



*Central America:
A Quest for the Progression of
Economic Value.
Bonus-Season V.*

The origin of Central America political-economy.

Period of study: From 1700 to 1900

Episode 6

**Sugar-Sugar America Part 6
The French Sugar Model
Saint-Domingue birth**

Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V

From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



Outline Calendar

Season V From January 9th to April 13th, 2026.

<p>9-jan-2026 Episode 1 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part I Brazil </p>	<p>16-jan-2026 Episode 2 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part II Dutch islands </p>	<p>23-jan-2026 Episode 3 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part III British West Indies - Production </p>	<p>30-jan-2026 Episode 4 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part IV British West Indies - Barbados </p>	<p>06-Feb-2026 Episode 5 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part V British West Indies - Barbados and Jamaica </p>
<p>13-feb-2026 Episode 6 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VI French Context (St Domingue) </p>	<p>20-feb-2026 Episode 7 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VII French Business Model Sugar (St Domingue)</p>	<p>27-feb-2026 Episode 8 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VIII Spanish Context (Cuba)</p>	<p>06-March-2026 Episode 9 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part IX Spanish Model (Cuba)</p>	<p>13-March-2026 Episode 10 </p> <p>Cattle, Livestock and other Foodstuff Central America</p>
<p>20-mar-2026 Episode 11</p> <p>Banana Republics Central America </p>	<p>27-Mar-2026 Episode 12 </p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Seasons I and II</p>	<p>03-April-2026 Episode 13 </p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Seasons III, IV and V</p>	<p>10-April-2026 Episode 14 </p> <p>Research Agenda for the future</p>	<p>From 11 April to 2 May 2026 Safeguarding Pause</p> <p>Maintenance Break </p>

Holy Week

Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V

A piece of the economic puzzle of Spanish Central America in Four Seasons + Bonus



Big Picture of our Content.

Season V as of January 9th, 2026.

Season	Start Date	Finish Date	Number of episodes	Historical Timeline to Analyze	Main General themes
One (I) Autumn -Winter 2024	October 4 th , 2024	December 27 th , 2024	13 episodes	1492-1558	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical foundations Castile & Aragon: Discovery of Spanish America, the Holy Roman Empire Charles V Holy Roman Emperor: his local, personal, regional, religious, and international agenda The Spanish Inquisition
Two (II) Winter-Spring 2025	January 24 th , 2025	May 2 nd , 2025	13 episodes	1492-1700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish America with a Medieval Allure: Conquest and Colonization Understanding the economic philosophy of the Habsburgs Rulers in Central America: Philip II, Philip III, Philip IV, and Charles II. Commodities: Mining extraction of precious metal reserves
Three (III) Spring-Summer 2025	May 23 rd , 2025	August 29 th , 2025	14 episodes	1700-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School of Salamanca The Bourbon era begins. From Philip V (1683-1746) to Alfonso XIII (1886-1941) The War of Spanish Succession The Jesuit Suppression and Restoration (1773-1814) The meaning of the French Revolution in Spanish America The Why of Napoleon Bonaparte
Four (IV) Autumn-Winter 2025	September 19 th , 2025	December 31 st , 2025	15 episodes	1700-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence Bells of Central America (1800-23) United Provinces of Central America (1823-40) Derailement of violence and inner conflicts Charted Urban vs Forgotten Rural Mining + Agricultural Commodities. Never an Industrial Factory Development. Main agriculture production industries: Cacao, Indigo, coffee, Sugar-Introduction
Five (V) BONUS Winter Spring 2026	January 9 th , 2026	March 20 th , 2026	11 episodes	1500-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of Main Agriculture plantations. Sugar-Sugar America, Bananas, Cattle and Livestock, Foodstuff Summary and Conclusions Research Agenda for the future.

Past saga: done

Past saga: done

Past saga: Done

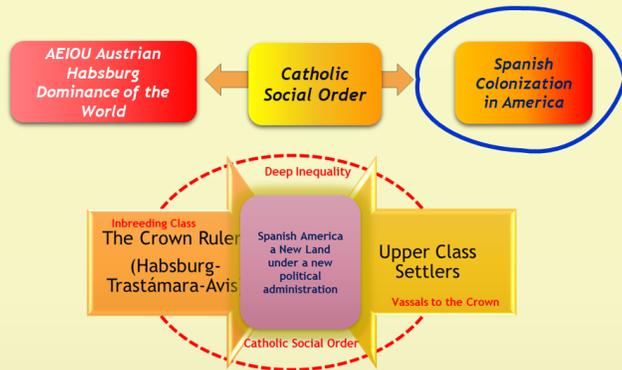
Past saga: Done

We are here

Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V. From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint-Domingue

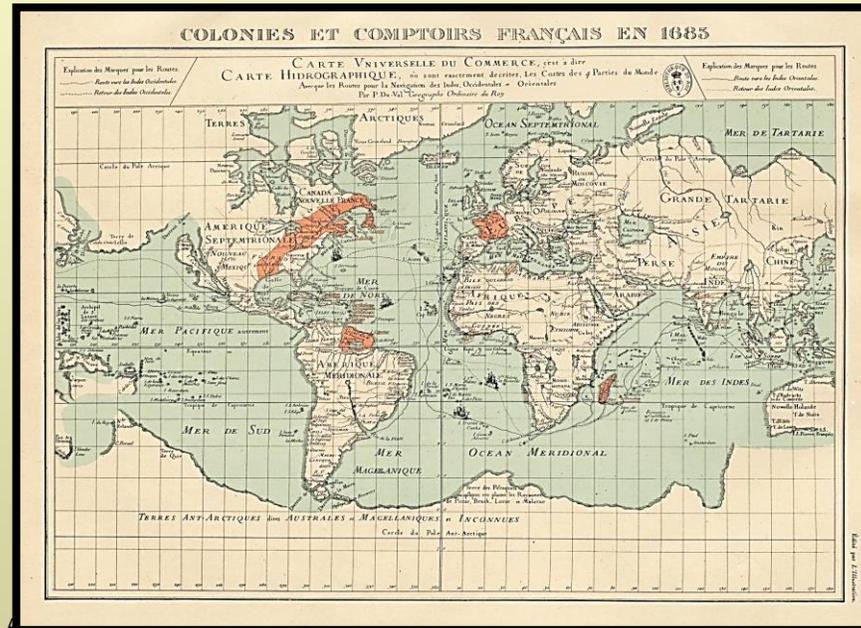


Our agenda for today's master class:

1. The monarchical strategy of the Bourbon Kings in Saint Domingue
2. The treaty of Rijswijk (1697)
3. The French West Indies during the 17th century
4. The Main French Chartered Companies
5. The Circuits of Trade and Ports
6. The Slave Trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850

“Most of good historians are chroniclers of events. A Chronicler narrates, but doesn't explain the facts. Before proceeding further in our civilization, corporate strategists are obliged to understand the different explanations and interpretations of history. Otherwise, history will repeat under new circumstances”.

Eleonora Escalante Strategy. El Salvador



The French Empire before the Nine Years War of Louis XIV against the League of Augsburg and King William's of England-Low Countries.

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/401739266317>

Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V.

