

**Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria**  
**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**  
**University Dr. Moulay Tahar -Saida-**  
**Faculty of Letters, Foreign Languages, and Arts**  
**Department of English**



## **The Evolution of Slavery from the Colonial Period to the Civil War**

Dissertation Submitted to the Department of English Language and Literature in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master Degree in Literature and Civilization

**Submitted by:**

**Gherbi Youcef**

**Supervised by:**

**Dr. Benadla Djamel**

**Examined by:**

**Mr. Selmi**

**Mr. Talbi**

**Academic Year: 2016-2017**

## *Dedications*

*First and foremost, my unforgettable thanks are to the Almighty Allah for providing me with uncounted blessing.*

*I dedicate this dissertation to:*

*The light of my life and the dearest people to my heart: my parents. Thank you for all your encouragement, and your love.*

*To my dear brother Mekki, Yacine and Hamid To my marvelous sister Kheira*

*To my teachers in all levels and all people who encouraged me to do this modest work.*

## **Acknowledgments**

**Above all, I thank Allah, the Almighty for having given me the necessary courage and patience to undertake and complete this work.**

**I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Djamel Benadla who guided this research and gave me his time and expertise. I thank him not only for his comments and valuable suggestions, but also for his encouragement and understanding.**

**I also would like to thank all the students and teachers of third year for their immense contribution by sharing their valuable experience and insights.**

**I would like to thank all teachers at the Department of English language and literature at Saida University.**

**Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks go to all those who supported us by their encouragements and suggestions.**

**Thank you so much**

## **Abstract**

The issue over slavery is thought to be the main cause dividing the United States into two disputed districts and serving as the main catalyst for the American Civil War. The latter has been viewed as the by-product of the institution of slavery regarding the north and the south. Yet, it would be worth examining the other major reasons that helped hasten the onset of the Civil war. This research tries first to highlight basically two essential elements : the history of slavery and the phases of the evolution, from wilderness to a legal institution. Secondly, some of the considerable achievements of the outstanding black figures standing against white's supremacy are selected, who in fact initiate to the Civil War, and put an end to slavery. The study then hinges on the analysis of the aspects of it, essentially the root cause for the Civil War. The study argues that the outbreak of the Civil War was not simply due to the issue over slavery, but to a combination of other interconnected factors. Increasingly, slavery was not an issue relating to special group or sect. However, it was a moral cause that demeaned group over another. So, the American Civil War broke out in favour of slaves in particular and humanity in general.

## Table of Contents

Dedication .....	I
Acknowledgements.....	II
Abstract.....	III
Table of Content.....	IV
General Introduction.....	1

### *Chapter One: The Evolution of Slavery*

1.1 Introduction.....	4
1.2 The Historical Background of Slavery.....	5
1.3 The First Explorations.....	10
1.4 Slavery in the Colonial America.....	13
1.5 Slavery and the American Revolution.....	17
1.6 Conclusion.....	20

### *Chapter Two: The Blacks Opposing the Institution of Slavery*

2.1. Introduction.....	21
2.2.The Black’s Allusion to Freedom.....	21
2.3 The Slave Abolitionists’ Attempt for Freedom.....	32
2.4. Conclusion.....	38

### *Chapter Three: The Issue of Slavery and the Initiation of the Civil War*

3.1. Introduction.....	39
3.2. Slavery’s Constitution.....	40
3.3. The Key Features and the Major Phases of the Civil War.....	41

3.4. The Real Causes of the Civil War.....	47
3.5. Conclusion.....	51
3.6. General Conclusion.....	52
3.7. Bibliography.....	55

## **General Introduction**

Slavery had been around for a long time before then. In fact, slavery was an institution as old as humanity itself. However, the state of slavery and enslaved people had been changing through time from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century. As a matter of fact, the history has marked a gradual shift in the world of slavery. The emergence of the ancient civilization resulted in the foundation of the institution of slavery. The practice of slavery evolved especially in time of the European explorations. The nineteenth century gave birth to a new concept.

The Atlantic Slave Trade came to replace the old meaning of slavery. The first Europeans' explorations were intended for trade. The intention was to trade for gold and spices, but the voyagers found another even more valuable commodity, human beings. Over time, the trade in men and women supplanted other commerce, and the slaves' destination changed from Europe to the European colonies in the Americas. The colonial period would be the last experience for slaves. America also would be the last station for the institution of slavery before the abolition.

The only remaining colonies on the Americas were the English. The life there was attached to slavery. The colonies' system was based on slavery. In fact, slavery was the colonists' main concern. Besides, the issue over slavery outraged the United States. The huge gap between the states resulted in the separation of the United States into, northern states and southern states with different perspectives. The Civil War would express the

long years of conflicts and differences between the Confederacy and the Union. The dichotomy, however, pertains as to what was the main agent behind the American Civil War : the issue over slavery or other factors. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to explore the evolution of slavery with a view to identifying the catalysing factors behind the Civil War.

Accordingly, this work revolves around this issue, and tackles these major questions :How was the practice of slavery evolved from and legal institution to a serious problem in the United States ?

How could the African Americans urge the United States to a great Civil War ?

To what extent was the American Civil War caused upon the issue of slavery ?

These questions, in return, assume the following hypotheses :

Slavery marked the most controversial and oldest issues dividing the North and the South serving as the main catalyst for the Civil War but it was definitely not the only or main factor. Yet, there were other factors that played an important role and led to the outbreak of the Civil War.

The work is divided into three chapters. The first chapter develops an insight into the origins of the slavery, following with the evolution of slavery in the colonial America. Then, an insight into the American Revolution. While the second chapter hinges into the Blacks 'allusion to freedom, the slave abolitionists' attempt for liberation and the released slaves' struggle within the time frame of the Civil War. The last chapter explores



the evolution of slavery with a view to analysing the nature of the of Civil War and its causes.

This research work figures out the dichotomy pertaining as to the outrage of the Civil War. It lays, the evidence, through rational study, of the revolution of thinking which changed the minds of and shaped the African American character. So, the efforts made by those elite blacks had made from their cause a real problem which outraged the two sides and leading up to The Civil War.

The limitations surrounding the conduct of this research work were basically related to the lack of libraries which downgraded the progress and effectiveness of the work. Additionally, time constraints. and other special circumstances beyond our control restrained the capabilities and limited the work.

## *Chapter One: The Evolution of Slavery*

### **1.1 Introduction**

The word slavery usually refers to the usage of slaves who perform hard works under the disposal of their masters. Slavery also means cheap labor including men, women and sometimes even children, who often do the work for others. The institution of slavery was as old as the ancient civilizations. Slavery appeared long time ago as a necessity. With the rise of other civilizations, the practice of slavery started to change and yet kept its basics. Decade after, slavery had increased and many nations raced to search for more slaves. Moreover, slavery meant power for these nations. By the nineteenth century Europe witnessed a big change; the Atlantic slave trade was a big event that had changed the life of many black Africans. The Europeans made long voyages across the Atlantic searching for slaves. Africa was the main destination and the source where to bring slaves. Race reached its peak between the European powers. Therefore, the competitors established many colonies in the new found land. So, more slaves were brought to work and rise these colonies. The Revolutionary War started and nothing had changed, slaves were no exception. Some slaves fought for their freedom. However, most of them were deceived by their masters. Hence, turning to their former life.

## 1.2 The Historical Background of Slavery

Slavery and liberation dependably been two noteworthy hostile ideas threatening the perpetual quality and security of numerous countries. This enmity is made predominantly by a few people's antagonistic mentalities and tight observations incited by monetary self-interests, physical refinements, sexual nerves, and religious fanaticism. It definitely drove a few people to brand "others" with the disgrace of inadequacy and demeaning them. This debate between the status of slavery and liberty constituted an advantageous intermediary for other philosophical, social, and sociopolitical clashes (Turley 2).

As Turley wrote, much of Ancient civilization needed a cheap labor as result they enslaved a lot of men for many reasons. The demand for slavery had increased for numerous nations . Hence, causing many problems for human societies in Africa and also in different main lands, much sooner than the time the Europeans benefit creators settled the Atlantic islands and the Americas. Many researchers argued the beginnings of slavery . Some were confused about the setting while others focused on the historical periods .this will lead us to make reference to slavery including the Greek and the Roman world, Medieval Europe, and Muslim societies.

The justification of enslaving people was due to combination of interconnected factors aimed by the societies mentioned above. Many of these shared a common interest for enslaving men regardless their background. However these properties do not have a stamp isolating slaves from others. In Classical Attica for instance, the Athenians were

unwilling to oppress different Greeks, and when they did, they essentially removed them out of the Greek world and got to be experts of untouchables, that is non-Greeks. Another illustration concerns Senegambia in the eighteenth century as saw by an English researcher. He noticed the energy of neighborhood Senegambian individuals to oppress their own kin as a demonstration of discipline for specific wrongdoings and misconducts(3).

