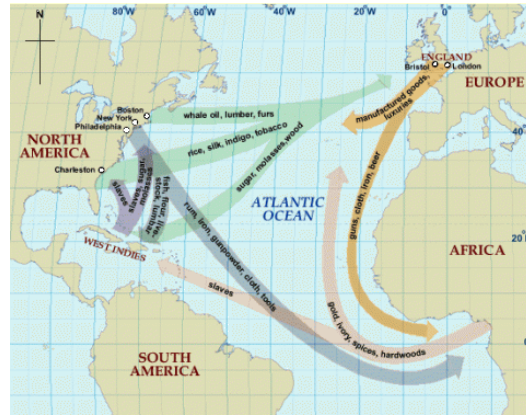


0. THE TRIANGLE TRADE - Story Preface
1. AFRICA, BEFORE SLAVERS
2. SLAVE-TRADE BEGINNINGS
- 3. THE TRIANGLE TRADE**
4. THE MIDDLE PASSAGE MYTH
5. MIDDLE PASSAGE REALITY
6. JOHN NEWTON, SLAVE TRADER
7. OLAUDAH EQUIANO
8. HUMANS: PROPERTY and AUCTIONS
9. WILLIAM WILBERFORCE
10. VOICE of a MOVEMENT
11. MASSIVE EXPLOITATION
12. THE FAMOUS SPEECH
13. CONVINCING the PUBLIC
14. SLAVE TRADE ABOLISHED - FEBRUARY 23, 1807
15. MORE TRAGEDIES
16. AMAZING GRACE



This map, from Britain's National Archives, depicts the "triangle trade" between the UK, Africa and the Americas. Curators at the Archives provide [this description](#): "This map shows the main commodities traded between Africa, Britain, the Caribbean and North America at the height of the slave trade. As well as enslaved people, British traders took other products, including gold, ivory and spices, from Africa."

As Britain began to dominate the slave-trading business, its ships sailed between ports on three continents. A triangular trading system developed, combining European capital (in the first leg) with African labor (in the second) and British-colony resources (in the third):

- On the first leg of the triangular journey, ships left Britain - principally from Liverpool and Bristol - loaded with manufactured goods: copper, textiles, silks imported from Asia, glassware, ammunition, guns, knives and other finished products.
- Arriving in Africa, sailors offloaded those goods and filled the cargo holds with indigo and captured people: men, women and children. The "middle passage" brought the branded, newly enslaved Africans to the Americas or to Caribbean islands. It is estimated that at least ten percent of the captives died en route due to unbelievably bad conditions. When the ships encountered fierce weather, casualties were higher.
- Ships, loaded with slave-produced raw materials, returned to Britain during the final leg of the triangular trading cycle. Sugar, coffee, tobacco and - especially - cotton were processed in British factories. Those materials provided workers with jobs and business owners with profits.

At the end of the process, European markets were well supplied with whatever goods they needed. And ... while Europeans were running the slave trade on the west side of Africa ... Arab traders were doing the same thing (this is a BBC audio clip) on the east side.

Let's take a closer look at the second leg of the triangular journey - the infamous "middle passage" - during which Africans were shipped, to the "New World," as slave-labor.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-TRIANGLE-TRADE-Amazing-Grace>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-TRIANGLE-TRADE-Amazing-Grace>

Questions 2 Ponder

What Was the Triangle Trade?

As Britain began to dominate the slave-trading business, its ships sailed between ports on three continents. A triangular trading system developed, combining European capital (in the first leg) with African labor (in the second) and British-colony resources (in the third).

Describe the events which occurred during each leg of the triangle trade.

Which of the three legs impacted Africans who were kidnapped from their homes?

Media Stream



Goree Warehouses in Liverpool

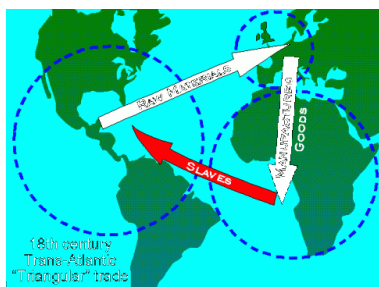
Engraving by Samuel Austin, 1829.

Image, courtesy Liverpool Record Office, Liverpool Libraries and Information Services.

PD

View this asset at:

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Graphic Depicting Legs of the Triangle Trade

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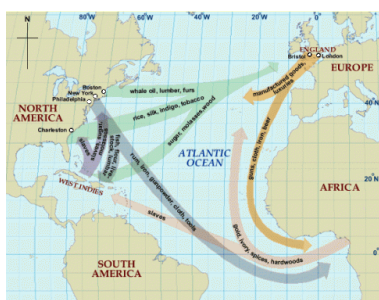
Thirteenth-Century Slaves in Zabid, Yemen

Online, courtesy BnF.

PD

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THE TRIANGLE TRADE

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