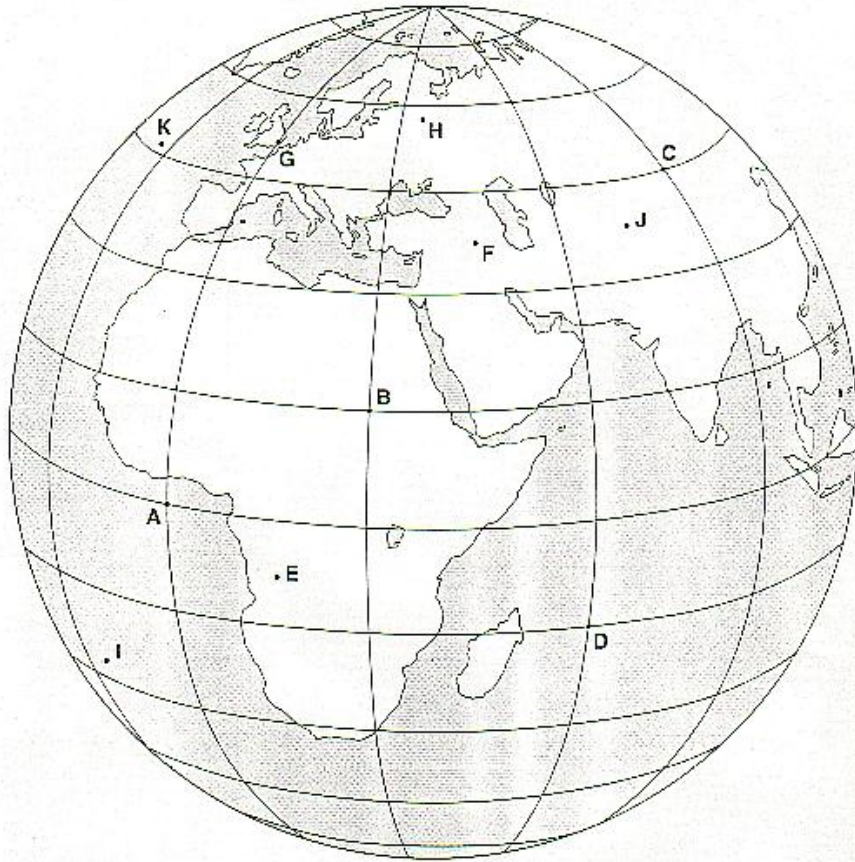




Buzz group

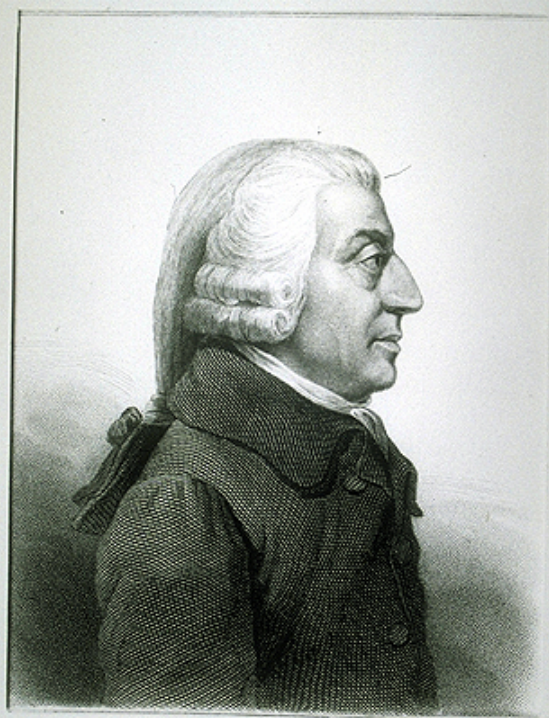
**Does capitalism work for
African Americans?**

