

Title 2: Of Its Inhabitants

Article 3. There can be no slaves in this territory; servitude is abolished within it forever. ... All men who are born here live and die free and French.

Article 4. All men, whatever their color, are eligible for all positions.

Article 5. There exist no distinctions other than those based on virtues and talents, and no superiority other than that granted by the law to the exercise of a public function. The law is the same for all, whether it punishes or protects.

Title 5: Of Men in Society

Article 12. The Constitution guarantees individual freedom and security. No one can be arrested except by virtue of a formally expressed order. ...

Article 13. Property is sacred and inviolable. All persons, either by themselves or their representatives, are free to dispose of and administer what is recognized as belonging to them. Anyone who attacks this right commits a crime against society and is guilty. ...

Title 8: Of the Government

Article 27. The administrative reins of the colony are confided to a governor. ...

Article 28. The Constitution names as governor citizen Toussaint Louverture, the general-in-chief of the army of Saint-Domingue and, in consideration of the important services that he has rendered to the colony, in the most critical circumstances of the revolution, and per the wishes of the grateful inhabitants, the reins [of government] are confided to him for the rest of his glorious life.

Article 29. In the future, each governor will be named for five years. ...

-Toussaint Louverture, "The Haitian Constitution of 1801" (1801) excerpt.