Many ancient civilizations shared many similarities . So, slavery took many forms at that time period under strict rules and instructions. For instance many of these nations enslaved captured men in wars , and those indebted people who could hardly pay back their debts or free people for specific offenses and misdeeds .

Strange enough, even philosophers such as Aristotle acknowledged slavery, and taught that it was very natural that some men should “own” others so that “the higher classes” could prosper and flourish (3).

Race and violation were two major factors that led to this evil distinction and inferiority. Yet, it would be worth considering other characteristics for enslaving men associated to various religions or diverse social groups. Jews, Christians, and Muslims. These societies have enslaved people regardless their religion and cultural backgrounds. Therefore, creating newcomers with different structures to authorize the removal of the forms of protection offered by these communities or cultural groups for their members. The owners were tolerant towards this oppressed minorities. So, they had no rights nor defense, slavery might be practically equivalent to the description of the humanist

Orlando Patterson “social death” in his *Slavery and Social Death*, as quoted by David Turley. In ancient civilizations, similar to the Romans, slavery matched death. The victors in battles might impose slavery instead of death over the losers. Redemption from potential extinction of the slave was synonymous to his absolute obedience and lack of rights. Sparing the slaves’ lives, slave-owners felt they could deny their slaves basic human rights( Franklin 43).

The definition of Slavery has been always a hot debate. Yet according to the Slavery Convention of the League of Nations held in Geneva on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1926, slavery was defined as “The status or conditions of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised.” (Turley 6).

Chattel slavery was one of its forms ,the slave was owned forever and whose children and children’s children were forced to follow their fathers. “Chattel slaves were people treated as complete property, to be bought and sold”. (Turley 11).

They offered no defense towards their owners and had no rights. They were also mistreated and denied practically of all respect. Chattel slaves worked hardly and this often happening according to their physical capacities. He remained slave even when loaned or hired to others. His opportunities for marriage and family life This is equally true for the Assyrian, Babylonian, and Egyptian civilizations, where the practice of holding slaves was common. Most of these ancient nations enslaved the prisoners they captured in wars or indebted people, who could hardly pay back their debt, or free persons for certain offenses and misdemeanors were very restricted and over- controlled

by their masters. Many scholars believed that slaves endured much pain, “natal alienation” for many slaves being colonized meant isolation, similarly the African slave when encountered by the white Europeans (Turley 18).

Many ancient nations saw slavery as the only way to increase their economy. But this was not the case in all communities. Slavery took many different forms, Slaves were used for other purpose in connection with production. As a matter of fact, in some societies, slaves were prized for the prestige they brought, the sexual access they offered, or the possession of power they signaled. Again, in the Roman slave society, a number of agricultural slaves existed alongside slave administrators, concubines and advisors (Turley 19).

They might work as agricultural laborers to support the temple and its priesthood. In ancient civilization, slaves performed many different services. For instance, Athens and Roman Republic slaves had the right to help and do very limited duties. Some of them participated in wars as assistant soldiers. Some others worked as porters in forts . However, the slaves soon turned into a fundamental part of Roman units in the desperate circumstances in the Punic Wars after the defeat in Cannae in 216 BC. (Turley 95) Many of slaves’ owners promised their slaves to set them free unless they hold weapons and fight until the last possible moment. The fourteenth-century Muslim traveler, Ibn Battuta encountered slaves performing functions in court services. It would be worth to know many slaves shared a lot of activities including military defense. Mamluk Sultans and Emirs, who ruled Egypt, Syria and Western Arabia for almost 250 years before the

Othman Conquest, refused to incorporate their own citizens and freeborn sons but recruited slaves with the promise of freedom achievement.

In the ancient Middle East societies, slaves were attached to temples. In the New World, African slaves had social functions extending to the assignment of positions in skilled craftsmanship, concubine and domestic management. They would be allowed to take arms only during the War for American Independence in 1775. Both the British and the Americans induced slaves to fight on their side and promised freedom to those who demonstrated great loyalty to the tasks allotted to them. This point will further be explained in details in the coming sections (Turley 6).

Strange as it may seem, the common denominator to slavery status over all the slave societies is that of outsider. A deep study of the different variations of slavery out of the prism of its space-temporal dimensions may sound extremely difficult. The Justinian Institutes, the jurisprudence of the Muslims, the Medieval Castilian Las Siete Partidas, the French Code Noir of 1685, and the English laws for the Caribbean, and the codes of slave of the American South in the first half of the nineteenth century could be stated as evidence (Francis 169).

According to Francis the slave status depended upon the Greek and the Roman laws which played a great part in defining the status of most men and women as either free or slave. Resorting to the Greek and the Roman laws, the slave owners had the right to treat their slaves in any manner they saw fit so as to maintain order and obedience. This was comparatively true to the slave owners in the colonial period in America, mainly in the

seventeenth century when the relations between master and slave faded away. The laws enacted by some colonies gave the master complete dominance over the slave's life, time and his labor, his food and clothing, punishment and corporal corrections (169).

Nomadic life resulted in lot of homeless people. Therefore, they became slaves under the rule of their masters. Slaves shared other characteristics. They were seen as different and treated unfairly. Other important features were associated to outsiders who were enslaved due to their different culture, language, or nationality. In modern terms, slaves having an alien origin were those who belonged to a different ethnic group. Those ethnic groups were determined by the forms of the initial contacts they would undertake with their enslavers (Erna 12).

### **1.3. The First Explorations**

As indicated by a few researchers, the Europeans early voyages in the 1490's toward the western half of the globe conveyed a lot of weight to many people groups. These voyages of investigation begun by destructing the way of life of the Indians and wound up by oppressing innocuous dark Africans. Christopher Columbus, to whom the disclosure of the New Land was ascribed, opened the Europeans' hunger for aggressive investigations. Look for riches and influence framed their main concern. In his age, at any rate, Europeans considered themselves to be Christians and likely the most profound individuals in creation.<sup>28</sup> This ethnocentric thought was strengthened by the standards of the Roman Catholic Church. Affected by the last mentioned, they saw untouchables and heathens as reasonable either for change to genuine confidence, passing or subjugation.



In the long run, the Europeans' religious states of mind would decide and shape their relations with dark Africans and additionally Native Americans ( Carroll 38).

Dorothy claimed that the practice of slavery, and the first experience with the American landmass was performed at an early age and at interims. A Spaniard from Hispaniola attempted to set up a province in what is presently North Carolina in 1526. Sadly, his endeavor was destined to disappointment, and the hundred slaves he had brought along gotten away, most likely bringing asylum with the local Indians. Simple records demonstrate that in 1538, a slave of a Spaniard named Estevanico de Dorante (otherwise called Esteban) had guided a gathering of travelers hunting down gold (51).

One of the factors which likely hurried the pioneers' readiness to swing to dark slaves was the empowering laws ordered by different provinces for dark subjugation. Female slaves, for example, passed on naturally their status to their youngsters. Plus, blacks who had landed to the states automatically would not end up plainly liberated through sanctification and would never guarantee the security of the laws of England. As it has as of now been specified, a few states in the 1660's, mainly Maryland and Virginia, had ordered laws setting up subjection forever. To be sure, the laws supporting bondage were characterized in the Virginia General Assembly in 1662. It passed a demonstration whereby a youngster conceived of slave mother was likewise held to be a slave, paying little mind to the father's legitimate status. Subsequently, subjection turned into a long lasting property, and nearly looked on as a lifestyle just like the case in the Deep South (Peter 250).

Each one of those conditions would absolutely clarify the flourishing business for some British shippers from slave exchange all through the eighteenth century. Brokers would leave their ocean ports with tremendous cargoes of fabricated merchandise, arms and different items; shipping towards the West Coast of Africa where they traded these things for slaves to be sold in the territory or island settlements. Albeit effective voyaging brought goliath benefits, many were the voyages that wound up in dangerous and unsafe conditions. The minimum of these hazards may be the privateers' assaults and the most exceedingly bad of it finished in the demise of the group. Most American slaves originated from the seaside locale of West Africa, for the most part Guinea, Ivory Coast, and Gold Coast. Around 40 % of slaves were conveyed from Congo and Angola to South Carolina (Peter 19).

