

# Life in the American Colonies

### **1620-1700**

# **Southern Economy**

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- Commercial Tobacco farming (Plantations)
- "Headright" System
  - Indentured Servants
- First African slaves arrived in 1619

### **Southern Society**

- Plantations vs.
  Small Farms
- Agricultural way of life dominated by cash crops



# **Bacon's Rebellion (1676)**



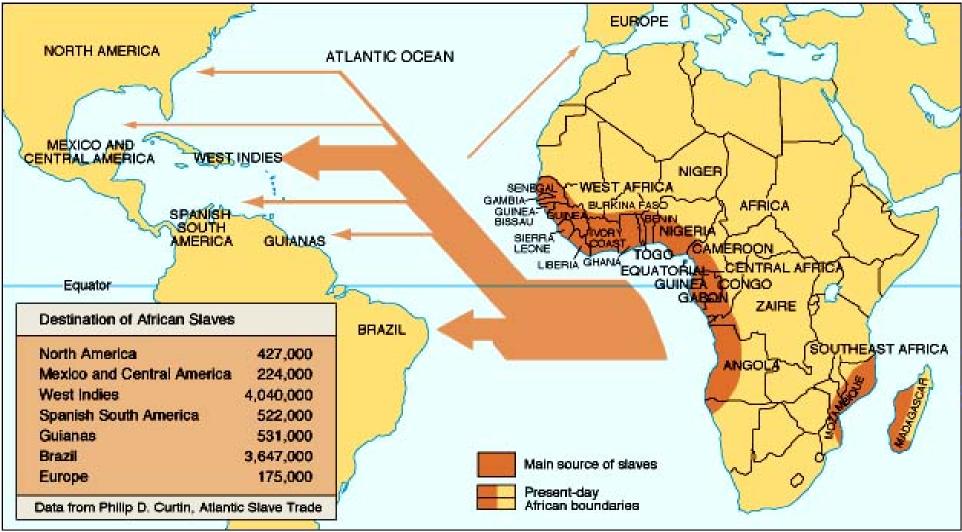
- Large numbers of frustrated freedmen (former indentured servants) existed
- Nathaniel Bacon, began mobilizing a militia
- Gov Berkley (VA) had a friendly relationship w/ natives and refused to stop raiding on frontiers

# **Bacon's Rebellion (1676)**

- In 1676, Bacon's militia massacred Indians and set fire to Jamestown, chasing Governor Berkeley out of the city
- Bacon subsequently died of disease and Berkeley crushed the rebellion
- Turn to slaves for labor on the tobacco plantation



## **African Slave Trade**





## **African Slave Trade**

- Middle Passage (20% mortality rate)
- Black Codes:
  - Illegal to teach slaves to read
  - **Chattel Slavery**
- Stono River Revolt



# **Northern Society**

- Puritan New England
  - Congregational Church government
  - Townhall Meetings
  - Disputes about land use
- Half-Way Covenant
  Elect & Non-Elect