**Why are so few rich and
so many poor?**

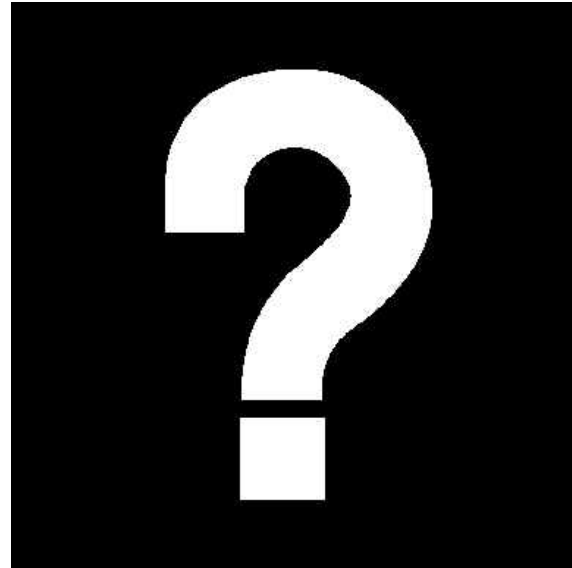


AFRO 100 Socialism

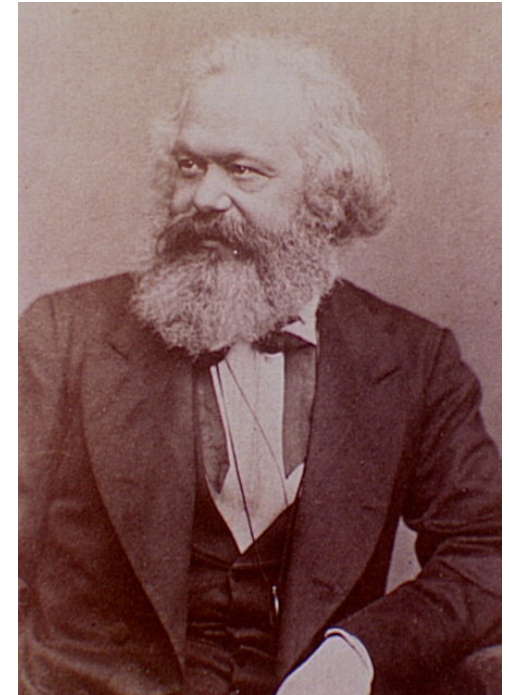
The most dynamic battle of systems in the 20th century was between capitalism and socialism.



