

The Development of British North America

EQ: How did the American colonies change during British colonization?

Georgia Standards

- SSUSH2 The student will trace the ways that the economy and society of British North America developed.
- a. Explain the development of mercantilism and the trans-Atlantic trade.
- b. Describe the Middle Passage, growth of the African population, and African-American culture.
- c. Identify Benjamin Franklin as a symbol of social mobility and individualism.
- d. Explain the significance of the Great Awakening.

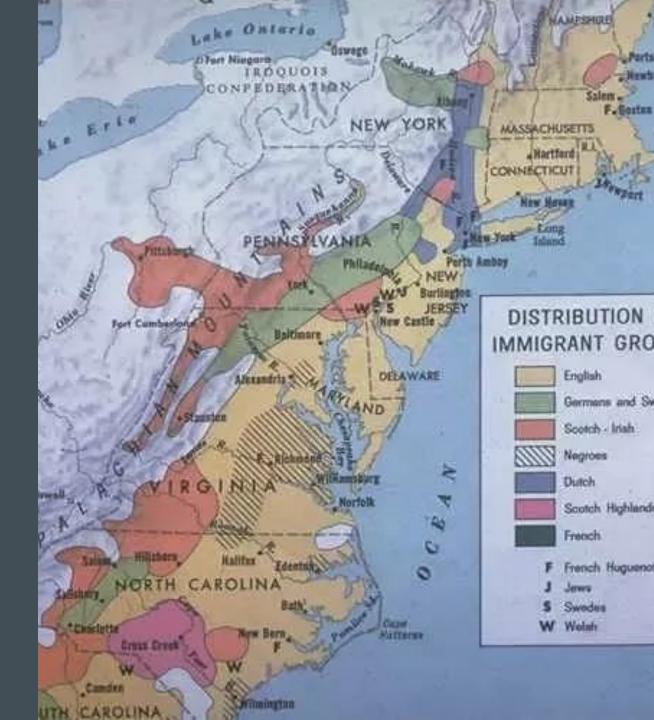


DIVERSITY IN COLONIAL AMERICA

Colonial society was a unique mix of European immigrants who came seeking better opportunities, fortunes, and freedom (both religious and political).

Besides the English- the French, Dutch, Germans, Irish-Scots, and Africans were all prominent in the colonies.These people brought with them their food, holidays, languages, dances, and other elements of their culture.

This is why America is known as a "melting pot".

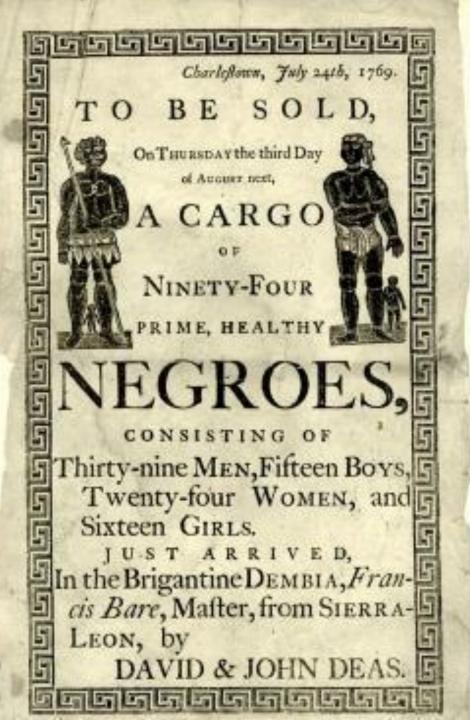












Trans-Atlantic Trade

- Between 16th and 19th century, Europe exported over 12 million enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Ocean
- Chattel Slave- an enslaved person that is owned, and whose children are owned, forever.
- Chattel Slavery became an American institution, southern states relied on this system.
- Labor used on sugar, cocoa, coffee and cotton plantations.