From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



Understanding the monarchical strategy of the Bourbon dynasty 17th century

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint-Domingue

The Monarchical Strategy of the Bourbon Kings into power

Who was who when Saint Domingue was negotiated for the French Bourbon Empire in 1697?

Saint Domingue (French side) was born as a negotiation after the peace settlement of the Treaty of Rijswijk (1697)

The league of Augsburg later Grand Alliance:
Coalition formed in 1686 by Holy Roman Emperor of Austria Leopold I, the kings of Sweden and Spain, and the electors of Bavaria, Saxony, and the Palatinate. It evolved to become the Grand Alliance, when Elector of Brandenburg and William III Orange Nassau joined it as King of England/Prince of The Netherlands .

France Spain England-The Netherlands Austria Bavaria (Bayern) Palatinate Brandenburg-Prussia Saxony



Louis XIV Bourbon-Medici/Habsburg-Habsburg (1638-1715) King of France and Navarre

Charles II Habsburg-Habsburg (1661-1700) King of Spain, King of Naples and Duke of Milan

James II Stuart-Oldenburg/Bourbon-Medici (1633-1701) King of England, Scotland and Ireland

Mary II Stuart-Bourbon/ Hyde-Aylesbury William III Orange Nassau-Solms Braunfels/Stuart-Bourbon (1650-1702). Prince of Orange, Stadtholder of Low-Countries territories, King of England, Ireland and Scotland from 1689.

Leopold I Ignaz Habsburg-Wittelsbach/Habsburg-Habsburg (1640-1705) Holy Roman Emperor King of Hungary King of Bohemia Archduke of Austria & Tyrol

Maximilian II Emanuel Wittelsbach-Habsburg/Habsburg-Bourbon Medici (1662-1726) Elector of Bavaria Governor Spanish Netherlands and Duke of Luxembourg

Johann Wilhelm II Wittelsbach-Wittelsbach/Hessen-Darmstadt-Wettin (1658 -1716) Elector Palatinate (brother in law of Charles II Habsburg Spain)

Frederick III Hohenzollern-Wittelsbach/Orange Nassau-Solms Braunfels (1657-1713) Elector Brandenburg First King of Prussia Cousin of king William III of England

Augustus II Wettin Saxony-Hohenzollern/Oldenburg-Welf (1670-1733) Elector Saxony King of Poland Grand Duke of Lithuania

King William's War or Nine Years War or War of Grand Alliance?
According to our research, it was the same conflict under different names, depending on where occurred: This was the first international war fought simultaneously by France against the rest in several fronts: North America, Europe, the Atlantic, the Ocean routes near West African Coast and Guinea.

King William's War (1689-97) also called Nine Years War.
North American extension of the War of the Grand Alliance, waged by William III of Great Britain and the League of Augsburg against France under Louis XIV. Canadian French Colonists and New England-English colonists.

The War of the Grand Alliance (1689-97).
Louis XIV of France's against the alliance led by England, the Dutch Republic, and the Austrian Habsburgs (with his League of Augsburg). The issue was that France wanted territories from the Habsburgs in the New World to trade with West African Slaves.

The King William's War against France was extended to the Coast of Africa and the Caribbean.
England-Dutch against France again (1689-1697). During the hostilities, a quarter of the English RAC's ships were captured by the French. The French wanted to trade slaves and access the West African Market. There was a French expedition to Cartagena involved.

13/2/2026

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Understanding how France established Saint Domingue

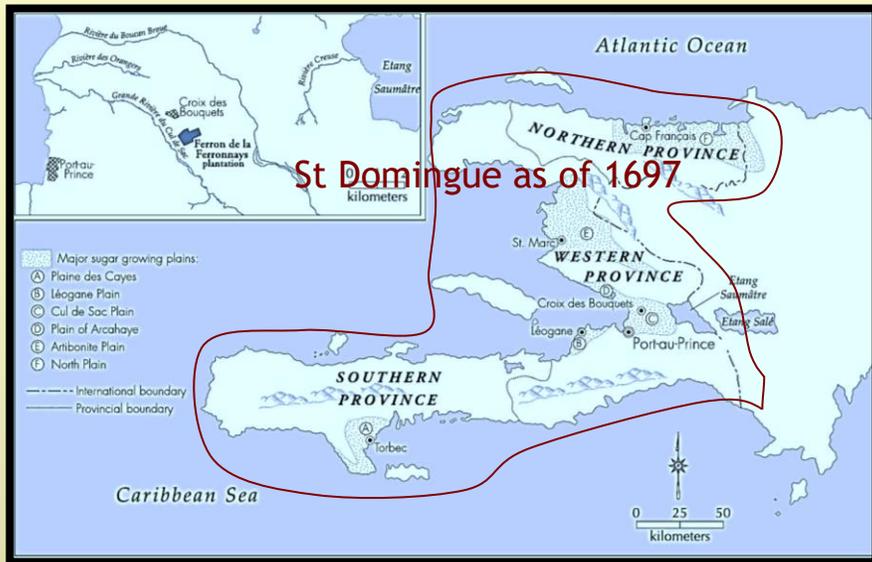
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The Treaty of Rijswijk (1697)

The War of Grand Alliance - King William's War was solved with the Treaty of Rijswijk.

History in Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries is always linked to military actions in America. The colonies in America were part of the overseas affairs of the Empires. Louis XIV found a way to obtain part of Hispaniola with the Treaty of Rijswijk.

Saint Domingue was established because of an agreement after the Nine Years' War.



- The history of the French colony of Saint-Domingue, the western part of the Hispaniola island, now Haiti, is the result of a peace agreement after the Nine Years' War also called King William's War and part of the War of Grand Alliance (between 1688-1697).
- France went in war against the most powerful coalition of European Powers in five different fronts: Europe, Acadia-North America, Caribbean Atlantic, West-Africa Guinea and India.
- The war was happening simultaneously in Europe, North America Amerindian regions, Asia, Caribbean and Western Africa.

The Nine Years war (also called King William's war in North America) was part of the War of Grand Alliance. The Caribbean scenarios of war described below:

- 1689-1694: Dutch vs England colonists in Guiana and the Windward Islands
- 1690-97: France against Spain on Hispaniola. England joined in 1695 after a successful attack in Jamaica.
- 1695-97: French attacks to Cuba, Puerto Rica, culminating in the sacking of Cartagena in 1697.

It is in this context that the Treaty of Rijswijk formally ceded the western third of Hispaniola from Spain to France, which was renamed it to Saint-Domingue.

 VS	     
France King Louis XIV Territories in North America, Asia, Caribbean and Western Africa.	King William's territories: United Province Netherlands, England, Scotland and Ireland. Canada-Acadia-Louisiana-Illinois, Britain and Dutch West Indies King Charles II territories of Spain and Spanish America Emperor Leopold I and the League of Augsburg: Austria, Bavaria, Palatinate, Saxony, and Palatinate Savoyard State/Sardinia (indirectly)

Eleonora Escalante Strategy

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Cheney, P. *Cul de Sac. Patrimony, Capitalism and Slavery in French Saint Domingue.* University of Chicago Press, 2017. Page 5.

