Chapter Four

Slavery and Empire
1441-1770
Part One

Introduction
Slavery and Empire, 1441-1670

- What does the painting tell us about African slavery?
CUTTING THE SUGAR-CANE,
on Delapi's Estate, Antigua.
Chapter Focus Questions

- How did the slavery system develop?
- What was the history of the slave trade and the Middle Passage?
- How did communities develop among African Americans in the eighteenth century?
- What connections existed between the institutions of slavery and the imperial system of the eighteenth century?
- What was the early history of racism in America?
Part Two

African Slaves Build Their Own Community in Coastal Georgia
Building an African American Community in Coastal Georgia

- In coastal Georgia, slaves taught inexperienced planters how to cultivate rice. Africans carved out a place for themselves in the brutal slave world by:
  - forcing masters to operate on the task system;
  - running away or attacking their masters; and
  - building an African American community and culture.
Part Three

The Beginnings of African Slavery
Sugar and Slavery

- Before the arrival of Europeans, Africans were source of slaves for Islamic world.
- In 1441, the Portuguese opened the trade by bringing slaves to the sugar plantations on the island of Madeira.
- The expansion of sugar production in the Caribbean increased the demand for slaves.
- Caribbean sugar and slaves were the core of the European colonial system.
West Africans

- Slaves came from well-established societies and local communities of West Africa.
- More than 100 peoples lived along the West African coast.
- Most West African societies were polygamous and based on sophisticated systems of farming and metalworking.
- Extensive trade networks existed stimulating the rise of military empires.
- Household slavery was an established institution in Africa, but not necessarily a permanent condition.
Part Four

African Slave Trade
The African Slave Trade

- Map: The African Slave Trade, p. 83
- The Demography of the Slave Trade
- The movement of Africans across the Atlantic was the largest forced migration in history.
- Between ten and eleven million African slaves came to the New World
The African Slave Trade
The Slave Trade to British North America

- Table: Estimated number of African Imported to British North America, 1701-1775, p. 84
- Table: Africans as a Percentage of the Total Population of the British Colonies, 1650-1770, p. 88
- Only one in twenty Africans--approximately 600,000--were transported to what became the United States.
Estimated Number of Africans Imported to British North America, 1701-75

- 1701-10: 9,000
- 1711-20: 10,800
- 1721-30: 9,900
- 1731-40: 40,500
- 1741-50: 58,500
- 1751-60: 41,900
- 1761-70: 69,500
Africans as a Percentage of Total Population of the British Colonies, 1650-1770
Slavers of All Nations

- All Western European nations participated in the African slave trade.
- The control of the trade changed from:
  - the Portuguese in the 16th century;
  - the Dutch in the sugar boom of the 17th century; and
  - the English who entered the trade in the 17th century.
- Europeans generally made arrangements with local African headmen and chiefs to conduct raids to capture potential slaves.
Olaudah Equiano

- In 1756, Olaudah Equiano was eleven years old and living with his family in Nigeria.
- He was captured by African slave raiders and transported to America.
- Purchased first by a Virginia tobacco planter and later by an English sea captain, Equiano served as a slave for ten years before buying his freedom.
- He published his autobiography in 1789 as part of his dedication to the antislavery cause.
The Shock of Enslavement

- Enslavement was a unfathomable shock.
- African raiders or armies often violently attacked villages to take captives.
- The captives were marched in coffles to the coast, many dying along the way.
- On the coast, the slaves were kept in barracoons where they were separated from their families, branded, and dehumanized.
NEGROES JOURNEYING TO THE COAST.

SLAVES RETURNING THEIR LOOMS.
The Middle Passage

- The Atlantic voyage was called the Middle Passage.
- Slaves were crammed into ships and packed into shelves six feet long and thirty-inches high.
- They slept crowded together spoon fashion.
- There was little or no sanitation and food was poor.
- Dysentery and disease were prevalent.
- Slaves resisted by jumping overboard, refusing to eat, and revolting.
- One in six slaves died during this voyage.
The Journeys of Olaudah Equiano

The Middle Passage
Ghana
Gold Coast
Slaves brought off the slave ship to market
STOWAGE OF THE BRITISH SLAVE SHIP BROOKES UNDER THE
REGULATED SLAVE TRADE
Act of 1798.

PLAN OF LOWER DECK WITH THE STOWAGE OF 392 SLAVES.

END OF THESE BEING STORED UNDER THE SHelves AS SHOWN IN FIGURES 4 AND 5.

