OMV Exploration 2: Small Data Set

The works that sparked my interest provide important insights into the experiences of African people, specifically Yoruba women, and Caribbean people, specifically Jamaican women, and their ongoing struggles for freedom, equality, and cultural preservation. Several of the works I’ve chosen are focused on the experiences of Yoruba and Jamaican women. The reason I chose these works is the common themes explored, such as the inhumanity of slavery, resistance and resilience, the importance of faith, gender and race, and the quest for freedom and empowerment.

1. The Inhumanity of slavery: The documentation of the cruelty of slavery is a central theme throughout these works, particularly in Mary Prince’s account in “The History of Mary Prince”, which documents the brutal physical and emotional abuse she suffered at the hands of her enslavers.
2. Resistance and Resilience: Despite the odds, these works demonstrate how enslaved people resisted and struggled against their conditions, often through acts of courage and perseverance. In “The History of Mary Prince,” Mary fights for her freedom, and in “Gleanings from Recent Letters. The Gospel Preached by a Captive Yoruba Girl,” the Yoruba girl becomes a Christian missionary, showing resistance and resilience in the face of oppression.
3. The Importance of Faith: In “Gleanings from Recent Letters. The Gospel Preached by a Captive Yoruba Girl,” the power of Christianity is highlighted as the Yoruba girl’s faith helped her to overcome the trauma of slavery and become a missionary. Similarly, in “Sick and Dying Christians in Yoruba,” Christianity is shown as a source of strength and hope for sick and dying enslaved people.
4. Gender and Race: As many of these works highlight the experiences of enslaved women, the intersecting identities of gender and race is a major theme amongst these works. Mary Prince’s account highlights the ways in which enslaved women were exposed to abuse and exploitation. Similarly, “Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands” depicts the challenges faced by a Black woman in a world dominated by white men. "Gleanings from Recent Letters. Baptism and Death of an Aged Yoruba Woman" also illustrates how race and gender intersected in the experiences of enslaved people.
5. Quest for Freedom and Empowerment: Though this theme is deeply connected to the theme of resistance and resilience, the difference lies in the fact that these women are revolting and reclaiming their voice whilst finding a sense of purpose and agency.

Anonymous and Daniel Olubi. “Gleanings from Recent Letters. The Gospel Preached by a

Captive Yoruba Girl.” Edited by Kenneth C. Crowell and Cassie Fletcher. BIPOC Voices, *One More Voice*, solidarity edition; Collaborative Organization for Virtual Education (COVE), 2022, https://onemorevoice.org/html/bipoc-voices/digital-editions-amd/liv\_026047\_HTML.html.

Anonymous and Daniel Olubi. “Gleanings from Recent Letters. Baptism and Death of an Aged

Yoruba Woman.” Edited by Kenneth C. Crowell and Cassie Fletcher. BIPOC Voices, *One More Voice*, solidarity edition; Collaborative Organization for Virtual Education (COVE), 2022, https://onemorevoice.org/html/bipoc-voices/digital-editions-amd/liv\_026033\_HTML.html.

Anonymous, James White, and Anonymous Yoruba Market Women. “Gleanings from Recent

Letters. A Conversation with Yoruba Market Women.” Edited by Kenneth C. Crowell and Cassie Fletcher. BIPOC Voices, *One More Voice*, solidarity edition; Collaborative Organization for Virtual Education (COVE), 2022, https://onemorevoice.org/html/bipoc-voices/digital-editions-amd/liv\_026043\_HTML.html.

Anonymous, Samuel Johnson, Samuel Cole, T.B. Wright, Samuel Pearce, and D. Williams.

“Sick and Dying Christians in Yoruba.” Edited by Kenneth C. Crowell, Cassie Fletcher, and Kayla Morgan. BIPOC Voices, *One More Voice*, solidarity edition; Collaborative Organization for Virtual Education (COVE), 2022, https://onemorevoice.org/html/bipoc-voices/digital-editions-amd/liv\_026049\_HTML.html.

Philip Cohen Labatt. “‘An Incident in the Late Rebellion in Jamaica’” (1855). Heidi Kaufman,

Adrian S. Wisnicki, eds. *One More Voice*, new dawn edition, 2021, https://onemorevoice.org/html/transcriptions/liv\_020036\_TEI.html.

Mary Prince. *The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave; The Narrative of Asa-Asa, a*

*Captured African.* F. Westley and A.H. Davis; Waugh & Innes, 1831.

Mary Seacole. *Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands.* James Blackwood, 1857.

Samuel Ajayi Crowther; J.R. Dewring. “Letter to Henry Venn; Letter to Samuel Ajayi Crowther”

(27 February 1867; 4 December 1866). Mary Borgo Ton, Adrian S. Wisnicki, Anne M. Martin, eds. One More Voice, new dawn edition, 2021, https://onemorevoice.org/html/transcriptions/liv\_020055\_TEI.html.

Walter Jekyll, ed. *Jamaican Song and Story*. David Nutt for the Folk-Lore Society, 1907.