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Understanding Imperial France during the 17th century

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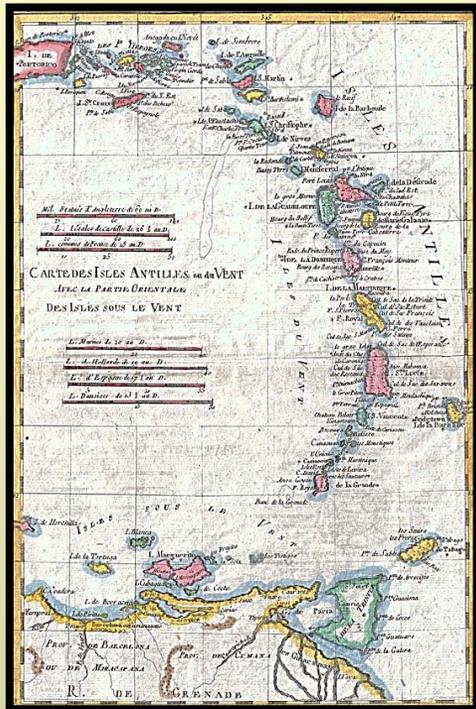
The French West Indies during the 17th century

France explored and founded, or occupied, seized and settled at least 11 colonies in the Caribbean

The French Antilles by the end of the 17th century were 10 islands and one big portion in the northern coast of South America: French Guiana or Cayenne.



French Saint Domingue began:
In 1697, via the Treaty of Ryswick, Spain formally recognized French control over the western third of Hispaniola (Saint-Domingue), which corresponds to modern-day Haiti. The total area of this territory is around 27,750 sq km.



Territories	Area (Km2)	Description Ownership Changes
Grenada	350	1498: Columbus discovered and called Concepción → 1650-1762: France purchase → 1763: captured by Britain → 1779: Recaptured France → 1783: Goes to Britain
Martinique	1,080	1502: Columbus first settlement → 1635: France → 1762: British Captured → 1814: Restored to France.
Dominica		Discovered 1493 Columbus → 1632: French → 1805: Ceded to Britain by the French
Guadeloupe	1,530	1493: Columbus → 1635-40: France → 1674: Chartered French companies → 1759: To Britain → 1763: recaptured by France
Saint Christophe (St. Kitts)	178	1493: Columbus discovered. → 1623: Britain captured it → 1625-27: under France → 1713 Under Britain
Saint Barthélemy	25	1648: Conquered by the French → 1784: Sold to Sweden → 1877: Returned to France after Plebiscite
Saint Martin	88	Discovered 1493 Columbus. → 1648: The Dutch possessed the south. The French, the northern Part.
Saint Croix	218	Discovered by Columbus → 1643: Settled by English and Dutch → 1651: Acquired by Knights of Malta → 1665: Seized by France → 1733: Denmark acquired it.
St. Lucia	620	Discovered France 1502 → 1511: Officially to Spain → 1605: Brit attempts colonize → 1650-60: French settled → 1664 to 1814: Britain and France back-forth → 1814: Britain wins
French Guiana or Cayenne	83,846	1500: Discovered by Spain → 1643: France, recognized as French colony by Treaty of Breda in 1667. (South America)
Presence in Hispaniola West part	27,750	The French established merchant presence including Port-de-Paix (1665) in the northwest, and the French West Indies Corporation took control of the area then. Recognized under France after 1697-Treaty of Rjswijk.



The location of the possessions of France in the Atlantic by 1688

Map French Antilles
13/12/2016 www.geographicus.com/P/AntiqueMap/islesantilles-bonne-1780

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State of the Art Corporate Strategy
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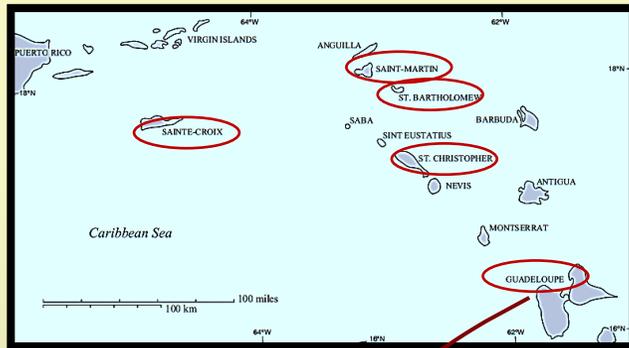
Understanding Imperial France during the 17th century

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The French West Indies during the 17th century

France horizontal strategy of expansionism in America

During the 17th century, France settled in the Antilles and North America.



- Before the Nine years' War in America (1688), France main overseas possessions in the Caribbean were those at your left.
- It was during the 17th century, that France began its economic expansionism at her respective Atlantic Islands.
- Between 1600 to 1688 France held in the Atlantic, the following islands: Grenada, Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe (here including Maria Galante, La Désirade, Iles des Saintes and Iles de la Petite Terre), Saint Christophe, Saint Barthélémy, Saint Martin, Saint Croix, and St. Lucia. It also seized Cayenne or French Guiana. Saint Domingue (Hispaniola west) was partially taken by French merchants.
- It was under king Louis XIII Bourbon-Albrecht/Medici-Habsburg that France began to plant sugar and other crops in these Islands. King Louis XIV Bourbon-Medici/Habsburg-Habsburg accelerated this path through warfare.
- The arrival of France into the Atlantic happened together with the entrance of England in North America and the Atlantic. In North America, England was establishing the 13 colonies and fighting for every inch of the Antilles against France.
- France was also founding Louisiana, Canada via the St Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. The French were also colonizing Plaisance, Newfoundland and Ile Royale tied to fisheries.
- As a result, in North America, between 1670 to 1730, New France contained 7 separate colonies or regions: Placentia, Newfoundland, Acadia, Ile Royale, Louisiana, Illinois and Canada.



Maps source:
• <https://www.geographicus.com/P/A/antiqueMap/antilles-chatelain-1719>
• Pritchard, J. In search of Empire: The French in the Americas 1670-1730. Cambridge University Press.

The 17th century was the starting point for France international expansionism. It was the administration of the Sun King's father, Louis XIII which replicated the model of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and the English East India Company (EIC) Cardinal Richelieu (1585-1642), Grandmaster of Navigation and Commerce authorized the charter of several French Trade companies. The French Crown began to learn how to sponsor the French Trading companies with what? Sugar and slaves!

How did the French Crown implement the horizontal strategy of expansionism in America?

- Through the Chartered French Trading Companies and private controlled slave traders.
- Between 1601 to 1794, the French Bourbon Crown established 48 company charters with the purpose of explore, colonize or seize new territories, organize piracy against other kingdom chartered existing companies, privateer other kingdom's navy vessels, buccaneer profit from existing plantations and settlements, monopolize trade, buy and sell slaves from Western Africa, ensure protection to the French colonies, issue new currencies, impose and supervise taxation and tributes, engage in defensive military activities, and ultimately participate in all Crown Interests of France in overseas commerce for profit to the King.
- Next slide is about the chartered companies.

