

EARLY LATIN AMERICA, 1500-1800



I. Spain and Portugal Control the Americas

- A. 1494, Treaty of Tordesillas splits the continents between Spain and Portugal, begin to colonize
- B. Feudal-style economic/social system
 - Tended to live in cities surrounded by peasant population
 - ✦ Conquerors = nobility
 - ✦ natives = peasant workers
- C. Strong bureaucracy and theocracy
 - Colonies report to the King
 - Catholic church strong influence



I. Spain and Portugal Control the Americas

- D. Spanish colonized Central Mexico, then South America
 - Cortez arrived in Mexico (1519), entire region under Spanish control by 1535 (New Spain)
 - Pizarro reached Peru by 1540, easily defeated a weak Inca Empire, extend New Spain
- E . Portuguese settled in eastern South America (Brazil)



I. Spain and Portugal Control the Americas

- F. Conquest and colonization

- Encomienda system – land, including native peoples, was granted to individual Spaniards by the king
 - Established a type serfdom/feudalism
 - ✦ Encomendero – holder of an encomienda
- Big impact:
 - Native groups killed by disease and conflict
 - Many forced into poor living conditions



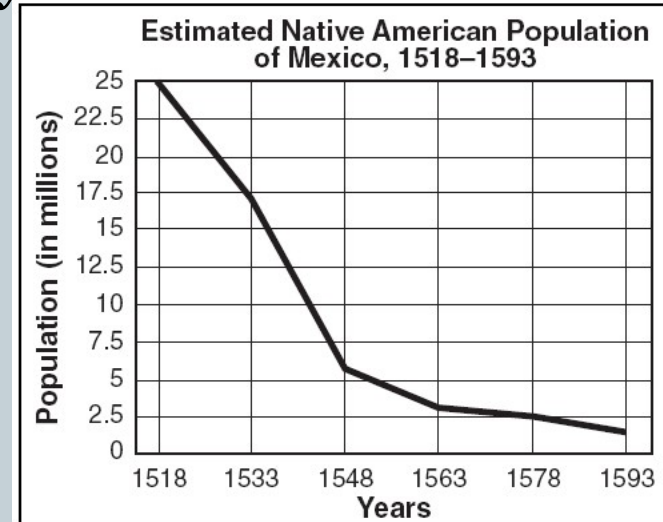
II. Destruction and Transformation

- A. Native population declined rapidly

- Mexico – 25 mil. (1519) → 2 mil. (1580)
- Peru – 10 mil. (1530) → 1.5 mil. (1590)

- B. Exploitation by Europeans

- Native nobility promised special privileges if they helped Europeans
- Thousands of natives used as cheap/free labor for silver mining, agriculture, construction
- Native culture pushed out – many forced to learn new languages, practice new religious beliefs

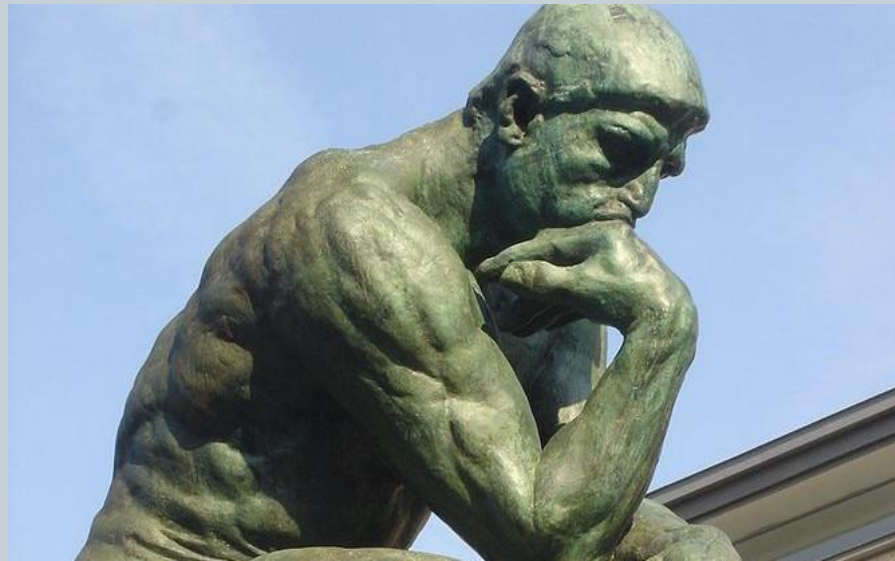


Source: James Killoran et al., *The Key to Understanding Global History*, Jarrett Publishing (adapted)

CHALLENGE QUESTION!



