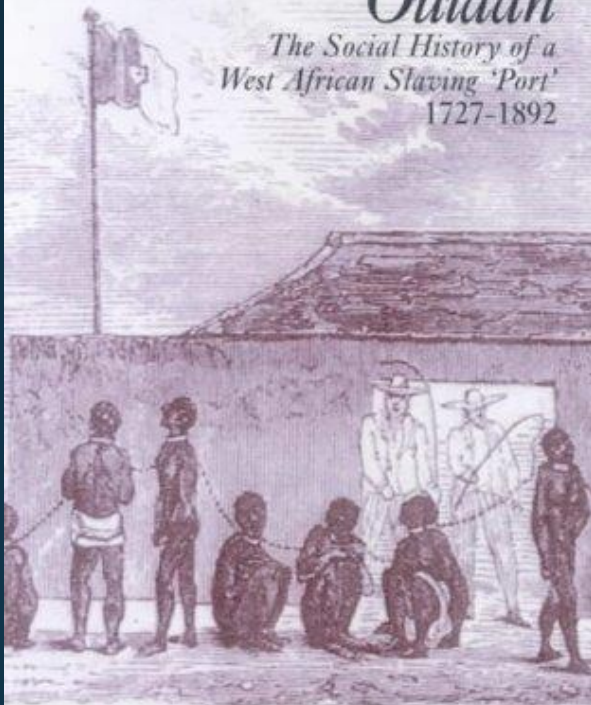
July 22—ts

ROBIN LAW



Ouidah

The Social History of a
West African Slaving 'Port'
1727-1892



Edited by Sylviane A. Diouf

**Fighting
the Slave Trade**
West African Strategies



SALTWATER SLAVERY
A Middle Passage from Africa to American Diaspora
STEPHANIE E. SMALLWOOD

WALTER RODNEY
FOREWORD BY ANGELA DAVIS

**HOW EUROPE
UNDERDEVELOPED
AFRICA**