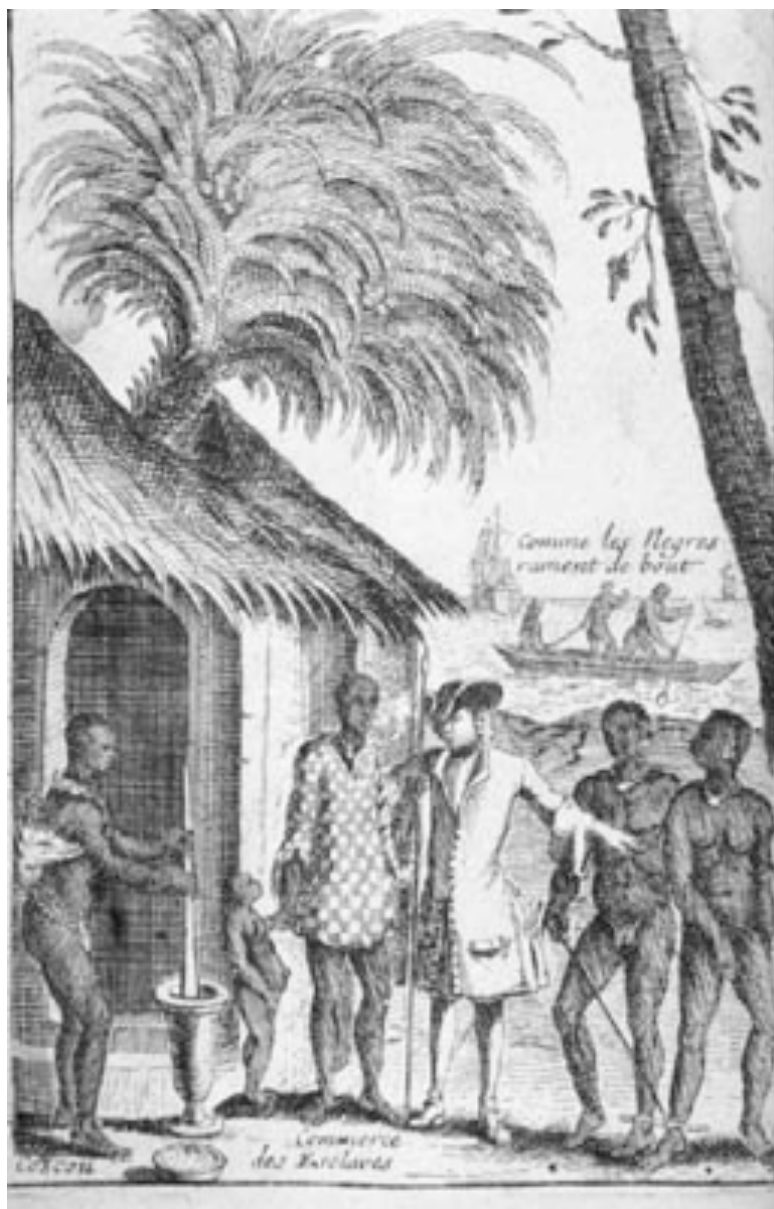