- How did colonization in the Americas impact natives?



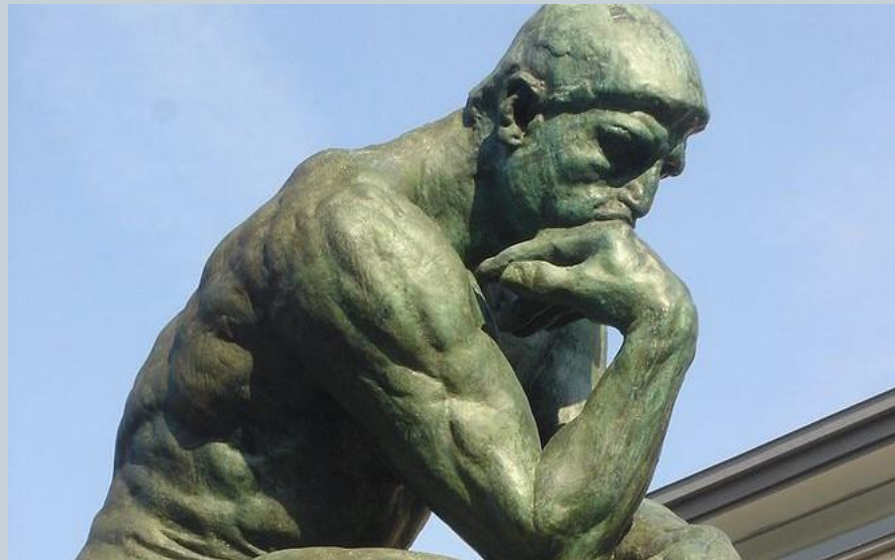
III. Economic, Political, & Religious Developments

- C. Encomiendas give way to slave plantations
 - Native populations decline, forced labor is “solution”
 - African slaves and indentured servants from W. Europe
- D. Silver mining and agriculture basis for economy
 - Sugar, tobacco biggest agriculture exports; silver most valuable
 - Spain tightly controlled trade between Americas and rest of world through late 17th century
 - Galleons – heavily armed ships, used to carry silver and other valuable goods
- E. Highly structured bureaucracy resembled that of Spain's
 - Viceroyalties – high ranking nobles, representatives of Spanish king
 - Audiencias – system of courts to enforce European laws on all peoples

CHALLENGE QUESTION!



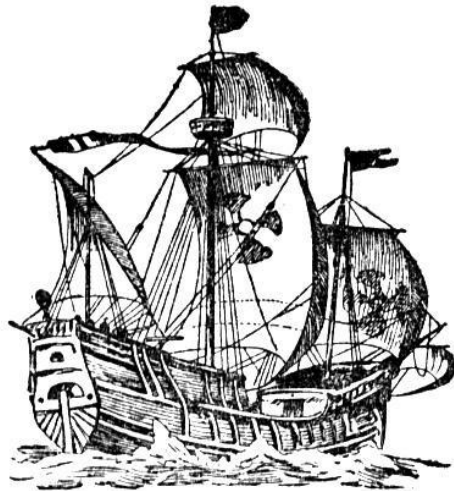
- How did colonization in the Americas mimic home countries (think political/economic systems).



