

Historical slavery sites and vestiges as a cultural resource for tourism to be promoted in the D R Congo

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Abstract: African transatlantic slavery

The 400-year transatlantic slavery occurred in subsaharan Africa, including the Kongo kingdom and more specifically in the Muanda region in the D R Congo. While Gorée Island (Senegal), Saint Louis (Senegal), Saint Denis (Reunion Island), Joal, Portudal (in Portugal), Loango (Angola), etc. have developed cultural tourism upon slavery vestiges, the D R Congo has neglected Muanda zone despite the fact that local various slavery sites and historical vestiges are still subject of public curiosity. Therefore, they are true cultural heritage and social tourism resource to be exploited.

Historically speaking, during the colonial era until the 1960s, tourism was one of the three national income sources (i.e. mining industry, agriculture and tourism) in the Belgian Congo. In this article, we highlight the cultural and historical tourism resource. It is a question of promoting historical vestiges related to the slave trade as an attraction or a tourism capital to valorize. It would be at the same time a right of memory for future generations. Unfortunately, in Muanda, DRC, field data showed a total state of abandonment of all slave sites and related remains, degraded by human activities and threatened by marine erosion and which could disappear if nothing is done. This article is therefore a wake-up call to raise national and international awareness based on field data. It is a pledge somewhat.

Keywords: Slave trade, pot, remains, Muanda, ecotourism, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

General Introduction

Context of the Transatlantic Slavery Trade in Muanda

During four centuries, a painful and horrendous event, described by Daniel Cohen as dragoons (1997) and as a cynical crime against humanity by UNESCO (1979), had sustainably marked the history of humanity. This is the Transatlantic black slavery, through which, Roland Debbasch illustrated in the 2007, "human beings have been equated with commodities". There are 10 to 20 million Africans who have suffered slavery (Patrick Manning 1991, Olivier Pétré Grenouilleau 2004, Curtin cited by R. BOTTE 1991, Ambroise Tournyol Clos, 2016), including Luiz-Felipe De Alencastro (2007) and ELTIS David, BEHRENDT Stephen D., David RICHARDSON, KLEIN Herbert S., 1999), adhere to a strict minimum of 11 million slaves from 1451 to 1870, indicated by Professor Curtin, in agreeing with Joseph E. Inikori (in UNESCO, 1999) quoting him.

While Paul Lovejoy, cited in Hilary McDonald Beckles (2002), published by UNESCO; like Curtin estimates that six million Africans were deported alone in the eighteenth century. The data from the slave shipments show that nearly 40% of these captives came from Angola and Congo (formerly both belonging to the Kongo Kingdom), 40% of the gulfs of Benin and Biafra, about 15% of the Coast mainly, from Sierra Leone and Senegambia and the rest of unknown places, with a mortality rate during the Atlantic crossing recorded on the logbooks, to about 15% of the total number of captives embarked, between 1, 6 and 2 million missing at sea, if we accept a levy in Africa, between 12 and 13 million people from all destinations, of which about a third were women; thus making the Atlantic the "largest cemetery in history". A "road of death" where the slave ships described as "floating tombs" led shipments of African slaves compared to "easily perishable goods", from the outset hid dead bodies in twisted tufts of wood (Joseph Miller, op.cit., Edward Glissant, 2007, Marcel DORIGNY, Nelly SCHMIDT, Marie-Hélène DUMESTE and Yves JEGO (2008).

So it was a black hole in the history of humanity that ended in Muanda in the DRC, subregion of the former Kongo Kingdom, with the contacts of the European explorer Diego Cao; opened to the Portuguese the doors of Central Africa for the transatlantic slave trade in 1483 (Kinvi LOGOSSAH, 2013, Françoise Latour da Veiga Pinto, in UNESCO 1999) thanks to King NZINGA NKUVU, willing to open to the beliefs and European

techniques (Françoise Latour da Veiga Pinto, op.cit.) To establish the organization of the kingdom and its relatively evolved political and economic system.

The Kongo Kingdom, after Raphael Batsikama ba Mampuya ma Ndawla (1999), John Thornton and Linda Heywood (2007), Duarte Lopez (1591) and Giovanni Cavazzi Antonio de Montecucolo (1667), extended at the time of this first contact with the Portuguese with an area exceeding 2,500,000 km² (half of the area of all Western Europe), largely composed of: in the South-West by the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in the North by Angola, in the South by the Republic of Congo and Gabon.

In Muanda, the slave trade was facilitated by the presence of the mouth of the Congo River and the Atlantic Ocean, which were gloomy corridors that saw millions of Africans ripped against their will from the Kongo Kingdom to feed from the 15th century the transatlantic slave trade, being, more or less 30% of all the trade during the five centuries (MUMEMGI, 2005), in agreement with Elikia M'Bokolo (1992) and Mr. Gillet, quoted by Souzy (1863) who confirmed that even in an illegal way, the slave trade and slavery actually existed in Muanda, through its three major slavery sites: slave sites of MPINDA in BANANA by the Portuguese, MUANDA-VILLAGE by the Dutch and from MAKOKO to NSIAMFUMU by the French and the English, combined with some historical remains still present to this day: the old foundations of the houses of hard slave traders at the slave forest called: VULA, where was placed the slave market, the chain of slaves, the pot of slaves and the slave hole ... these sites and remains slavery served as the last safe base that led the slave shipments directly to the Atlantic Ocean for sail to the Gulf of Guinea then the island of Gorée in Senegal.

The magnitude of the numbers of slaves in the context of Muanda are approved by several authors. The statements of E. Inikori (in UNESCO, 1999) state that for Africa south of Ecuador, historians agree that the slave trade has resulted in complete depopulation of the region, roughly covering the Congo and Angola, as in the year 1778 alone, 104,000 slaves had been exported from Africa; a third of them came from Congo and Angola.

In Muanda, the various sites and historical vestiges of slaves still present to this day, are sometimes the subject of curiosity of the public / tourists.