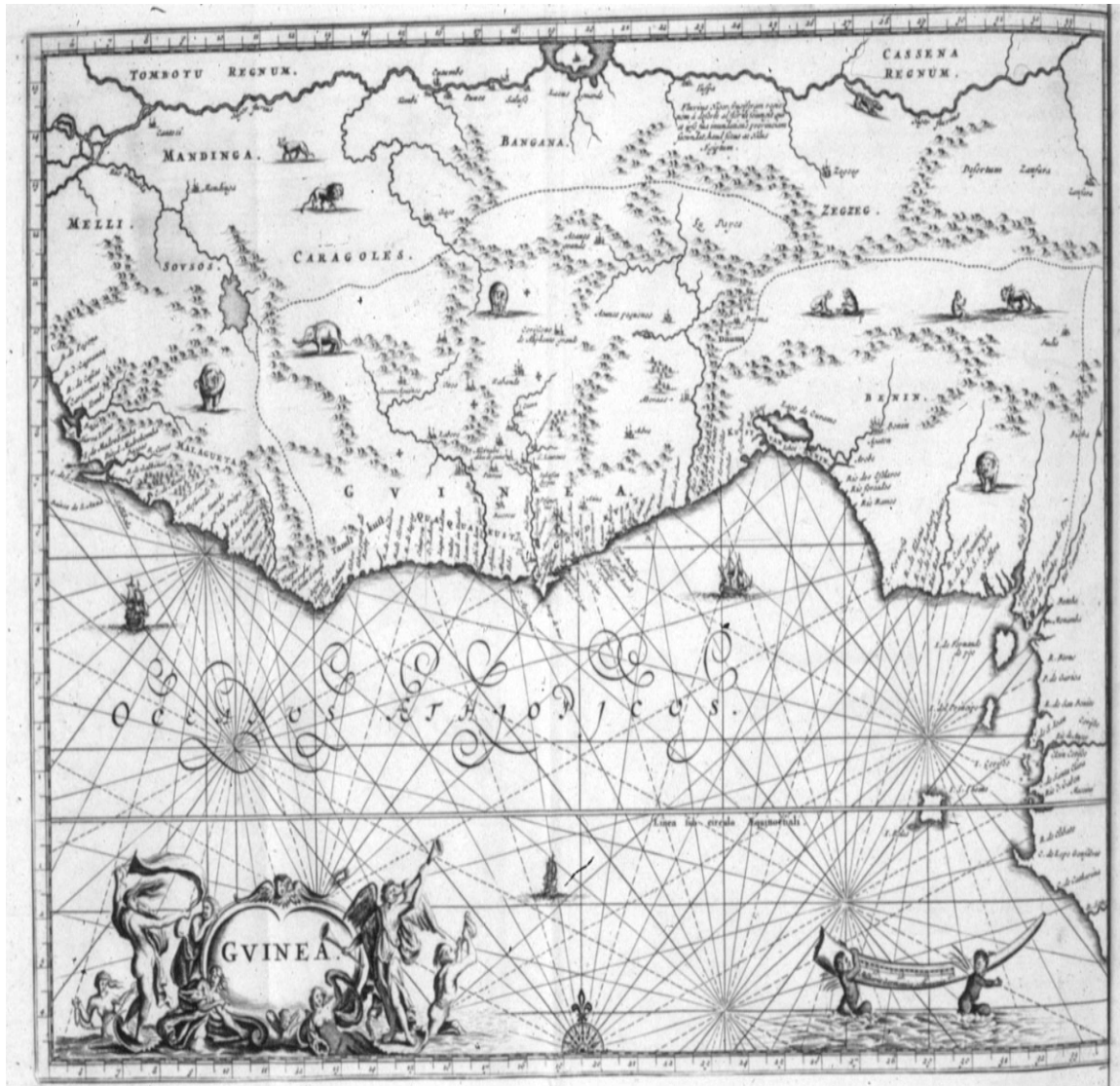