III. Economic, Political, & Religious Developments

○ F. Role of Catholic Church

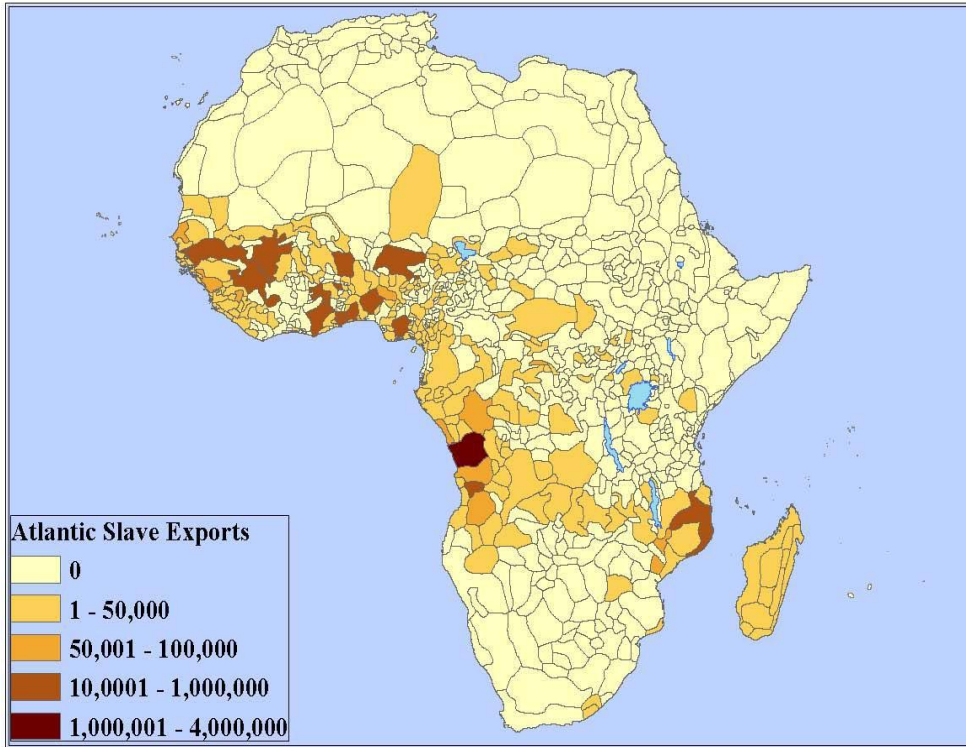
- In the beginning, focused on conversion of natives
- Later, record and analyze New World culture - many monks actively worked to preserve native cultures
 - Many were appalled by treatment of native Americans, some began to refocus on helping native peoples



IV. Social Organization in the New World

- A. The mixing of Europeans, Africans, and Native Americans creates new social hierarchies
 - Sociedad de castas
 - ✦ Social status based on racial origins, influenced job opportunities
 - Europeans at the top (hierarchies develop pushing peninsulares – born in Portugal or Spain to top over creoles – born in New World)
 - ✦ In the middle/bottom – people of mixed origin (castas)
 - Mulattoes: African + European
 - Mestizo: European + American
 - Zambos: American + African
 - Racial hierarchies occur simultaneous to ones based on wealth, religion, gender

Africa and the Slave Trade



I. European Contact With Africa

A. Late 1400s, Portugal established factories (forts and trading posts) along coast of Africa - Dutch, French, English follow in late 1500s

- Traded with local rulers, often provided military support in local conflicts
- Christian missionaries attempted to convert, not always welcomed

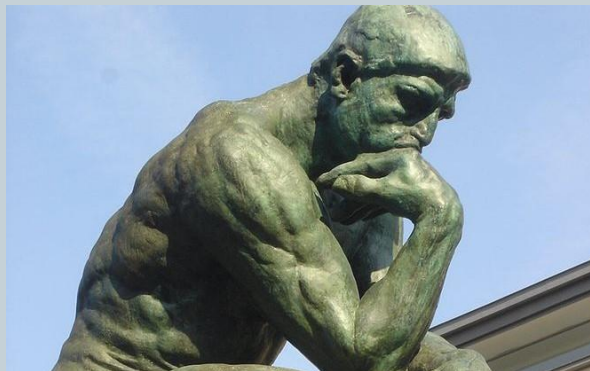


- Initial European contact focused on economic gain (trade), not permanent settlements
- Slave trade developed slowly, along with other aspects of existing global trade/exchange
 - Gold, pepper, ivory, salt

CHALLENGE QUESTION!



- What did initial European contact in Africa focus on first?
 - A. Permanent settlements
 - B. The development of slavery
 - C. Economic gains through trade
 - D. Conversion to Christianity



II. Atlantic Slave Trade

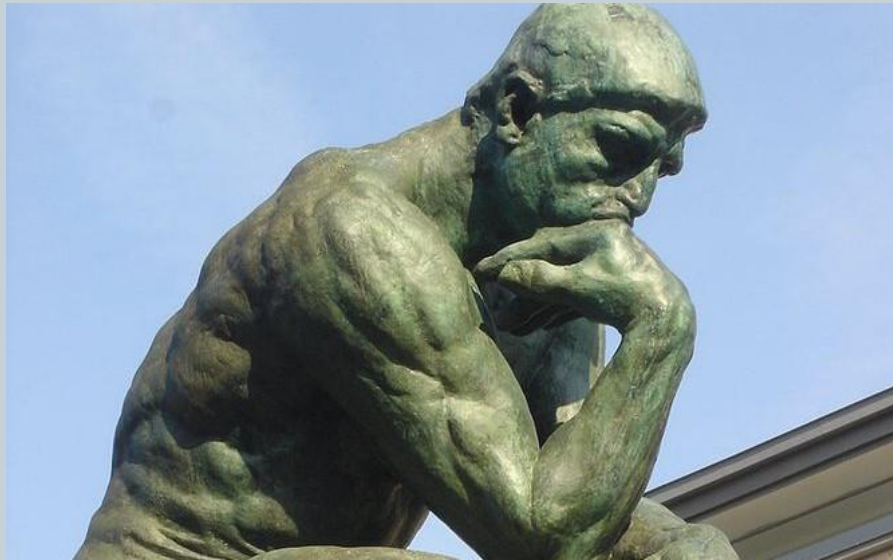
- B. As native American populations rapidly declined, Europeans looked to new sources of labor
- Indentured servants from Europe not “fit” for work done in Americas
 - Africans often portrayed as “brutes” and so “suited” for the labor in the Americas