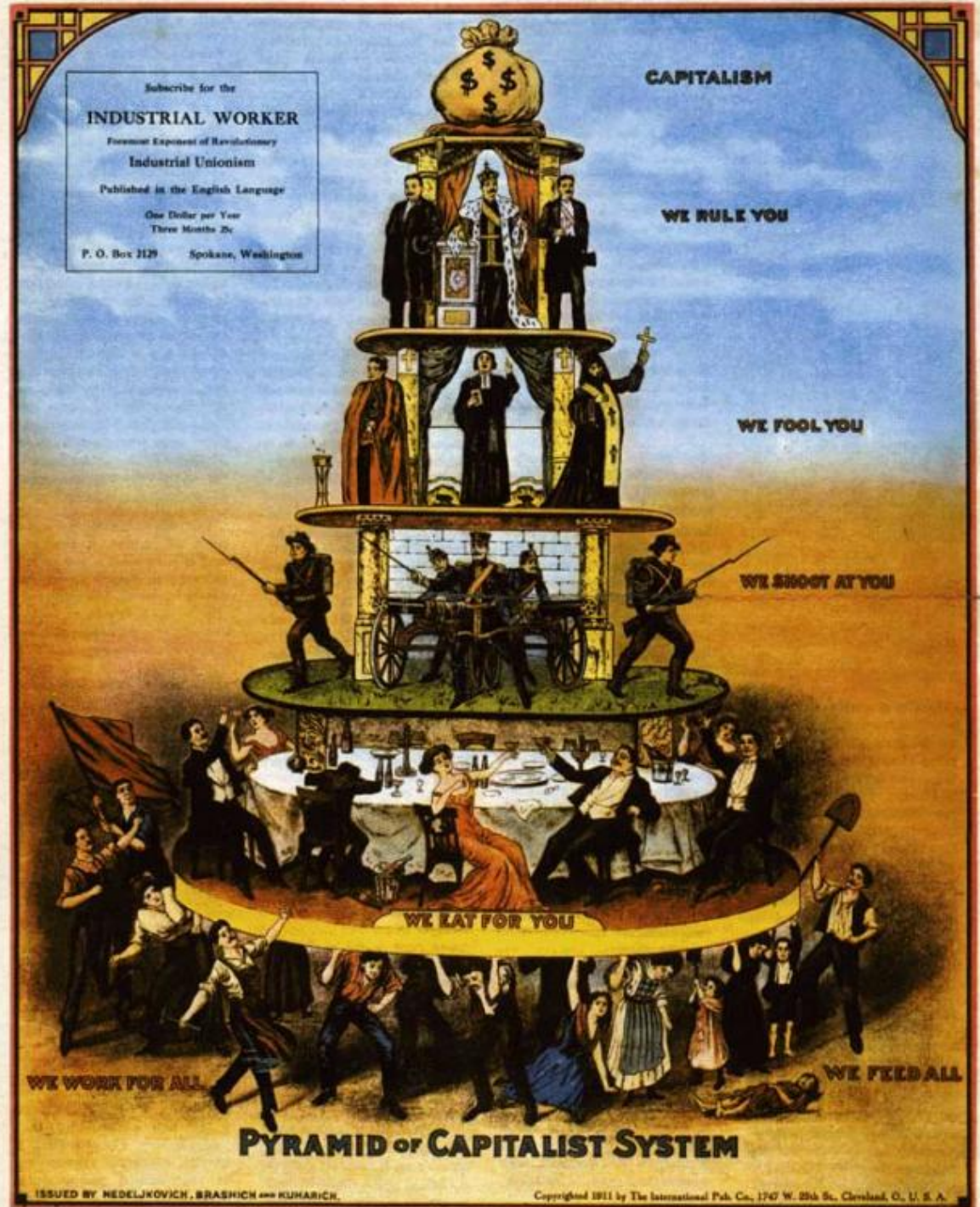
Adam Smith
1723 - 1790



What will be the battle in the 21st century – the same battle or a new one?