It has been assumed that an awful incongruity that the general population who had been to North America as an indistinguishable time from the primary European pioneers would even now get themselves automatically in a subordinate position in the American culture. Throughout the hundreds of years, the prevailing whites and dark Africans' relations were portrayed by preference, separation and subordination. In spite of the fact that the initial twenty Negroes were viewed as contracted workers who got "opportunity levy" once their terms of bondage terminated their status would witness changes in the coming decades. Dark bondage developed into dark subjection. In the eighteenth century, subjugation turned into a fundamental part of the social request, the dull underside of the American culture

Dorothy suggested that, the institution of slavery was seen as a social convention in the colonial period . It completely fixed the noose around the slaves' neck. Slaves were socially, religiously, and socially dismisses. Slaves were onerously debilitated in their family ties. Some slave-proprietors would purposely break them by pitching its individuals to various purchasers in various estates. They were sold either in slave barbers or in private deals simply like stock or as creatures. Kids were left without parental care, for their moms were allotted long hard hours of work (54).

In some cases slave moms works from sunrise to dusk for the most part in rice estates. This dull hard work typically sapped the moms' quality, matured them rashly, and abbreviated their lives. This would suggest that slave moms would leave their children motherless. In addition, the ladies slaves were misused naturally when urged to manage whatever number kids as would be prudent. The slave ladies who could bear 15 infants were considered as "rattling" great raisers. Some slave ladies were guaranteed flexibility on the off chance that they bore ten youngsters. Slave ladies were along these lines, abused on twofold levels: their work in the fields and the production of new capital for their lords by bearing infant (54).

#### **1.4.Slavery in the Colonial America**

The historical backdrop of servitude in America, wartimes gave slaves more noteworthy chances to look for asylum with the adversary i.e. the Great Britain. The war between the Indians and the white pioneers, the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. Some of the time, blacks escaping to their lords' adversaries, would

discover opportunity they looked for, here and there not. Englishmen, for instance, respected runaway slaves, as riches of war, to be mended as private goods and to be sold for the advantage of the regiment, or held as individual hirelings. In addition, Englishmen who guaranteed the slaves flexibility in the warmth of fight more often than not had no firm arrangement about what to do with them after the war. Now and again, they truly needed to help the slaves, yet more regularly they concentrated on denying Americans of work and valuable property. Amid the Revolutionary War, the English may utilize the surrendering slaves' work to their own particular preference, or even enroll them to battle against their previous experts. It ought to be focused, notwithstanding, that runaway slaves who had a place with Loyalists were come back to their lords (Dorothy 168).

According to Dorothy, a huge number of slaves who joined the British army would lose their opportunity in any case. The British, amid the Revolution, had found the arrangement in expelling them to another area. Among the areas picked, Canada constantly included noticeably. Toward the finish of the Revolutionary War, just before the Treaty of Paris, the president of the British troops in North America, Sir Guy Carleton, ensured the security and the flexibility of all slaves who looked for refuge behind British lines. Carleton attempted to deal with reasonably the demeanor of those blacks by offering them a selection of spots in which they could settle. A couple spots were proposed: The West Indies, Florida, or Canada. A considerable number of them decided on Nova Scotia. In 1783, this territory most likely contained around 3000 free blacks, of whom 1.336 were men, 914 ladies, and 750 youngsters. This deluge of dark foreigners,

with no blame of their own, were incompetent, uneducated, and unpracticed to lead an autonomous life (168).

Ruth suggested that, the War of Independence gave birth to new inspiration of freedom for slaves . Despite the fact that a significant number of them trusted that it was not their war, African-Americans requested the pioneers of the battle for freedom to extend the idea of freedom to humanity. Lemuel Haynes, a dark individual from the Massachusetts civilian army upheld in 1776 that freedom said Hynes were truth "an inborn rule" for all humanity, "even an African had as similarly great a privilege to his freedom in the same manner as Englishmen (85).

Rebellious slaves were more regularly plausible on expansive ranches than on little homesteads. Frequently, dark slaves took the upside of inaccessible proprietors and managers to arrange their activities, particularly, where they vigorously dwarfed whites. Strangely, in spite of the fact that slaves' odds of accomplishment were thin, they perseveringly continued trusting of a superior future under the shadow of freedom. An expectation that induces activity in the present to shape what's to come. At times escape endeavors would change into uprisings. In 1800, Gabriel Prosser, a resistant slave, with some information of strategies, took the authority of a gathering of slaves in Henrico County, Virginia. He was a religious man who trusted himself called by God to the authority of an uprising. He accumulated weapons and attempted to walk to Richmond. In any case, the intrigue to revolt was deceived by two slave sources, and Prosper and

different pioneers were captured. More than thirty-five were hanged in this uprising (Joe 238).

According to Joe, Nat Turner's claim to be a prophet was to known as the first flames of rebellion in the American history. He began his protest in Virginia, He led around seventy slaves in an attack and killed about fifty-five whites. Like his predecessors, Turner's attempts to raise a large black army were doomed to failure. For hundreds of militiamen and army soldiers counterattacked the rebels and soon brought them to defeat. Turner, who had succeeded to escape, was captured and executed months later. This revolt and others by slaves made white families to live in permanent terror to the limits of panic after each revolt (239).

Hugh said that the American Revolution unquestionably prompted the scrutinizing of the legitimacy of the "unconventional organization", and most likely lessened it from the size of national to the level of territorial, and unleashed a pack of dark abolitionists. However, both free blacks and slave would in any case confront the hardships of subjugation in the South and antagonistic segregation in the North. This would essentially imply that African-Americans' battle for opportunity was an endless procedure. Along these lines, since subjection in the United States is said to be a survival foundation, particularly, in the nineteenth century. Another attributes worth of specify is that it outlasted now is the right time. Albeit numerous men of positive attitude had found that it was a malevolence to the American culture, numerous others couldn't imagine their lives without it. Blacks were excessively few, and militarily weak, to oust the framework.

They were socially in reverse and scattered over the settlements. Accordingly, they couldn't have possessed the capacity to sort out fruitful uprisings. By 1860, there were four million slaves among a populace of about twenty seven million of free whites, and just four hundred and eighty eight thousand of free blacks.<sup>125</sup> With the traverse of time, most dark slaves started to think about the boundless energy of their proprietor over themselves (289).

The main significance the blacks had picked up according to their lords was when Negroes wound up plainly uncommon. This was confirm by a comment of one grower in 1849 when he stated: "Negroes are too high in extent to the cost of cotton, and it profits the individuals who claim them to make them keep going as far as might be feasible( Hugh 290).

### **1.5 Slavery and the American Revolution**

The American Revolution can be defined as the American battle for independence and the forging of a nation. From the earliest skirmishes at Lexington and Concord to the decisive victory at Yorktown, to the writing of the Constitution and the struggles of early national America (Tim 3).

Clearly, slaves were not interested in the American Revolution, or the banality dialect of freedom that moved both in the South and also in the North. Blacks ended up noticeably mindful of a developing national battle over bondage's future. In any case, the government officials and agents who bolstered the slave exchange did not have the expectation to let the African slaves and their relatives to battle for full citizenship in the

US. Indeed, they did. Thomas Jefferson couldn't have imagined how actually his own particular slaves would decipher his words when he composed his own godlike lines confirming the unalienable ideal to freedom and the quest for joy. Thus, Afro-Americans started to address over and over how their proprietors could view themselves as respectable in their own particular appropriate for autonomy while thinking of it as wrong for slaves to respond similarly. It ought to be recollected that at the season of the Revolution, bondage was at that point an inescapable foundation in America ( Eric 32).

Obviously, the African Americans were casualties of white mistreatment. Men and ladies battled vivaciously to enhance their status and the bleak conditions in which they got themselves. Amazingly numerous history specialists concentrated on African Americans' assurance to get away from their thralldom to assemble prospering free groups. They even suspected that their contribution and dynamic cooperation in the Revolutionary War, in any case which side they stood, would solidify the blacks' develop view of themselves, their nation, and their place in it. The Revolutionary premises penned by Jefferson in his Declaration of Independence, for example, "plainly obvious truths" and the "unalienable rights" of "all men" would unquestionably discover in blacks open-ears. Jefferson then, exemplified a feeling that the American Revolution which had legitimated the American disobedience, turned into an all inclusive open-finished qualification.



It is nothing unexpected, along these lines, to comprehend Thomas Paine when he proudly broadcasted in his pamphlet "Common Sense", he wrote in 1776, that America is a haven of flexibility for mankind:

*“ Oh ye that love mankind...stand forth! Every spot of the old world is overrun with oppression. Freedom hath been hunted round the globe. Asia and Africa have long expelled her. Europe regards her as a stranger, and England hath given her to depart. O ! receive the fugitive and prepare in time an asylum for man-Kind.”* (Ruth78).