CHALLENGE QUESTION!



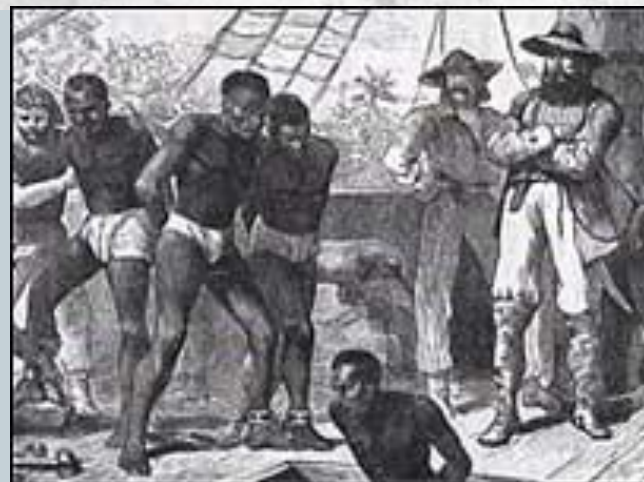
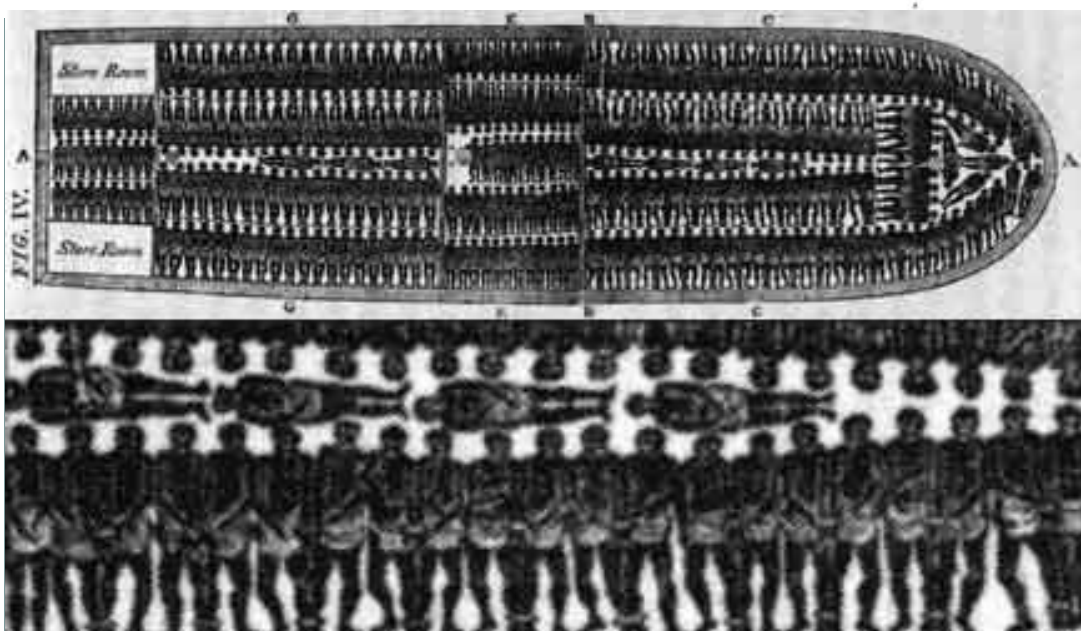
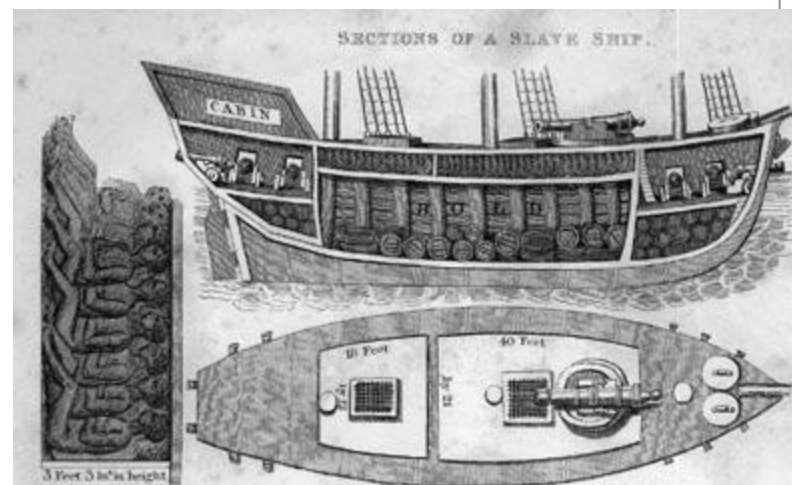
