

# REP Education Sheet: Haiti's History of Reparations



- Black revolutionaries led by Toussaint L'Ouverture, Jean-Jacques Dessalines and Henri Christophe between 1791-1804, defeated the Spanish, British and French armies, ending enslavement in the island of Santo Domingo. The newly independent nation's name was changed to Haiti.
- Haiti became the first Black Republic in the Western Hemisphere as the formerly enslaved claimed their freedom after the thirteen-year successful Revolution against white barbaric colonial regimes.
- In 1825, French warships circled Haiti demanding the Haitian government pay 150 million francs in gold for the Black bodies liberated and plantations destroyed. With this ignoble extortion charge, Haiti began its nation-building development exploited and impoverished.
- Haiti was forced to close down its public schools, commit large-scale deforestation, and was constrained to take out hefty loans from U.S. and French banks.
- The development of France came hand in hand with the underdevelopment of Haiti, since the beginning of its colonial history to the last cent of the colonial debt it paid France in 1947



- [The Caribbean Community and Common Market \(CARICOM\)](#), established in 1973, has supported regional reparatory justice for the Caribbean community.
- In May of 2014, the 15 member states of CARICOM worked to procure compensation from European nations for the Atlantic slave trade by creating a ten-point plan to receive Reparations