All the information of these slides is supported and inferred from the bibliography page 17-18

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Understanding how France established Saint Domingue

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The Main French chartered companies

The French Dynasty Interests were executed through the French Charter Colonial trade companies

The main French Chartered companies doing business in America are listed below:

The Bourbon Kings of France bet on the French Atlantic Islands and colonies as their main ACCELERATOR of wealth creation. For them, the plantations were a new proven organization based on slave labor that could provide sugar to France for good profit. When the French Crown (Louis XIII and Louis XIV) supported the creation of chartered companies, slavery trade was "the" essential part of the business.

No.	Began	Ended	Name	Region	Slaves	No	Began	Ended	Name	Region	Slaves	
1	1614	1627	Compagnie des Marchands de Rouen	Canada		16	1698	1720	Compagnie Royale de Saint Domingue	Saint Domingue	Yes	
2	1621	1627	Compagnie de Montmorency	Canada		17	1701	1713	Compagnie de l'Asiento	West Africa and Caribbean	Yes	
3	1624	1664	Compagnie de Senegal et de Gambie, after merged with Compagnie du Cap Vert et du Sénégal	West Africa	Yes	18	1712	1719	Compagnie de Barbarie	North Africa	Yes	
4	1626	1635	Compagnie de Saint Christophe	Atlantic	Yes	19	1712	1719	Compagnie de la Louisiane	Louisiana	Yes	
5	1626	1659	Compagnie Normande Rozée	West Africa	Yes	20	1719	1770	Compagnie Perpetuelle des Indes	John Law	Worldwide	Yes
6	1627	1663	Compagnie de la Nouvelle France (des 100 associes)	Canada		21	1784	1795	Compagnie des Indes		Worldwide	Yes
7	1635	1651	Compagnie des Iles d'Amérique	Caribbean	Yes	22	1748	1793	Compagnie Royale d'Afrique Société d'Angola Grou et Michel (Compagnie de Guinée)	North Africa Angola Gulf of Guinea	Yes	
8	1633	1664	Compagnie de la France Equinoxiale (3 etapes)	French Guiana	Yes							
9	1664	1674	Compagnie Francaise des Indes Occidentales	West Intl.	Yes							
10	1664	1719	Compagnie Royale Francaise des Indes Orientales	East Intl.	Yes							
11	1673	1720	Compagnie du Sénégal → Compagnie de Guinée	West Africa	Yes							
12	1675	1791	Compagnie d'Occident → Ferme d'Occident	Canada-Caribbean	Yes							
13	1694	1718	Compagnie d'Afrique	North Africa	Yes							
14	1698	1720	Compagnie Royale du Senegal	West Africa	Yes							
15	1698	1719	Compagnie de Chine	China								

Ownership of the Islands: During the 17th and 18th centuries, the French Bourbon kings promoted their Prime Chief Ministers as Cardinal Richelieu and Cardinal Mazarin, and later Jean-Baptiste Colbert (Controller general des finances) to enter the Atlantic "through" slave trade to produce most of the Asian staple commodities there. Initially all the French Islands were direct property of the French Monarchy. During the "Fronde insurrection" (1648-53), Mazarin and Queen Anna Habsburg transferred the rights to the property right to the Islands respective governors for a few years. Since the French monarchy was absolutist, during the period of Louis XIV, Colbert forced the governors of the Caribbean to return the Islands to the French Bourbons by the 1670s.

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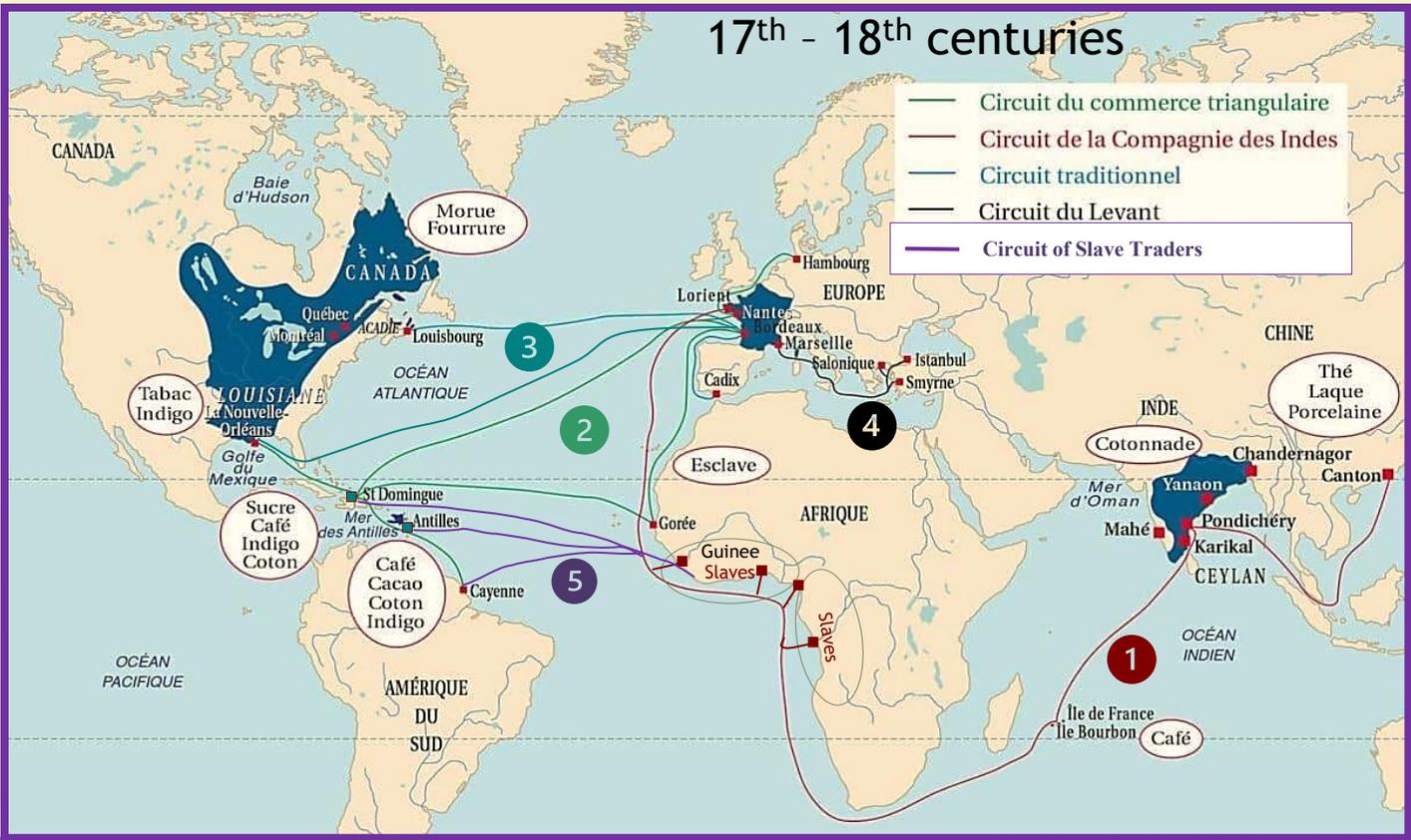
Understanding the big picture of Imperial France Trade

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The circuits of Trade of France as of the 17th century

As of Louis XIII, the French trade companies started to develop 5 circuits of commerce

The Bourbon kings of France were the last ones to join the transatlantic triangle trading club of the Americas. When the French arrived to the Atlantic, most of the aboriginal populations were already decimated. The French copied the economic successes of the English, Dutch and Spanish/Portuguese immediately. As a result, they embraced slave trading without hesitation, using the established routes of the rest of the Empires..



