

# MAAFA



**Maafa** is another word for the **enslavement of Africans** and their forced transportation to the Americas. It began in the **1440s and lasted for over 400 years**

## Capture and Transportation

Africans were captured in their villages and forced to walk for days to ports on the west coast of Africa. Conditions on the ships were awful, with many people dying from disease.

## Life in the Americas

Enslaved people were sold at auctions and forced to work on plantations or as domestic servants. They were punished severely if they tried to escape.

## Resistance

Despite the harsh conditions, many enslaved people resisted their enslavement.

## European Involvement

**Portugal, Spain, and Britain** were all involved in the Maafa. They traded goods like guns and metal for enslaved Africans. Britain transported the most enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Triangular Trade.

## This was a system where:

Europe sent manufactured goods to Africa. Africa sent enslaved people to the Americas. The Americas sent raw materials like sugar and cotton back to Europe.

## End of Slavery

The slave trade was eventually outlawed. Slavery itself was **abolished in Britain in 1833**.

## Glossary

<b>abolitionist</b>	A person who fights to ban something, such as slavery.
<b>auction</b>	A public sale, where goods are sold to the person who bids the most money.
<b>chattel slavery</b>	A form of enslavement, where people are kept as another person's property and are treated very badly.
<b>colonisation</b>	The act of sending people to live in, govern and control another country and its indigenous people, forming a colony.
<b>emancipation</b>	To be set free from legal, social or political restrictions, such as slavery.
<b>enslavement</b>	To have one's freedom taken away and to be forced to work for no money.
<b>indigenous</b>	To naturally exist in a country or area, rather than arriving from somewhere else.
<b>maafa</b>	A Swahili word meaning 'great catastrophe'. The name Maafa is used to describe the African Holocaust and the history and effects of the transatlantic slave trade.
<b>plantation</b>	A large estate where crops, such as sugar cane or tobacco, are grown.
<b>trading forts</b>	A place designed for the storage, buying and selling of goods.
<b>West Indies</b>	A group of islands surrounded by the North Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. More commonly known as the Caribbean.

## Maafa timeline

<b>1441</b>	Portugal starts transporting enslaved African people.
<b>1492</b>	Christopher Columbus discovers Hispaniola.
<b>1562</b>	Britain begins transporting enslaved African people across the Atlantic Ocean.
<b>1728</b>	The First Maroon War begins in Jamaica, where escaped enslaved workers fight British troops for the right to live independently.
<b>c1800</b>	Approximately 120,000 enslaved people are transported, by British ships, to the Caribbean and Americas every year.
<b>1807</b>	The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act is passed.
<b>1831–1832</b>	The largest rebellion of enslaved people takes place in the British Caribbean.
<b>1833</b>	The Slavery Abolition Act is passed.
<b>1884–1885</b>	Africa is divided into 50 European colonies.
<b>1948–1973</b>	Around 500,000 people are invited to Britain from the Caribbean to fill job positions after the Second World War. The first people arrived on a ship called HMT <i>Empire Windrush</i> . All of the people arriving in this way become known as the 'Windrush generation'.
<b>1965</b>	The Race Relations Act is passed.
<b>2010</b>	The Equality Act is passed.