PLAN SHOWING THE STOWAGE OF ADDITIONAL SLAVES UNDER THE VINGE ON DECK OF THE LOWER DECK BY MEANS OF PLANKING ON DECKS.

The number of slaves is indicated on the plan. The spaces provided for each slave are marked by small squares. The总 number of slaves on deck is shown in the plan at the top of the page.
10 LIKELY and VALUABLE SLAVES
AT AUCTION.

On THURSDAY the 24th inst.
WE WILL SELL,
In front of our Office, without any kind of limit or reserve for cash,
AT 11 O’CLOCK,

10 AS LIKELY NEGROES
As any ever offered in this market; among them is a man who is a
superior Cook and House Servant, and a girl about 17 years old, a
first rate House Servant, and an excellent seamstress.

BROOKE & HUBBARD,
Auctioneers.

Wednesday, July 23, 1823.
1. Negre qui ejambe le tabac.
2. Negre qui torque le tabac.
3. Negre qui le met en rolle.
4. Tabac a la pente.
Alabama plantation
South Carolina 1860
Arrival in the New World

- The sale of human cargo occurred in several ways.
- A single buyer may have purchased the whole cargo.
- Individual slaves could be auctioned to the highest bidder.
- The scramble had the slaves driven into a corral and the price was fixed.
- Buyers rushed among the slaves, grabbing the ones they wanted.
- In the sale process, Africans were closely examined, probed and poked.
Political and Economic Effects on Africa

- The slave trade:
  - resulted in the loss of millions of people over hundreds of years;
  - weakened African states who became dependent on European trade;
  - caused long-term stagnation of the West African economy; and
  - prepared the way for European conquest of Africa in the 19th century.
Part Five

The Development of North American Slave Societies
Slavery in North America

- **Map: Slave Colonies of the 17th and 18th Centuries, p. 84**
- Slavery spread throughout the Caribbean and southern coast of North America.
- By 1770, Africans and African Americans numbered 460,000 in British North America--comprising over 20 percent of the colonial population.
Slave Colonies of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries
African slavery was not the primary labor system in the Chesapeake region until after the 1670s. Between about 1675 and 1700, a slave society developed in the Chesapeake because:

- planters consolidated their control after Bacon's Rebellion and became concerned about future rebellions by former indentured servants;
- improved living conditions the increased survival rates made slavery more profitable;
- European immigrants had better opportunities in other colonies; and
- the Royal English African Company began shipping slaves directly to the region.

Expansion of slavery prompted Virginia to develop a comprehensive slave code.
The Tobacco Colonies

- Slave societies arose in areas where a commodity was produced that commanded an international market.
- Tobacco was the most important commodity produced in 18th century North America, accounting for 25% of the value of all colonial exports.
- Slavery allowed the expansion of tobacco production since it was labor-intensive.
- Using slave labor, tobacco was grown on large plantations and small farms.
- The slave population in this region grew largely by natural increase.
The Lower South

- South Carolina was a slave society from its founding.
- Rice and indigo were the two major crops.
Sugar, tobacco, and cotton to Europe

Slaves to the Americas

Textiles, rum and manufactured goods to Africa
Colonial Economic Development, 1690-1774

Area of Settlement by 1760

British Territory

Indian and/or French Territory to 1763

Major Colonial Industries:
- Lumber
- Staves
- Naval Stores
- Shipbuilding
- Flour
- Rum
- Timber

Locations:
- Albany
- New York
- Philadelphia
- Charles Town
- Baltimore
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia

Map Elements:
- FURS
- GRAIN
- TOBACCO
- SKINS
- Indigo
GANG OF 25 SEA ISLAND
COTTON AND RICE NEGROES,

By LOUIS D. DE SAUSSURE.

On THURSDAY the 25th Sept., 1852, at 11 o'clock, A.M.,
will be sold at RYAN'S MART, in Chalmers Street, in the
City of Charleston,

A prime gang of 25 Negroes, accustomed
to the culture of Sea Island Cotton and
Rice.

