

# HAITI

## A HISTORY OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

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Haiti Earthquake Landslide - Photo courtesy of © Reuter

On January 12, 2010, a force of nature unleashed its wrath on the country once known as the "Pearl of the Antilles," leaving Haiti's capital city, Port-au-Prince in a catastrophic state. There are 2 million Haitians who are currently displaced or dead. The buildings and the docks are dilapidated and the numbers of dead bodies are incalculable due to the amount of rubble left in the heart of the city streets. There have been an incredible number of stories where people survived the disastrous conditions, but some also ended in unspeakable tragedy. The stirring images of corpses lying

in the street and the children suffering have moved many individuals to donate to the Haitian relief cause, but there is much the world doesn't know about how Haiti has come to this point in its history.

The devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake was just the culmination of 200 years of misery and fiendish cruelty dealt from self-inflicted hands and former colonial powers. To begin to tell the story of Haiti, one must rewind the clock back to a time in the 1780s when Haiti then known as Saint-Domingue constituted about forty percent of all the sugar