

# RESISTANCE AND REVOLT

- ▶ 1. Slave control: legal, economic, psychological, social, ideological, physical and cultural.
- ▶ 2. Forms of resistance (male and female): insurrectionary and non-insurrectionary.
- ▶ 3. Maroon societies: origins and development.
- ▶ 4. The Haitian Revolution: causes and course.
- ▶ 5. Consequences of the Revolution for Haiti and the wider Caribbean - social, economic and political.
- ▶ 6. Major revolts (Berbice, 1763; Barbados, 1816; Demerara, 1823; Jamaica, 1831) - causes, nature, consequences.

# Laws - Code Noir

- ▶ Article I. We desire and we expect that the Edict of 23 April 1615 of the late King, our most honored lord and father who remains glorious in our memory, be executed in our islands. This accomplished, we enjoin all of our officers to chase from our islands all the Jews who have established residence there. As with all declared enemies of Christianity, we command them to be gone within three months of the day of issuance of the present [order], at the risk of confiscation of their persons and their goods.
- ▶ Article II. All slaves that shall be in our islands shall be baptized and instructed in the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith. We enjoin the inhabitants who shall purchase newly-arrived Negroes to inform the Governor and Intendant of said islands of this fact within no more that eight days, or risk being fined an arbitrary amount. They shall give the necessary orders to have them instructed and baptized within a suitable amount of time.

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article III. We forbid any religion other than the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith from being practiced in public. We desire that offenders be punished as rebels disobedient of our orders. We forbid any gathering to that end, which we declare to be conventicle, illegal, and seditious, and subject to the same punishment as would be applicable to the masters who permit it or accept it from their slaves.
- ▶ Article IV. No persons assigned to positions of authority over Negroes shall be other than a member of the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith, and the master who assigned these persons shall risk having said Negroes confiscated, and arbitrary punishment levied against the persons who accepted said position of authority.
- ▶ Article V. We forbid our subjects who belong to the so-called "reformed" religion from causing any trouble or unforeseen difficulties for our other subjects or even for their own slaves in the free exercise of the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith, at the risk of exemplary punishment.

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article VI. We enjoin all our subjects, of whatever religion and social status they may be, to observe Sundays and the holidays that are observed by our subjects of the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith. We forbid them to work, nor make their slaves work, on said days, from midnight until the following midnight. They shall neither cultivate the earth, manufacture sugar, nor perform any other work, at the risk of a fine and an arbitrary punishment against the masters, and of confiscation by our officers of as much sugar worked by said slaves before being caught.
- ▶ Article VII. We forbid them also to hold slave markets or any other market on said days at the risk of similar punishments and of confiscation of the merchandise that shall be discovered at the market, and an arbitrary fine against the sellers.

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article VIII. We declare that our subjects who are not of the Roman, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith, are incapable of contracting a valid marriage in the future. We declare any child born from such unions to be bastards, and we desire that said marriages be held and reputed, and to hold and repute, as actual concubinage.
- ▶ Article IX. Free men who shall have one or more children during concubinage with their slaves, together with their masters who accepted it, shall each be fined two thousand pounds of sugar. If they are the masters of the slave who produced said children, we desire, in addition to the fine, that the slave and the children be removed and that she and they be sent to work at the hospital, never to gain their freedom. We do not expect however for the present article to be applied when the man was not married to another person during his concubinage with this slave, who he should then marry according to the accepted rites of the Church. In this way she shall then be freed, the children becoming free and legitimate. . . .

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article XI. We forbid priests from conducting weddings between slaves if it appears that they do not have their masters' permission. We also forbid masters from using any constraints on their slaves to marry them without their wishes.
- ▶ Article XII. Children born from marriages between slaves shall be slaves, and if the husband and wife have different masters, they shall belong to the masters of the female slave, not to the master of her husband.
- ▶ Article XIII. We desire that if a male slave has married a free woman, their children, either male or female, shall be free as is their mother, regardless of their father's condition of slavery. And if the father is free and the mother a slave, the children shall also be slaves. .

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- ▶ Article XIII. We desire that if a male slave has married a free woman, their children, either male or female, shall be free as is their mother, regardless of their father's condition of slavery. And if the father is free and the mother a slave, the children shall also be slaves. . . .
- ▶ Article XV. We forbid slaves from carrying any offensive weapons or large sticks, at the risk of being whipped and having the weapons confiscated. The weapons shall then belong to he who confiscated them. The sole exception shall be made for those who have been sent by their masters to hunt and who are carrying either a letter from their masters or his known mark.
- ▶ Article XVI. We also forbid slaves who belong to different masters from gathering, either during the day or at night, under the pretext of a wedding or other excuse, either at one of the master's houses or elsewhere, and especially not in major roads or isolated locations. They shall risk corporal punishment that shall not be less than the whip and the fleur de lys, and for frequent recidivists and in other aggravating circumstances, they may be punished with death, a decision we leave to their judge. We enjoin all our subjects, even if they are not officers, to rush to the offenders, arrest them, and take them to prison, and that there be no decree against them. . . .

