## APUSH 1607-1775 ENGLISH COLONIAL SOCIETY REVIEWED

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 4-5 American History (Brinkley) Chapter 2-3 America's History (Henretta) Chapter 3-4

Key Point: Regional differences existed between the British colonies:

# Reasons for Differences

- 1.) Who came 2.) Why they came
- 3.) Environmental & geographic variations (climate, natural resources, etc)



Chesapeake Vs. New England Life

#### **NEW ENGLAND COLONIES**

- Puritan religious motives for colonization
- Close-knit homogeneous society (settlements centered around towns)
- Importance of religion, family, and education (schools required)
- Town Hall meetings (adult male church members)
- Received large number of immigrants & high birthrate
- Mixed economy: agriculture, trade, shipbuilding



#### **Southern Plantation Colonies**

- Male dominated society, warmer climate, harsh life, lower birth rate
  - Defined hierarchy of wealth & status (southern gentry)
- · Cash crop plantation economy
- · Few cities develop
- Labor system: indentured servants to slavery (Especially after Bacon's Rebellion)
  - Reasons for transition to slavery: 1) abundance of land 2) shortage of indentured servants 3) no way to enslave native population 4) European demand for colonial goods
  - Majority slave population in South
    Carolina



# SLAVERY IN COLONIAL AMERICA Triangular trade (3 part trade route):

- Slaves and goods moving from Africa, the Caribbean, and the colonies
- The journey from Africa to the Western Hemisphere was known as the "Middle passage"
- Slave culture: Blend of African and American cultures
  - Variety of tribes from different parts of Africa
- Stono Uprising, 1739 South Carolina: one of the few slave revolts in colonial America
  - Tried to get to Spanish Florida where they were promised freedom
  - Rebellion was defeated and contributed to stricter laws regulating slaves
- Most common resistance to slavery: work slowdowns, running away, fake illness, etc.





#### Religion in the Colonies

- Religious passion was fading in the New England colonies
- Half Way Covenant (1662): individuals could become partial church members even if did not have a conversion
- Religious freedom?
- The Massachusetts Bay colony <u>DID NOT</u> allow freedom of religion
- Some religious toleration existed in a few British colonies
- Pennsylvania: Quakers!
- Rhode Island: Separation of church and state
- Maryland- only to Christians
- Salem Witch Trials: Salem, Massachusetts 1692
  - 19 people hung and 1 pressed to death
  - Reflect growing tension over changing nature of the colony (religious to profit driven commercialism)

## **GREAT AWAKENING**

Great Awakening was a religious revival in the 1730-40s that spread throughout the colonies

- Many people convert
- Jonathan Edwards: "Sinners in the Hands of Angry God"
- George Whitefield: Introduced an new energized style of evangelical preaching
- New Lights (supporters) vs. Old Lights (against)
- IMPACTS: New Universities formed (Dartmouth, Princeton, Brown, etc.) Greater religious independence & diversity (new churches formed)
  - Strengthened calls for separation of church & state
- 1st mass movement shared amongst



# \$\$\$ MERCANTILISM \$\$\$

- Various mercantile laws were passed to regulate colonial trade and to benefit England (Navigation Acts, Molasses Act)
  - The goals and interests of European leaders at times diverged from those of colonial citizens
  - But salutary neglect (relative indifference to colonial governance)

<u>Good</u>: Colonial shipbuilding developed (especially in New England colonies),

- provided protection of the British military
- Provided Chesapeake tobacco a monopoly in England

<u>Bad</u>: Restricted development of colonial manufacturing

- Had to buy higher priced manufactured goods
- Farmers had to accept lower prices for their enumerated crops



- England attempted to integrate the colonies into a coherent, hierarchical imperial structure: Dominion of New England (1686)
- Glorious Revolution (1688) led to the overthrow of James II (William and Mary take the throne)
- Limits power of the monarchy
- Colonists rebel against the Dominion of New England
- Big Turning Point: 1763 End of the Seven Years War



## **COLONIAL POLITICS**

- Gradual development of democratic institutions in the colonies & colonial experiences with self-government
  - Examples: Mayflower Compact, Town Hall Meetings, House of Burgesses, elected representative assemblies, etc.
- Many people still excluded (property or religious qualifications) and England ultimately was still in charge
- Zenger case (1733): advanced freedom of the press
  - John Peter Zenger printed a newspaper critical of the royal governor in New York
  - Charged with libel> jury ruled NOT GUILTY
  - Could be critical of elected officials if

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# Economic diversity of the colonies