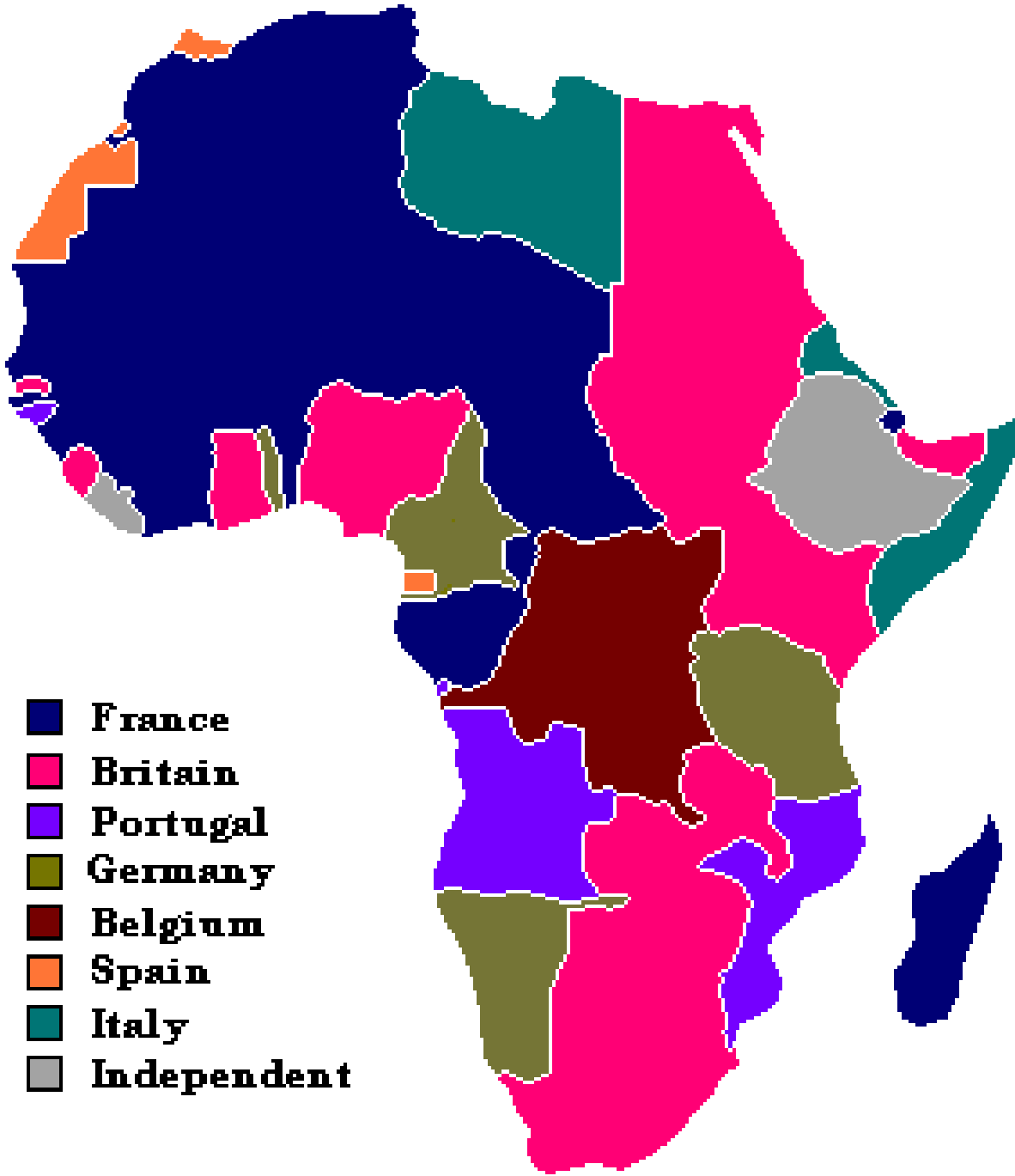


Karl Marx
1818 - 1883



Does capitalism work?

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-4570350677296230641&q=how+does+capitalism+work&total=53&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0>



Mumia abu Jamal on Bush, Capitalism and Africa

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=8349072045620395565&q=how+does+capitalism+work+for+african+americans&total=6&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0>

