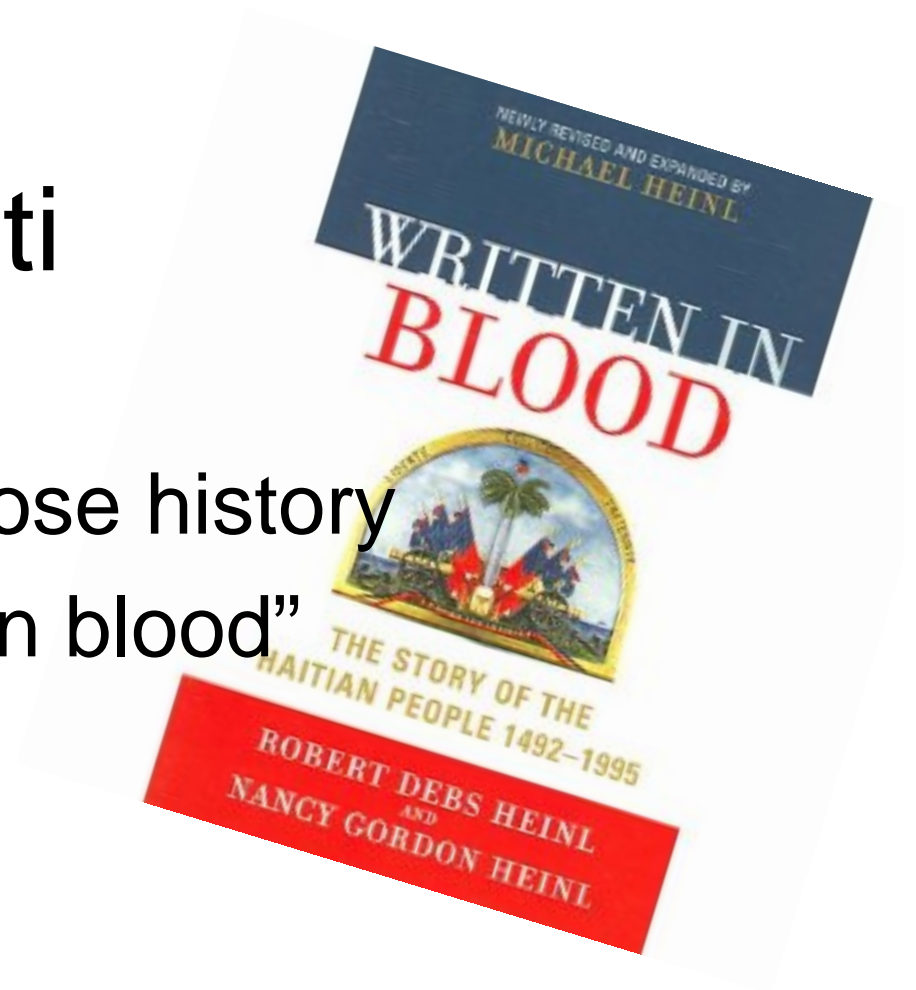


Haiti

A country whose history
is “written in blood”





Hispaniola

- Columbus arrived north coast of Haiti in 1492
- First European colonies of New World



French domination

- By 1517 the indigenous population of 250,000-500,000 had been wiped out.
- In 1600s French established themselves on western end
- Ayiti = “land of high mountains”



African slavery

- Began bringing in African slaves
- Became richest colony in New World
 - Sugar
 - Indigo
 - Coffee
- “Pearl of the Antilles”
 - Sadly, it’s now the poorest country in the western hemisphere

Slave revolt

- “Brutally efficient slave colony”
- 1804 – World’s first and only successful slave revolt
- Napoleon lost up to 50,000 troops trying to re-take Haiti



Our debt to Haiti

- Toussaint L'Ouverture and other Haitians fought in American Revolutionary War
- Loss of Haiti led Napoleon to be willing for the U.S. to make the "Louisiana purchase"
 - Haiti was military base
 - As much as 25% of the income of Napoleon's government came from Haiti

Cruel leaders

- Henri Christophe and the citadel



Duvalier dictatorship

- “Papa doc”
- “Baby doc”



1986

- “Baby Doc” overthrown
 - Under the Duvaliers’ reign up to 30,000 people murdered

2010

- Devastating earthquake in which as many as 300,000 people were killed
- Aftermath: Cholera epidemic (brought in by U.N. peacekeepers from Nepal)

Language and religion

- Haitian Creole / French
- Voodoo