As such, they constitute the true cultural heritage of the Memory and Cultural Tourism, which should be safeguarded and preserved, following the example of certain sites such as Saint-Louis, Saint-Denis; in Gorée in Senegal, in Joal, in Portudal, in Loango (UNESCO world site since 2008) ... and which are the subject of important attraction and social wonders.

These sites, accompanied by historical remains still present in some corners of the world: stopovers, shackles, chains, whips and whips, places of embarkation on the slave ships, counters and depots, land routes, tracks, rivers, river networks and sailors and other relics, etc. ; are and were immortal witnesses of the slave trade in the monumental evocation of this disaster (Mbaye Guèye, 2005). They trace, underlines Marcel Dorigny and Bernard Gainot (2013), the memory of the transatlantic slave trade and slavery and are, according to ÉDOUARD GLISSANT (2007), the example of "Colino" in Fort-de-France, Silacier In Lamentin, the masters of distracted memory, and others, found throughout the archipelago, trace figures of evolution because, actors and obvious factors of their stories, or unmistakable sites of what happened.

And if all these sites and remnants of slavery could speak, as Katérina Stenou said in the preface to the book by Professor Mbaye Guèye (op.cit.), We would learn a lot of these stories, and prevent such other shameful human foolishnesses.

Nevertheless, some of the many other elements of daily life under the slave system quickly disappeared, with the announcement of the abolition of 1848: quays of the slave ports and plantations of the Caribbean-Americas or colonies of the Indian Ocean, the slave ships that were reconverted, the evidence of intensive exploitation of land and servile labor that also disappeared (Marcel Dorigny, Nelly SCHMIDT, Marie-Hélène DUMESTE and M. Yves JEGO, 2008).

And, historical sites and remains of slaves in Muanda in the Democratic Republic of Congo, degraded by human activities, threatened by marine erosion and exposed to bad weather, may also disappear if nothing is done.

Yet, research on the slave route has long been instituted by UNESCO and other international scientific organizations, combined with the challenges of tourism as a thriving industry around the world: Eiffel Tower in France, Wall Lamentations and Way of the Cross of Jesus Christ, Chinese Wall, Silk Road, Gorée Island in Senegal, Loango (UNESCO World Site), etc. ;

So, why by this study, do not wake the conscience of the Congolese to enhance their tourist sites, historical and cultural heritage?

The Kongo Central, former province of Bas-Congo, has the following tourist sites:

- 104 natural sites,
- 40 historical sites,
- 17 cultural sites and,

Although all of these sites attract the attention of many and are the subject of several visits, most are in a state of total abandonment, and are not the subject of any major tourist activity aimed at the resulting environmental, heritage and cultural potential, while offering very broad socio-economic and cultural impacts.

The Tourism, although the international dynamic is a sector still ignored in the DRC, while this country could develop through tourism.

Thus, enhancing the sites and historical relics of the transatlantic slave trade in Muanda, will raise the shyness on tourism observed in the DRC. They would constitute in perspective links of the international tourist chains to exploit.

This valuation meets the conclusions of the studies of several experts who inform that large-scale tourism, the fishing industry and the construction of a deep-water port in Muanda are among the three major strategic development projects envisaged in this study. sub-region of the DRC, which some sources describe as the poorest coastal city in the world.

This rich literature on the slave trade is a good illustration of its historical interest and any vestige related to it should be considered as a resource to be valued through cultural tourism of memory.

Hence the attention we pay to this introductory work of a doctoral thesis in preparation.

Location, Material and Methods

The study took place in the Muanda region, Boma Territory, Kongo Central Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This area is the only coastal strip of more or less 40 km, which touches the Atlantic Ocean in front of the Brazilian coast of SAO Polo.

The following map illustrates the site of the study.



Source: map produced from the geo-localized coordinates of the study sites in Muanda, collected by MVUMBI / the author and co-produced with Jacques Ngimbi, 2017.

On this map, we are interested in the only elements reflecting the slave trade in the Muanda region.

Thus, through direct observation, surveys, interviews and documentation (local and national archives), we have been able to gather useful information that we present as results in this work.

- A camera embedded in the Samsung GT-19158 brand cell phone was used for photographic taking panoramic view of each site.

- A Garmin Etrex.10 branded GPS for the cartographic study, in order to give the geographical position of each site and sampling points, that is to say, geolocation. The use of other pre-existing maps and digital and satellite images was necessary to illustrate some of the highlights.

As introduced above, the methods and techniques below have been used:

1. The documentary study

We spent several months to use the basic documentation of our study. The documentation we have used can be divided into three parts:

1) Part 1: documentation on the different slave trade and slavery that humanity has known. A good number of books have been exploited to reconstruct a historical base and acquire necessary relative knowledge, but also, to allow us to build the history of the transatlantic slave trade in the context of Muanda in the DRC,

2) Part 2: documentation on the tourist overview around the world. The aspects of tourist production, have been brought closer to those of the slave sites of the world.

3) Part 3: Documentation on the general aspect of the study environment. We used annual reports, expert reports on the context of the study environment and other archives that allowed us to highlight the actual information on the Muanda territory from a biotic, abiotic or edaphic, socio-economic and social point of view cultural.