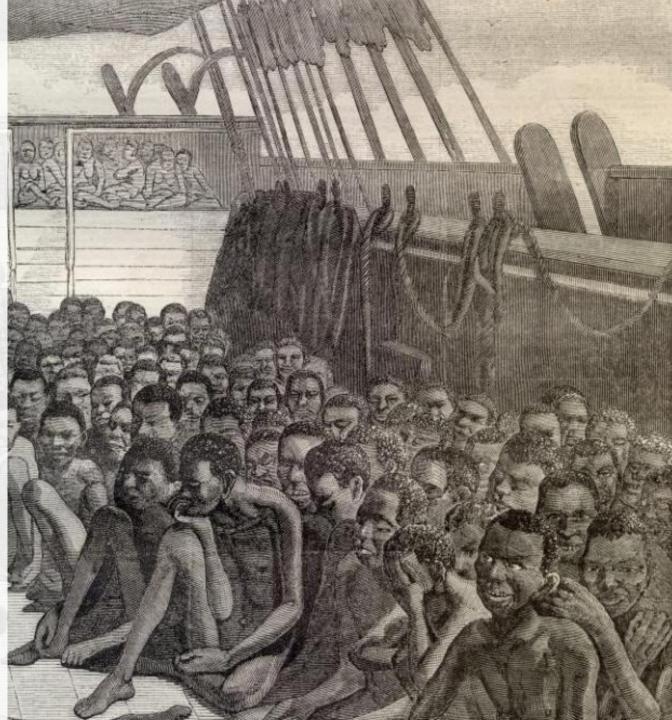
Trans-Atlantic Trade

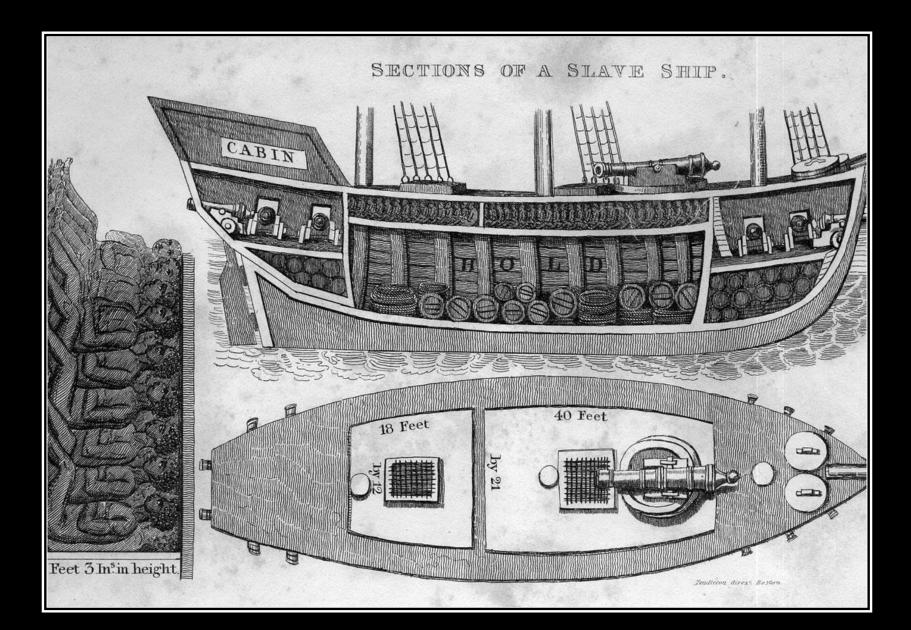
 <u>Triangular trade</u> – process of shipping slaves to Americas, shipping raw goods to Europe and then selling goods back to Africa

