

# Download In The Beginning Was: St. Domingue

The Haitian Revolution (French: Révolution haïtienne [ʁe.vɔlysjɑ̃ aʒisjɑ̃]) was a successful anti-slavery and anti-colonial insurrection by self-liberated slaves against French colonial rule in Saint-Domingue, now the sovereign nation of Haiti. After 12 years of upheavals, war, carnage and betrayals, the revolution which broke open in 1791 in Saint-Domingue finally succeeded in abolishing slavery and achieved independence in Haiti. The Haitian Revolution (1791-1804): A Different Route to Emancipation . Copyright 2003 Prof. Jeremy Popkin, University of Kentucky (email: popkin@uky.edu) Beginning in 1789, free people of color of Saint-Domingue were inspired by the French Revolution to seek an expansion of their rights and equality, while perpetuating the denial of freedom and rights to the slaves, who made up the overwhelming majority of population on the island.