2. Direct observation, photographic shooting and description:

A descent was made on the ground to visit each slave site in Muanda. We were accompanied by peasants and executives of the Antenna of the National Tourist Office in Muanda. During our visits, we took advantage of the photographic shooting and reacquired some additional information from the resource persons. This step also allowed us to assess the current state of each site and highlight a reference environmental and panoramic description.

i. Geolocation:

We have geolocated our study sites in order to produce a reference map of the sites and remnants of slaves in Muanda. To do this, we had:

• Garmin eTrex.10 branded GPS; to take waypoints from the study sites and plot it. For the geoprocessing of the collected geographic coordinates, we used:

- ✓ Geographic Information System (GIS) Software: ARCGIS and QUANTUM GIS;
- ✓ Remote Sensing Software: ENVI ...
- ✓ Software_Geoportails: Outer and Map, Google Earth, Google Map; which served us to find reference satellite images of 2016 on which, we put our waypoints.

ii. The exploratory approach of Bourdieu and Chamboredon (1968):

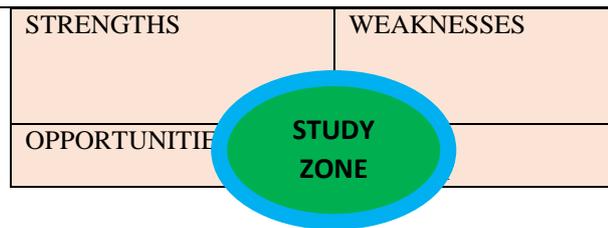
We used the approach of Bourdieu and Chamboredon (1968), which provides elements on the construction of the real problematic linked to the tourist sites thanks to the exploratory readings and the analysis of the facts, to the interviews and interviews which are in fact some techniques social sciences and humanities (ethnoscology).

Thus, we had exchanges and interviews with staff of public institutions and civil and private organizations in charge of tourism and management of slave sites (Department of Environment and Sustainable Development, Tourism Unit, ONT Muanda, management of AGRIPPEL ...). The information was supplemented by information collected from the peasants, the village elders, while ensuring their reliability. This approach has been combined with techniques and methods inspired by Article 4 of the Convention which sets out the obligations of States vis-à-vis the World Heritage Convention and which mentions, inter alia, the identification and presentation of Heritage "to present and provide visitors with the sites as part of a sustainable development of tourism, a phenomenon consubstantial to the World Heritage system.

It is thanks to these approaches that we have come to explore and identify the different slave trade sites in Muanda. Thus, after the exploration and identification of our study sites, we resorted to the SWOT diagnosis for a holistic analysis adapted.

iii. Ritchie & Crouch model and SWOT analysis of the tourist context in Muanda:

Ritchie & Crouch's conceptual model on the competitiveness and sustainability of a tourist destination was applied to this study and was complemented by the SWOT diagnostic, through which several experts suggest that with the political will to put tourism at the heart of a company project, the SWOT device is generally accepted. The analysis device is as follows:



Using the Ritchie & Crouch conceptual model and the SWOT analysis of the tourism context in Muanda, we managed to analyze the management framework of tourism activity in Muanda and highlight the main challenges facing slave sites and tourism. territory of study faces as well as the identification of the real problem and formulation of our assumptions.

iv. Calculations of changes in tourism flow statistics and their projections:

Agreeing with Chantal Neault (2004) who advocates that the use of the main indicators that are used by tourist destinations and based mainly on the National Tourism Indicators (INT), have been applied to complement the above, of which:

- The analysis of the statistics that make possible the quarterly, semi-annual or annual analysis of the demand, the supply of tourism goods and services ...

Thus, in order to assess the statistical data compiled on the frequency of previous visits, we used statistical techniques for calculating the average frequency of visits to follow their evolution and make projections, with regard to any possibility of valuation. Slave sites in Muanda with standard software, Microsoft Excel.

Presentation of the Results

1. Sites and vestiges of slaves and their geolocation

Table 1 below shows the geolocation coordinates taken from each target site of the Muanda study.

Table 1: Geolocated identification of sites and remnants of slaves in Muanda

Location			Code	Place names / designation
LATITUDE (South)	LONGITUDE (East)	ALT		
05°56'.3"	012°20'.8"	30m	ONT	Office of the National Tourist Office
06°01'32.2"	012°24'19.5"	1m	LEPB	Place of embarkation of slaves at Punta Banana, where the first Portuguese cargo of slaves
06°01'23.3"	012°24'18.5"	1m	ABONT	Former Office of the National Tourist Office
05°52'41.8"	012°17'03.0"	6m	AV	Place of boarding of slaves by the French and English located at the old Boa Vista
05°52'26.3"	012°16'57.8"	10m	VN	Nsiamfumu town
05°51'23.2"	012°16'25.5"	6m	ESEFV	Main entrance to the slave site in the Vula Forest: site of the former slave market
05°51'18.4"	012°16'30.5"	12m	CEF	In the heart of the Vula Forest: Slave Forest
05°51'19.2"	012°16'28.5"	8m	TBF	Historical remains (Concrete block as of old foundation of the slave forts) in the forest of Vula
05°51'29.0"	012°16'03.3"	4m	LRKO	the mouth of the Kumbi Slough River that empties into the Atlantic Ocean
05°51'30.3"	012°16'04.2"	5m	MNMPK	Site of the Makoko Slave Port at Kumbi Beach
05°53'09.4"	012°17'37.0"	20m	MARL	Old Belgian Administrative Colonial House abandoned in BOA Vista City
05°55'20.4"	012°20'09.7"	14m	TDE	Slave hole
05°55'09.3"	012°20'09.9"	21m	MVI	Muanda town
05°55'02.3"	012°20'13.4"	24m	MCE	Place of abandonment of the Marmite and the chain of slaves between Kinsinda town and Muanda town
05°54'59.5"	012°20'17.7"	24m	VKI	Kinsinda town

05°54'51.7"	012°20'38.8"	25m	VYO	Yondika town
05°55'28.3"	012°22'30.6"	26m	TAMU	Administrative House of the Muanda Territory

Source: Geolocation coordinates taken by the authors of the article.

2. Results on the exploration, classification and location of capital of tourist attractions in Muanda

Exploration of Muanda's tourist attraction capital revealed the results contained in Table 2 below, from which should be drawn the sample of our study, slave sites. These tourist attractions of Muanda were thus explored, classified, located and distributed according to the administrative subdivisions of the Muanda Territory.