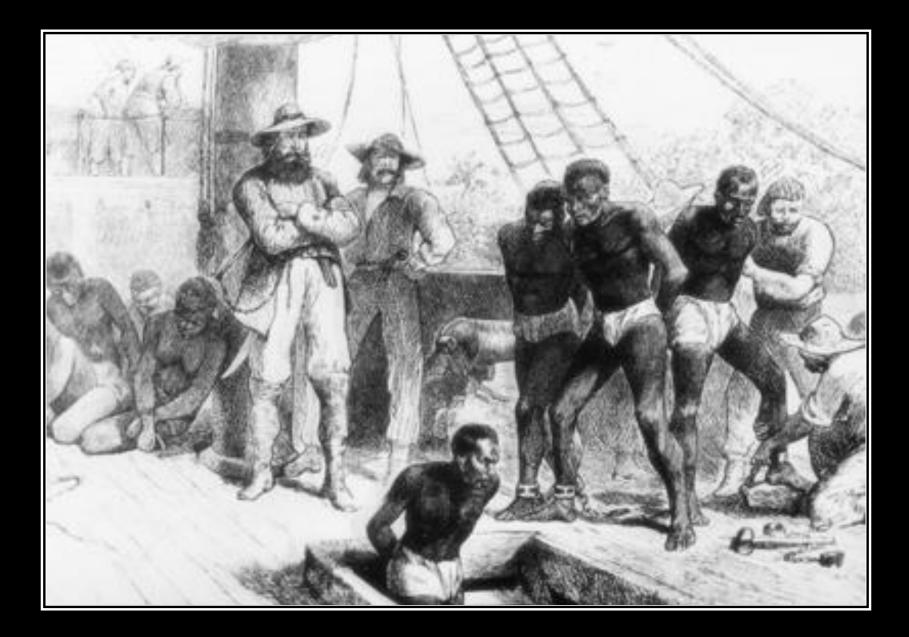


"The Middle Passage"

- The voyage across the Atlantic Ocean on "cargo" ships was known as the <u>Middle Passage</u>.
- Conditions were horrific. Enslaved
 Africans were
 chained and
 stacked on top of
 each other like
 cargo.
- Usually only half survived the two month journey.

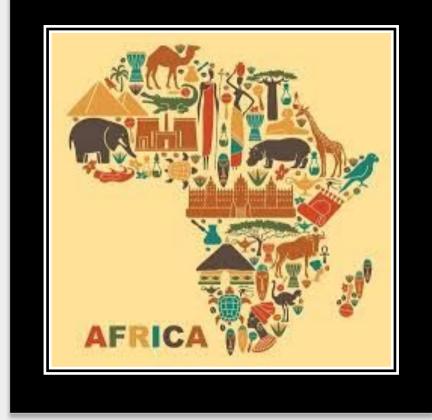






African Contributions

- Despite the dehumanization experienced by enslaved African peoples, they managed to maintain many cultural elements, including- dance, music, art, food and religion.
- Over time these cultures blended with others to help create the diversity we have today.



European Colonization

- In the 17th 19th century, Europeans took more steps to dominate the rest of the world.
- They wanted to own the vast land and resources that other nations had to offer.
- <u>Mercantilism</u> theory that the "mother country" gains financial benefits from its colonies at the colonies' expense
- Consequently, as a nation became stronger through mercantilism, its enemies became weaker.



Salutary Neglect leads to Colonial Self-Governance

- <u>Salutary Neglect-</u> the British policy of not strictly enforcing Parliamentary laws on the colonists as long as the colonists provided raw materials and bought manufactured products (mercantilism).
- This "neglect" resulted in the colonists creating their own forms of government and laws. What examples can you think of that we've already discussed...?

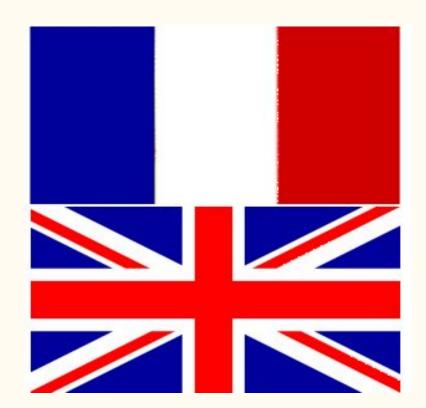
Change on the Horizon

- 1) The House of Burgesses in Virginia
- 2) New England Town Hall meetings
- 3) Colonially elected judges and political leaders.