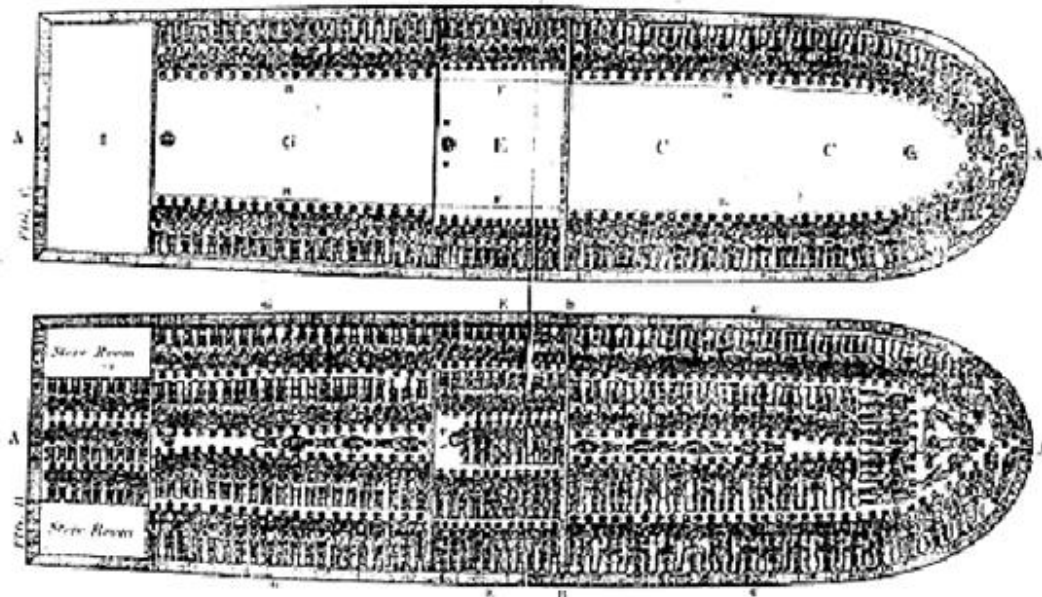
- Why did Europeans need new sources of labor in the New World? Why did they pick Africans?