Tables 2 & 3 below show the results :

Table n ° 2: Presentation of results on tourist attractions explored, classified and located in Muanda territory :

ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION	
	SECTORS AND CITY	Sites and classified monuments	Sites and unclassified monuments
Muanda Territory	A. AREA OF THE SEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arbor of RVM at Nsiamfumu, - Makoko Arbor (slave sites) in Nsiamfumu; - Vula Forest (slave sites) in Nsiamfumu, - KOBE KOBE monument from Ntadila to Nsiamfumu, - Chain and cooking pot of slaves in Muanda-town - Slave Hole in Muanda town... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Petroleum installations of Perenco in Mibale, - Walk on beaches 1 and 2 in Nsiamfumu, - Ex-Hotel PINA in Nsiamfumu, - Ex-Hotel REYES in Nsiamfumu, - Ex-Hotel LLe Trident in Nsiamfumu, - Menga-Mabulu Lake at Malela, - Tomb of Notable Paul Panda in Matamba Mangoyo, - Islands with parrots, - Bula Mbemba Sites...
	B. SECTOR OF ASSOLONGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SOCIR refinery in Kinlau, ➤ Cemetery of the first Catholic missionaries in Kinimi, Kinlau and Kindofula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panoramic view of mangrove forests and Banana Harbor from Kitona Plateau ...
	C. CITY OF MUANDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Atlantic ocean ❖ Banana Point at the mouth of the Congo River ❖ Former Colonial Administrative Building in Boa Vista ❖ The beach tonde ❖ Convent of the Sisters of Charity and, ❖ The Catholic Mission built in 1892 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mangrove forests, ➤ Banana Park, ➤ Nganda sinners, ➤ Former Mangrove hotel ➤ Old Plain Aerodrome built from 1904 to Muanda, .

Source: Information compiled by us from our field visits and those taken from ONT Muanda's Annual Reports (2015).

From Table 2, we drew the slave sites, which were the subject of this study. Thus, slave sites in Muanda have been identified, classified and located geographically on map. Table 3 below presents the results:

3. Identification, classification and location of slave sites in Muanda:

Table n ° 3: presentation of the results on the identification and location of sites and remains of slaves in Muanda along the main roads:

ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION	LOCATION		IDENTIFIED SITES	
	SECTORS AND CITY	TOWN	Slave sites classified	Unclassified slave sites
Muanda Territory	AREA OF THE SEA	Nsiamfumu	1) MAKOKO Slave harbor at the beach of the former KUMBI River at Nsiamfumu; 2) Vula Forest (Slave Market site) in Nsiamfumu	3) Kumbi Beach (the place where the MAKOKO Slave Harbor was established in Nsiamfumu and where the mouth of this ancient river (KUMBI) was located, where the transport of barter goods and slaves by small slave ships was carried out) 4) Boa Vista and the clandestine slave boarding site
		Muanda Town	1) Chain and Slave cooking pot at Muanda town 2) Slave Hole in Muanda town	- -
	SECTOR OF ASSOLON GO	- -	- -	- -
	CITY OF MUANDA	City of Muanda / Banana	1) (Atlantic Ocean) 2) The main slave export harbor and the oldest in Mpinda in Banana	- -

Source: Results from Table 2.

The map of slave sites according to their location, by sector and village, has been identified and located geographically.

4. Slave site mapping at Muanda

Based on the geolocation coordinates we collected from each of the Muanda study target sites, which were geo-processed to produce the Slave Site Enhancement Map at Muanda from Table 1 results.

The map presenting the results on the geographical location of the slave sites in Muanda has been produced. See map number 1 already illustrated above.

5. State of play of slave sites in Muanda on the basis of SWOT analysis

a. Results on SWOT diagnosis of tourist attractions in Muanda:

The results on the SWOT diagnosis can be found in the device below:

STRENGTHS :	WEAKNESSES :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The elements and socio-psychological factors that very often motivate the choice of a tourist destination offer a judgment of an ideal tourist entity.</i> - <i>The important hotel offer.</i> - <i>Easy accessibility by sea, sea, vehicle and air.</i> - <i>Zone with availability of several socio-economic and telecommunication infrastructures</i> - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The extrinsic challenges related to the management policy and organization of tourism in the slave sites in Muanda by the ONT (equipment on board ...) - The intrinsic challenges related to the management policy and organization of tourism in the slave sites in Muanda by the ONT and other partner sister structures. - Low energy accessibility (water, electricity ..)



OPPORTUNITIES :	THREAT :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Area with several tourist sites - Unique coastal area of the DRC that opens to the Atlantic Ocean and the Congo River and connects to other borders - Presence of slave sites and vestiges whose related historical importance favors an issue of global tourist attraction - The easy opening of the area to other countries (PRC, Angola, Gabon, Brazil) can promote trade - Major hotel movements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - - The pronounced progress of coastal erosion, with the risk of erasing not only the traces of slave sites, but also the mainland of Banana from the geographical map of the DRC. - Permanent pollution related to oil exploitation in Muanda. - Spoliation of the space of slave sites as a result of itinerant farming activities on brulis.

Source : établi par l’auteur du mémoire

6. States of panoramic places of sites and vestiges of slaves

a) The chain and the pot of slaves

The chain of slaves and the pot are left abandoned at ground floor in Muanda village.

This village, 6 km from the city of Muanda, was formed in 1882 (19th century), after the sinking of a ship loaded with slaves near the coast of Muanda, next to the Tonde beach, during which the survivors and the effects saved from the sinking were temporarily guarded at the location of Muanda-Village, formed on that occasion, when the crew and slaves were waiting for their re-embarkation for the Americas (Mission Report of the Ministry of the Environment, 2013). In this expectation, from 5 to 6 months, the slaves were kept in a hole, chained to avoid any escape and uprising. Hence the presence of the hole and the chain of slaves in Muanda village.

Figures n ° 1: Views of the Village Muanda Village, the pot and the slave chain:



Source: Photos taken by the authors of the article on 09/11/2017

The pot of slaves is iron tripod. These remains of chain and huge pots were abandoned by the Dutch. The chain is 15 m long and large mesh.