These political advancements would lead to an increased desire for self governance. In other words, an increased desire for FREEDOM.

Seven Years War

- The battle over colonies will force the British and the French to do battle for imperial control of those colonies.
- Part of that war will be fought for colonial rights to North America.
- In this country, it is known as "The French and Indian War"





DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

Benjamin Franklin

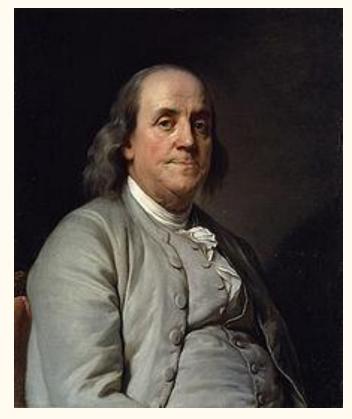
In the 1700's, the life of Benjamin Franklin represented changes in society.

Franklin was able to rise in society from a very poor, humble beginning to a life of wealth, accomplishment and fame.

This upward move in society is called "<u>social</u> <u>mobility</u>".

Through his writings, Franklin promoted <u>individualism</u>, in which he stressed the importance of individuals in society.

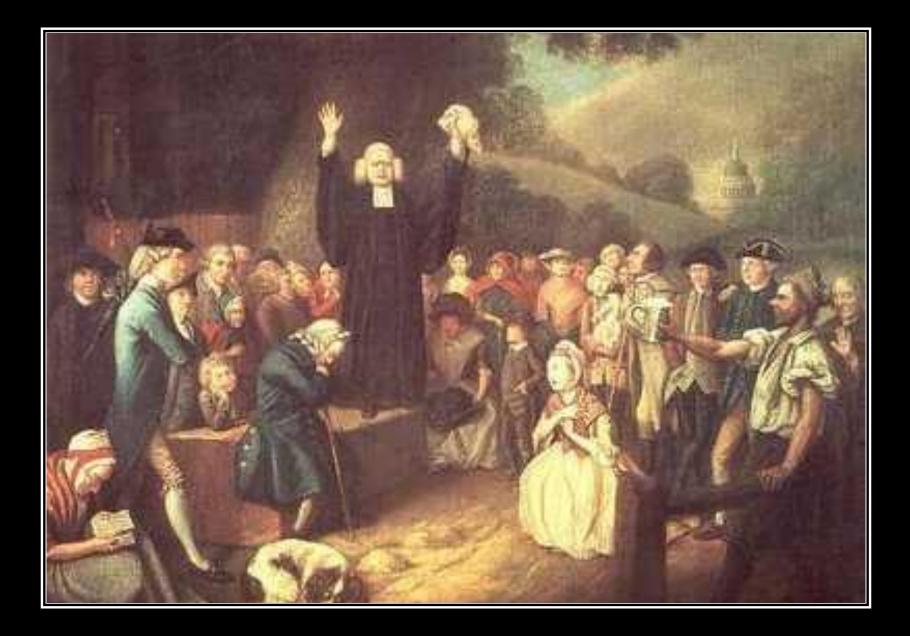
This idea led to a shift in power from institutions (i.e. Church, monarch) to individuals (i.e. "common citizens")



The Great Awakening

- In the 1700's, American religion changed dramatically.
- During "<u>The Great Awakening</u>", the colonies experienced a dramatic increase in *religion*.
- The period is best remembered for its preachers and their passionate, intense sermons.
- Sermons placed emphasis on **individual religious experience** rather than religious experience through church doctrine (beliefs).
- Laid the groundwork for the strong, religious origins in the fight for independence.
- "If salvation was to be reached through personal understanding and interpretation (not mandated by the Church), shouldn't government also be the same?"





Ticket Out the Door

- Sum it up in six: In six words (not five, not seven), sum up the <u>historical importance</u> of each of the following:
- 1. Mercantilism
- 2. Trans-Atlantic Trade
- 3. Middle Passage
- 4. Benjamin Franklin
- 5. The Great Awakening