

# Thematic Timelines:

## Coerced Labor

### Period 1: 1200–1450 CE

#### Period 1 – Post-Classical Era – 1200 CE - 1450 CE

- Peasant agriculture became the dominant form of labor in the feudal systems of Europe and Japan
- **Mit'a system** established in the Incan Empire, which was complete state control of the economy, and fixed pay for coerced laborers under the Incan Mit'a system
- Demand for slaves in Central Asia (Mongols and Turks), North Africa (Arab caliphates) and Eastern Mediterranean (Byzantine Empire and Arab caliphates) increased
- Mongols gathered slaves as tribute and forced them to labor for the Mongolian Empire or employed them in the Mongolian military (Turkic tribal horseback riders, Chinese and Persian siege engineers)
- In the 14th and 15th centuries, Aztec invaders setup slave-based tribute systems for conquered Mesoamericans
- Sub-Saharan African slaves bought and sold to Arabic kingdoms





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### Period 2 – Period 3

#### Period 2 – Early Modern Era – 1450 CE – 1750 CE

- Peasant agriculture continued and was slowly replaced in Western Europe beginning in England / Great Britain and the Netherlands with the Enclosure Movement
- **Atlantic slave system** and plantation slavery expanded rapidly in the Americas due to Portuguese purchasing and selling of West African slaves to colonial establishments
- Spanish adopted and employed the Incan mit'a system, as well as enslaving hundreds of thousands of natives in the encomienda system as a form of corvee / peasant labor
- Indentured servitude was used as payment in the form of labor for poor European immigrants to the Americas as payment for their journey

#### Period 3 – Modern Era – 1750 CE – 1900 CE

- Indentured servitude and slavery continue until the 19th century abolitionist movements in the West
- Chinese and Indian indentured servants are brought to the Americas, particularly the US during / after the **Taiping Rebellion** to escape chaos
- Convict labor begins in the West as convicts are used as free, state labor for private prisons and companies