

Revolts and Revolutions under Slavery

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Abstract

The history of slave resistance is as old as slavery and, as this one, takes on distinctive facets. In daily life, it is from the character of their masters and not so much by the slaves' resistance that the slaves' reactions can be understood. Having in mind African slavery in the New World, this reflection encompasses this article's first part. In the second part, we address another kind of resistance, observing its various types, its motives and the revolts historical contexts. Besides brief references to revolts that became famous in history, the study focusses in the particularities of the slave revolt in the French colony of Saint-Domingue, in the end of the 18th century. In the third part, we analyse some of the features and correlations between the French and the Haitian Revolutions, which start the great century of revolts, independences and revolutions, both in Europe as in the colonial world.

Keywords: Slave revolt, Haitian Revolution, slave resistance, slavery, Declaration of the Rights of the Man and of the Citizen