Dorothy claimed that slavery was evaluated on twofold angles: profound quality and utility. In any case, this recently communicated worry over servitude did not prompt finish liberation, but rather induced the lion's share of slave-proprietors to change their states of mind toward a profoundly established organization. These progressions of states of mind did not come overnight but rather were amassed through time to achieve their crest with the episode of the Revolutionary war, under the merging of an assortment of religious, political, and monetary variables. These variables would ask Americans to contend much about subjugation, particularly, when they began themselves requesting freedom from Great Britain and its ruler. A few pioneers assaulted servitude from the mid seventeenth century on-for the most part the Quakers and the Mennonites (247).

## **1.6 Conclusion**

Certainly, Africa was the source for many Europeans where to find slaves to cover the shortage of working force in their colonies. Besides, making from these slaves a plus and boost to their power. As the colonies grew, many slaves were brought to work in plantations where many different crops were grown. On one hand, colonies depended on slavery to boost their economy. On the other hand the spirit of independence began to knock the Americans' doors. The Americans did not want to be ruled by the British. The Revolution would be the best solution to end this tyranny. However slavery would remain an issue for the independent states. The next chapter would tackle slaves' struggle in the United States, their attempt to freedom and the outstanding figures of anti-slavery.

## *Chapter Two: The Blacks Opposing the Institution of Slavery*

### **2.1. Introduction**

For many decades, the institution of slavery was seen as a social convention. By the mid nineteenth century slavery became a serious issue for those who had been enslaved. This brought the community of those oppressed people to take revenge and put an end to this segregation. The abolitionist movement was the first phase of this fight. Abolitionists' attempt to freedom was unsuccessful especially after the new ideology of the American whites, yet the abolitionists would never stop defending their rights. The whites' supremacy resulted in many severe attacks on African Americans. The racist whites thought that these attacks would make blacks hate America, and hence back to their mainland. However, whites' evil created a real enemy who would fight till the last possible moment. Therefore, many of the black leaders would not accept the tyrannical rule and urge them to enter the war of survival using their power. Each of whom had his own strategy to deal with problem. Other leaders found peaceful demonstrations the best way to resolve or at least preserve their status. The situation got worse and the African Americans kept on fighting.

### **2.2. The Black's Allusion to Freedom**

According to some historians, the close contact between the south and the north was the same as the contact between the black Africans and white Americans. As consequence, the relation between the two racial groups, which was described as unstable

relation, would determine one group to be subversive. Thus, the leadership was at the hand of one group upon the other groups. Historically, the white inherited the honour of leadership since the early ages. The African Americans already knew that their future in the united states was associated with their response to this whiteness either directly or indirectly (Lomax 38)

Lomax assumed that in 1830, blacks began to raise their voices at many levels as a reaction to the unfairness and oppression. The black slaves looked for ways to put an end to their miserable life. Some of the slaves were clever enough to make their voice reach further. Some of the black leaders started to organize their movements. Thus, they became abolitionist and they called for abolioism. The notion was not only ideology but also aproject by which blacks defend their rights. The ideology would rather find great support from the American whites and even other societies. The support led many blacks to express his anger and attitudes towards their opponents. One of the fugitive slave, Henry Grant, did well when he delivered a speech in one of the best know platforms in the south :

*“ Brethren, arise, arise ! Strike for your lives and liberty. Now is the day and the hour. Let every slave throughout the land do this and the days of slavery are numbered. No oppressed people have secured their liberty without resistance.” (28)*

Henry was a brave slave who expressed his feeling without fear of being punished or killed. This event would shift and change some the features domestically and internationally. Hence, Henry's initiative would pave the way for coming actions. Moreover, making a foundation for fellow slaves to build on it day by day.

His full name was Frederick Augustus Washington Baily. Frederick Augustus Washington Baily was his real name until the American War beagn, he took another nickname in honor of what he did during the war. Douglass was the name given to him by public, the name best suits him Frederick because was not an ordinary African slave, but he was a new born African American abolitionist who would cause a dramatic change socially and politically. He was from Christian family, his father was half Christian and half Catholic. Whereas his mother was Christian ( Lyons 23)

Douglass lived with his black family in the south, then he moved west to live with his grandmother in her home. Frederick and his family were enslaved and owned by a white master. Captain Aaron Anthony was Frederick's master. Douglass lived a miserable life under the control of his master, Douglass took charge of every hard work , he even had to look after animals of his Captain. Hard physical work would burden his health. His life with his master Captain Aaron Anthony always described as violent aggressive. Douglass would depict his suffer :

*“ A man’s character always takes its hue, more or less, from the form and colour of things about him. The slave-holder, as well as the slave, was the victim of the slave system. Under the whole heavens there could be no relation more unfavourable to the development of honourable character than that sustained by the slaveholder to the slave.” ( Lyons 25)*

After a few years, Frederick’s master Captain Aaron Anthony disappeared and nobody took any notice of him. Historians claimed that the Captain Aaron Anthony left the city for unknown reasons. Some believed that Captain Aaron Anthony disguised and worked for the federal government as an spy agent. Others felt that Captain Aaron Anthony was suffering from a mental illness. Douglass had noticed every step of his master. After Anthony’s disappear Douglass could not do anything. Douglass could neither flee nor free himself.

Anthony’s relatives would inherit him. The Captain’s relatives took all the property. Besides, they took his slave Douglass to serve them instead. Anthony’s relatives consisted of a small family, the husband Hugh, a businessman and kind wife Sophia. For the first time, Douglass’s suffer was eased. The owners were so kind with their slaves. Douglass could live without any problems as if he was one of the family’s member. Douglass had the right to do many things which he was time ago deprived from. Now

Douglass had the right to take rest, he could go and visit the city or even do some luxury.  
( Lyons 26)

According to Lyons, Douglass could afford some of man's needs. He could make relationships and have friends. Douglass was also able to learn, write and read only when the husband was absent. Sophia was in charge of teaching her slave. Douglass could learn under the disposal of his master Sophia. Therefore, Douglass's life changed for better. Frederick's life with Anthony's relatives paved him the way for next stages. Douglass became not only freed slave, but also a strategic thinker who would change the world of slavery. Douglass became aware of his surroundings. He was very conscious of the fact that he had to free himself and put an end to this enslavement. Douglass was clever and he drew the future by achieving the goals he planned. (26)

Douglass' vision for the future was set when he became aware of what slavery brought to him in particular and blacks in general. For him slavery was not simply meant serving the masters. However, Douglass thought of slavery as an obstacle to realise his designs as human being (Junius 264)

Douglass started thinking about how to get rid of his actual status as slave. He made his first attempt to escape towards the south. The plan needed other slaves. A group of slaves joined the Douglass. Their attempt failed due to lack of experience, and also they did not have much information about the target land. Unfortunately, they encountered a group of guards in their way back to the main land in which they made the plan. The guards belonged to the south, and Douglass and his group were captured and put into

prison. After spending a few years in prison, Douglass was sent back to his master Hugh. Hence, he backed to his former life. Douglass was counted to be a fugitive slave. As result, the government issued high security measures for fugitive slaves. It also, gave the right of detention order in all states. Douglass once again he made another plan to escape. This time Douglass read much about geography of the states. He ran away from the prison taking with him documents and papers as guidance. Douglass succeeded to reach the north passing through the town of his father and breaking the borders without being restrained. Douglass set himself free without any assistance or anyone. He started reading about the abolitionist movement which revealed discrimination and oppression of the whites. It also uncovered facts and information, usually mislead by politicians. Douglass joined the abolitionist movement and became active member. He held different positions and wrote for the organization a lot of works including papers to convince and transmit the oppressed black's message ( Lyons 28)

The abolitionist movement was the by product of a tremendous efforts of black leaders. Those leaders founded this organization for many reasons. The aim of this movement was to spread an ideology among Americans. The idea was brought by abolitionists to ban slavery. It also called for equality between racial groups. It stated that all men were born equal and no submission was needed. The abolitionists publically criticized the white and the government. According to those abolitionists, the government advocated the white's oppression.



It also advocated the normalization of relations between the south and north. They claimed that the federal government interfered in every single white's affair while completely neglecting other races. Abolitionists expressed their anger,

*“Natural law is universal, it is reasonable, and it is moral and just; and man can know its meaning through human reason. If man-made law conflicts with natural law and natural rights, There according to this philosophy, it is logical that the ‘higher law’ will prevail.”* ( Lyons 29).

Abolitionists believed that each individual had the right to live under the control of equality and fairness. They believed that religion was the source of equality through its teachings and instructions brought by apostles. The preachers of the United States thought of equality between all humanbeings as a divine. Despite the fact that God possessed the people's lives, each individual would govern himself without being controlled by others. So, for many American preachers slavery was not states in any of the holy books. However, slavery was a weak justification and was seen as sin. The faithful monks and priests gave sermons on slavery as being immoral and a sin ( Lyons 30).

