

AP World Global Interactions Review 1450 - 1750



The Big Picture

- Two hemispheres joined in sustained contact resulting in greatly enlarged world trade networks with fewer people remaining outside the influence
- Balance of power changed as Western European kingdoms claimed lands and gained control of older trade routes
- Land based empires expanded borders and conquered many nomadic groups (gunpowder)

The Big Picture (continued)

- Labor systems are transformed; slavery expanded and became more central to economic activities
- Natural environment drastically changed
 - Imported domestic animals trampled grasslands and altered native farming habits
 - New crops changed soil conditions
 - Land cleared for farming (including rain forests)
 - Population compositions changed as disease spread

Overall

- Events shaped regional political units of today's world and influenced interrelationships among modern cultures
- Power centers **shifted away from the Middle East and Asia and towards Western Europe**
- Western Europe transformed from decentralized, quarreling kingdoms to powerful centralized states
- The world became smaller as international trade grew
- Technology made transportation faster and easier
- Middle East and Asia still played host to large, wealthy empires but the balance of power was shifting westward
- Joining of the two hemispheres in sustained interactions greatly altered the ever-shrinking world



Africa

Investigate the impact of the new world economy on Africa



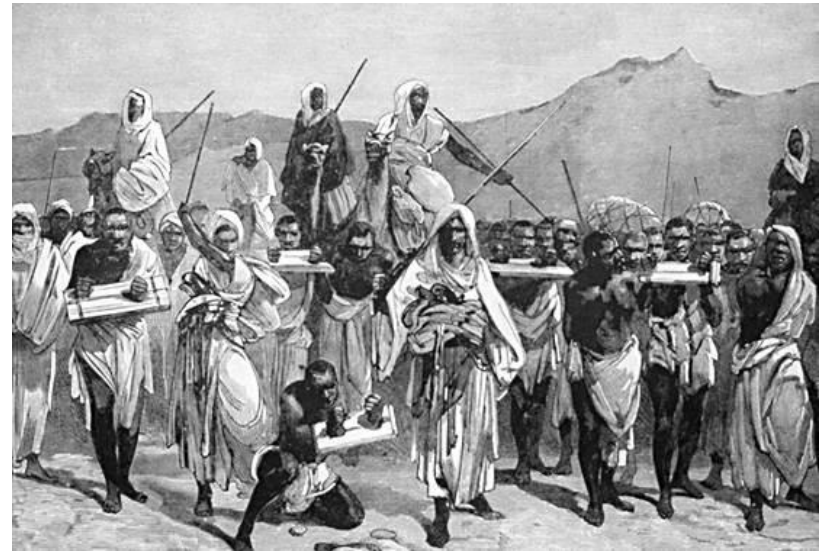
Africa and the New World Economy



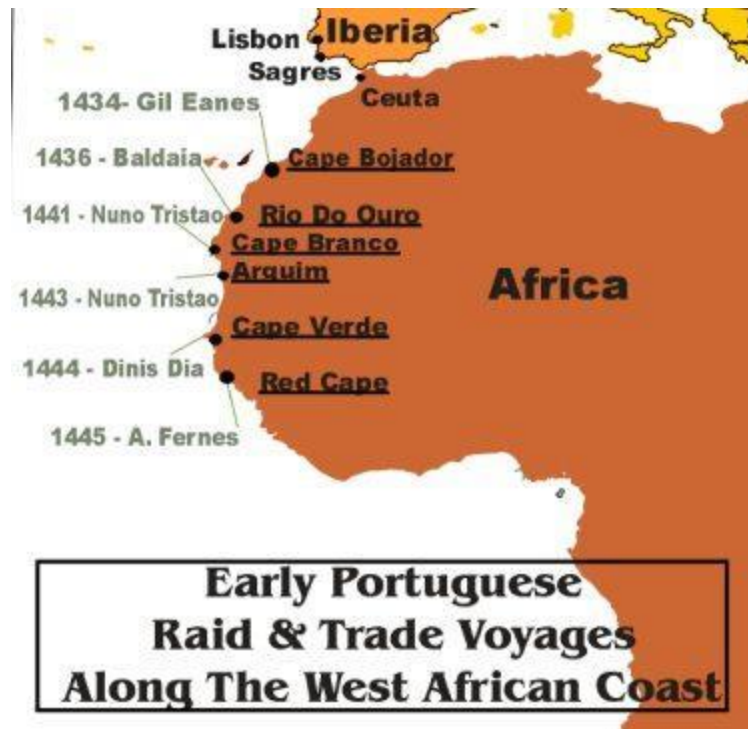
- Gold, salt, and ivory trade brought wealth to African kingdoms
- These connections led Africa directly into the new world economy
- Africans played a vital role in the new trade patterns that developed
 - Most valuable contribution was human beings; the second leg of the Atlantic Circuit as slaves headed to the new World
- The slave trade transformed the parts of Africa that it touched, but many parts were unaffected by the changes swirling around them