II. Atlantic Slave Trade

C. Middle Passage: estimated 8-12 million Africans shipped to Americas, 16th-19th cent.

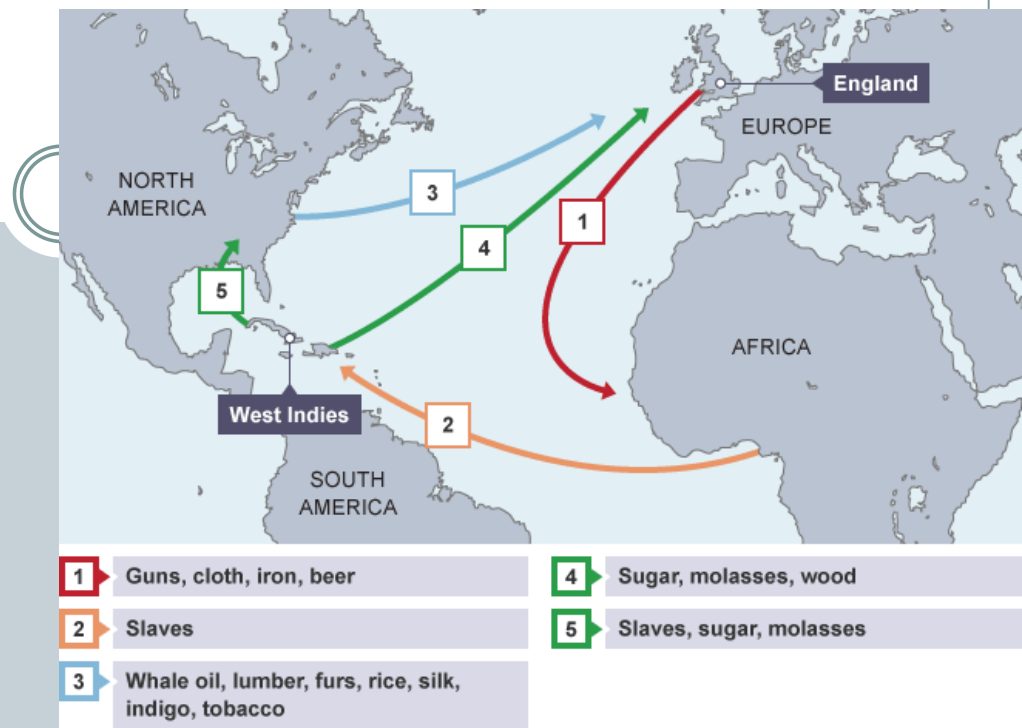
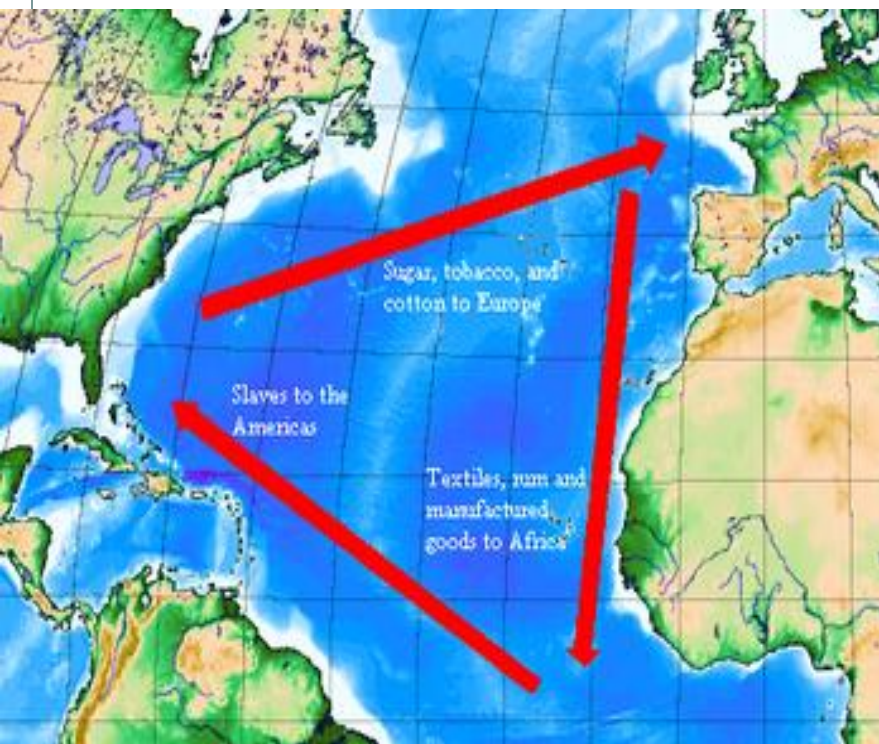
- 10-20% died along the way
 - Overcrowded, unsanitary conditions
 - Often led to death, suicide, rebellions
- Mostly men were shipped – more likely to survive, able to do hard labor in Americas



CHALLENGE QUESTION!