All the French chartered companies were authorized by the Bourbon Kings. It was an absolutist monarchy, in which all the private merchants were subjects to the king's decisions.

- The map at your left shows the 5 main trade circuits built by the French Empire as of Louis XIII (1601-43) Bourbon-Albrecht/Medici-Habsburg.
- The French Bourbon dynasty circuits of trade were all connected in between.
- The circuit 2 is the same transatlantic triangle used by Britain: The Asian products were transferred to French ports loaded with cotton, tea, porcelain and spices. From there, the king's merchants outfitted most of the transatlantic triangle trade voyages, which were sent to the West African coast to buy slaves in exchange for goods coming from France. From there, the vessels were loaded with slaves to French Guiana (A French slave port), Saint Domingue and the rest of French Islands. The ships were loaded with sugar, rum and other spices. The final leg was to return to the French Ports or the French Colonies in America.
- Look at circuit 5: Only slave trade against sugar/rum exchange: Two-way return voyage probably outfitted from St. Domingue. This circuit is called "smuggling", because the shipping was not outfitted in France.
- During the 18th century, the French outperformed the British and Portuguese in their transatlantic triangle slave trade. Why? The French were the first Empire that decided to expand in Africa in their quest to obtain cheaper slaves (without intermediaries), using the respective chartered companies.
- By the 1770s, the most profitable circuit became the voyage shipping linking Nantes port in France, West Central Africa (Angola) and St. Domingue (Cap-Français).

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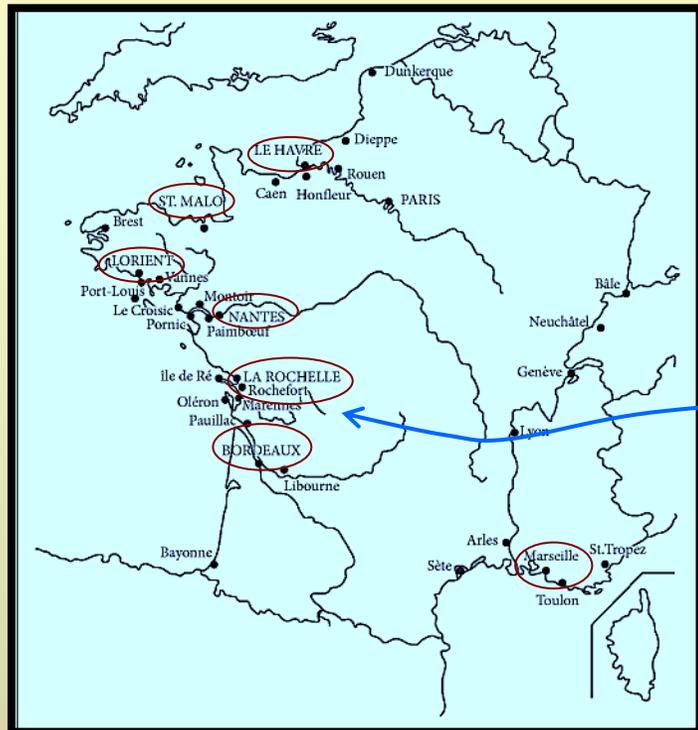
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Understanding the slave trade of Imperial France

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

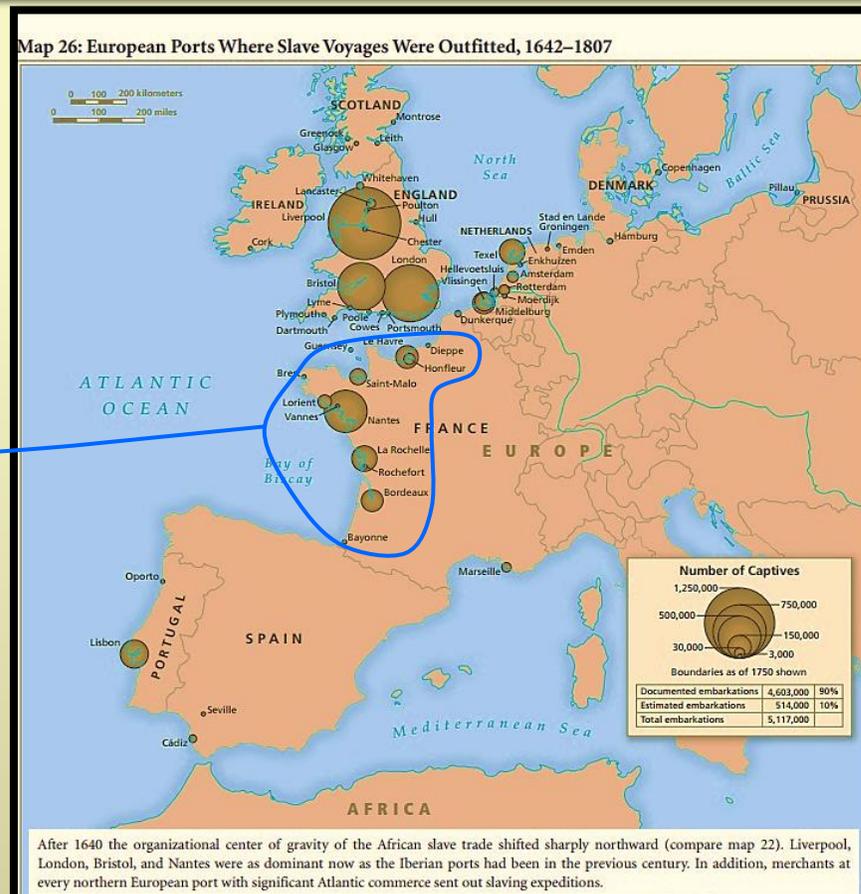
Main France Ports of Slave Trade as of the 17th century

Imperial France commerce was born with slave trading outfitted from French ports.



The Ports and River Systems of France in 1789. Map 2

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-death-of-the-french-atlantic-9780199568956>



After 1640 the organizational center of gravity of the African slave trade shifted sharply northward (compare map 22). Liverpool, London, Bristol, and Nantes were as dominant now as the Iberian ports had been in the previous century. In addition, merchants at every northern European port with significant Atlantic commerce sent out slaving expeditions.

The importance of slave trade for the Bourbon kings can be understood by reading the following phrase from Colbert (Ministry of Finance for Louis XIV):
"There is no other commerce in the whole world which produces as many benefits as the slave trade"

The ports of France: the hubs of transatlantic slave trade and commodities were outfitted. France played a major role transporting more than 1 million black Africans to the New World, not just to her own plantation needs, but also to gain profit and sell them to other Spanish-American locations.

Port	Highlights
Nantes	Outfitted half million slaves from West Central Africa to Saint Domingue. Tied to Caribbean trade activities mainly
Bordeaux	Important Center of wine production, rich merchants, with important trade with the Baltic. It outfitted slaves after 1750.
Le Havre	Third outfitting slaving port in France, with access to Paris.
La Rochelle	Modest Scale shipping port with less prosperity than the rest.
L'Orient	Depended on East Indian Trade, the Compagnie des Indes. Slave trade included
Rochefort	Naval arsenal dockyard.