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article XVIII. We forbid slaves from selling sugar cane, for whatever reason or occasion, even with the permission of their master, at the risk of a whipping for the slaves and a fine of ten pounds for the masters who gave them permission, and an equal fine for the buyer.
- ▶ Article XIX. We also forbid slaves from selling any type of commodities, even fruit, vegetables, firewood, herbs for cooking and animals either at the market, or at individual houses, without a letter or a known mark from their masters granting express permission. Slaves shall risk the confiscation of goods sold in this way, without their masters receiving restitution for the loss, and a fine of six pounds shall be levied against the buyers. . . .
- ▶ Article XXVII. Slaves who are infirm due to age, sickness or other reason, whether the sickness is curable or not, shall be nourished and cared for by their masters. In the case that they be abandoned, said slaves shall be awarded to the hospital, to which their master shall be required to pay six *sols* per day for the care and feeding of each slave. . . .

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article XXXI. Slaves shall not be a party, either in court or in a civil matter, either as a litigant or as a defendant, or as a civil party in a criminal matter. And compensation shall be pursued in criminal matters for insults and excesses that have been committed against slaves. . . .
- ▶ Article XXXIII. The slave who has struck his master in the face or has drawn blood, or has similarly struck the wife of his master, his mistress, or their children, shall be punished by death.

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article XXXVIII. The fugitive slave who has been on the run for one month from the day his master reported him to the police, shall have his ears cut off and shall be branded with a *fleur de lys* on one shoulder. If he commits the same infraction for another month, again counting from the day he is reported, he shall have his hamstring cut and be branded with a *fleur de lys* on the other shoulder. The third time, he shall be put to death.
- ▶ Article XXXIX. The masters of freed slaves who have given refuge to fugitive slaves in their homes shall be punished by a fine of three hundred pounds of sugar for each day of refuge.

# Code Noir

- ▶ Article LV. Masters twenty years of age may free their slaves by any act toward the living or due to death, without their having to give just cause for their actions, nor do they require parental advice as long as they are minors of 25 years of age.
- ▶ Article LVI. The children who are declared to be sole legatees by their masters, or named as executors of their wills, or tutors of their children, shall be held and considered as freed slaves. . . .
- ▶ The Code Noir (The Black Code),” *LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY: EXPLORING THE FRENCH REVOLUTION*, accessed March 18, 2020, <https://revolution.chnm.org/items/show/515>.

# Siete Partidas

- ▶ Spanish laws for the enslaved viewed the enslaved as person .
- ▶ Protection was given to the enslaved in laws
- ▶ They were to be given religious instructions
- ▶ Enslaved had to be given housing and medical care
- ▶ Code of 1789 gave punishment to the owners if they abused the enslaved.

# Siete Partidas

- ▶ Laws were enacted to restrict the enslaved in Spanish Territories
- ▶ They were forbidden to bear arms.
- ▶ They had to follow a curfew
- ▶ Negroes found wandering could be arrested

# Spanish Laws



Places like Cuba had laws to restrict the free coloureds and blacks.



The freed coloured and blacks had to live under a patron



They were not allowed to wear precious metals eg gold



They were forbidden from wearing clothing that was above their status in society eg silks and cloaks

# Reasons for slave opposition

Desire for freedom

Reaction to harsh treatment

Opposition to how other enslaved were punished

Inability to practice African cultural traditions

Food shortages especially in times of war, drought and other natural disasters

Presence of new slaves from Africa especially from the same tribe who would have greatest desire for freedom and ability to communicate with each other

# Reasons for opposition



Development of strong leaders to encourage them



Absentee landlords. Harsher treatment given out by attorneys, managers and overseers.



Geography of area around the plantation .High mountainous densely populated areas were favourable areas to escape.

# Methods used to oppose slavery



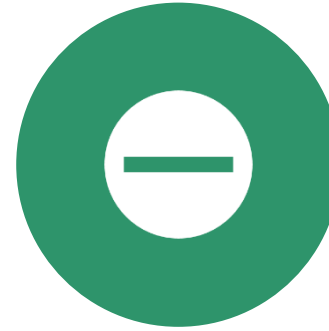
# Non- insurrectionary resistance



OPPOSITION TO LAWS OR  
AUTHORITY USING NON  
COOPERATIVE AND NONVIOLENT  
MEANS.



EXAMPLES - MALINGERING,  
PRETENDING NOT TO  
UNDERSTAND INSTRUCTIONS,  
BREAST FEEDING FOR LONGER  
THAN NECESSARY, WORKING  
SLOWLY.



RESULTS OF NON-  
INSURRECTIONARY RESISTANCE  
- SLOW THE PROCESS OF  
PRODUCTION.

# Insurrectionary resistance



Opposition to laws and authority using violent means.



Examples : murder, revolts.



Results of insurrectionary resistance -  
loss of lives, loss of property, large  
disruption of the plantation system.

# Marronage

Marronage refers to running away from enslavement



Types of marronage: petit marronage, grand marronage and maritime marronage

# Petit Marronage



Petit marronage - enslaved ran away for a short period.



Reasons :



To visit family members especially a spouse



To escape punishment



# Maritime Maroonage

Enslaved Africans left by sea to escape to another territory .

# Grand Marronage

- ▶ Enslaved Africans left their owners without any intention of returning.
- ▶ Reasons
  - ▶ To escape enslavement
  - ▶ There were Maroon communities in the Territory
- ▶ Successful Maroon communities were formed in Suriname and Jamaica.
- ▶