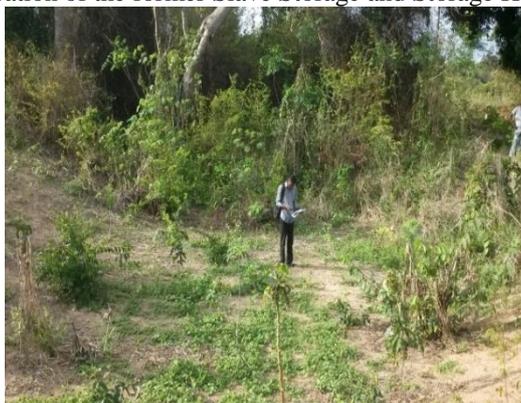
However, several prominent Congolese historians dispute the history of the slave chain, on the grounds that it would have served to chain slaves. In our discussions with historian SABAKINU, Professor of Universities, he would suggest that the chain of slaves in Muanda, served to dock the slave ship and not to chain slaves. But where does its historical denomination come from: "Chain of slaves ?? Hence studies must continue.

This discussion is also much more fruitful on the Slave Harbor. Three of them (other sources say six) at the time, it seems, two were stolen and displaced by expats of the oil companies of the place for Malongo and Cabinda of the country of Angola. Some authors believe that they would have been used to prepare slaves' food in storage places, but others believe that they were used by Dutch slave traders in barter soap (Alain Huart et al, 2012; authors of WEYRICH-Edition.Be).

Nevertheless, in spite of the studies that must be pursued on this subject, Alain Huart et al (op.cit.) Conclude, although it is said about the chain and the pot of slaves, the only true reality is that these Historical relics actually saw the slaves and intervened directly or indirectly during the transatlantic slave trade in the DRC, precisely in Muanda, subregion of the ancient Kongo kingdom.

And, with the hole of conservation of the slaves, they are part of the heritages and historical objects which must be preserved by a tourist valuation because they make quality of patrimonial, cultural and historical value.

Figure 2: Current view of the location of the former Slave Storage and Storage Hole, Human Goods :

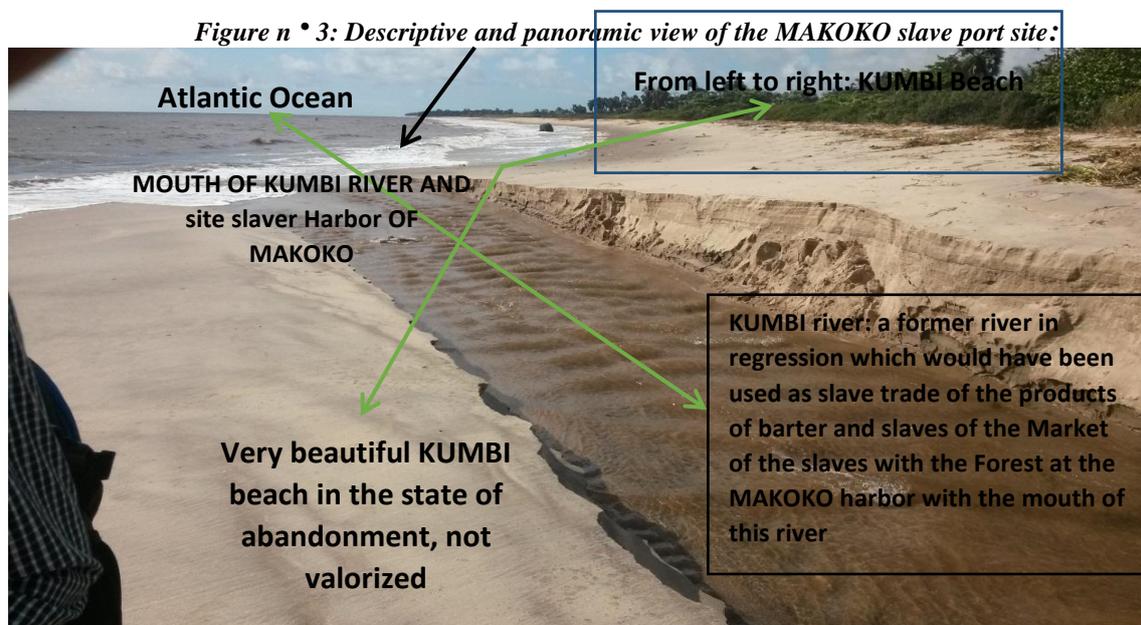


Source: Photo MVUMBI / Author, taken on 09/11/2017

The image below shows where the slave hole was, where the slaves were kept to wait for their boarding in the slave ships to the Americas.

b) The slave port of MAKOKO at the beach of the former KUMBI River

The slaverharbor of MAKOKO is in the vicinity of Nsiamfumu village 2. It is located precisely towards the mouth of the Kumbi River on the beach of the same name (Kumbi beach on the Atlantic Ocean in which it flows).



Source: photo taken by the author of the article, op.cit.

At the time of the transatlantic slave trade, the Kumbi River was like a river. In some documents, we are talking about a Kumbi River. The slave harbor of MAKOKO takes its name from a croupie palms " MAKOKO ", of the genus *Borassus*, still present on the place until today.

The image below illustrates Makoko palm trees



Source: Photo taken by the author of the article, the 09/11/2017

Figure n ° 7: MAKOKO palms. Source: image taken by the author in November 2017.

The slaverharbor of Makoko was built by the Dutch slavers in 1875 and served as a docking place, embarkation of slaves and storage of barter products.

c) Forest of slaves and remains of blocks of the old foundations of the slave guard forts:

The slave market was located in this forest of Vula (officialized as sacred forest by the Congolese state) and bears the denomination of the forest of slaves. The figure below shows the panoramic view of this forest and some vestiges still present.

Figures n ° 4: Forest of the slaves and vestiges of blocks of the old foundations of the slave guard forts in Nsiamfumu..