From: Eltis & Richardson. *Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*. Yale University Press.

<https://yalebooks.yale.edu/book/9780300212549/atlas-of-the-transatlantic-slave-trade/>

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Understanding the French slave trade

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

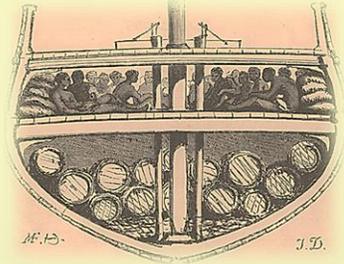
The Slave trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850

The slaves from Africa shaped the French Antilles Societies.

The big picture of slave trade to work in plantations.

By 1670s, the amount of Black African people residing in all the French Colonies of America was 15,826. It is estimated that more than 1.38 million slaves were taken from Africa to the French Territories between 1670 to 1850.

The French Bourbon Kings took the decision to build the French colonies based on slave trading activities. The Core business of France then was to carry massive amounts of slaves, particularly to French Saint Domingue as of 1697.



How to load cargo on a slave ship? One slave ship could have held approx. 300 people. From The Slave Trade, Slavery, and Remembrance National Park Service / Shackles of Memory Association, Nantes https://www.emersonkent.com/history_dictionary/slavery_and_abolition.htm

Table 2 Number of Slaves Taken from Africa by Nationality of the Vessel That Carried Them, 1501–1867

	Spain / Uruguay	Portugal / Brazil	Great Britain	Netherlands	United States	France	Baltic States	Total*
1501–1525	6,400	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	13,400
1526–1550	25,000	25,000	0	0	0	0	0	50,000
1551–1575	28,000	31,000	1,700	0	0	70	0	60,770
1576–1600	60,000	91,000	200	1,400	0	0	0	152,600
1601–1625	83,000	268,000	0	1,800	0	0	0	352,800
1626–1650	44,000	202,000	34,000	32,000	800	1,800	1,100	315,700
1651–1675	13,000	245,000	122,000	101,000	0	7,100	700	488,800
1676–1700	5,900	297,000	272,000	86,000	3,300	29,000	25,000	718,200
1701–1725	0	474,000	411,000	74,000	3,300	121,000	5,800	1,089,100
1726–1750	0	537,000	554,000	83,000	34,000	259,000	4,800	1,471,800
1751–1775	4,200	529,000	832,000	132,000	85,000	326,000	18,000	1,926,200
1776–1800	6,400	673,000	749,000	41,000	67,000	433,000	39,000	2,008,400
1801–1825	168,000	1,161,000	284,000	2,700	110,000	136,000	16,000	1,877,700
1826–1850	401,000	1,300,000	0	400	1,900	68,000	0	1,771,300
1851–1867	216,000	9,300	0	0	500	0	0	225,800
Total*	1,060,900	5,849,300	3,259,900	555,300	305,800	1,380,970	10,400	12,522,570

Source: Voyages Web site, <http://www.slavevoyages.org/tast/assessment/estimates.faces?yearFrom=1501&yearTo=1866>.
 * The column and row totals in this table differ slightly from the data on the Voyages Web site because of the rounding rules used throughout this volume and explained in "About This Atlas."

- Let's analyze the table at your left: France was the last of all the Atlantic empires to start slave carrying from Africa as of 1626.
- However, it outperformed Spain in less than 100 years.
- It is undeniable that Portugal-Brazil were the top global slave traders, followed by Britain, and third it was France. How could it be?
- The last kingdom to enter the slave trade in the Americas, raised the incremental rate of slaves' transportation into the French Circum-Caribbean colonies and North America so high, as if they were the maximum efficient royal navy on earth? Of Course, France did not have the capacity for slave ship transportation after the Nine year's War. So, how could this be?
- Just between 1670 to 1730 (60 years), the French carried 2.4 times more Africans than any of the other colonies. How?
- According to researcher Pritchard, this only occurred because the slaves were carried from Africa to the Caribbean-Atlantic in non-French ships.

However, Eleonora Escalante Strategy bets that the French chartered companies made contracts with other kingdom vessels during that period to transfer directly from the West Coast of Africa to St Domingue or Martinique, and from there, the slaves were distributed to the other islands. This implies that the slaves were exchanged with rum-sugar directly, without intervention of French Ports. See circuit 5 slide 10

All the information of these slides is supported and inferred from the bibliography page 17-18

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From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



Understanding the French slave trade

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The Slave trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850



The French Planter class of the French Sugar Islands received at least between 1.1 to 1.2 million Africans.

The French slave trade in 4 stages of growth



During this period, France transported no more than 20,000 slaves to all its colonies from Western Africa.

This was the formative period. The royal compagnie of Indies held a monopoly of all French Slaving Operations. French slave expeditions were around 20 per year. See tables below.

During this time the average number of expeditions rose to 55 per year. The War of Austrian Succession and the Seven Years' War halted French slave activities, opening the marketplace to smugglers from other nations.

The American Revolution helped the French to capture the colonial slave market of Britain for the French shippers. French slaving expeditions increased to 100 per year.

The Plantation Economy installed by the French in Saint Domingue was based on slavery from the start.

For the Bourbon team and the French Merchants, the sugar model was accepted under slave labor as an institution. Colbert restricted the French vessels to engage with other kingdoms. So French chartered companies and private merchants were responsible for transporting slaves to the planters of Saint Domingue, Guadeloupe and Martinique. But slaves coming from smuggling were always an alternative for the planters, from the Portuguese, Dutch and British vessels. The role of the smugglers into pouring slaves to the French Islands may be a partial explanation for the transference of more than 1.3 million slaves. However, we truly believe that there was a hidden circuit of French Slave traders' activities between the West-Coast African ports to French Guiana-St Domingue. This is called smuggling by historians. We dare to speculate that it was a royal concealed business using private or royal companies that were "liquidated and merged" until 1789.

- In 1794, the National Convention ended the system of premiums for slave trading expeditions, abolishing slavery, but Napoleon reintroduced it 8 years later.

Table 1.1. *Estimated Slave Imports into French American Colonies to 1730*

Colony	Years	Slaves Imported	Annual Average	Percentage
Saint-Domingue	to 1680	4,000		
	1681-1730	176,560	3,530	
	Subtotal	180,560		46.1
Martinique	to 1670	15,830		
	1671-1730	91,260	1,690	
	Subtotal	107,090		27.3
Guadeloupe	to 1699	10,000		
	1700-1730	83,080	2,680	
	Subtotal	93,080		23.8
Louisiana	to 1730	7,000		1.8
Guiana	to 1730	4,000		1.0
Total		391,730		100

Source: Philip D. Curtin, *The Atlantic Slave Trade: A Census* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1969), 75-84; see especially Tables 20 and 21.