The emergence of abolitionism in the United States occurred not only to defend the rights of special group or sect, but also to regain the status of other races and immigrants. Researchers thought that abolitionists made great effort to plant the seeds of ideas

brought from their thoughts. In fact, the word slavery was not mentioned in the constitution and none of the leaders or the representatives had the right to talk about slavery as an issue. The abolitionists took the reins of power and far from politics, they could convince people from all states to believe in their ideology. Sometimes, abolitionists delivered speeches with the help of their preachers in churches. Their acts were usually peaceful, and after the tension between the south and the north increased they changed their demonstrations ( Lyons 34).

In the time of presidential campaigns, Douglass was back to reveal the facts and information mislead by some officials. Once Douglass reached the Congress and became and statesman. He kept on managing issues related to his race. Then, he was appointed to be delegate of Freedmen's Bureau where he could bring many changes for the freedmen. First, he introduced an article stated that all blacks were secure and peaceful. Besides, Douglass started protecting the African Americans. He also, proposed on the government to take care of all freedmen and give them the right to stay in the confederate states. Moreover, Douglass put pressure on Congress to admit and approve his proposals. He succeeded eventually by pressing the government to enact the Civil Right Laws of 1866 and that of 1875. Douglass battle for freedom would never end, he pushed the Congress in the ratification of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to take into consideration the full U.S citizenship for all Negros . For Douglass, slavery was the whites' policy to justify their pride. It was created by one group to take over another group. Since it was human's

made , war would be the best policy to resolve and put an end to this oppression ( Williams 122).

Douglass claimed that equality is the key factor for peace. He also believed that the union remains as it were powerful if wealth was distributed equally. According to *Proceedings of the National Convention of Colored Men, Held in the City of Syracuse, N.Y*, Douglass said;

*“ We want the elective franchise in all the States now in the Union, and the same in all such states as may come into the Union hereafter. We believe that the highest welfare of this great country will be found in erasing from its statute-books all enactments discriminating in favour of or against any class of its people, and by establishing one law for white and coloured people alike... In a republican country, where general suffrage is the rule , personal liberty, the right to testify in courts of law, the right to hold, buy, and sell property, and all other rights become mere privileges, held at the option of others where we are excepted from the general political liberty.....If you still ask us why we want to vote, we answer, Because we don't want to be mobbed from our work, or insulted with impunity at every corner. We are men, and want to be as free in our native country as other men.” (57).*

In this passage, Douglass was still questioning the origins of slavery, where it came from and whom was brought with. Douglass advocated the establishment of nationalism reconciliation between the united states , then all citizens are alike living under equality regardless of their skins. Douglass' insistence for full freedom and his desire for full equality brought much fortune to the freedmen and also to the blacks in general. Douglass was an enthusiastic supporter of new laws which guarantee full citizenship for African Americans. He also strongly supported religion because he felt that following the instructions of the religion, then humanity would benefit. By way of Douglass pressure, the Congress introduced the first Civil Rights Bill in 1875. He publically talked about the mistreatment he and the backs experienced during that time period (Jules 75).

In time of the President Johnson, Douglass's desire for freedom was suppressed. The new president destroyed all Douglass' plans. First, the freedmen who were supposed to stay in the confederate states were moved back after the government issued that all of these men did not have the right to settle there. The laws enacted in the time of the ex President were not valuable anymore. Laws which maintained blacks as freedmen and have full citizenship went away in Johnson reign. Even more, the new government saw the freedmen as brokers of the rules and who deserve punishment. The Congress claimed that all men living in the confederate states had to back to their former life depriving from their rights. Douglass opposed the decisions issued by the new government. He wrote :

*“...The Negro would not be on his knees, as he is, supplicating the old master class to give him leave to toil... He would not now be swindled out of his hard earnings by money orders for wages with no money in them...as is now the case because left by our emancipation measures at the mercy of the men who had robbed him all his life and his people for centuries.”(Jules 76)*

Douglass was really a brave man stamping his name in the history of the United States. Douglass from slave to hero, brought many changes with his strong voice. He endured the burden of the heavy cause. He was responsible for many oppressed people. He could awaken thousands of blacks and defend their rights. Douglass participated in the campaigns and demonstrations made by the abolitionists. He shared alongside with the American whites other matters. He was the handmaiden of many laws that defended and supported black's freedom. He could overcome many obstacles. Douglass opposed white's supremacy and discrimination. He faced his enemies and either violently or peacefully. Douglass played a significant role in pressing the Congress to approve many bills. He could manage to keep some blacks in high status and remained in their positions. Douglass was in favour of peace and unity and he opposed unrest and war. Although Douglass lived hardships and could stand independent , his good deeds would remain lifelong for the coming generations to read, and his name marked the history of the United States (Jules 81).

### **2.3. Released Slaves' Struggle of the North and the North**

The situation in the United States had changed between the period 1877 to 1888. Clearly, the United states saw a great change in many fields. Politically, the federal government spitted and the members were no more officials. This was known as the withdrawal of 1877 to the south Thus, many blacks lost their status including jobs, lands and their properties. Some they got fired from their jobs. So, a huge number of blacks went homeless and backed to former life. As matter of fact, the situation got worse and the tension between the racial groups increased especially after the Compromise of 1877, which again rekindled disputes between the south and the north (Robert A. Gibson).

The southerners advocated the establishment of the government on their land. So, the southern leaders would take the reins of power. Thus, southerners would be well presented by their southern politicians and their matters would be solved. Whereas, the north would not let the voice of southerners reach louder and dominate the government. The northerners strongly entered the race. The northerners also looked for more representation in the Congress. The disputes between the south and the north were planted and it became difficult for activists to eradicate.

The Compromise of 1877 was in favour of whites' supremacy particularly the southern whites. It was also mad to settle disputes and problems between white Populists and Conservatives. The Negroes matters were not taken into consideration. The Compromise resulted in unfaithful government. The blacks either in the south or the north would not trust this government. For many black leaders the Compromise of the

1877 brought back much evil than before. It brought back hatred which was about to vanish. It created conflict between the united states because the states were very diverse and contained multi races. It revived antagonism between officials in all states. In addition to that, Laissez Faire Policy was an introduction to a deteriorating situation that would affect the African Americans in the first place and it would rather pave the way for the whites to control more power. The policy stated that people were free to do their own business. In other words, no government interference in peoples affair. It supported big businessmen and even gave the some privileges to keep their large companies and businesses. It turned a deaf ear to the African Americans. The government supported Laissez Faire Policy to boost the economy and neglecting domestic issues. The big businessmen were majority whites. They invested their money in urban areas and where there were no blacks. As a matter of fact, all whites had jobs and they had good working and living conditions (Lemore 297).

However, in the rural areas where African Americans live, there was no investment, no banks , no drainage system, and blacks lived in poverty. They had little chance for education, bad nutrition. Bad living and working conditions. As a result, a huge number of blacks went jobless and they could not afford the necessities of living. Many were killed and died of bizarre diseases. The government did not take any notice of them (Lemore 297).

The laws adopted by the government between 1860 to 1890 had badly affected the blacks. These laws were in favour of whites. The new policies paved the way for whites

to regain their power and supremacy. Many of the black leaders disapproved these privileges that were a special sect. Some of the black activists looked for new ways to encounter this oppression. Others were ready to accept being controlled and dominated because they were afraid of being deported or killed. For many blacks, following the instruction and being subjugated to the whites was the best they could do. On one hand, the white's attacks on blacks increased, on the other hand other elite blacks were preparing for a presidential coup. A group of elite leaders met to discuss the black's cause. The united States would see a gradual change due to the conscious of some blacks activists. Booker T. Washington was inspired by the Europeans' ideas for freedom. He was also greatly influenced by his partner Frederick Augustus. They both had in mind the spirit of continuity of fighting. Booker T. Washington was born in a poor family. His parents were black. Then his father died when he was 11, then his mother moved to the north where they could search for a better life. Washington took the path of his friend Douglass. Washington appeared when the United States was experiencing hard times. He was a spokesman for gradualist economic strategy. Washington raised his voice in the social and economic turmoil. The period witnessed the big loss of the American blacks. They were deprived from all rights. Blacks were no more American citizens. They could not stand by themselves. Washington was a the founder of school known as Tuskegee Institute. He was the advisor and chairman of this school. Tuskegee was the name given by American white who worked as an delegate in representing the abolitionist movement. The school gave classes in economy and strategy. Washington had much experience in



domain of agriculture and economy. The Institute was founded for a purpose. The instructors including gave lessons with set of principles (Lyons 69).

