

Describe both the general and specific social conditions that existed for nat tur...

[History](#)



of Lecturer 25 July Nat Turner Nat Turner was an African American slave that had the belief that he had been ordained by God to save his people from freedom and this was the reason that he led a black slave revolt in Southampton County, Virginia in the 1830s (Oates 56). However, it is pertinent to note that there were general and specific social conditions that was instrumental to Nat Turner's actions during this period of slave revolt in the 1830s. There were several personal events in the life of Nat Turner and there were also some character traits that motivated Turner to rebellion. It is also important to consider whether or not the actions of Nat Turner were warranted or not. The aforementioned issues are what would be succinctly discussed in this paper.

It was actually the horrors of the American slavery during the nineteenth century that triggered the rebellion of Nat Turner and his cohorts. It was the anguish that was caused by the alarming increase in the death of African Americans and the annihilation of slave families that triggered the actions of Nat Turner and his followers into conducting what could be described as a rather violent revolt. However, Nat Turner was regarded as a religious fanatic and this could also have precipitated his violent actions in the revolt against the white slave owners. It was due to Nat Turner's religious zealousness that he was not apologetic in his confession when he was tried in a court in Southampton County (Oates 176-178).

I do not approve of the way and manner that Turner conducted the rebellion as the

killing of his master and his family was unwarranted in any way. The manner at which Nat Turner conducted his rebellion gives one the impression that he

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was violent in nature. Nat Turner and his accomplices slaughtered defenseless women, children and babies during the revolt (Oates 101-104). It was due to Nat Turner's rather careless approach to the issue of slavery that thwarted the abolishment of slavery in the South and made the movement to abolish slavery to lose its grounds in the South. It was after Nat Turner's revolt that white legislatures from the South imposed austere laws on slaves in the South. It was due to the violent nature of Nat Turner's led rebellion that it is described as one of the most bloody revolt in the history of the United States of America, a situation that led to the death of about seventy whites and over two hundred blacks. One would be forced to ask, what did Nat Turner gain from this rebellion? If the blacks he sought to free were actually massacred more than the white oppressors as the case may be (Oates).

Thus, the legacy of Nat Turner was that it made it more difficult to abolish slavery in the South as just like the heart of Pharaoh was hardened against the Israelites as he refused to let them go, the hearts of the white slave owners in the South became hardened towards the black slaves and they refused to give the abolishment of slavery a consideration. It should also be noted that another legacy of Nat Turner is it gave issues that concerns American race relations a violent tone.

Work Cited

Oates, Stephen. *The fires of jubilee: Nat Turners fierce rebellion*. New York: Harper & Row, 1975. Print

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