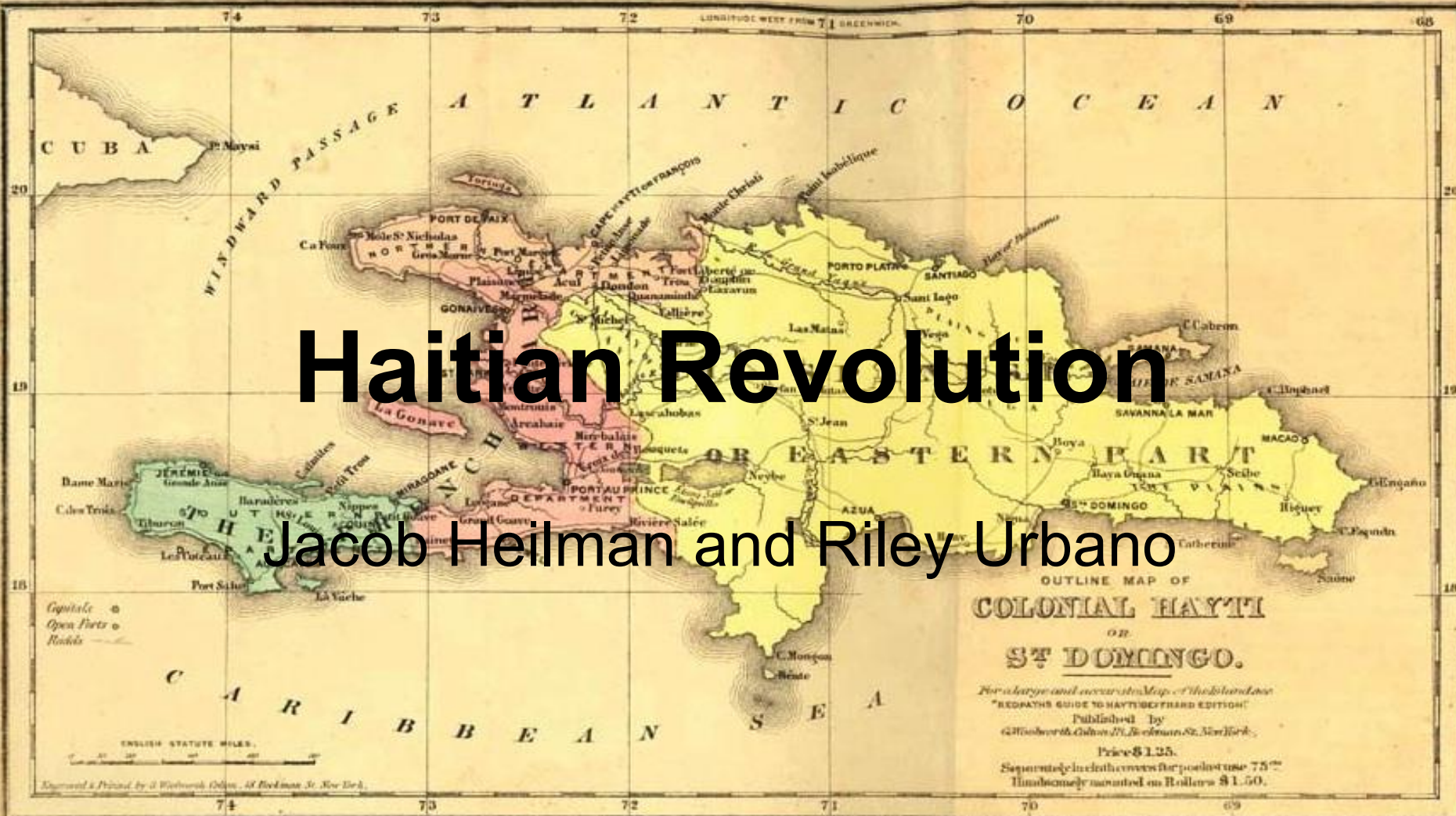
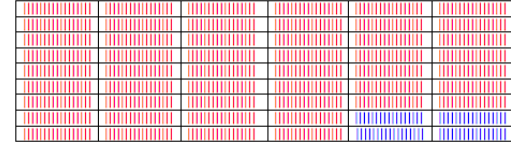


