特別講義

# 明治大学 国際交流基金事業

「研究者交流支援制度」

Haiti Versus France:
The Problem of the Debt
of Slavery or the Blamed Vic

※本講演は国際シンポジウム"Debt and Money in the Human Economy"の一部です。

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明治大学 駿河台キャンパス リバティタワー9階 1096教室

#### 講演詳細(使用言語:英語)

The first independent "Black" republic to emerge from transatlantic slavery in 1804 after a fierce struggle, Haiti paid a high price for its resistance. Following an order issued by King Charles X on April 17, 1825, the newly independent republic had to pay 150 million gold-francs to compensate former colonists and continue "privileged commercial exchanges in favor of France". Until 1947, Haiti repaid the iniquitous debt.

On April 7, 2003 and again in January 2004, on the occasion of Haiti's Bicentenary and the death of Toussaint Louverture, former Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide demanded that the former colonial power pay the "independence debt". A few months later, he was overthrown by a coup d'état and deported to Bangui in the Central African Republic. To this day, France refuses to return anything. This is the story of the accused victim and the "colonial pact" of domination. And to see slavery as a crime against humanity with no one responsible or guilty. How can we explain that slaves pay their former masters for fighting for their freedom? Knowing that in 1789 there was the French revolution...

For decades, Haitians and an international coalition have been demanding that France repay the debt, in the name of reparation and equality between all human beings. Many observers consider this debt to be one of the factors behind Haiti's socio-economic and political decline over the past two centuries. Key words: Slavery, Colonization, Debt, Reparation, Memory

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