

# Reparations

Haiti had to take out a loan in 1825 in order to compensate the French colonists [from whom they had won independence in 1804].

The exorbitant interest from the debt meant it was not paid off until 1947, resulting in impoverished Haitians paying out more than twice the value of the colonists's claims.

A formerly enslaved people forced to compensate those who had enslaved them:  
a devastating irony.

**Zeinab Badawi,**  
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