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The Slave Trade Study Guide

Focus Questions

- How did the Jamestown settlement influence future slave trade?
- How did the slave trade influence out country today?
- In what ways did the slaves respond to slavery?

Beginning of African Slavery

- Early Spanish settlers enslaved Native Americans as a source of harsh labor
- Disease and abuse caused the population to plummet leaving a high need for slaves
- Spaniards saw African slaves as the solution as they were:
 - Seen as genetically stronger when compared to the Native Americans
 - They did not know the land, so any escape would be extremely difficult
 - Were immune to European diseases

Jamestown and Tobacco

- Tobacco was referred to "Black Gold" due to the profit it brought in
 - Name originates from the early Jamestown settlers who stayed behind after not being able to find gold; they grew tobacco and made lots of profit
 - Exportation to England influenced trade and settlement
- As the Jamestown economy grew, so did the demand for labor in order to grow the tobacco
- Indentured servants came to work for a few years for food and shelter, but after a few years they would work for free

Triangular Trade

- Trade between Africa, colonies, and west Indies
 - Merchandise was traded for slavery in Africa and for spices in Indies
- Middle Passage was the voyage from Africa to America
 - Separated families forever
 - Beatings and illness was common

Uprisings and Anti-Slavery

- Petitions were first made against slavery in the Norrh in 1770s
 - No families
 - No property or Country
 - Asking for relief
- Among the slaves there were many revolts
 - Faking of illness
 - Breaking tools required for labor
 - Instances like the Stono Rebellion violence was used alongside with weaponry
- Runaways
 - Slaves attended to runaway from plantations
 - Many found refuge in Native American villages and tribes

Lasting Impacts

- Preservation of African culture
 - New families were made from different African bloodlines
 - Music and stories were shared and created among African slaves
 - o Dance was popular to the culture and became significant
- Slavery was a leading cause of the Civil War
 - Racism still exists in the United States today
 - o Higher rates of racism in the South where slavery was most common
 - o Jim Crow was in effect for many years after slavery ended

Vocabulary

- 1. Impudent, *adj*, not showing due respect for another person; impertinent.
- 2. Irruption, n, a sudden, violent, or forcible entry; a rushing or bursting in
- 3. Copious, *adj*, yielding something abundantly; full of thought, information, or matter; present in large quantity
- 4. Countenance, *n*, mental composure; the face as an indication of mood, emotion, or character