servant completely divested o reedom and personal right.

The Oxford English Dictionary

The slavery of the defined human beings as objects – goods to gave slave-holders the right to treat enslaved people with extreme brutality without fear

cks are goods and property... The case is the sa

of any consequences.

Forms of slavery have occurred in societies throughout history

The pyramids of Ancient Egypt were built by enslaved labour. 2686 BC.

In Ancient Greece prisoners of war worked as slaves in the silver mines; the wealth created was used to build the Parthenon in Athens. 447 BC.

In the Roman Empire hundreds of thousands of slaves were used in every part of the economy.

For centuries slavery existed in Africa. Slaves were if horses had been thrown overboar used in agriculture, domestic labour and as soldiers. From the 7th century AD Arab merchants traded slaves

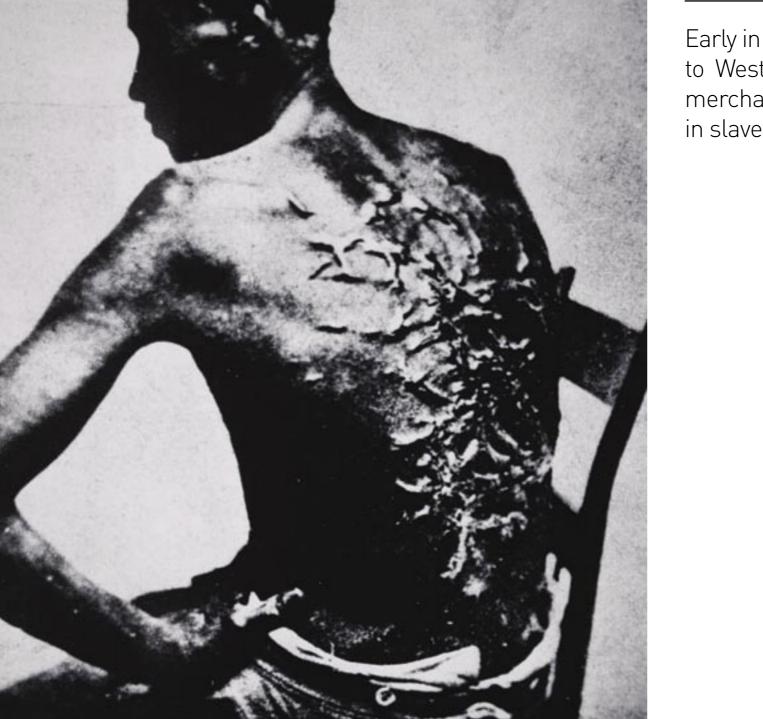


Why was the Transatlantic Slave Trade so terrible?

The Transatlantic Slave Trade was driven by the need for labour to work on European plantations in the Caribbean and America.

In the 15th and 16th centuries some European countries adopted slavery in their new olonies. Slave labour was the most profitable way of growing lantation crops such as sugar, tobacco, coffee and chocolate to meet consumer demand in Europe.

pe of respite from a lifetii hard labour, they had r tection under the law nd their children inherite



The Portuguese, sugar and slavery.

in slaves along the coast as a means of acquiring gold.

The Portugese took some African slaves to their Atlantic island of Madeira to work on the sugar plantations there. By 1500 Madeira was the biggest exporter of sugar in the world. The Portugese had created the combination of sugar and slavery that others were to follow.

Portuguese chart of the west coast of Africa, from the Straits of Gibraltar to the islan of Sao Tome, off Gabon; with the Canary Islands and the Cape Verde Islands. Iniversalis Orbis Hydrographia [Detail], Fernao Vaz Dourado, 1573 © British Library.



Early in the 15th century Portugese explorers sailed to West Africa to trade gold and ivory from African merchants. They undertook small-scale trading





## Europeans needed labour in their new American colonies.

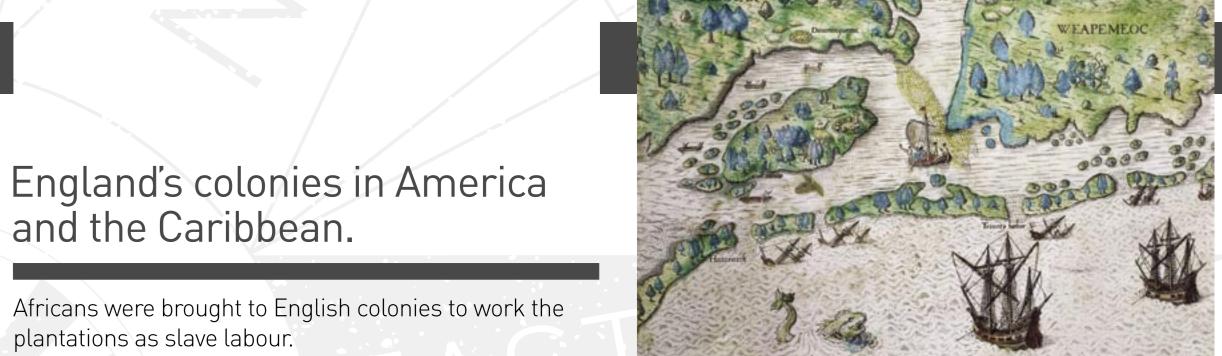
In the 15th-16th centuries the Spanish and Portuguese conquered huge areas of North and South America. The native peoples of these lands in their colonies. By 1600 the greatest demand for African slave were forced to mine silver and work on the new sugar plantations. Large numbers were killed by disease and physical exploitation.

England's first successful colony was established at Jamestown in Virginia In the 16th century Portuguese and Spanish merchants, with royal approval, transported increasing numbers of people from West Africa and West Central Africa to work as enslaved labour in 1607. By 1632 England had settlements on five islands in the Caribbean. Early settlers grew tobacco for export to England using labour brought mainly from the South West of England.

England's colonies in America

and the Caribbean.

plantations as slave labour.



nost profitable and efficient form

sea powers. By 1700 England dominated ne Transatlantic Slave Trade.











England extended its American and Caribbean colonies; sugar was grown tobacco in Virginia and Maryland.