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## Juneteenth & The Continuance of Independence

America's road to independence does not begin and end with the American Revolution. Our nation has endured and continues to endure inequality and injustice, like the institution of slavery.

For some, slavery died with the issuance of the [Emancipation Proclamation](#), for others with [General Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse](#), and for approximately 250,000 enslaved persons in Galveston, Texas it ended with [General Order No. 3](#) on June 19, 1865.

Now, we commemorate this day of Jubilee with the celebration of Juneteenth and the continuing promise of a more perfect union.

Open the Juneteenth Playlist

Delve into our [Juneteenth Playlist](#) or read more below and uncover significant milestones in our American story.

## The Legacy of the American Experiment

Learn more American stories and follow our road to Independence from the pre-Columbian era to the modern era with our comprehensive U.S. History digital resource, [Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness](#).

Chapter eight and nine highlight the years between the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Gilded Age. Explore the stories of O.O. Howard and the creation of the [Freedmen's Bureau](#), [Ida B. Wells anti-lynching law](#), [Booker T. Washington's speech to the Cotton States and International Exposition](#), and much more!



### What to the Slave is the Fourth of July Speech

On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass orated his [What to the Slave is the Fourth of July Speech](#).

The speech complemented the Founders for beginning the American experiment while calling out the

### Emancipation Proclamation

The [Emancipation Proclamation](#) was signed a wartime measure to free slaves in rebelling states.

This documents outlines Lincoln's responsibility in what he called "an act of justice, warranted by the

### Reconstruction Amendments

The [Reconstruction Amendments](#) helped to establish a time great growth for Blacks in America.

The amendments abolished slavery, granted citizenship, and enfranchisement to Black men furthering the

hypocrisy and injustice for  
those who were enslaved.

Constitution, upon military  
necessity."

principles of liberty, equality,  
and justice.

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