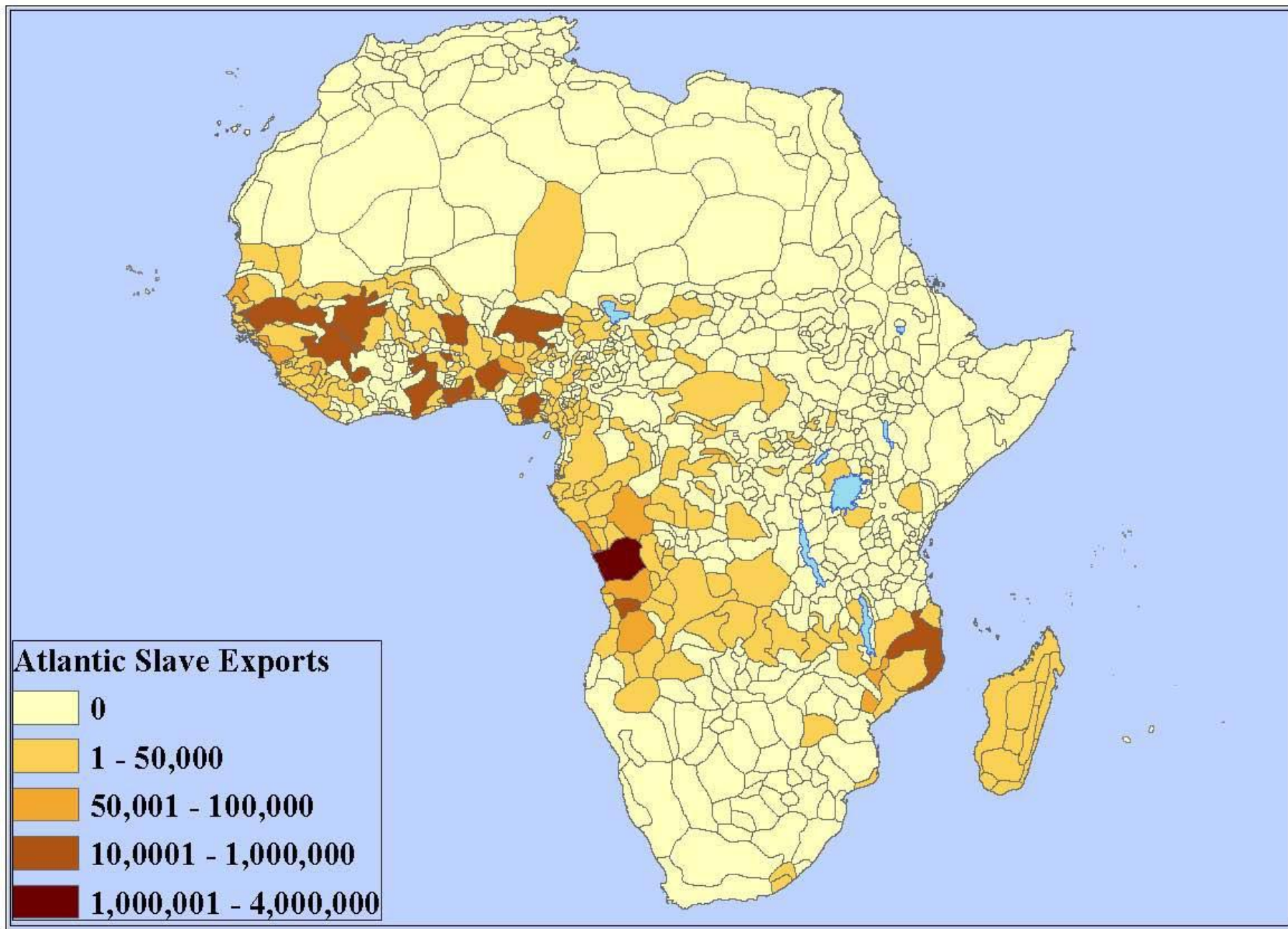


- All of the following are false about the Middle Passage except
 - A. The unsanitary conditions of the ship led to much disease and death
 - B. Mostly women were shipped to the Americas
 - C. The Middle Passage began as soon as Europeans began trading with Africa
 - D. Conditions on the ships of the Middle Passage were relatively clean



D. Atlantic slave trade directly linked to plantation and mining economies of Americas

- Triangular trade – slaves to Americas, raw goods/resources to Europe, European goods to Africa (and beyond)



III. Effects on African Societies



E. Europeans exploited already existing forms of servitude

- Women were center of slavery in Africa – used as domestic laborers
- Slavery used as form of labor control and wealth
- Slave exports in Muslim lands
 - The movement of slaves to eastern lands had been going on since the expansion of the Muslim world in the 9th century