Early Contact with Europeans

- Slave trade existed before the Europeans got involved
 - Internal slave trade
 - POW
 - Slaves not seen as property; controllers amass wealth through their labor
 - Slaves could obtain freedom or become members of clan
- Changed after contact with the Portuguese
- 10,000,000+ largest forced migration in world history



Early Contact with Europeans (cont)



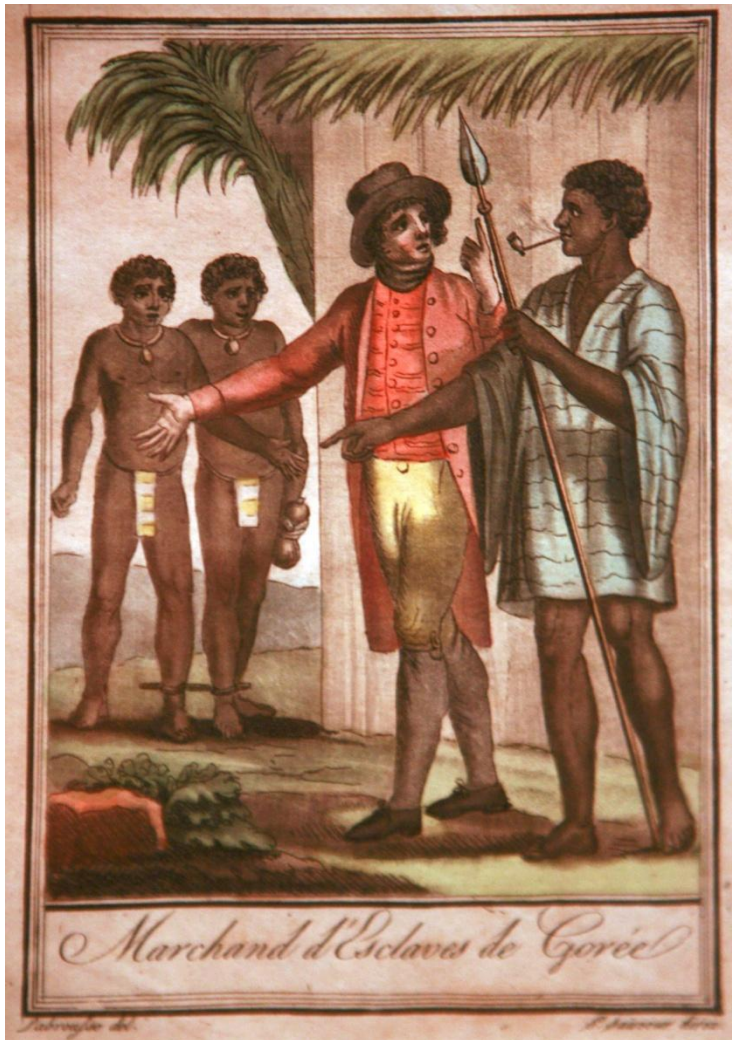
- 15th C
- Exploratory voyages along western coast
- Prince Henry the Navigator
 - Established forts and trading posts called factories; local African merchants brought goods to be traded
- Initial interest in gold and ivory; some slaves brought to Portugal by 1441