Source: photos taken by the authors of the article, Nov. 2017

The site of the Slave Forest and remains of blocks of the old foundations of the slave guard houses is located 1 km from the town of NSIAMFUMU and 14 km from the city of Muanda.

d) The oldest main slave export port from Mpinda to Banana Point:

The former slave harbor of Mpinda is located in Banana, near the mouth of the Congo River, not far from the Angolan town of Soyo. It is the oldest and largest slave export harbor. It was in this harbor the first shipment of slaves for Portugal, in 1485.

Figure 5: Site of the Mpinda slave harbor in Banana:



Far view of the
landscape of the
Mangrove
Marine Park in
Muanda



This slave site, with its proximity to the mouth of the Congo River, beautiful green facade of the Mangroves Marine Park (PMM), from left to right, the gigantic masses of ocean and the Congo River, by placing on the large and beautiful beach and on the wave breezes in big blocks of rubble; offers him a coveted desire to visit from different origins for various reasons.

e) Boa Vista and the clandestine slave boarding site

The seaside resort Boa Vista is located near the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, near the village Nsiamfumu, 12 km from the current city of Muanda.

Figure n ° 6: view of the clandestine slave boarding site during the illegal trade:



Source: photos taken by the author, Nov. 2017.

The site reveals a flourishing panorama, in front of which, the silhouettes of the mangroves announce the mangroves, in the protected area, the Marine Park of the Mangroves. On the opposite side are staggered canoes, worn out, the brave patchwork, which are concentrated on the beaches of clear sand, fringed with an ocher clay. A belt of Coconut palms, Pandanus, Borassus, Frangipaniers and Baobabs ... dotted with greenery along the ocean coast where sinners work are relentlessly active to extract from the sea fillets, especially small fry (Alain Huart et al., op.cit.). This greenery offers the beach from a distance as far as the eye can see, a good landscape ...

1. Statistics of visits to Muanda tourist sites

The data we process comes from the Muanda National Tourist Office. The table below presents the available statistics of tourist visits from 2013 to 2016.

Table n ° 4: Statistics of visits to tourist sites of Muanda of the year 2013-2016:

TOURISTIC SITE	YEAR 2013			YEAR 2014			YEAR 2015			YEAR 2016			T.G/SITE	% / SITE
	Nat	Exp	TOT	Nat	Exp	TOT	Nat	Exp	TOT	Nat	Exp	TOT		
POINTE BANANA	588	16	604	373	11	384	145	3	148	4	2	6	1142	31,5
PLAGE TONDE	558	15	573	373	9	382	145	3	148	4	7	11	1114	30,4
MUANDA VILLAGE	84	15	99	-	-	-	145	3	148	4	2	6	253	6,9
YACHT	84	15	99	-	-	-	145	3	148	4	-	4	251	6,8
YEMA	271	15	286	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	286	7,8
BAKUYANG A	84	-	84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	2,2
NSIAMFUM U	-	-	-	373	9	382	145	3	148	4	2	6	536	14,6
TOTAL Nationality	1669	76	1745	373	20	393	145	3	148	4	9	13	3666	100

Source: Visit statistics from ONT Muanda annual reports, calculated by Mvumbi *et al.*,2018

LEGEND:

- *Exp.* = expatriates
- *Nat.* = National
- *T.G.* = General total

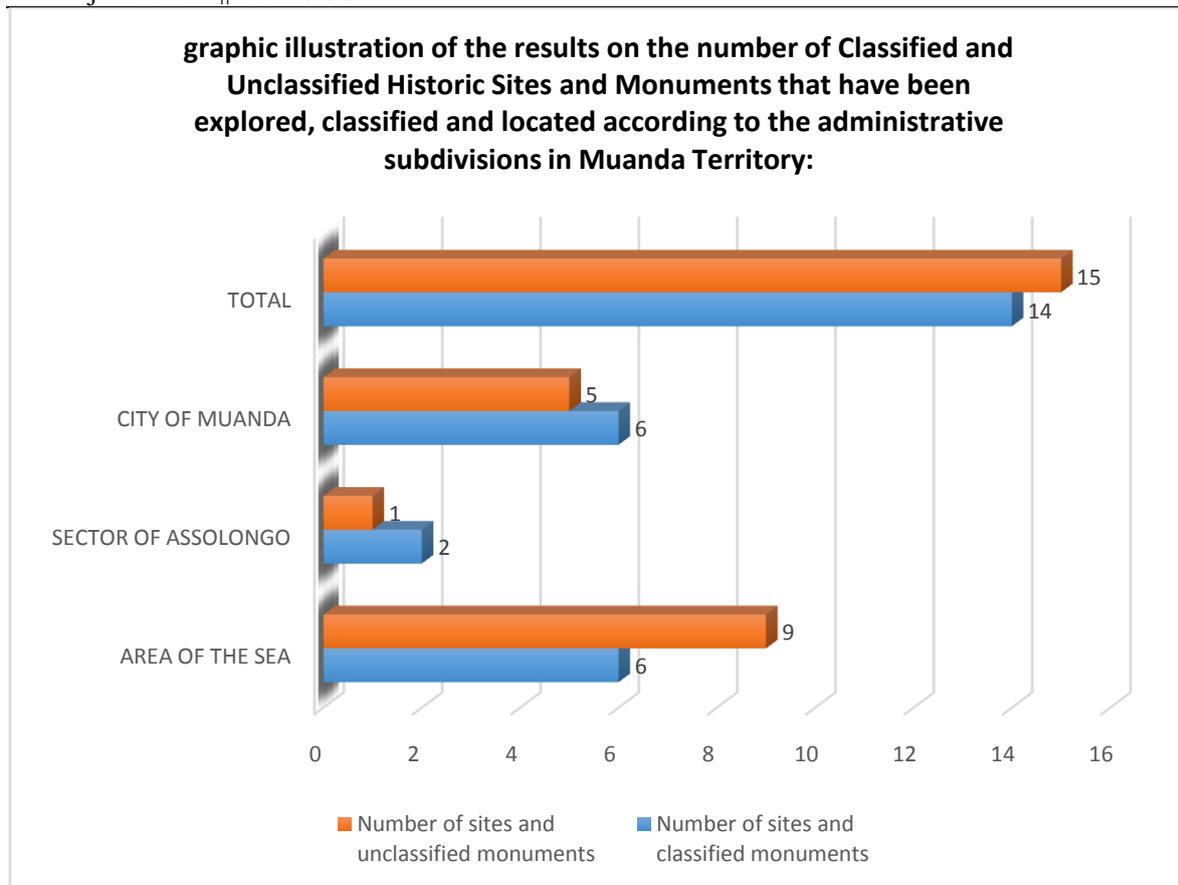
Although the unavailability of data on the actual numbers of slave site statistics in Muanda, as a result of the management disorder in the tourism sector observed and deplored by the ONT in Muanda, nevertheless, from this table, we find that the slave sites are still visited despite their state of abandonment. The figures are not calculated by column but by line, except the total of the last line which reviews the numbers received by nationality.