Table 1.2. *Slaves Arriving in French America, 1713-1730, by Quinquennial and by Colony*

Years	Total Africans	Average Per Year
1713-1715	14,756.2	4,891.7
1716-1720	21,414.8	4,283.0
1721-1725	24,961.4	4,992.3
1726-1730	29,578.3	5,915.7
1713-1730	90,710.0	5,039.5

Colony	Number of Africans	Percent Slaves
Saint-Domingue	48,659.4	53.6
Martinique	33,439.7	36.9
Louisiana	4,660.0	5.1
Guiana	2,234.6	2.5
Guadeloupe Grenada	1,717.0	1.9
Total	90,710.7	100.0

Source: From David Eltis's calculations based chiefly on the Mettas-Daget, *Répertoire numérique*.

Appendix 1. *Estimated Population of French America by Race and Region, 1670-1730.*

Region	1670	1685	1700	1715	1730
Total French America:					
Red/Coloured	202,119	164,400	107,883	82,814	64,362
White	22,475	30,191	33,594	45,094	73,431
Black	15,826	25,608	33,343	81,693	164,278
Total	240,420	220,199	174,820	209,601	302,071

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Three tables From: Pritchard, James. *In Search of Empire: The French in the Americas, 1670-1730*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

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From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



Understanding the French slave trade

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The Slave trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850

For the French Ministers of State: All overseas colonial activity was commercial and conceived for the augmentation of the power of the French Monarchy.

The French slave trade in 4 stages of growth



The French destroyed most of the French Slave colonial documents about the figures of slaves from Africa during the chaos of Haiti, the French Revolution and the Napoleon period.

TABLE I
French slaving departures in the eighteenth century

	1713-44	1748-55	1763-77	1783-92/3	Total
Nantes	482	218	359	387	1,446
Bordeaux	45	46	117	253	461
La Rochelle	133	54	96	125	408
Le Havre	17	31	130	167	345
Saint Malo	56	42	75	25	198
Lorient	115	4	0	19	138
Honfleur	8	2	44	72	126
Marseilles	13	1	18	80	112
others	16	6	25	4	51
	885	404	864	1,132	3,285

TABLE 2
Slaves exported from Africa on French ships

Years*	Ships	Average tonnage	Average no. slaves/ton	Total
1713-44	885	167	1.93	285,244
1748-55	404	177	1.82	130,145
1763-77	864	179	2.03	313,952
1783-92/3	1,132	?	?	
		(363 slaves/ship =		410,916)†
				1,140,257

Source: Stein, Robert. "Measuring the French Slave Trade, 1713-1792/3." *The Journal of African History* 19, no. 4 (1978): 515-21.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/181162>

- The port industry of France was upraised by the Caribbean, through sugar, other commodities and slaves. There was a biological justification in these actions: For the Bourbons and the French Nobility the Negro Slavery in the Sugar Islands was natural: their philosophy about the negros was that by Nature, the Negroes were incapable of making good use of freedom and emancipation, and would fall into idleness, drunkenness and debauchery.

- The moral-racial theory was so ingrained, that led to an edict of 1778 which forbade intermarriage between blacks and whites.
- Over time, even if the Black slave trade was seen as wrong, all French Prime ministers to the king believed in the economic necessity of slavery to generate revenues to the king and his courtiers working in Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint-Domingue and Louisiana.

- All the State information regarding the royal French slave trading system disappeared or was hidden out of the kings personal royal bureaus (minister of state or finance records).
- However, there is proof of evidence that the royal charters were direct business of the royal Bourbon families, approved and supervised by the King's Chief Ministers.
- Slave trade was a priority for all the ministers of the Bourbon kings as of Richelieu, Mazarin, Colbert, Le Tellier, Dubois, the Scottish John Law acting on behalf of Philippe II Duc D'Orleans and Louis Henri Duke of Bourbon, de Fleuri, De Choiseul, Turgot, Gravier, Necker and Le Tonnelier.
- It seems these official records were stolen or destroyed or hidden during the French Revolution or the Napoleonic era. Or at least someone has them secreted until today.
- After the Haitian Revolution, it is suggested that the French bourbon kings staff vanished all official records regarding the French Royal Slave trading system, because those numbers were so high and dangerous to be known.
- The calculation of the slaves exported from Africa on French Ships is indirect using the ports departure records (Amirauté) where shipping was outfitted. Sugar Plantations couldn't run without slaves.

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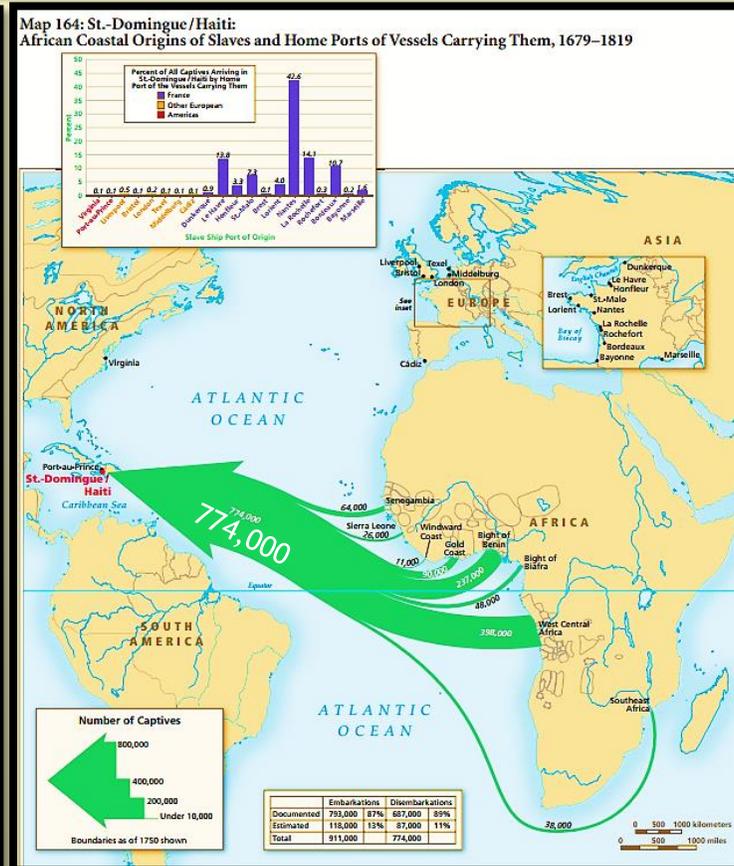
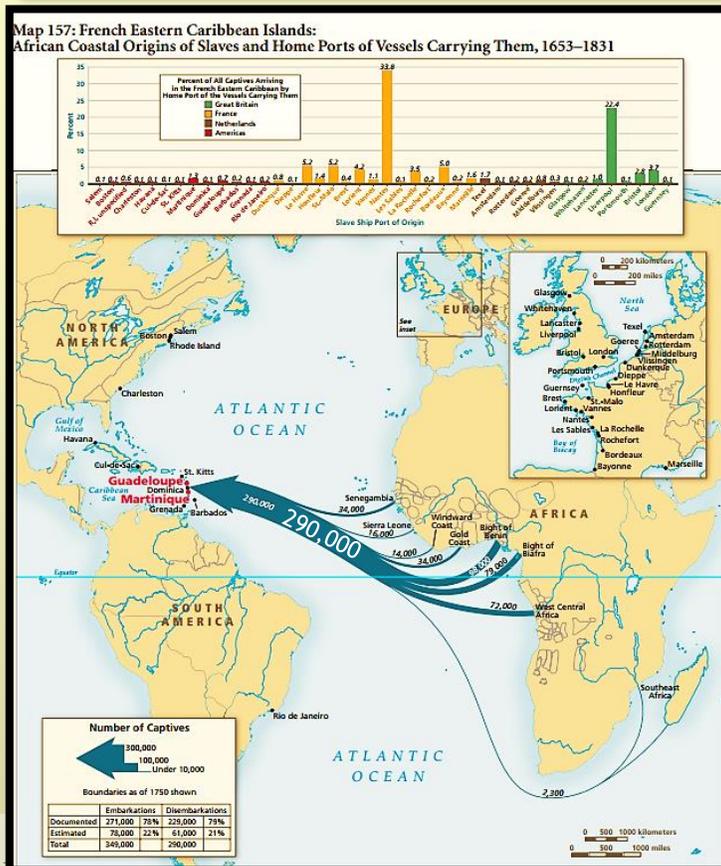
Understanding the French slave trade