III. Effects on African Societies

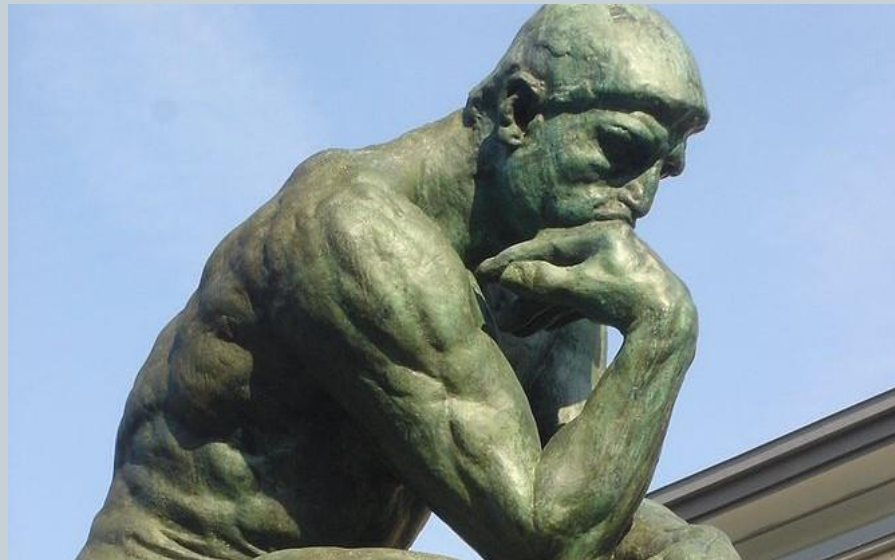


- F. African rulers anxious to acquire more slaves and trade with Europeans for guns/goods resulted in
- Expansion of societies eager to take part in slave trade
 - Conflicts among African societies as competition increased
 - Demographic (population) shift – less men, more women in many western African societies
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- Many new, stronger states (ex: Dahomey) emerged during time period as result of contact with/influence from Europeans and slave trade

CHALLENGE QUESTION!



- How did the slave trade impact African societies?



IV. Diaspora and End of Slave Trade



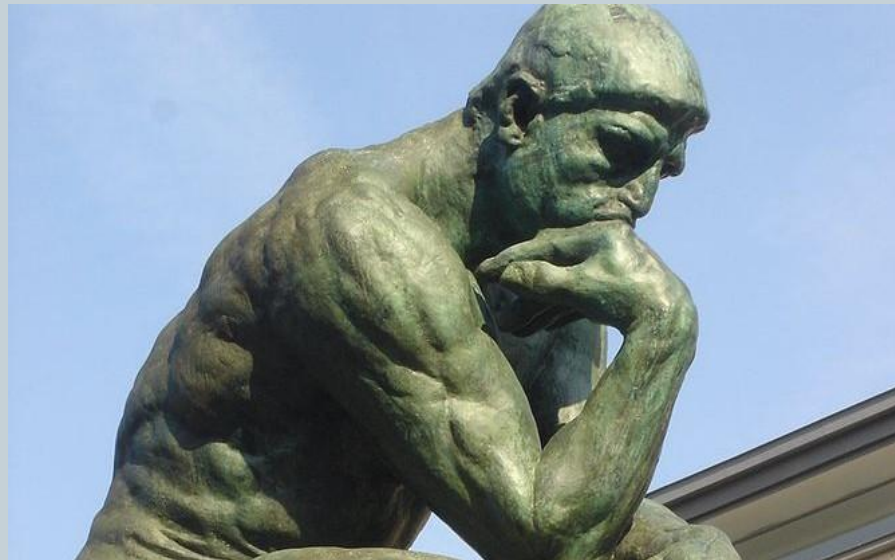
G. Diaspora – scattering of people from homelands

- Slave trade firmly linked Africa to rest of world
 - African culture was brought to new areas, mixed with other traditions
 - ✦ Religion – slaves converted to Catholicism by Spaniards/Portuguese, converted to Protestant religions in North America
 - Religious syncretism – African religious traditions mixed with Christian traditions
 - Examples: Vodun in Haiti, candomble in Brazil

CHALLENGE QUESTION!



- What is 'diaspora'? How did African diaspora connect African culture with the rest of the world?



IV. Continued...



H. End of Slave Trade

- Abolition of the slave trade occurred for a variety of reasons:
 - ✦ Enlightenment thinking
 - ✦ Christian humanitarianism –
William Wilberforce
 - ✦ Industrial revolution
 - ✦ Slave trade was too risky
- Brazil last to abolish slave trade in 1888



CHALLENGE QUESTION!



- Which of the following was not a reason the slave trade ended?
 - A. Enlightenment thinking led to the idea that slavery was inhumane
 - B. Industrial revolution led to less need for slavery
 - C. Slavery was seen as too risky a venture for companies
 - D. Too many successful slave rebellions overthrew settlements in the Americas