How Important were Africans to the Atlantic Slave Trade?



Africa- Fact and Fiction?



The principal impediment to the improvement of the geography of Africa, seems rather to arise from the jealousy of the inhabitants of the sea-coasts, in permitting white men to travel through their country...though it must be confessed that it cannot be entirely safe to venture through regions, where the people are often as savage as the beasts of prey. This jealousy originates in their fear, lest either the advantages of their trade with Europe should be lessened, or perhaps transferred from them to their neighbours; or that the inland kingdoms, already very powerful, by obtaining European arms might rule them at their pleasure. There are many instances in former writers of their care and cunning, in concealing from travellers the names and nature of the adjacent countries and even of the remote parts of their own

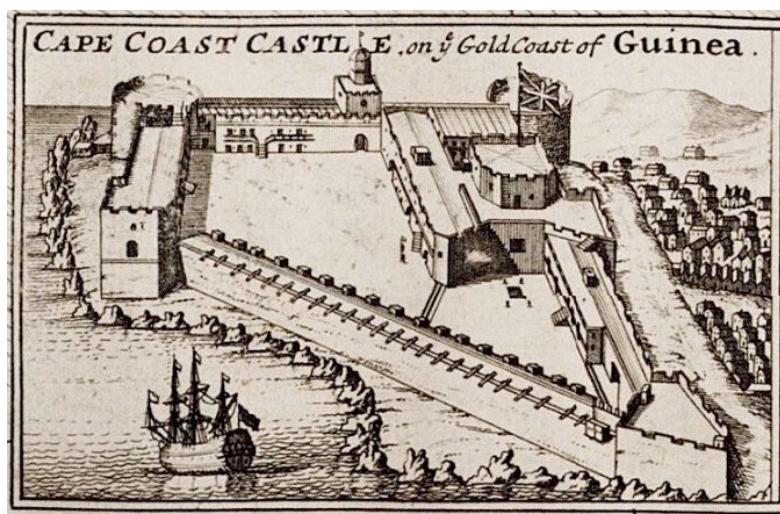
Archibald Dalzel, Governor of Cape Coast Castle in his book 'The History of Dahomey: An Inland Kingdom of Africa. 1793.

Activities:

1. Which of the following reasons does Archibald Dalzel give that 'white men' cannot travel through Africa?
 - a) The jealousy of the inhabitants of the Sea-coasts, in permitting white men to travel through their country
 - b) The Africans are scared of Europeans
 - c) It is not safe to travel through regions, where the people are often 'as savage as the beasts of prey'
 - d) African trade with Europe will be lessened or perhaps transferred from them to their neighbours
 - e) The inland kingdoms...by obtaining European arms might conquer other people.
2. Which of the following views does Archibald Dalzel have of Africans? (include quoted evidence from the source to support each part of your answer).
 - a) They are jealous
 - b) They are savage
 - c) They are honest
 - d) They are warlike
 - e) They are keen on trade
 - f) They are cunning
3. Is Archibald Dalzel's opinion of Africans a positive or a negative one? (give at least one piece of evidence to support your answer.

Now, if you have time, try this question:

4. Archibald Dalzel was the Governor (Manager) of Cape Coast Castle. One of the most important British Slave Trading 'Castles' on the coast of Africa. How might this have affected his views of Africa and Africans?



Who's Who in Africa?

The following picture sources show images from the West of Africa during the era of the Slave Trade.

With a partner, choose 5 of the following sources. Complete the table at on page... getting as much information from the sources as you can. Keep an eye on the clock! You have 4 minutes for each source!!!