Sugar-Sugar. America Part VI. Saint Domingue

The Slave trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850

By 1741, slave trade was open to all Frenchmen (not just royal companies). However, we suggest the Royal Charters held the primacy of slave trading in Africa and the Caribbean.

The French trade explained in two maps



According to R. Stein, supplying slaves to the French colonies was one of the most complex commercial networks of the Old Regime in France. It implied that Merchants from France, Africa, Caribbean and Asia were all working together to make it profitable.

- The center of slave trade was associated to the French Ports, where the ships were outfitted. Particularly with Nantes port, called the “City of Slavers”. In the 18th century, 1400 slave expedition ships departed from Nantes to Africa.
- Organizing a slaving expedition required to find adequate financing, and the preparation of the vessels. A typical expedition cost an average of 275,000 livres tournois (1783-92).
- The organization required the selection of a captain and his crew, the choice of a cargo (trading goods valued for 50 to 70% of the outfitting costs): textiles or cloths from India, jewelry from Amsterdam, weapons from England, and alcoholic beverages as wine from Bordeaux.
- Once in Africa, the Captain had to decide where to buy the slaves: Senegal, Guinea, Gold Coast, Angola or Mozambique. The captain purchased the slaves from African Merchants by unloading the ship’s cargo. Captives were sold between 100 to 600 livres worth in merchandise.
- After leaving Africa with the slaves, there was a stop in Sao Tomé or Principe, to restore the health of the slaves. Then the ship crossed the middle passage, losing between 5% to 20% of the slaves by disease.
- French ships landed first on Martinique, as a resting place or destination, and then continue to Saint Domingue.
- The slaves were sold at 1000 to 1500 livres there, and the 25% payment was sugar and the promise of the local agents-factors to collect the rest

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Understanding the French slave trade

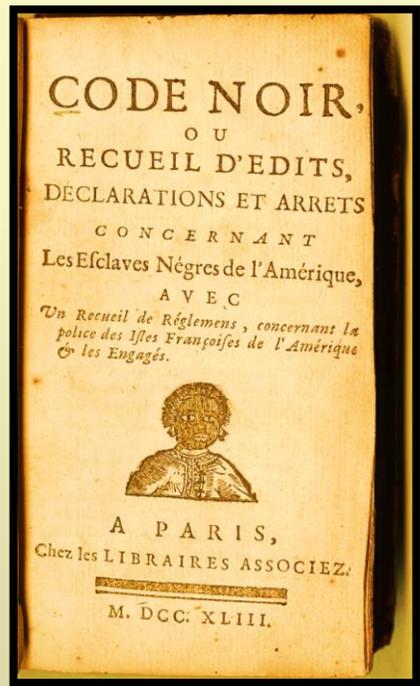
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The Slave trade carried by the French Empire between 1626 to 1850

Louis XIV anticipated that only through slaves and sugar, France could emerge to wealth and prosperity

By acknowledging the CODE NOIR of Louis XIV, we can infer the importance of the slaves for the French Sugar economy coming from the French Antilles, mainly Saint Domingue.

- The Council of State of Louis XIV took the slave trade as a priority as of 1669. Louis XIV authorized the Compagnie Francaise des Indes Occidentals to trade for slaves on the African coast to the exclusion of all others.
- During the next 60 years, 7 monopoly slave trading companies were used for that and failed (or were apparently liquidated and merged under other new compagnies for slave trade). These companies were the West Indies, the Senegal, the Guinea, the New Senegal, the Royal Saint-Domingue, the Royal Guinea or Asiento, and the John Law India companies.
- After 1740s, the royal companies abandoned the trade to private merchants, in return for a tribute or tax of 10 French livres per head of slaves landing in the colonies.
- Officials from Martinique and Guadeloupe asked for access to foreign slave traders, but the king refused, and smugglers (illegally) from other flags served the French Colonies. French planters bought slaves to the Dutch in St Eustatius or St. Thomas from the Danish.
- With the Treaty of Utrecht, the slave trade became free to all using the outfitting ports of France.
- Louis XIV promulgated the CODE NOIR in 1685, and edict of 60 articles that served as the legal charter for the French west Indian slave system, which organized the religion, the activities, hours of work, food to receive, and all the regulations of the slave trade and the life of the slaves at the plantations.



Stein has illustrated the mortality rates of death of a typical French Plantation of Saint Domingue. This will help us to understand why the level of replacements of the slaves grew so high during the 18th century. Let's explore the Plantation of Ms. Bongars reports of her slave deaths per year between 1769 to 1779:

Year	Number of Slaves dead each year	Inventories
1769	7	210
1770	8	
1771	12	
1772	14	
1773	0	
1774	9	
1775	2	
1776	14	
1777	8	
1778	7	
1779	3	302

- In 10 years, 94 slaves died in this plantation.
- The plantation held 210 slaves in 1769, and by 1779 it had 302 slaves.
- That means the new slaves bought to replace the dead ones and expand production These were (calculation: 302-210=92)
- In 1779, 94 slaves died. This means, Ms. Bongars bought 94 new slaves to replace the dead ones, plus 92 more in 10 years.
- The mortality rate of a slave in Saint Domingue was on a range from 3 months to 2.5 years after arriving from Africa.

13/2/2026

Eleonora Escalante Strategy
State of the Art Corporate Strategy

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*Our next stopover will be about
the sugar explanation of its
business model in Saint Domingue*



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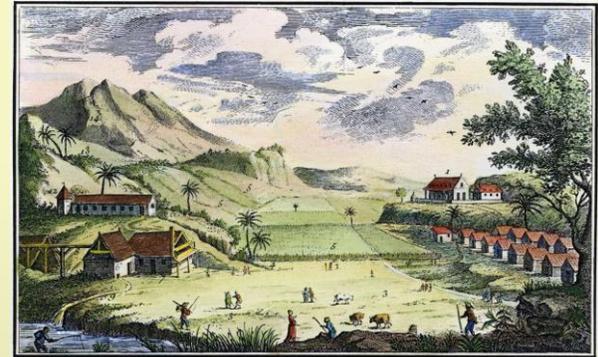


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Sugar sugar in Central America 18th-19th centuries
Photo: Galería Guatecaña.

Thank you

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