

Africa

From the 16th century for nearly 300 years, Britain was involved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The Transatlantic Slave Trade was called the Triangular Trade because the trading happened in a triangular shape: from Europe, through to Africa, then onto America and the Caribbean and then back to Europe.

A slave is a person owned by another person. Slavery is treating another person as property and depriving them of their personal and human rights.



In 1562, Sir John Hawkins became the first English slave trader. He took 300 Africans and traded them with the Spanish and Portuguese for sugar, spices and pearls.



In 1787, the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade was established. William Wilberforce represented the committee in Parliament.

In 1807, the Transatlantic Slave Trade was abolished by the British Parliament and the US Congress.

In 1833, the Abolition of Slavery Act was passed. It came into force in 1834.



Africa

The Zulu Kingdom was initially led by King Shaka Zulu.



The Zulu Kingdom was strong from 1816-1897. Queen Victoria reigned from 1837-1901. The Victorians practised Colonialism which is when a powerful country directly controls less powerful countries. King Shaka Zulu tried to take over neighbouring areas for his Zulu Kingdom (Colonialism), just as the Romans colonised Europe when their Empire was strong.

South African was ruled by a system called Apartheid (separating people by race) from 1948-1994.

In the 1950s, the African National Congress (ANC) led the resistance to apartheid, setting up several peaceful protests with the help of Nelson Mandela and his ANC Youth League. The police met the ANC with violence. The ANC were eventually banned from protesting, and in 1962, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for treason.



During Mandela's imprisonment, countries across the world were made aware of apartheid laws. Global pressure mounted against South Africa. Mandela was offered release from prison on the condition that he stop his fight against Apartheid laws but he refused freedom twice until his release in 1990. Apartheid was finally abolished in the early 1990s. In 1994, Nelson Mandela took part in the first democratic election and became the first black president of South Africa.