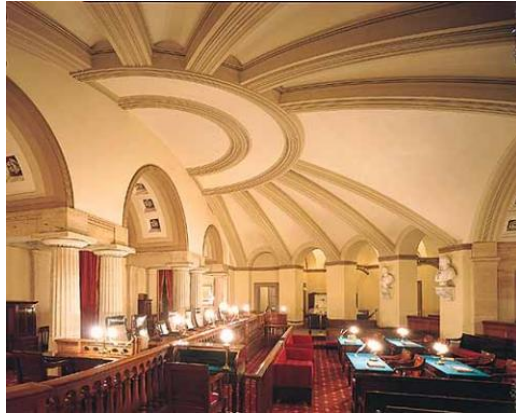


0. FREEDOM! - Story Preface
1. THE SLAVE TRADE
2. THE AMISTAD MUTINY
3. CAPTURED AGAIN
4. THE FIRST TRIAL
5. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS FOR THE DEFENSE
6. SET THEM FREE!
- 7. FREEDOM!**
8. SENGBE GOES HOME
9. THE STORY LIVES ON
10. WHEN PEOPLE were CARGO



The U.S. Supreme Court heard the *Amistad* case in the Court's "old courtroom." This image, from the Library of Congress, gives us a view of that special place. PD

The U.S. Supreme Court's [decision](#) (this link takes you to the handwritten original) set the Africans free.

The court determined [Sengbe](#) and his compatriots had been kidnaped from their homeland. Their rights had been violated. Justice Story's opinion, like the argument of John Quincy Adams, was based on the "eternal principles of justice."

One additional holding prevented a complete victory. No American statute required the United States to return the captives to their homeland. Private money would have to be raised to pay for return passage. In the meantime, the newly freed prisoners [lived in Farmington](#), Connecticut.

Sengbe helped to raise the needed transport fees. He wrote a letter on the 5th of October, 1841, which included these words:

...They say we are like dogs without any home. But if you will send us home you will see whether we be dogs or not. We want to see no more snow. We no say this place no good, but we afraid of cold. Cold catch us all the time...We want to go very soon, and go to no place but Sierra Leone.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/FREEDOM-Amistad-Incident>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/FREEDOM-Amistad-Incident>

Media Stream



Amistad House - Farmington, Connecticut

Image online, courtesy of the history teacher.net website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Amistad-House-Farmington-Connecticut>

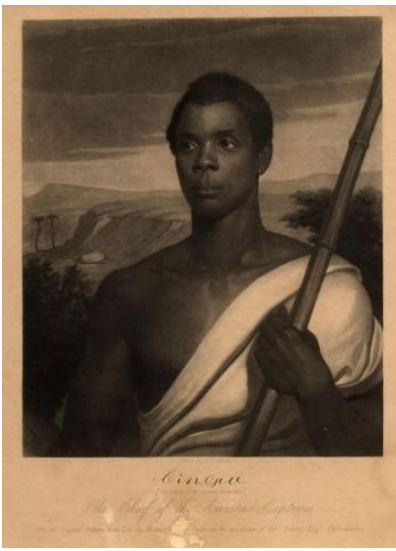
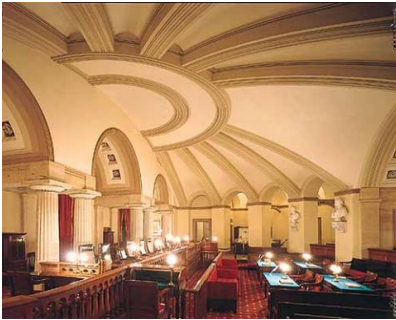


Image of Sengbe

Image described above, online courtesy U.S. National Park Service. PD

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Image-of-Sengbe>



FREEDOM!

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