CONDITIONS. — One-half Cash, balance by Bond, bearing interest from day of sale, payable in one and two years, to be secured by a mortgage of the negroes and approved personal security. Purchasers to pay for papers.
Slave Quarters in South Carolina

- In South Carolina, large plantations employing many slaves dominated.
- By 1770, about 80% of the coastal population of South Carolina and Georgia was African American.
Slavery in the Spanish Colonies

- Though the papacy denounced slavery it was a basic part of the Spanish colonial labor system.
- The character of Spanish slavery varied by region:
  - in Cuba, on sugar plantation, slavery was brutal;
  - in Florida, slavery resembled household slavery common in Mediterranean and African communities; and
  - in New Mexico, Indian slaves were used in mines, as house servants, and as fieldworkers.
French Louisiana

- French Louisiana was a society with slaves.
- French settlers used slave labor but slave-made up about one-third of the population.
Slavery in the North

- Slavery was a labor system in some northern commercial farming areas but only made up ten percent of the rural population in these regions.
- In port cities, slavery was widespread.
- By 1750, the slave and free African populations made up 15 to 20% of the residents of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.
- Antislavery sentiment first arose among the Quakers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.
LONDON COFFEE HOUSE

Scene of political and commercial activity in the colonial period, the London Coffee House opened here in 1754. It served as a place to inspect Black slaves recently arrived from Africa and to bid for their purchase at public auction.
TO BE SOLD,

On Saturday the 27th Instant, at the London Coffee-House,
TWELVE or Fourteen valuable NEGROES, consisting
of young Men, Women, Boys and Girls; they have
all had the Small-Pox, can talk English, and are seasoned
to the Country. The Sale to begin at Twelve o’Clock.

SIX DOLLARS Reward.

RUN away, on the 19th Day of June last, from the Subscri-

er, writing Sixtus and at
Part Six

African to African American
Towards an African American Culture

- Increasingly, the North American slave population became creole and created an African American culture.
- African American slaves also built the South.
The Daily Lives of Slaves

- As agricultural peoples, Africans were used to rural routines and most slaves worked in the fields.
- Slaves were supplied rude clothes and hand-me-downs from the master's family.
- The monotonous diets of corn and pork were varied by vegetables from small gardens, game and fish, and wild plant foods.
- On small plantations and farms, particularly in tobacco region of Chesapeake, Africans may have worked along side their masters.
Families and Communities

- In the development of African American community and culture, the family was the most important institution.
- Slave codes did not legalize slave marriages and families were often separated by sale or bequest.
- Slaves created family structures developing marriage customs, naming practices, and a system of kinship.
African American Culture

- The formative period of African American community development was the 18th century.
- The resiliency of slaves was shown in the development of a spiritually sustaining African American culture drawing upon dance, music, religion and oral tradition.
- Until the Great Awakening, large numbers of African Americans were not converted to Christianity.
- Death and burial were important religious practices.
- Music and dance formed the foundations of African American culture.
- The invention of an African American language facilitated communication between American-born and African slaves.
The Africanization of the South

- Acculturation occurred in two directions--English influenced Africans and Africans influenced English.
- Africanization was evident in:
  - cooking: barbecue, fried chicken, black-eyed peas, and collard greens;
  - material culture: basket weaving, wood carving, and architecture;
  - language: yam, banjo, tote, buddy; and
  - music and dance: banjo.
Violence and Resistance

- The slave system was based on force and violence.
- Africans resisted in the following ways:
  - Refusing to cooperate and malingering;
  - Mistreating tools and animals;
  - Running away; and
  - Revolt.
Part Seven

Slavery and the Economics of Empire
Slavery the Mainspring

- Map: Triangular Trade across the Atlantic, p. 99
- The slave trade was the foundation of the British economy.
- Slavery contributed to the economy by:
  - creating a large colonial market for exports that stimulated manufacturing;
  - generated huge profits that served as a source of investments; and
  - supplying raw cotton to fuel British industrialization.
Triangular Trade across the Atlantic
British Colonial Exports

- **Table: Value of Colonial Exports by region, annual average, 1768-1772, p. 104**

- The Chesapeake and Lower South accounted for two-thirds of colonial exports in the late 18th century.
Value of Colonial Exports by Region, Annual Average, 1768-72
The Politics of Mercantilism

Mercantilism was based on:

- the idea the colonies existed to benefit the mother country;
- the economy should be controlled by the state; and
- the economy was a "zero-sum" game where profits for one country meant losses for another.
Wars for Empire

- The English, French, and Spanish struggled for control over North America and the Caribbean in a series of wars that had their European counterparts.
British Colonial Regulation

- European nations created state trading monopolies to manage the commerce of its empires.
- The Navigation Acts passed between 1651 and 1696 created the legal and institutional structure of Britain's colonial system.
- The Wool, Hat, and Iron acts reduced colonial competition with British manufacturing interests.
- Great Britain did not allow colonial tariffs, banking, or local coinage.
- The increase in colonial trade led Britain to pursue a policy of "salutary neglect."
The Colonial Economy