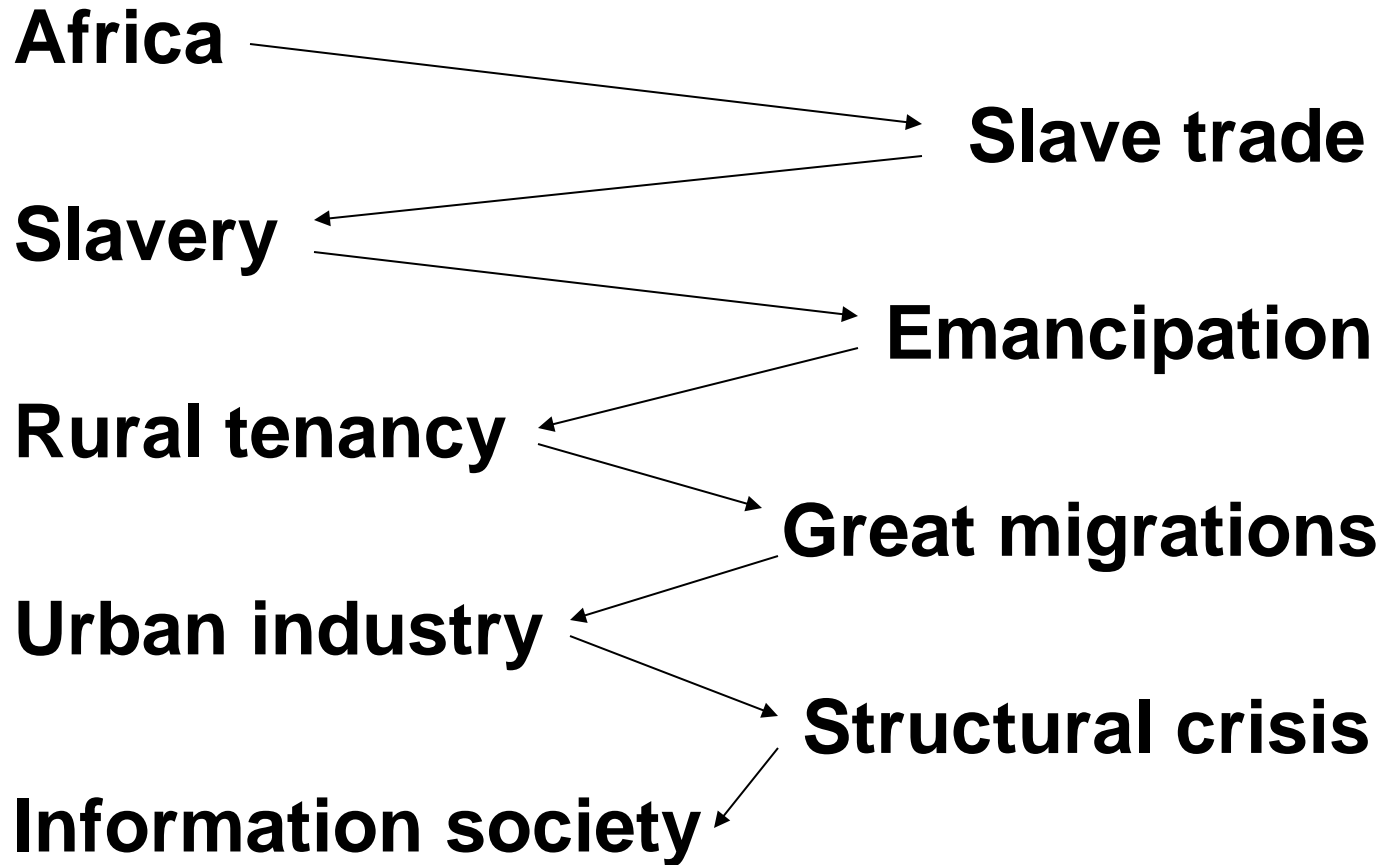


- How do we think
about capitalism?**
- 1. It is an economic
system**
 - 2. It is an ideology**