Early Contact with Europeans (cont)

- Christian missionaries converted royal family in Kongo
 - Relationship equal; tried to Europeanize the natives (Africans as inferior)
- Growing slave trade encouraged the Portuguese to look to the Kongo to supply slaves for the Middle Passage
 - 1665 – King of the Kongo went to war with the Portuguese to stop slave raiding
 - Portuguese superior arms helped them win
- Europeans continued to colonize further south and set up competing slave trading posts
 - Once the Portuguese rounded the Cape of Good Hope they took over Swahili trading cities and intensified the slave trade already in place across the Indian Ocean



Early Contact with Europeans (cont)



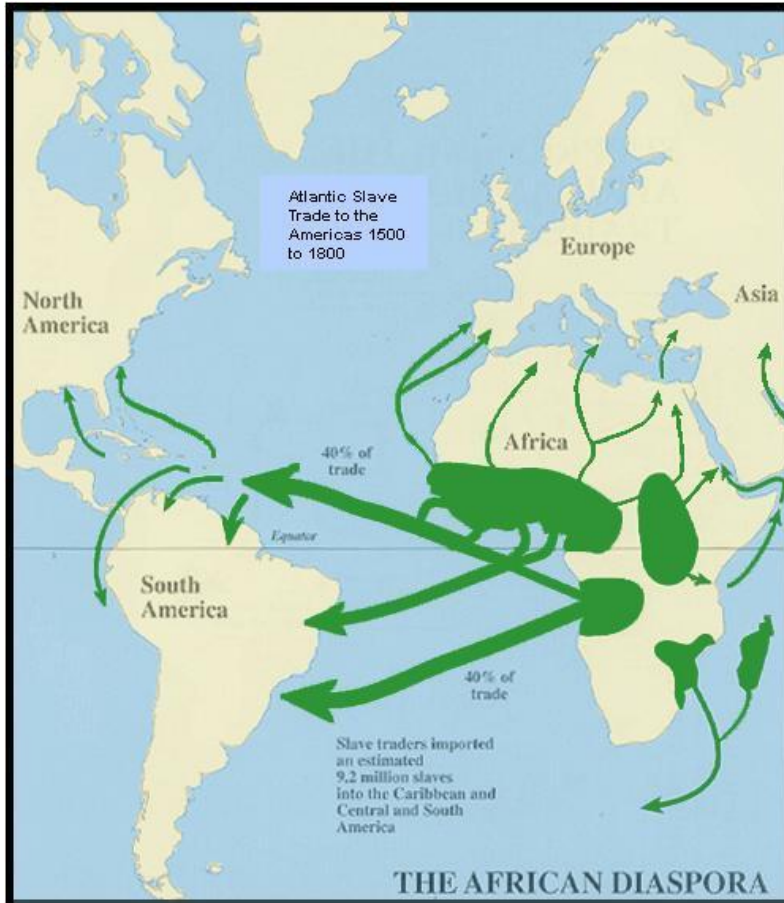
- Cooperation of African elite important
 - Traded war captives, criminals, and individuals expelled from their group
 - Generally young men valued for strength
- Portuguese dominated for 150 years+
- As demand grew, other Europeans joined slave trade
 - Established forts along African coast
 - Slaves brought to coast as military captives or kidnapped
- Many African states were small and fragmented; their quarreling produced war captives who provided labor for the victors
- European merchants benefitted

The Middle Passage

- ❑ Slaves in specially built holds; packed together
 - Girls/boys/women separate
 - Four to ten weeks
- ❑ Packed ships to maximize profits
 - Male slaves chained together to keep from jumping overboard
 - Special nets to catch any that decided to jump together
- ❑ Once under sail, men kept below decks
- ❑ Death from disease, bad food, dysentery, refusal to eat, whippings, occasional execution



