

Introduction

In 1619, a New American emerged in what is now the state of Virginia. Their treasures were not something that could be seen in their arms or hands, but rather something that was carried in their hearts and minds. The contributions they made to the way of American life will live on in each of us.

You may be asking yourself who were those special people who have so deeply affected the way we think today. For the most part you will not find their names in any history book or on the walls of a historical museum. In fact many of them lost their true names as they were forced from their homelands, their families, and from the life they knew to be kept in bondage in a land so very far across the great water. They were forced to take a new speech into their mouths and no longer was work a personal means of betterment, but rather a means of survival. A survival that led to the advancement of the Americas.

Though the story of slavery is embedded in the minds of all Americans, important pieces of the puzzle have remained an untold story waiting to be heard. The beliefs of these people were not sacrificed in the cotton and sugarcane fields. As the American promise became a reality, the beliefs and practices of these people became as much the American way of life as the beliefs and practices of both the Europeans and the Native Americans.

I believe the above writing is based on the _____ culture.