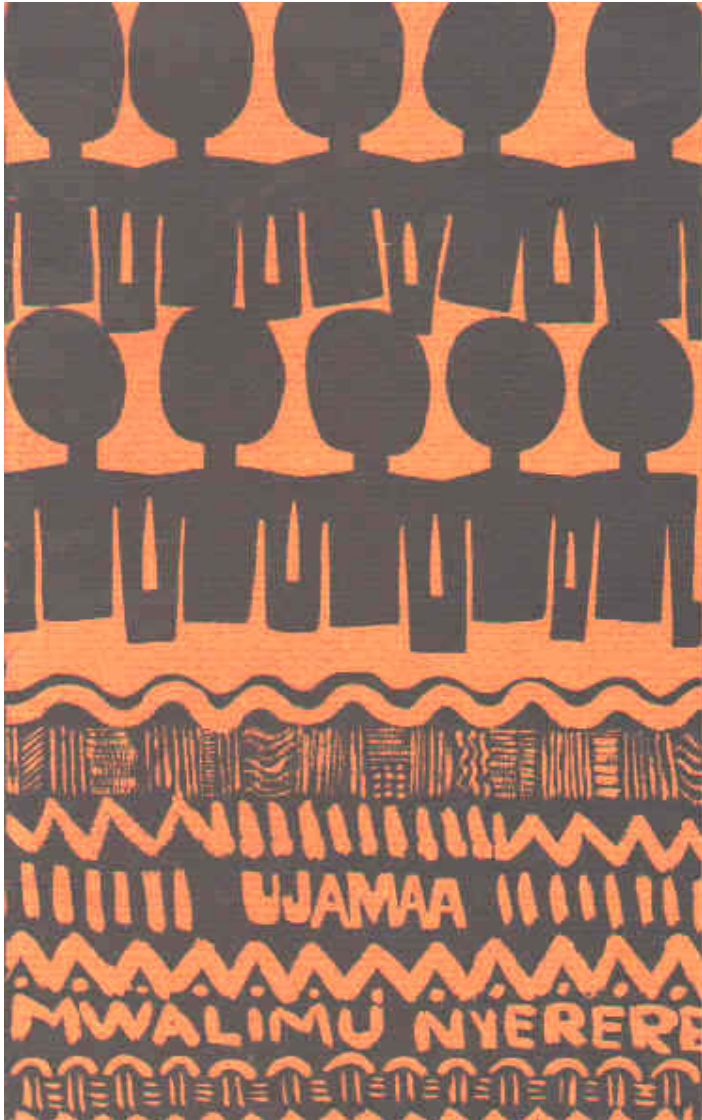
**However in both
cases the
question is from
who's perspective
– capital or labor?**

The logic of Black history:

modes of social cohesion, modes of social disruption



Panafricanist tradition – foundations for socialism in African culture



Under slavery the fight was to get into the capitalist system.

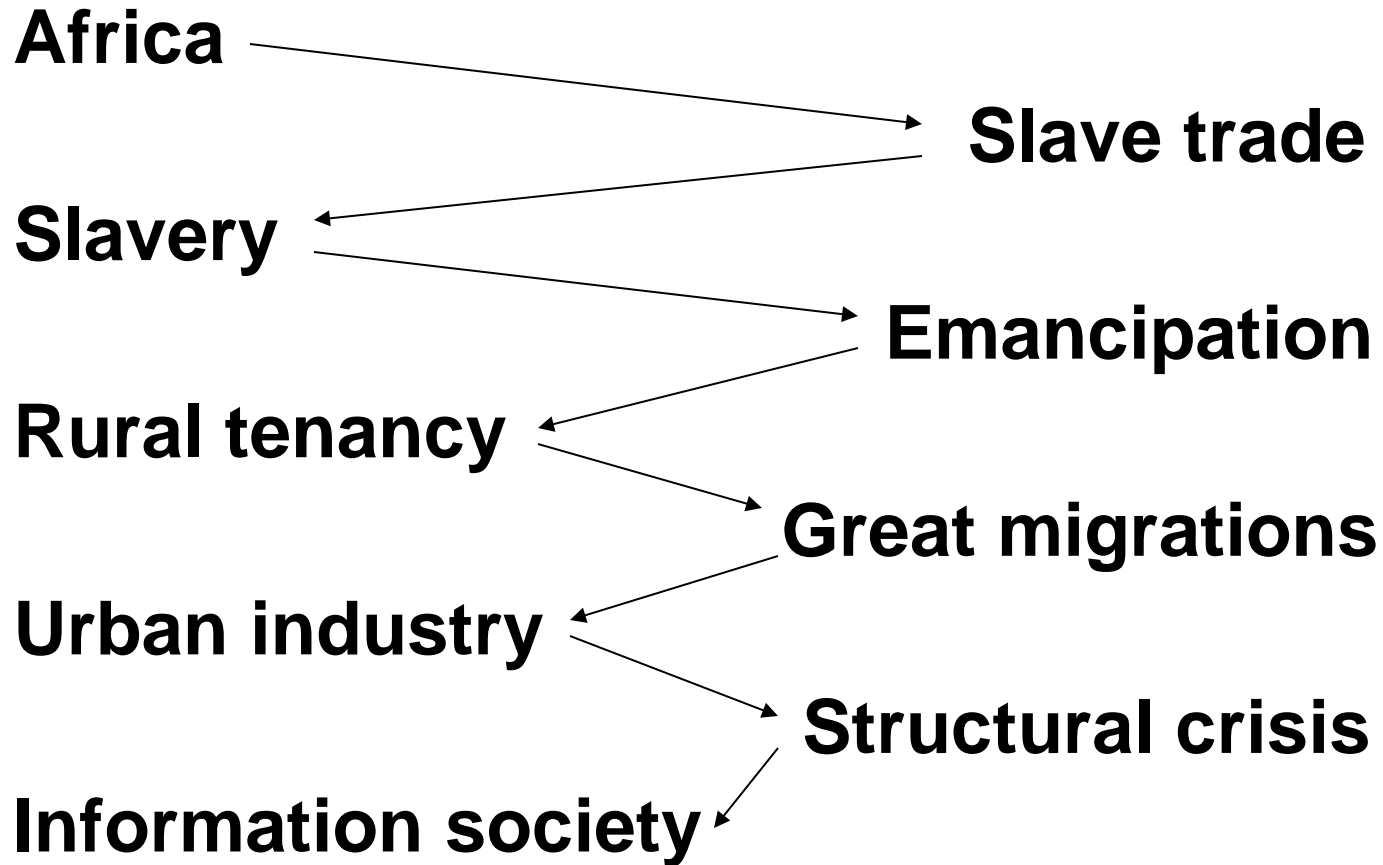
This was a revolutionary struggle that took two stages to complete:

- a. The Civil War (1861-1865) destroyed one form of property and created another, from chattle slave to free worker. This was a political change, but no 40 acres and a mule.**
- b. The vote was won in the 15th amendment (1870) but could not be take advantage of until after basic economic change.**
- c. The mechanical cotton picker (1940's) was the technological change that led to the transformation of agricultural production from labor intensive to capital intensive. The value of labor in agriculture declined.**
- d. Black people entered the industrial capitalist system just as it was being transformed from imperialism (under the industrial system) into globalization (based on the information revolution). Today the value of industrial labor has declined. For the first time in history the mass labor of Black people is no longer needed to drive the system (21st century).**



The logic of Black history:

modes of social cohesion, modes of social disruption



What capital have Black people ever had?

Slavery ?

Rural tenancy?

Urban industry?

Information society?



What is capital? It is a profit making investment, not money.

How is profit made – buy cheap, sell dear. The two battle grounds are natural resources and labor.

- 1. The vast majority of Black people have been working people, owning little productive property, and just a little personal property.**
- 2. The Black middle class used to be small entrepreneurs (self employed and family labor) but not full fledged capitalists.**
- 3. There have been some few exceptions. There have been Black capitalists.**
- 4. Today the Black middle class is more located in the professions and in some form of corporate business not autonomous ownership (e.g. McDonalds).**





"The artist must elect to fight for freedom or for slavery. I have made my choice. I had no alternative."

—Paul Robeson
Voice of the People
Apr 9, 1898- Jan 23, 1976



Paul Robeson

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=2247802606838347642&q=paul+robesson&total=395&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=1>

The essay is really about why do people with no capital commit to capitalism?

- a. Better to have a system that benefits a few and not the many?**
- b. Can we evaluate US capitalism only within its borders or also how people live in places controlled by the US?**
- c. Its the best we can do.**
- d. Things will get better for everyone.**





the **SERMON**
on the **MOUNT**

*Heal and feed the people,
judge not lest ye be judged,
the meek will inherit the earth*

The spirit of socialism

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=2077994787368492862&q=w+e+b+dubois+socialism&total=2&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0>



**Buzz group:
Does capitalism help everyone? Why not?**

Was Jesus more of a socialist or a capitalist?