Many researchers thought of Washington as an outstanding figure who came to restore what had been lost. He came to fight back for freedom and the status of American blacks.. Although the number of black leaders increased, Washington's fellows offered no defense against the powerful white. Washington's principles were aimed at the south whites. He was qualified enough to help the government. He sought for position in the Congress to pass his project. His new ideas and strategies to help boosting the nation's economy were welcomed by the Congress. But, Washington was too late to convince his thoughts because white's supremacy reached its peak. He managed to play on both sides. Helping the government to boost the economy through his plans, and pressing the Congress to restore the blacks' rights by enacting laws for that (Lyons 55).

In the Atlanta Exposition Address, Washington delivered a moving speech ;

*“...It is a recognition that will do more cement the friendship of the two races than any occurrence since the dawn of our freedom...No race can prosper till it learns that there is dignity in tilling a field as writing a poem. It is at the bottom of life we must begin, and not at the top. Nor should we permit our grievances to overshadow our opportunities... The wisest among my race understand that the agitation of questions of social equality is the extremist folly.”* (Joanne 196).

Dubois was born in 1868 in the southeast and died in 1963 following his father to the north. Dubois was an outstanding figure and the most influential writer among the blacks community. Dubois believed that there was possible solutions for black's cause. Although Dubois and Washington were two outstanding figures, their principles of their vision and the way they looked at the backs' matters was diametrically opposed. Dubois was against what Washington came with because he felt that Washington philosophy was unsuccessful. For that reason Dubois criticized Washington on his thoughts. For Dubois, Washington did not bring much to the Blacks because his solutions were predominantly economic ( Franklin 394).

Dubois' strong criticism occurred in the time when Washington's vision went in the wrong direction. Firstly, Washington was an official advisor in a school and he had the power to pressure the Congress through lobbies, he did not seize that initiative. However, Washington approved much from his enemy. He had accepted legal segregation. He turned a deaf ear to those blacks who wanted to finish their study and higher degrees. Washington did not do much for African Americans though he could be promoted over his capacity. Dubois in one of his critical essays entitled "Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others" in his book "Souls of Black Folk"(1903), Attacking Washington ;

*“ If we make money the object of man-training, we shall develop money-makers but not necessarily men; if we make technical skill the object of education, we may possess artisans but not, in nature men. Men we shall have only as we make manhood the object of the work of the schools—*

*intelligence, broad sympathy, knowledge of the world that was and is, and of the relations of men to it—this is the curriculum of that Higher Education which must underlie true life.” (Franklin 395).*

Marcus Garvey was a Jamaican black activist, born in Jamaica in 1887, he performed the military service with Jamaican army. Marcus Garvey was a nationalist who founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association, an organization that aimed to restore black's lost rights. The organization was set up mainly in favour of black's cause under a set of goals. Its main aim was to change the life of African Americans. Marcus Garvey helped in the introduction of many bills that were in favour of Negroes. He fought for changing the bad working and living conditions that the black workers had. Although Marcus' organization kept on fighting for its goals, its voice was heard and the government turned a deaf ear to it. Marcus Garvey knew that his organization would face some difficulties on its way to achieve the goals. Garvey's proposal for African blacks to return to the homeland Africa was not a big deal. In fact, the idea of return to Africa was not his own, it had been talked about by some the white leaders like instance Presidents Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln. For Garvey backing to the homeland was not good idea, as long as Africa was still occupied by the white colonizer (Jules 77).

In fact, the idea of back to Africa was one of the main points listed in Garvey's organization. Garvey made a great effort to help black Africans move back to their

continent. It could be noticed that his perception of this idea throughout his claim in an article, , entitled *An Appeal to the Soul of White America* :

*“ The Negro must have a country, and a nation of his own. (...) If you don't want him to have a country and a nation of his own; if you don't intend to give him equal opportunities in yours, then it is plain to see that you mean that he must die (...) Why should the Negro die ? Has he not served America and the World ? Has he not borne the burden of civilization in this Western world, for three hundred years? Has he not contributed his best to America ? Surely all this stands to his credit, but there will not be enough room and the one answer is 'find a place' .We have found a place, it is Africa”*( Sanford 25)

## **2.4.Conclusion**

The notion of slavery was rooted in the minds of many Americans. for that reason anti- slavery was hard to accept or even to confess. The enslaved people began reacting against oppression. The abolitionist movement was the first whistle of entering the war with the white hoping to stop whites' segregation. The blacks' cause would increase the tension between the south and the north and would alarm for long war. The Civil War, its causes and other features will be our exploration in the next chapter.

## *Chapter Three: The Issue of Slavery and the Initiation of the Civil War*

### **3.1 Introduction**

The institution of slavery was a controversial issue that would mark the history of America. Although the word slavery was not mentioned in the constitution only in countable lines, slavery was the main reason that led to the American Civil War. Many historians nowadays would agree on that hypothesis. In addition to other differences between the Union and Confederacy, the tension increased and the war became inevitable. The two areas would see many battles on their lands. The first whistle of the war began when the Army of the Confederacy fired one of the forts of the Union. Moreover, many rebellions would take place in different places, increasing the tension of the war. The Abolitionists worked hard to gain support southerners and northerners. They managed to voice up, explicitly working with pressure groups or implicitly through public demonstrations and violent attacks. Obviously, the Civil War erupted after many years of differences between the south and the north. These differences were not only restricted to the setting or location or even the size of the continent. However, the two regions were different in their goal, principles and their vision for the future. Each side wanted to take the reins of power, concerning the government's operation and favouring each side's affairs. Yet, it would be worth examining other factors that led to the Civil War, notably slavery which set the stage for secession and war.

### 3.2. Slavery's Constitution

The articles of confederation didn't meet the people's needs, neither the whites nor the black slaves. However, the first meeting was held to look for a firm decision in creating a strong central government. Therefore, giving much power to the federal government including ; high taxes, regulate trade between the states, impose uniform import tariffs....etc . , the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was held in Philadelphia behind closed doors . This meeting debated the issues related to the nation's interests (MichealVorenberg 11).

The meeting consisted of two groups, leaders , northern and southern delegates. The members would decide what should be issued and what should not be done at different levels. They were often seen as decision makers. The Members usually belonged to highest social class. This included, intellectual politicians, aristocrats and other war leaders. Slavery was one of the inflammatory subjects which would shift the nation and cause a great tension onwards. Thus, the convention resulted in a compromise which would enforce the federal government in favour of unity. On the other hand, leaving the issue of slavery aside .Therefore, slavery would be a legal practice, and this compromise brought much fortune to slaveholders who eventually would benefit (Micheal 14).

The ratification of the constitution resulted in many changes. Notably, the protection of slavery and a powerful central government. So, the author felt that the government was set and its members held important meetings to discuss the future of the

union. The conventions played a significant role in keeping the union at peace, at least temporarily ( David 92).

### **3.3 The key Features and the Major Phases of the Civil War**

The hopes of crawling and taking over more lands was clear especially after the last ratification of the constitution. Each state searched for new ways to take over and add new territories to its sovereignty, not only for expansion but also for profit. The north and the south occupied much of the nation's land. Thus, the burden was on these two large regions. The areas witnessed series of different events throughout the history of the nation. They both experienced harsh wars, political and social disputes and other dramatic changes (Bryn 44).

The race for expansion and the sake of interests drove both the north and the south to extend its control over the virgin lands. The smell of conflict begun to spread initiating domestic disputes. As consequence, the framers of the constitution looked for temporary solutions to ease the tension between the conflicting sides. The government saw in agreements as the best way to avoid agitation and selfishness, also reacting calmly would make the situation better. These agreements had to be not only to reach a compromise, but also to dissolve problems between the contending parties. Therefore, many sectional negotiations would take place in different parts of the nation and at many platforms. First, in the south, the Missouri compromise of 1820 faced a of problems at first, however ; with a combination of efforts and the collaboration of a group of leaders, the government reached a compromise. The agreement advocated the application of

statehood as slave state only if the number of slaves was one-sixth of its population (Bryn45).

However, the southerners opposed the convention and its clauses. Many southern politicians believed that the Missouri compromise was a result of selfish behaviours and sake of self interests. The rejection and disapproval could explain the situation between the south and the north. The northerners objected the proposals particularly the slavery. In fact, they favoured moral virtues such as equality as it was enacted in the Northwest Ordinances of the 1780's. Whereas, the southerners were fighting to keep the privileges enacted under the conventions. For many southern politicians, this also would give more advantage. Therefore, the south would become independent. The fear of the southerners of being subjected to the northerners, politically and economically. More northern representatives in the congress meant more power and tyranny. The disputes between the south and the north begun to multiple. First, the appearance of new free states would raise the tension and resulted in other domestic issues. Second, the northern states wanted to ban slavery. Therefore, the federal government introduced an article which allowed all of the states to follow strict rules (Bryn46).

The article stated that the division of lands as well as the expansion of territories in the west were not possessed until the federal government gave an official approval. When the permission was given, then the states could extend and expand their territories. Although, the northern and the southern states were free to deal with such matters,



slavery was still like an obstacle which would restrain to achieve their goals and realise their designs ( Farhat 61).