- The colonial economy grew rapidly.
- The New England shipbuilding was stimulated by trade.
- The greatest benefits for northern port cities came from:
  - participating in the slave trade to the South and West Indies; and
  - trading foodstuffs for sugar in foreign colonies.
- Between the 1730s and 1770s, the commercial economies of the North and South were becoming integrated.
Part Eight

Slavery and Freedom
The Social Structure of the Slave Colonies

- Southern white society was characterized by:
  - a small elite of wealthy planters;
  - small planters and farmers; and
  - renters and tenant farmers.
White Skin Privilege

- Skin color determined status.
- Legal and other racial distinctions were constant reminders of the freedom of white colonists and the debasement of all African Americans, free or slave.
$200 Reward.

RANAWAY from the subscriber, on the night of Thursday, the 30th of September,

FIVE NEGRO SLAVES,

To-wit: one Negro man, his wife, and three children.

The man is a black negro, full height, very erect, his face a little thin. He is about forty years of age, and calls himself Washington Reed, and is known by the name of Washington. He is probably well dressed, possibly takes with him an ivory headed cane, and is of good address. Several of his teeth are gone.

Mary, his wife, is about thirty years of age, a bright mulatto woman, and quite stout and strong.

The oldest of the children is a boy, of the name of FIELDSING, twelve years of age, a dark mulatto, with heavy eyelids. He probably wore a new cloth cap.

Matilda, the second child, is a girl, six years of age, rather a dark mulatto, but a bright and smart looking child.

Malcolm, the youngest, is a boy, four years old, a lighter mulatto than the last, and about equally as bright. He probably also wore a cloth cap. If examined, he will be found to have a swelling at the navel.

Washington and Mary have lived at or near St. Louis, with the subscriber, for about 15 years.

It is supposed that they are making their way to Chicago, and that a white man accompanies them, that they will travel chiefly at night, and most probably in a covered wagon.

A reward of $150 will be paid for their apprehension, so that I can get them, if taken within one hundred miles of St. Louis, and $200 if taken beyond that, and secured so that I can get them, and other reasonable additional charges, if delivered to the subscriber, or to Thomas Allen, Esq., at St. Louis, Mo. The above negroes, for the last few years, have been in possession of Thomas Allen, Esq., of St. Louis.

Wm. Russell.

St. Louis, Oct. 1, 1847.
Part Nine

Conclusion
Slavery and Empire, 1441-1770

- Media: Chronology, p. 106
### Slavery and Empire, 1441-1770

#### Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1441</td>
<td>African slaves first brought to Portugal</td>
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<tr>
<td>1518</td>
<td>Spain grants official license to Portuguese slavers</td>
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<td>1535</td>
<td>Africans constitute a majority on Hispaniola</td>
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<td>1619</td>
<td>First Africans brought to Virginia</td>
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<td>1655</td>
<td>English seize Jamaica</td>
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<td>1662</td>
<td>Virginia law makes slavery hereditary</td>
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<td>1670</td>
<td>South Carolina founded</td>
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<td>1672</td>
<td>Royal African Company organized</td>
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<td>1691</td>
<td>Virginia prohibits interracial sexual contact</td>
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<td>1698</td>
<td>Britain opens the slave trade to all its merchants</td>
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<td>1699</td>
<td>Spanish declare Florida a refuge for escaped slaves</td>
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<td>1702</td>
<td>South Carolinians burn St. Augustine</td>
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<td>1703</td>
<td>Virginia Slave Code established</td>
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<td>1706</td>
<td>French and Spanish navies bombard Charleston</td>
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<td>1710</td>
<td>English capture Port Royal in Acadia</td>
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<td>1712</td>
<td>Slave uprising in New York City</td>
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<td>1713</td>
<td>Peace of Utrecht</td>
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<td>1721–48</td>
<td>Robert Walpole leads British cabinet</td>
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<td>1729</td>
<td>Natchez Rebellion in French Louisiana</td>
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<td>1733</td>
<td>Molasses Act</td>
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<td>1739</td>
<td>Stono Rebellion in South Carolina</td>
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<td>1739–43</td>
<td>War of Jenkins’s Ear</td>
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<td>1740–48</td>
<td>King George’s War</td>
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<tr>
<td>1741</td>
<td>Africans executed in New York for conspiracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1752</td>
<td>Georgia officially opened to slavery</td>
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<tr>
<td>1770s</td>
<td>Peak period of the English colonies’ slave trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>1808</td>
<td>Importation of slaves into the United States ends</td>
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