

# The Abolition of Slavery

*February 4, 1794*

DECREE OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION  
16 Pluviôse Year II of the French Republic,  
One and Indivisible

## **Abolition of Negro Slavery in the Colonies**

The National Convention declares the abolition of Negro slavery in all the colonies; in consequence it decrees that all men, without distinction of color, dwelling in the colonies, are French citizens, and will enjoy all the rights guaranteed by the constitution.

It enjoins the Committee of Public Safety to report immediately on measures to be taken to assure the execution of the present decree.

Countersigned by the inspectors. Signed by Auger, Cordier & S.E. Monnel

Collated to the original, by us, the president and secretary of the National Convention. At Paris, 22 Germinal Year II of the French Republic, One and Indivisible.

Signed AMAR, President; A.M. Baudot, Monnot, Ch Pottier & Peyssard, Secretaries.

In the name of the Republic, the Provisional Executive Council mandates and orders all administrative bodies and tribunals to deposit the present law in their registers, read, publish, display, and execute it in their departments and jurisdictions.

In witness whereof, we have fixed our signature and the seal of the Republic. Paris, 22 Germinal Year II of the French Republic, One and Indivisible.

Signed: Buchot, Interim President. Countersigned: Gohier. And Sealed with the seal of the Republic.

Taken from: <http://abolitions.free.fr/spip.php?article29>