Haitian Revolution

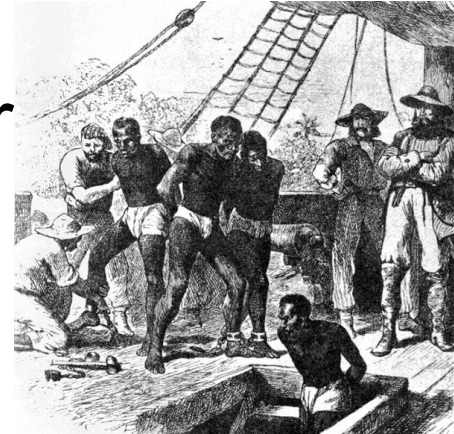
Jacob Heilman and Riley Urbano



Causes

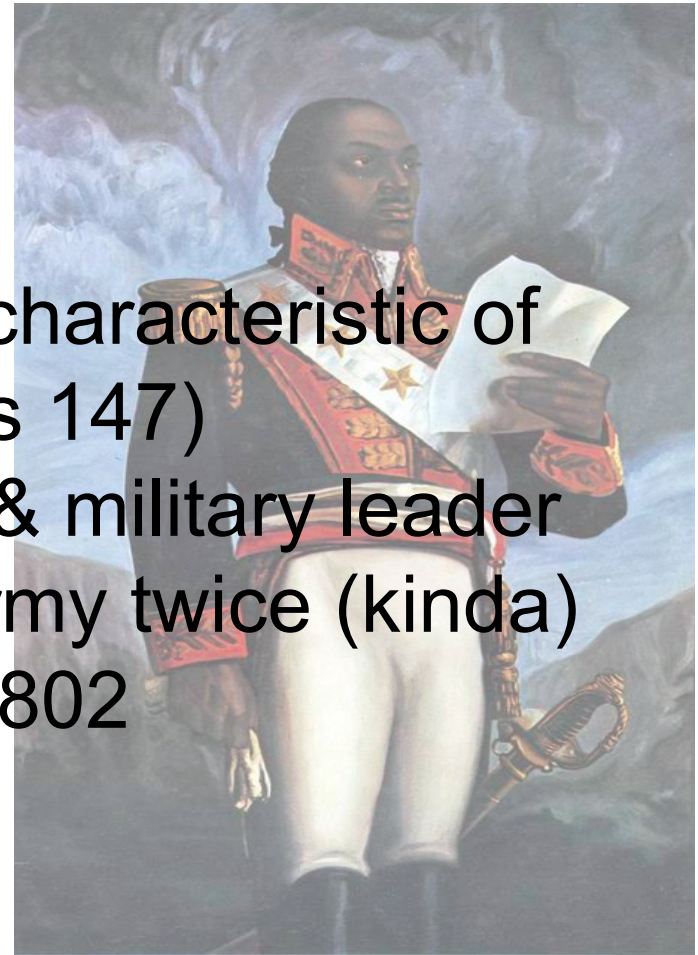


- 1789, 40,000 whites, 500,000 blacks
- Profitability of sugar → exploitation of slaves
- French Revolution → May Decree → White rage
- → Slave rebellion 8/22/1791 under Toussaint L'Ouverture



Toussaint L'Ouverture

- Had “[...] electrifying effect characteristic of men of great action” (James 147)
- Former slave, gifted orator & military leader
- Somehow defeated FRA Army twice (kinda)
- Official ruler of Haiti 1795-1802



Events

- 4/14/1792 FRA grants rights to everyone
- 10/12/1792 FRA commissioners dissolve colonial assembly
- 1793 FRA revolution, Sonthonax emancipated slaves
- December 1793 Britain attempts intervention→
- Toussaint occupies Haiti
- 2/4/1794 FRA assembly abolishes slavery



More Events



- 1795 Toussaint drives Spanish from St. Domingue
- 4/1/1796 Toussaint governor of St. Domingue
- July 1800 Toussaint defeats opposition
- 1801 Toussaint becomes leader for life
- June 1802 Toussaint arrested, sent to FRA
- 12/31/1803 Haiti declared independent republic



Results/Causes for Second Wave

- Only successful slave revolt (James ix)
- Haitians still discontent w French gov.
- Haitians continue to revolt against slavery
- Napoleon's loses interest in W. Hemisphere
- Jacques Dessalines, crazy, emerges as leader



The Second Wave

- Dessalines starts by committing genocide
 - All remaining whites murdered en masse
- Establishes serfdom as economic system
 - Furthermore, binds serfs to plantations
 - ↑ Yes, he reestablishes slavery
- Expensively militarizes Haiti, beyond economic means
- Assassinated in 1806



New Form of Government

- The assassins divided the country in two
- North Haiti under Henri Christophe
 - Authoritarian, plantation work continued, profitable
- South Haiti under Alexandre Pétion
 - Liberal, economically unstable, poor



Random Bits of Historiography

- “And yet [the slaves] were surprisingly moderate, then and afterwards, far more humane than their masters had or ever would be to them. [...] The cruelties of property and privilege are always more ferocious than the revenges of poverty and oppression. For one aims at perpetuating resented injustice, the other is merely a momentary passion soon appeased” (James 88-89).
- “The revolt is the only successful slave revolt in history” (James ix)

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