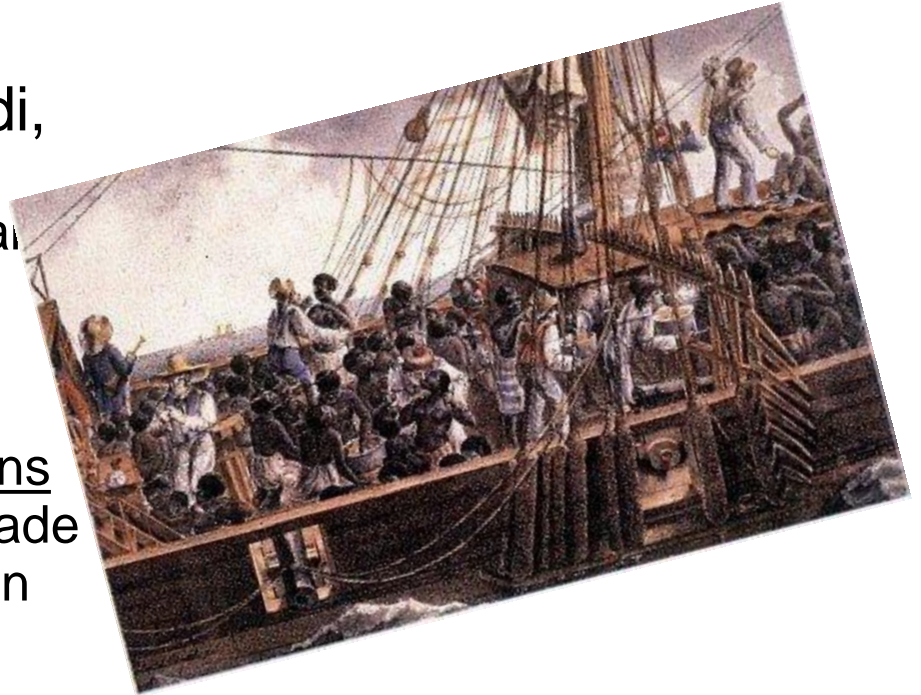
The African Diaspora



- Spreading of Africans
 - Most destined for sugar plantations in Brazil and the Caribbean; later for rice, cotton and tobacco production
 - Some in Spanish mines or household servants
- Large sugar plantations; slaves vast majority of population
 - Brazil – manumission more common than elsewhere
- Impact of diaspora on family life; African women outnumbered by men everywhere in the Western Hemisphere
 - Family structures seriously challenged
 - Many African converted to Christianity but continued their native religions

The Impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade in Africa

- Interior groups not as affected (Rwanda, Burundi, Masai, Turkana)
 - Many benefited such as Asante, Dahomey, Oyo
- **Asante**
 - Western Africa
 - Leader Osei Tutu united clans
 - Controlled gold and slave trade
 - Most powerful state in Sudan
 - Kingdom cooperative



The Impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade in Africa



- **Benin** depended on traditional products
 - ivory
 - textiles
 - bronze
- **Dahomey** used firearms to create power base
 - Authoritarian leaders using brutal force for compliance; kingdom based on force

The Impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade in Africa

- Loss of millions of young men creating sex ratio imbalance
- Slave trade brought political unrest
 - Violence escalated; European weapons
- On the east coast the Swahili states continued trade; adjusted to European presence
 - Links to the interior continued to bring ivory, gold, and slaves to the coast
- New World style plantations on Zanzibar
 - Slave markets of the Red Sea continue
- Dutch set up Cape Colony at Cape of Good Hope
 - Dutch moved inland to farm and depended on slave labor
- Most other interior African areas remained relative isolated

The Impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade in Africa (cont)

- Nutritional benefits of Columbian Exchange meant that people who remained in Africa had diets enriched
 - Maize
 - Cassava
 - Peanuts
- No significant population decline