Source A: Village, Gold Coast 1841



Source B: Late 17th century

Source C: Late 17th Century



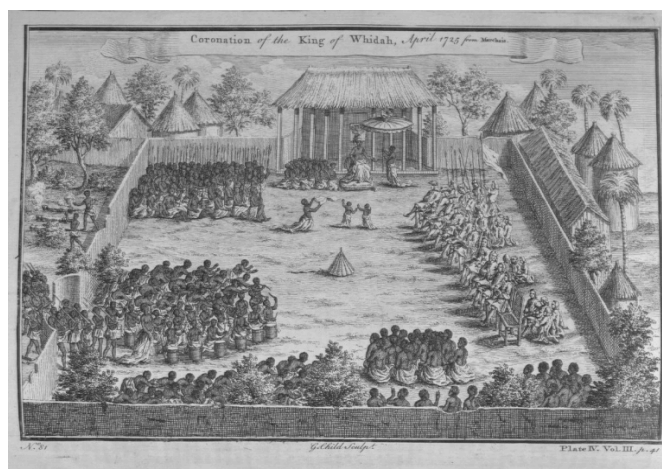
Source D: Late 17th Century



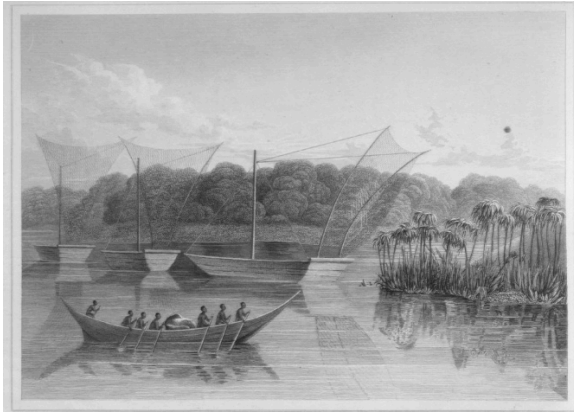
Source E: 1820s



Source F: 1725



Source G: 1820s



Source H: 17th Century



Source I : Late 17th Century



Source J: Late 17th Century

Complete the Table using Sources A-J.

Source:	Date of Source?	What does it show me?	What else do I want/need to know?	Additional evidence from sources I-M

Mahommah Baquaqua, an African sold into slavery wrote the following accounts. Does this source add to your understanding of Africa during the era of the Slave Trade?

Add any additional evidence into the final column of the Table above.

Source K

The city of Zoogoo is in the midst of a most fertile and delightful country; the climate, though exceedingly hot, is quite healthy. There are hills and mountains, plains and valleys, and it is pretty well watered.

The city itself is large, and surrounded by a thick wall, built of red clay and made very smooth on both sides. The outer side of the wall is surrounded by a deep moat or ditch, which in the rainy season is filled with water. Beyond this, the city is further protected by a hedge of thorns, grown so thickly and compactly together that no person could pass through them...

The entrance into the city, is through six gates, which bear the names of their respective keepers, something similar to the city of London and most of the old fortified towns in England...These gatekeepers are chosen for their courage and bravery, and are generally persons of rank.

Source L

The King's palace (if it may be so called) is within the city wall, at some distance from the principal part of the city, surrounded by (what in some countries would be called) a park, on a most extensive scale, at the back of which is a dense thicket....A broad avenue leads from the city to the King's house, with an extensive market on either side, beautifully shaded with large overhanging trees. The people of America can have no idea the size and beauty of some of the trees in Africa, particularly in the cities, where they stand a good distance apart...

Source M

The soldiers are a privileged class, and whatever they need either in town or city, they are allowed to take, and there is no redress, from any complaint made against them. If a slave becomes dissatisfied, he leaves his master and goes to the king, and becomes a soldier, and thereby gains his freedom from his master. No 'fugitive slave law' can touch him. These are some for the principal matters which are brought before the king for adjustment, which he disposes of, according to the laws of the land.

Source N

In Africa they have no written or printed forms of government, and yet the people are subject to certain laws, rules and regulations. The government is vested in the King as supreme, next to him are chiefs or petty sovereigns, there are also other officers...

...Theft is considered the greatest crime in some parts of Africa, and the thief frequently receives the punishment of death in consequence. When any one is suspected or charged with theft, he is taken before the king, where a sort of trial is given him; if found guilty, he is either sold or put to death...Murder is not considered so great a crime, and a murderer does not receive capital punishment, but is mostly sold as a slave and sent out of the country.

Source O

The agriculture of the country is in but a very rude state...This process of preparing the ground is very laborious and tedious, but the richness of the soil compensates in some degree; for one acre well tilled, will yield an immense crop...

The manufactures of Africa are very limited; they consist of farming utensils, cotton cloths and silk... The cotton tree there grows very large, and the cotton is of good quality

The women do the spinning by a very slow process, having to twist the thread with their fingers; the men do the weaving; they weave the cloth in narrow strips, and then sew it together..

