

# Year 6: History Maafa Knowledge Organiser

## Subject Specific Vocabulary

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

## Ancient Civilisations

Humans have lived in Africa for millions of years. Great civilisations developed in every part of Africa, including the Kingdom of Aksum, the Kingdom of Benin and the Mali Empire. Each were great trading nations and gained wealth and power by trading natural resources, such as gold and salt, with other African kingdoms, Europe, the Middle East, India and China.



## Triangular Slave Trade

The triangular slave trade was a very profitable system of enslavement, developed to provide labour for plantations in the Americas.

It involved three journeys:

### The first journey

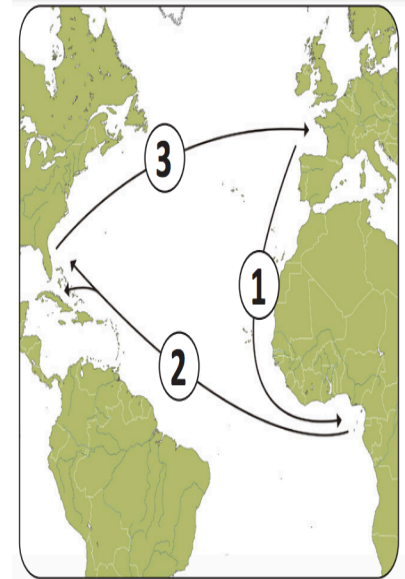
Goods, including metal and guns, were transported to the west coast of Africa.

### The second journey

Enslaved African people were transported to the Caribbean and the Americas. This journey was also known as the middle passage.

### The third journey

Goods produced on the plantations were transported back to Europe.



## Britain's role in the Maafa

Britain first began transporting enslaved African people in 1562, when Elizabeth I gave John Hawkins, an English naval commander, the permission to do so. By 1650, Britain had seized several West Indies islands from Spain, and was transporting several thousand enslaved African people across the Atlantic Ocean each year. By the early 1800s, this number had increased to 120,000 each year. In total, Britain transported more enslaved African people than any other European country.



## Maafa Timeline

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1441        | Portugal starts transporting enslaved African people                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1492        | Christopher Columbus discovers Hispaniola                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1562        | Britain begins transporting enslaved African people across the Atlantic Ocean                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1728        | The first Maroon War begins in Jamaica, where escaped enslaved workers fight British troops for the right to live independently                                                                                                                            |
| c1800       | Approximately 120,000 enslaved people are transported, by British ships, to the Caribbean and Americas every year                                                                                                                                          |
| 1807        | The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act is passed                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1831 - 1832 | The largest rebellion of enslaved people takes place in the British Caribbean                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1833        | The Slavery Abolition Act is passed                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1884 - 1885 | Africa is divided into 50 European colonies                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1948 - 1973 | 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 HMT Empire Windrush. All of the people arriving in this way became known as the 'Windrush generation' |
| 2010        | The Equality Act is passed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

### Abolition of Slavery

Many people, including plantation owners and traders, profited greatly from the slave trade and were keen for it to continue. British cities, banks and businesses also developed as a result of the money made from the slave trade. However, over time, people came to believe that slavery was wrong. A range of factors, such as enslaved people rebelling against plantation owners in the First Maroon War and the work of abolitionists, eventually led to the end of the slave trade in Britain in 1807. The Slavery Abolition Act was passed in 1833, which made slavery illegal. However, the lives of most emancipated slaves did not improve for many years.



### African nations after slavery

After the Berlin West Africa Conference of 1884–1885, was held between 14 European countries, Africa was divided into 50 European colonies. Many European people became extremely wealthy by exploiting Africa and its wealth of natural resources, and the division of Africa marked another struggle that African people faced for their freedom from European control.



### Links to prior learning

Christopher Columbus and his discovery of 'The New World'  
Other ancient civilisations, Sumer, Romans and Greeks  
Slavery in other eras such as the Romans and the Greeks