Discussions of the Results

a. Discussion of results on the exploration, classification and location of capital of tourist attractions in Muanda :

Table n ° 1 presented the results on the exploration of the capital of tourist attractions of Muanda. From this table, it appears that the importance of the capital of tourist attractions in Muanda figured in the graph below.

Graph 1 below illustrates the results on the number of tourist attractions of Sites and monuments classified and not classified by sectors / city that have been explored, classified and located according to the administrative subdivisions in Muanda Territory:



Source: Results presented graphically by us using the data in Table 2.

The graph shows that unclassified sites and monuments have a much higher number of tourist sites. They are in the Sea sector and occupy the first position, 9 sites out of 15.

N.B.: Muanda Territory has 3 sectors, a city and a city (Boma). Among the sectors, that of Boma Bungu and the City of Boma have not been explored in terms of tourist attractions since they have not been the subject of this study.

a. Identification, classification and location of slave sites in Muanda:

From table n ° 1, we have drawn the results of Table n ° 2 and map n ° 1 concerning the identification, classification and location of slave sites in Muanda along the main roads.

The results in Table 2 show that there are 4 slave sites, 2 of which are classified: The MAKOKO Slave Port at the KUMBI River and Vula Forest (Slave Forest / Slave Market Site) They are located in the Nsiamfumu village in the area of the Sea. And the other 2 slave sites are in Muanda Village and Banana, including the relative historical remains still present today: Chaine and Marmite slaves and the Slave Hole (in Muanda Village) as well as the main slave export port of Mpinda, which is the oldest slave port where the first Portuguese cargo was landed in 1985 (in Banana).

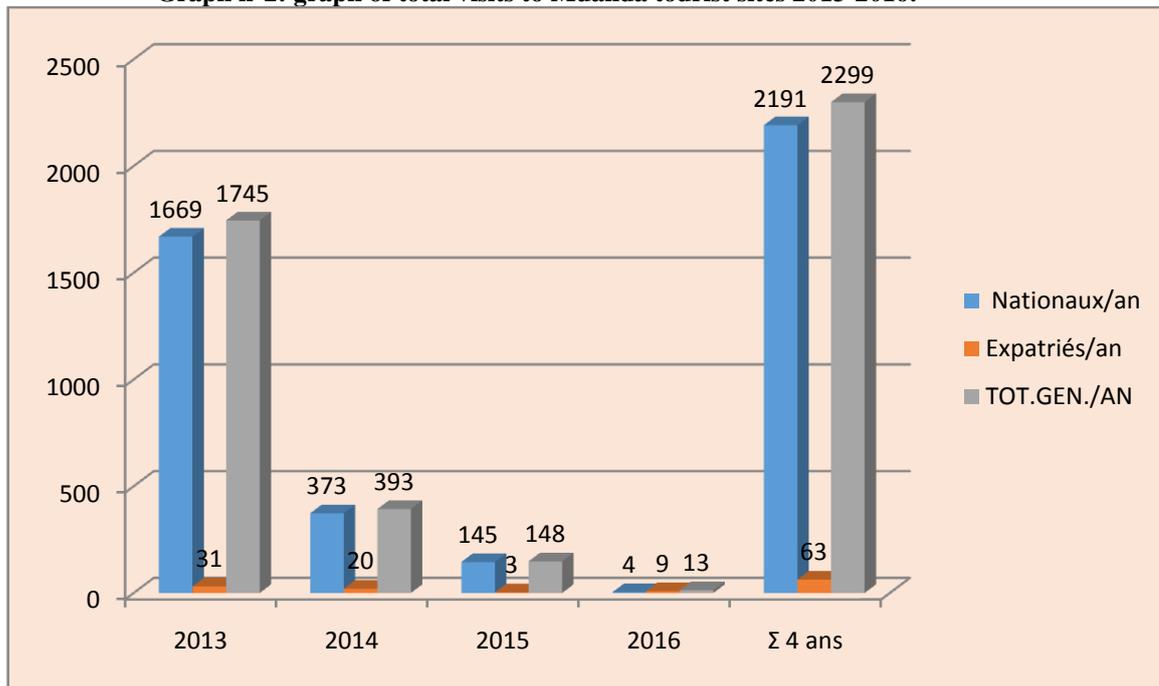
We note that the Atlantic Ocean has also been identified as a slave trade, without which we will not talk about the transatlantic slave trade. Thus, most of all slave sites are scattered along the ocean coast, as can be seen in the map presentation of slave sites in Muanda.

b. Analysis of visit statistics

From table n ° 4, with the available data collected, it appears that all the tourist sites of Muanda hosted a total number of visits of 3666 visitors from 2013 to 2016: a total of 1142 visitors (31.5%) for the POINTE BANANA sites, 1114 visitors for the TONDE BEACH (30.4%), 253 (6.9%) for MUANDA VILLAGE, 251 (6.8%) for YACHT, 286 (7.8%) for YEMA , 84 (2.2%) for BAKUYANGA and 536 visitors (14.6%) for NSIAMFUMU.