Overall do the written sources support the evidence from the picture sources?

Why did African's trade with Europe?

[illegible]

**Day Book of Trade in the Sloop (trading ship) 'Africa' Showing goods bartered for slaves
eg. A Woman aged 25, January-February 1753 (National Archive T70-1218-3-pp 10-11)**



Day Book of the Ship Africa

Transcription of the Day Book of trade in the sloop Africa showing goods bartered for slaves eg. A woman aged 25, January – February 1753 T70-1218-3-pp10-11.

5	Iron Bars
10	Dutch Dollars
2	muskets
1	7 lb bag powder
1	
3	Heads Blue Margaritte beads
3	Heads Gilded.....beads
3	Heads Black and White
3	Heads.....
2	Heads of white.....
4	 Small white beads
6	 of paper
4	Copper rods
2	strings of crystals
3	 Pewter.....
1	cutlass
6	knives for

Total 5 Bars

For Custom

1	Head Bleu Margaritte Beads
1	Head Gilded..... beads
1	Head Burdoe (?) Beads
2 ½ lbs	Red Beads
1	Cutlass (?)

Payd the for tobacco and Maintenance (?)

2	Heads Conte Burdoe Beads
1	Head Bleue Margaritte Beads
1	Head White Garnette Beads
1	Gallon Brandy

Total: 5 Bars = £1 55 shillings

Payd a Butler for a month and a half service

1	Cutlass
1	Head Black and white plain beads
½	gallon Brandy
50	Lead balls

Total 3 Bars = 15 shillings

James Fort 31st 1753

Payd a Butler name Savie Savie (?) for a month and a half service

- 1 Silk Handkerchief
- 1 Head black and white plain beads
- 1 Gallon Rum

Total: 3 Bars = 15 shillings

Payd a butler named for a month and a half service

- 2 Heads black and white plain beads
- 2lbs Powder

Total 3 bars = 15 shillings

Payed a butler name Keoler for a month and a half service

- 2 Heads of Garnett beads
- 2lb Bleu beads

Total 3 bars = 15 shillings

Payed Gaspar the Linguist for a month at 6 Bars per month

- 2 Iron Bars
- 2 Heads Gilded Mungy (?) Beads
- 2 Heads bleue Margaritte beads
- 2lbs small beads
- 2 Heads of white garnett beads

Total: 9 Bars = £2 5 shillings

Payed at sundry times for refreshments for the slaves

- 2lbs Powder
- 50 Lead balls

Total: 1 ½ Bars = 7 shillings 6 pence

Expended in trading on board the Sloop Vizir

- 12 Gallons Brandy

Supplied the Slaves on the passage – afterwards repay'd at Cape Coast Castle

- 1 Gross Pipes (?)

Supplied the Slaves on the Passage

- 10 Gallons Spirits
- 6 Knives for shaving

Using the Day Book carry out the following tasks:

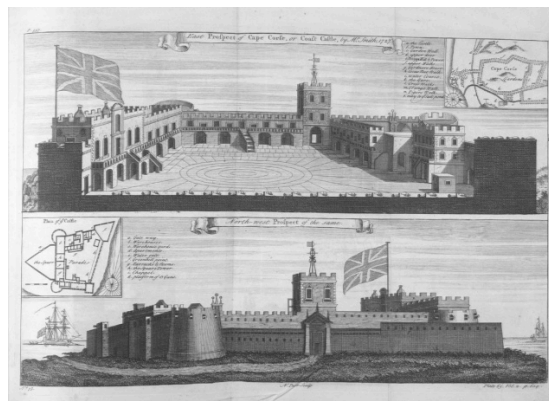
1. Make a list of all the items paid to Africans
2. Which items were the most commonly traded?
3. Which items do you think were the most valuable?
4. What do you think a 'butler' did?
5. What work did a 'linguist' do?
6. What other roles were Africans mentioned in the Day Book involved in the slave trade?
7. Were all the Africans being paid involved in the trade in slaves?

