

Bittersweet: Sugar, Slavery, Empire and Consumerism in the Atlantic World

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DIG – History Podcast Link:

<https://digpodcast.org/2020/01/19/bittersweet-sugar-slavery-empire-and-consumerism-in-the-atlantic-world/>

Instructions:

Open the above link to the BIG Podcast. It is 40 minutes and 57 seconds. It is strongly suggested that you wear headphones while you are listening to the audio podcast. Underneath the link to the podcast is the transcript (written text) that is being spoken. You can scroll down and follow the narration as well as pause, replay and continue.

Once you have finished listening to the Podcast, answer the essential questions below that relate to the subject. Each response must be answered using complete sentences. Not all of the information required for these answers is directly found in the transcript. You have to add your knowledge of World History to some of these questions.

Questions to be answered

1. Why is sugar called “White Gold?”
2. What is the relationship between the title of this Podcast, *Bittersweet: Sugar, Slavery, Empire and Consumerism in the Atlantic World* and the Columbian Exchange?
3. Why was climate an important factor to the growth of the sugar industry during the periods covered in the Podcast and transcript?
4. Based on information in the Podcast and the transcript, what is the cause and effect relationship between the decline of the Spanish Silver Trade and the growth of the global sugar industry?
5. What is the comparison given in the Podcast and the transcript to the increase in the African Slaver Trade especially in the Caribbean Islands of Jamaica and Barbados?
6. Why did sugar help preserve African culture?
7. What was “coolie” labor and how did it change global demographics?