

# Slave Trade

## The Guinea Coast and the Middle Passage

The most significant part of the slave trade voyage was the purchase of slaves and provisions on the Guinea coast.

The journey across the Atlantic was known as the Middle Passage.

### On the Guinea Coast

Charles Kneal was captain of the *Lottery* in 1802 when he was instructed by his owners to barter his cargo for 290 slaves, which must be *well-made, full chested, vigorous and without bodily imperfection*.

The *Dobson* called at the Isle of Man for some cargo in 1763. A trade book exists for her 'purchases' (exchange of goods for slaves) at Old Calabar (Nigeria) in 1769-1770.

Over half the 252 men, 133 women, 96 boys and 85 girls were supplied by 15 people, including the local chieftains and their families and both African and other local dealers.

The *Dobson* also 'purchased' ivory and provisions including yams, heads of corn, plantains, limes, fish and mats for the slaves.

Purchase of slaves on board the *Dobson* in Old Calabar. The slave account records the number of men, women, boys and girls sold by individual traders to the ship, a total of 566 slaves. Duke Ephraim sold 1 adult male, 3 boys and 1 girl to the *Dobson*.

Purchase of slaves on board the Dobson in Old Calabar, on the 10th July 1769.		
<i>Names of Traders</i>		
John Edwards	20 & 21 Boys	120
John Edwards	16 Girls	50
John Edwards	17 Boys	10
John Edwards	18 Girls	10
John Edwards	19 Boys	160
John Edwards	20 Girls	22
John Edwards	21 Boys	181
John Edwards	22 Girls	22
John Edwards	23 Boys	180
John Edwards	24 Girls	22
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John Edwards	26 Girls	22
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