What Effect did the Slave Trade Have on Africa?



Mahommah G Baquaqua was a West African sold into slavery and transported to the United States in the nineteenth century. His experiences were published and the following passage is from this account.

The greatest source of misery to Africa is her system of slavery, which is carried on to a fearful extent, but domestic slavery in that country is nothing when compared to this; but the trading of slaves is very horrible. Slaves are taken from the interior and hurried to the coast, where they are exchanged for rum and tobacco, or other articles of merchandize. This system of slavery causes much bloodshed and consequent misery.



Archibald Dalzel was the British Governor of Cape Coast Castle. His History of Dahomey was published in and the following passage is taken from this account

The two most general ways of disposing of captives have been by death or transportation. People like them would laugh at the idea of giving their foes the opportunity of assaulting them a second time; and for ransom, the warrior nations seem to despise it. Therefore after they have preserved their own slaves, so many of their prisoners as they want for state or drudgery, they either sell the remainder to those who will remove them away into a distant country; or, when there is no such demand for them, they put them to death.

Sources:

All images available from www.slaveryimages.org sponsored by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and the University of Virginia Library

Except:

Page 10 Day Book: National Archive

Page 13 Mahommah G. Baquaqua, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division.

Picture Sources on [www. Slaveryimages.org](http://www.Slaveryimages.org):

- Page 1: Francois Froger, Relation d'un Voyage fait en 1695, 1696 et 1697 aux Cotes d'Afrique... Bresil, Cayenne et Isles Antilles (Paris 1698)
- Page 2: Map from D O Dapper, Description de l'Afrique...Traduite du Flamand, Amsterdam 1686)
- Page 3: Engraving of Cape Coast Castle, Henry Greenhill 1682 (?)
- Page 4: Source A from William Allen, A Narrative of the Expedition sent by Her Majesty's Government to the River Niger in 1841 (London 1848)
Source B from Giovanni Antonio Cavazzi, Istorico descrizione de' Tre Regni Congo, Matamba, et Angola (Milan 1690)
Source C: D O Dapper, Description de l'Afrique Traduite du Flamand (Amsterdam 1686)
- Page 5: Source D: Thomas Astley (ed) A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels (London 1745-47)
Source E: Dixon Denham, Narratives of Travels and Discoveries in Northern and Central Africa, in the Years 1822, 1823 and 1824 (London 1826)
Source F: Jean Baptiste Labat, Voyage du Chevalier des Marchais en Guinee...fait en 1725, 1726 et 1727 (Amsterdam 1731)
- Page 6: Source G: Dixon Denham, Narratives of Travels and Discoveries in Northern and Central Africa, in the Years 1822, 1823 and 1824 (London 1826)
Source H: Ezio Bassani, ed., Un Cappuccino nell'Africa near del seicento: I disegni dei Manoscritti Araldi del Padre Giovanni Antonio Cavazzi da Montecuccolo (Milan 1987)
Source I and J: Francois Froger, Relation d'un Voyage fait en 1695, 1696 et 1697 aux Cotes d'Afrique...Bresil, Cayenne et Isles Antilles (Paris 1698).
- Page 10: Francois Froger, Relation d'un Voyage fait en 1695, 1696 et 1697 aux Cotes d'Afrique...Bresil, Cayenne et Isles Antilles (Paris 1698).
- Page 13: Cape Coast Castle in William Smith, A New Voyage to Guinea (1744) in Thomas Astley A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels (London 1745-47)

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Page 2 and 13: Archibald Dalziel, The History of Dahomey: an Inland Kingdom of Africa (London 1793)
digitalized by Google Books

Page 8, 9 and 13: Biography of Mahoomah G Baquaqua
[http://docsouthunc.edu/neh/baquaqua/baquaqua](http://docsouthunc.edu/neh/baquaqua/baquaqua.html). html.