The figures, please the chart results are in french, on frequency of visits by nationality are illustrated in the graph below.

Graph n°2: graph of total visits to Muanda tourist sites 2013-2016:



Source: personal presentation of the annual totals of visits to Muanda tourist sites (including slave sites) from Table 4.

Tourist sites (including slave sites) are first visited in large numbers by the Congolese themselves. It is an asset to capitalize if one wants to develop large-scale tourism in Muanda in the DRC.

The decline in the number of visits over the years is due to the current socio-economic situation in the country, which is decreasing rather than developing.

a. Analysis of the current state of the sites and remains of slaves in Muanda and suggestion of valuation for tourist attractions

As already stated above, the territory of MUANDA is truly historic with regard to the transatlantic slave trade. (But, it has been ignored over the ages and is the subject of a prolific controversy and covet several discussions among the major historians of the DRC, whereas it is a tourist capital to be valued for the patrimonial and cultural interest. Inspired by the SWOT diagnosis carried out as well as studies already carried out around the world on the valorization of the tourist sites: case of the Conservatoire du Littoral Corderie Royale 17300 Rochefort and the Agency WITH ENGINEERING Programming (Bordeaux), on the study of the project MED-PHARES, funded by the European Union / ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Program (December 2013-2015), combined with that of the Tourist Development Agency of Ariège Pyrénées, 2010 / Detailed action plan of the local scheme of tourism development of the MIREPOIX country; the analysis shows five scenarios of valorisation of the tourist sites to be implemented in Muanda..

Table n ° 5: detailed diagram of the scenarios of valorisation of the sites of slaves with Muanda:

SITES OF SLAVES	REMNANTS OF SLAVES AND OTHERS	STATE OF CURRENT SITUATION	TOURIST ATTRACTIONS	SCENARIOS OF VALORISATION AND SUGGESTIONS OF ACTIONS
MUANDA TOWN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The chain of slaves, - The pot of slaves, - The slave hole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Touristic wonders in abandoned state or spoiled by agricultural activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slavery remains or vestiges still present; - Village founded after the sinking of a sailboat loaded with slaves, - Tonde beautiful sandy beach unique in the area. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific valorization, conducting archaeological research, DNA studies and dating the remains of slaves, research on the land trails followed by slaves in Muanda and their ethnic origins, - Educational Valorization, create a museum, serve teaching materials of awareness and initiation to the history of the slave trade, - Tourist Valorization, develop memorial tourist activities
POINTE BANANA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Second world war vestiges of arsenal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a total abandonment state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mouth of Congo River, - Vestiges visible, - Banana beach, - Atlantic seaside, - Wall for protection against sea waves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism and cultural valorization, from memory we imagine works of arts and monuments related to the historical events of the site; welcoming artists of various themes and organizing cultural days and events, creation of interpretation and signage spaces featuring the cultural heritage of the region; Develop the 4 attractiveness factors (Morgan and Williams, 1995, Leatherman, 1997, Nelson et al., 2000, Deng et al., 2002, Micallef, 2002, quoted by Virginie Duvat, 2009): 1 °) Landscape quality , 2 °) Quality of visual criteria sensitive / sanitary (water and waste), 3 °) safety, in particular bathing, seaside practices, sliding sports and boating), 4 °) Level of development and equipment (sun loungers, parasols, toilets, showers, bars), - Valorization pedagogical, serve teaching materials of sensitization and initiation to the history of the TNTA and the 2nd world war related to the site; - Scientific valorization, to welcome researchers, students, students for studies on the maritime routes taken by the caravans to Mpinda and to identify them for seaside

				exploitation by the visitors; studies on the assessment of quality and attractiveness of the large beach of Mpinda at Banana Point and the dynamics of ocean waters towards the coast and the beach; carry out environmental studies on the biological wealth of the site; conduct a study of protection and participative management of often fragile areas of the site;
NSIAMF UMU ET BOA VISTA	<p>Slaves forest,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blocks of ancient foundations of slave guardian houses ; - Former KUMBI River ; - KUMBI and BOA VISTA beaches ; - Makoko slavery (with oil palms of chief Makoko) ; Former Belgium colonialtown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest of slavesas rehabilitated by the UNDP- D R Congo, mais dégradée par les but still degraded by the shifting burning agriculture practices ; abandoned site of the Makoko slavery harbour. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Savannah and transition or very calm ecotone zone where thousands of slaves were and attached like goats awaiting their long journey toward unknown zones (Alain Huart (op.cit.), - Blocks of ancient bunker foundatios, - Kumbi and Boa vistabeaches. - Woodlot of makoko oil palm woodlots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All degraded sites unfortunately.

Source: Résultats compilés à partir de l'étude de diagnostic SWOT sur l'état de lieu des sites touristiques à Muanda, Nov. 2017 (in french).

Conclusion and Suggestion

Our study carried out in the Muanda region within the former Kongo kingdom was focused on the valuation of historical sites of the African transatlantic slavery through cultural tourism development.

Considering regional and world tourism industry, we thought that Muanda slavery vestiges were important resources to be properly managed.

Different observations on the ground revealed that Muanda site got various potentials for cultural tourism such as Vula slaves forest, slaves pot, slaves hole, slaves chain, etc. in abandonment unfortunately.

However, despite this state of abandonment, tourists pay visit to all these assets. This situation allowed us to sensitize decision-makers and the public opinion to consider Muanda region as an important resource for the tourism industry development in the D R Congo.

We therefore suggest that all stakeholders of tourism industry in the D R Congo put their expertise together to better preserve Muanda's potential for sustainable tourism development in the region and in the D R Congo.

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