Secondly, the compromise of 1850 was the by product of the secession of California. The conflict between the south and the north gave birth to other problems. This time, the westerners would enter this battle ; not to solve or to settle disputes stuck between the contending sides. However, the west felt that the conflict was like a good opportunity which would be seized. So westerners, started competing and racing the the conflicting regions. The domestic issues between the contending states created a new rival. Most of the western states begun to build a strong foundation to boost their economy just like the other states. Therefore, they supported businessmen to invest their money in large industrial companies. In addition to that the west advocated the New England model of homesteads. Politically, the western activists advocated called for more representation in the congress, which would allow their voice to reach further. Hence, insuring no state group wouldsubvert the federal government to their own needs( Farhat 64).

On one hand, the westerners were determined to defend their rights against the conflicting states. On the other hand, they agreed in different meeting held at many platforms and insisted that slavery was be a big obstacle which restrain the wheel of development. For that reason most of the western leaders and activists were against slavery, and for them banning it was the least that the federal government could do.As a consequence, a smooth movement of group of abolitionists occurred in different parts of the united states and precisely the states that opposed the institution of slavery. The

abolitionism of 1850 in northern states came as reaction to the violation and oppression of the slaveholders when practicing slavery. Many of those who opposed slavery thought of slaveholders as monsters. For many abolitionists, the practice of bondage was immoral and a source of inhumanity( Farhat 65).

Most of the conventions and compromises enacted by the federal government failed to settle disputes between the south and the north. Thus, the southerners decided to secede from the union. Hence, division of the united states would inevitably happen. On the one hand, the southern states would officially form the confederate states. The Confederacy consisted of eleven states that seceded from the Union before or after the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and 1861. They were: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. The confederate states were apparently located in the south. After being spited from the north, the Confederate states formed a new government with a new constitution under president Jefferson Davis. Confederacy advocated the establishment of new capital. the capital was located in Montgomery, Alabama, but was moved to Richmond, Virginia after that state joined the Confederacy (Junius 234).

On the other hand, the rival, the union states was more powerful with a big size. The Union consisted of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, California, Nevada, and Oregon. Some historians count the four border states of Kentucky, Missouri, Delaware, and Maryland as Union

states also. Border states were those that refused to give up the practice of slavery, but also refused to secede from the Union. By contrast, the union states opposed the secession of the southern states. The federal government claimed that secession of the southern states was an act of insurgency, and did not go with what was underlined in the constitution ; for instance, compromises, conventions, and principles (Junius 235).

The confederate states fought back to regain their position. The confederacy favoured the ratification of the constitution because they felt like they had lost some of their position including their membership and voice in the government. However, the union had strong voice. Leaders from the union held high positions ; they were put as decision makers. The bad calculations would result in constitutional crisis. In fact, the issue over slavery was the government's main concern. The surge of proposed amendments during the secession crisis was staggering. Whereas only a handful of amendments concerning slavery was proposed in Congress between 1789 and December 1860, roughly 150, slavery amendments were proposed between December 1860 and March 1861, when Lincoln took office. Not only national leaders but ordinary citizens offered revisions. A Rochester man wrote to his local paper that the key doctrines of the *Dred Scott* decision should be added to the Constitution, while a Baltimore resident suggested an amendment prohibiting the succession of two northern presidents ( Vorenberg 15).

The Congress took into consideration the disputes of the conflicting regions, yet making a collaborative efforts to ease the tension. For many activists reaching a

compromise was too hard to realize, as problems were multiplying and tension increased. Slavery was no exception, thus ; the Congress revised all of the old proposed slavery amendments. In fact, the proposals could not manage to settle disputes, especially the issue over slavery. The north supported the ratification of the constitution because they had already experienced slavery. So, the government had to revise these amendments which eventually happened after the tension between the united states had increased ( Reg 136)

The morning of 1861 witnessed the first attack of the confederacy on the Union. Hence the first whistle of the war. The Confederate states troops marched on Charleston Harbour at Fort Sumter. The Confederacy' men fired on the lands belonged to Virginia. The invasion launched on three times. The first, the forces made fired on the west land of Virginia. The second attack took place in the north , the Union troops were forced to retreat back and failed to resist. The Confederate leader Robert E. Lee was in charge of invading the remaining sector under the disposal of the President Jefferson Davis. The confederate army failed to over control the land due to lack of experience (Blackwell 4).

The situation got worst and tension increased , the speech of the president Abraham Lincoln in 1861 ; "I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky," outraged the Civil War, thus ; Lincoln declared the war against confederacy. The speech was delivered just after the Confederacy landed on Kentucky. This time the Union offered no defence, the dimensions and the size of the region helped the enemy broke through . Incursion was forced by the leader General Leonidas Polk to insure the availability of the Confederacy on the western lands. Planners and strategists claimed that the Confederacy's

plan did not count for the land itself, as for completing the mission of expansion (Blackwell 5).

Although the union had a premonition, its reaction was not quick. Nor the union army neither the inhabitants would stop the confederate crawl. The Union army fought to regain some of the dominated lands. The clash resulted in many injuries and wounded men. Hence, the union had to call back the ex- veterans and even ordinary people were called to join in the war. The secession crisis reached its peak. Each state either from the Union or the Confederacy, was ready to participate in this war directly or indirectly. Kentuckians failed to defend themselves against the enemy. Consequently, they were subjugated to the invaders (Blackwell 6)

### **3.4. The Real Causes of the American Civil War**

The Civil War was the most important and influential event that marked the history of the America. The war erupted after many years of disputes between the south and the north. The differences between the Union and the Confederacy hastened the onset of the Civil War. It would be worth examining these differences. Socially, the north and the south were different in their social class system. Clearly, the slave states or the south relied on slaves, so people were divided into three classes, the aristocracy, middle class and then slavery. Most of the southerners were farmers who owned slaves. Plantations and farms needed a massive labour, and slaves were seen as cheap labour. Slaves worked in the south to crop like sugar and cotton. Other southerners worked in their own farms without slaves, maybe they could not purchase slaves. However, the free states or the

north hosted a big number of immigrants. Those immigrants often usually worked in factories since the north was more developed and industrialized. The Union States opposed slavery which was still legalized in the Confederate states (Mountjoy 15).

The economic differences had impacted the integrity of the two regions. Mostly, the economy of the southern states was based on agriculture. the south was agrarian and not industrial. Cotton was the chief crop of the South, especially after the Cotton Gin was invented and more slaves were needed. The southern states could produce 7/8 of the world's supply of cotton. This increased the South's dependence on the plantation system and its vital component, slavery. By contrast, the north was more industrial and urbanized. The northern states built many factories and other large businesses to boost their economy. For that reason, new immigrants found the north with its factories the best place for employment. Whereas, the Confederacy had a few immigrants because of its system. This gave an advantage to the north to prosper industrially. The south opposed high taxes, as it had less manufacturing. However, the union favoured high taxes to protect its products from cheap foreign competition. Therefore, the south did not accept some of the projects which were given by the federal government. The race of expansion also increased the tension between the south and the north. In fact, it was a major problem that widened the gap between the two regions. Westwards expansion caught the attention of both the Union and the Confederacy. The south saw in this expansion as a good deal to keep their economy in having more slave states to its side. The north wanted

to have more lands . Hence, shifting manufactories to the new lands and keeping the economy in stability (Mountjoy 16).

All these differences shaped the war, politics was no exception. the north and the south were different in terms of politics and each of these had its own point of view. Each side had political goals. Westwards expansion would bring much fortune and wealth, not only socially and economically, but also politically. More Slave states meant there would be more Southerners will be involved in Congress. However, having more free states meant more northern representation in Congress. The Union and the Confederacy disagreed on the shape of the government. The Union favoured a strong national government with separation of powers. Whereas, the south wanted less national government control, and more state freedom. As matter of fact, the south opposed the election, and viewing the president Abraham Lincoln as an enemy. The south would secede in response to its opposition. For many southerners the reign of Abraham Lincoln was the beginning of the end of slavery. After the secession, the south wanted to have it own nation. For that reason, the south elected its own president Thomas Jefferson, then it started calling for international recognition from France and Britain. The southern states were determined to have their own country, but the north insisted on integrity resulting in the American Civil War (Mountjoy 17).

