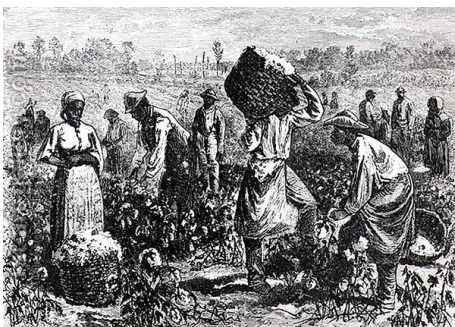
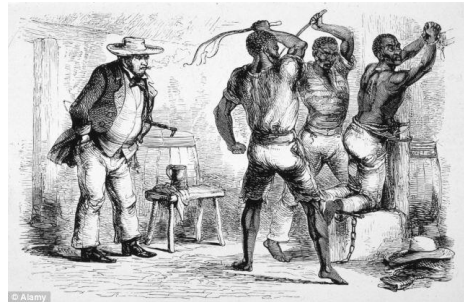


Slavery

By Shahadat Ullah

What is a Slave?

A slave can be anybody, black or white, male or female, adult or child, who is kidnapped, auctioned and forced to work in horrible conditions, for no income at all, and no escape. They work almost all day, in return for one small meal and a tiny wooden shelter with other slaves. If they rebel against their master, the punishment can be brutal.



The Middle Passage

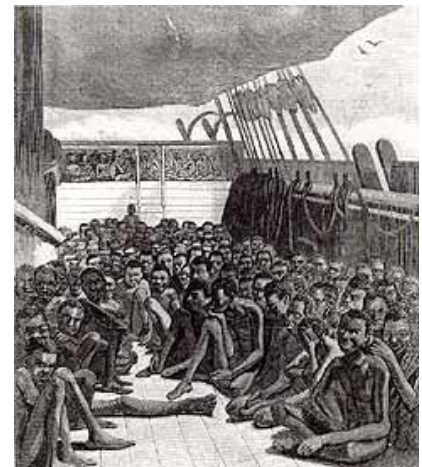
The Middle Passage refers to the atrocious journey by ship after Africans, who were separated from their families and brought into slavery, were packed tightly and crammed in a boat, with just about enough space to turn when sleeping. This lasted several months, and the conditions were horrible. When they arrived in America, they were still chained together, and still in a tight pack, and had chains round their hands and feet. This was part of the slave trade triangle.

Punishment

If slaves tried to escape, had a rest or took a break, or anything else that he shouldn't do, there were some painful and brutal punishments. They could be whipped in the back, hung until they died, and were sometimes executed by overseers. Owners and overseers carried out these punishments to keep slaves in order and civilised.

Life

Life on plantations were incredibly exhausting and torturous, therefore trying to escape because of their condition. Also, they lived in cramped, wooden shacks with dirt floors, and finally, a slave was whipped so much that he was bedridden for two months, which shows how much torture overseers caused to the Africans.



Cotton Industry

The cotton industry was very important in America, because they traded it for revenue. I know this because when a slave had managed to escape, the owner was willing to pay \$150 reward to the person who finds him. Back then, that was a lot of money, and just for one slave on the plantation.

