

Resistance and rebellions in the Caribbean (© AntiSlavery International 2005)

1675: A rebellion in Barbados was brutally suppressed and severe reprisals were taken against slaves. 11 were beheaded, 6 burned alive, 25 executed and a further 70 severely flogged and/or deported.

1692: A planned rebellion was discovered in Barbados and those considered responsible suffered a similar fate to those blamed for the 1675 uprising.

1735-36: A planned uprising in Antigua was uncovered and 86 slaves were subsequently executed, most being burned to death.

1760-61: Revolts in Jamaica in 1742 and 1745 were successfully put down, but Tacky's Rebellion in 1760 was only suppressed after months of fighting in which 60 whites and 400 rebels were killed. A further 100 slaves were executed after the fighting was over.

1774: Revolts and plots were common in Tobago from 1763 onward, but a major uprising took place in 1774. Captured slaves were burned alive or had their arms cut off. A larger rebellion planned in 1801 was discovered and the perpetrators violently dealt with.

1791: A rebellion in Dominica in 1791 was followed by an uprising in 1795. The campaign to wipe out bands of rebel slaves continued for years afterwards and by August 1814 the authorities had claimed to have killed or captured 578 rebel slaves.

1791: The successful insurrection of St Domingue eventually saw the establishment of the Republic of Haiti in 1804 and the emancipation of some half a million slaves.

1795: The British fought for several years to put down revolts and keep control of St Lucia, Guadeloupe, Jamaica and Trinidad.

1795: A major uprising took place in Grenada in 1795 and it took the British until the end of 1797 to finally restore order even with the arrival of an extra 5,000 troops.

1816: Bussa's rebellion in Barbados saw £175,000 worth of property destroyed before it was put down. Hundreds of slaves died in the fighting or were subsequently executed.

1823: Thousands of slaves were involved in the rebellion in Guyana (known as Demerara at that time) and 250 slaves were killed in the revolt.

1831: An insurrection in Jamaica, inspired by Samuel Sharpe and sometimes referred to as the Baptist War, saw 15 whites killed and more than a million pounds worth of damage to property. More than 500 slaves were killed in the conflict or executed after it was subdued.