Although there were complex and difficult political and economic factors. Slavery marked the most controversial and oldest issues dividing the North and the South serving as the main catalyst for the Civil War. Backing to eighteenth century, the institution of

slavery had already vanished from the north, but it was very much present in the South all through the revolutionary period. Yet, it would be worth examining how slavery was the main cause that led the Civil War. After the foundation of the abolitionist movement, the spirit of rebellion knocked the ears of many slaves. The uprisings of slaves created violent attitudes between the Union and the Confederacy. The best known rebellions of the south was that of Nat Turner, a slave from Virginia. He and other slaves moved south and killed anyone they came across. It was assumed that Turner and his collaborators killed at least 57 white men, children and women using no-firearm to avoid detection. Turner escaped after being chased by the militia of the south. He was captured by a farmer and sentenced to death, After two months hiding in a cave. The Turner Rebellion awakened many people in the north to give more support to abolish slavery. In addition to that, the uprising revealed facts and much information over the issue of slavery (Mountjoy 31).

The novel Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher was another example why slavery was the main cause of the Civil War. This novel portrayed the crimes committed by white men on slaves. This book was the bestselling book next to the Bible. The reason it was so popular because people in the North during that time period actually thought that slavery was like it was in the book. When the North read it, they were furious by the way African Slaves were being treated in the South. However, when the South read it, the book angered them and the South thought it was just a book full of lies and hatred toward slavery. What they didn't realize though, is that the novel was fiction. This book may



have been a very important cause of the Civil War because the North saw the South inhumane and thought that all Southerners treated slaves just like they did in the book. The South saw the North as liars. This caused turmoil among the conflicting side and initiating the war (Mountjoy 42).

In addition to the examples discussed earlier. Many other examples related to slavery would also prove why slavery was the root cause of the American Civil War, such as the Border War and John Brown's Raid, this either directly or indirectly helped outrage the war.

### **3.5 Conclusion**

The American Civil war is the most consequential and pressing period in the history of America. The war ended and halted centuries of slavery in the country and it also made a great deal of numerous political and social changes. The country was already ripped up and torn up by the negative fad in race relations and a number of cases of slave confusions were taking a toll on the country's political and social structure. The Civil War was the result of long years of disputes between the south and the north, concerning slavery as the main reason. The war resulted in banning slavery and unifying the states. Although slavery ended long time ago its trace is still seen today.

## **General Conclusion**

Many historians have claimed that slavery has been always a confusing topic. The meaning of slavery has been always changing theoretically and practically. Backing to the early decades, slavery occurred in parallel with the emergence of ancient civilizations. These societies needed slaves to do extra works. Generally, slaveholders demeaned their slaves to show their superiority and power. By the mid seventeenth Europe witnessed great shift. The powerful countries started competing each other to settle colonies in the Americas. The sake for other sources and prosperity led these powers to look for slaves. The Europeans saw in Africa as the best place where to find slaves. Many trips were made across the Atlantic towards African shores, embarking slaves and sailing back to the Americas. The establishment of colonies in America resulted in legalization of slave trade. The number of the English colonies increased. As result, many African black slaves were brought to work in plantation and do hard works. Those black slaves experienced hardships while being in colonies. They were forced to work and they were mistreated by colonists.

The spirit of freedom raised among slaves after the Revolutionary War. The British promised to free all who participated in the war against the Americans. This would plant the first seeds of freedom among the African black slaves. The Declaration of Independence freed all the Americans from the British tyranny. However, the institution of slavery would continue to exist until it became a serious problem for the independent states. The size of the continent and strategic location all gave a big diversity and differences between the United States. Clearly, these differences shaped each state alone

and gave it its own characterization. So, the issue of slavery and other disputes had led some of the states to secede from the Union.

This resulted in two conflicting regions known as the Confederate States and the Union States. Each of these had its own designs and principles. The North was characterized by some features which the south did not have. The northern states outnumbered the southern states because the north was bigger than the south. The south was more agrarian and slavery based system. Whereas the north based its economy on manufacturing and it was more industrialized. These differences increased the tension between the Confederacy and the Union and paved the way for a long war. The long years of disputes and differences between the north and the south resulted in the American Civil War. The latter marked a defining moment in United States history. Yet After analyzing the provided data concerning the research, it would be worth knowing that most of the events leading up to this war were related to slavery. Moreover, the political and economical disputes did not concern the federal government as the slavery did. The institution of slavery was a moral cause relating to humanity. The long years of hardships, wars and the surrounding shaped the character of the African black slave and gave birth to a new African American.

The African American became self conscious, so he started looking for ways to get rid of being enslaved. He founded organizations to defend his rights. The Abolitionists marched through the cities to demonstrate against the whites' supremacy. Elite blacks used their pens to voice up their cause. Other groups chose politics to preserve at least their actual rights. Some black activists with the collaboration of rich men put pressure on

Congress to pass laws in favour of black's matters. As a matter of fact, the Declaration of Independence stated that all men were equal. As a result, the revolution of thinking would give birth to the Civil War in favour of conceptual morals. Above all, if slavery had not existed the south and the north would have avoided the Civil War. Yet, there were some positives and advantages beyond this war. Slavery came to an end as a legal institution. But the war did not bring equal rights for blacks, they still had their own war to win until those rights would be achieved.

## **Bibliography**

- Bloch, Ruth H., *Visionary Republic: Millennial Themes in American Thoughts, 1756-1800*, New York, Foner, Paine, (1985)
- Brogan, Hugh, *The Penguin History of the United States*, New York, Longman Group Limited, (1985)
- Bryn, O'Callaghan, *An Illustrated History of the U.S.A*, Longman Group UK Limited, (1990)
- Burlingame, Michael, *The Inner World of Abraham Lincoln*, Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, (1994)
- Carpenter, Francis B., *Six Month at the White House with Abraham Lincoln*, New York, Hurd and Hughton, (1866)
- Carroll, Peter N. and Noble David W., *The Free And The Unfree: A New History of the United States*, New York, Penguin Books, 2<sup>nd</sup>.Edition, (1988)
- Feagin, Joe R., *Racial and Ethnic Relations*, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice Hall, Inc., (1978)
- Ferhat, Farhat, *From English Colonies to American Republic the Formation of the Nation, 1763-1861*, office des publications universitaires, (2008)
- Foner, Eric, *The Story of American Freedom*, New York, W.W.Norton& Company, Inc., (1999)

Franklin, John Hope and Alfred A. Moss Jr., *From Slavery to Freedom*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., New York, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., (1988)

Michael, Vorenberg, *Final Freedom, the Civil War, Abolition of Slavery and the Thirteenth amendment*, Cambridge, UK, (2001)

Mountjoy, Shane, *the Causes of the Civil War, The Differences between the North and The South*, New York, Chelsea House, (2009)

Jules, Archer, *They Had a Dream*, New-York, Lucas Evans Books, Inc., (1993)

Junius, P. Rodriguez, *Slavery in the United States, A Social, Political, and Historical Encyclopedia*, Santa Barbara, California, ABC-CLIO, Inc, (1911)

Klingaman, William, K., *Abraham Lincoln And The Road To Emancipation, 1861-1865*, New-York, Penguin Putnam Inc., Viking Penguin, (2001)

Kolchin, Peter, *American Slavery, 1619-1877*, New York, Penguin Books, Ltd., (1993)

Lomax, Louis E. *The Negro Revolt*, New York, The New American Library, Inc., (1963)

Miller, William Lee, *The Business of May Next: James Madison and the Founding*, Charlottesville, University Press of Virginia, (1992)

O'Brien, David M., *Constitutional Law and Politics, Vol.2, Civil Liberties*, University of Virginia, 4th Edition, (2001)

Reg, Grant, *Slavery, Real People and Their Stories of Enslavement*, London, Dorling Kindersley Limited, (2009)

Rogers, Williams B., *We Are all Together Now: Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, the Prophetic Tradition*, New York, Garland Publishing Inc., (1995)

Schneider, Dorothy, and Carl J. Schneider, *Slavery in America: An Eye Witness History, From Colonial Times to the Civil War*, New York, Facts on File, Inc., (2000)

S. Dale, McLemore, *Racial And Ethnic Relations in America*, New York, A Division of Simon & Schuster, Inc., (1994)

Sheehan, Dean and Aaron Charles, *the Civil War, 1861–1865*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, (2014)

Turley, David, *Slavery: New Perspective on the Past*, New York, Blackwell, Publishers Ltd., (2000)

Wexler, Sanford: *The Civil Rights Movement: An Eye Witness*, Library of Congress, (1993)

## **Web sites**

Gibson, Robert A., *Booker T. Washington and W.E.B.DuBois*, in [www.yale.edu /ynhti /curriculum / units/1978/2/78.02.02.x.html](http://www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/1978/2/78.02.02.x.html)

Colleen F., *Slavery During the Civil War*, in [www.eastbuc12.ia.us/99 oo/Cw/cmfl.html](http://www.eastbuc12.ia.us/99oo/Cw/cmfl.html) (May 9, 2000) (May 9, 2000)

<http://wikipedia.org>