



HAITI

October 3-12, 2012 Trip

In conjunction with Walden University's

Annual Global Day of Service

A LITTLE HISTORY AND INFO...

- **Location:** Caribbean
- **Area comparative:** Smaller than Maryland
- **Climate:** Tropical
- **Terrain:** mostly rough and mountainous
- **Natural Hazards:** Hurricanes; severe storms; flooding and earthquakes; droughts
- **Environment current issues:** extensive deforestation (for fuel); soil erosion; inadequate supplies of potable water
- **Languages:** French (official), Creole (official)



MORE...

- **Religion:** Roman Catholic 80%, Protestant 16%. *note:* roughly half of the population practices voodoo
- **Population:** 9,801,664 (July 2012 est.)
- **Life expectancy at birth:** 62.51 years
- **Major infectious diseases:** high food/waterborne, vector borne, and water contact diseases (2009)
- **Children under the age of 5 years underweight:** 18.9% (2006)
- **Literacy:** Age 15 and over can read and write; 52% literacy total population
- **Chief of state:** President Michel MARTELLY (since 14 May 2011)
Head of government: Prime Minister Laurent LAMOTHE (since 16 May 2012)



CITADELLE LAFERRIÈRE – CAP HAITIEN



BACKGROUND OF HAITI

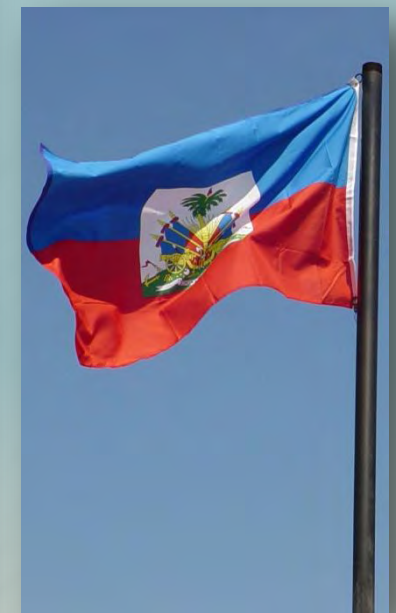
The native Taino Amerindians - who inhabited the island of Hispaniola when it was discovered by Christopher COLUMBUS in 1492 - were virtually annihilated by Spanish settlers within 25 years. In the early 17th century, the **French** established a presence on Hispaniola. In 1697, Spain ceded to the French the western third of the island, which later became Haiti. The French colony, based on forestry and sugar-related industries, became one of the **wealthiest in the Caribbean but only through the heavy importation of African slaves and considerable environmental degradation.** In the late 18th century, Haiti's nearly half million **slaves revolted under Toussaint L'OUVERTURE.** After a prolonged struggle, Haiti became **the first black republic to declare independence in 1804.** The **poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti has been plagued by political violence** for most of its history. After an **armed rebellion led to the forced resignation and exile of President Jean-Bertrand ARISTIDE in February 2004,** an interim government took office to **organize new elections under the auspices of the United Nations.** Continued violence and technical delays prompted repeated postponements, but **Haiti finally did inaugurate a democratically elected president and parliament in May of 2006.** A massive magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti in January 2010 with an epicenter about 25 km (15 mi) west of the capital, Port-au-Prince. Over 300,000 people were killed and some 1 million left homeless. The earthquake was assessed as the worst in this region over the last 200 years.

THE ECONOMY

- **Poverty, corruption, and poor access to education for much of the population are among Haiti's most serious disadvantages.** Haiti's economy suffered a severe setback in January 2010 when a 7.0 magnitude earthquake destroyed much of its capital city, Port-au-Prince, and neighboring areas. **Already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere with 80% of the population living under the poverty line and 54% in abject poverty, the earthquake inflicted \$7.8 billion in damage.** Following the earthquake, Haiti received \$4.59 billion in international pledges for reconstruction, which has proceeded **slowly.**
- **Labor force:** 4.81 million
 - agriculture: 38.1%
 - industry: 11.5%
 - services: 50.4% (2010)
- **Unemployment rate:** 40.6% (2010 est.)
- **Population below poverty line:** 80% (2003 est.)
- **Communication:** Mobile cellular – 4.2 million (2011)



PORT-AU-PRINCE (CAPITAL) 2.143 MILLION (2010)



PORT-AU-PRINCE



PORT-AU-PRINCE



TRANSPORTATION



TRANSPORTATION



CAP-HAITIEN

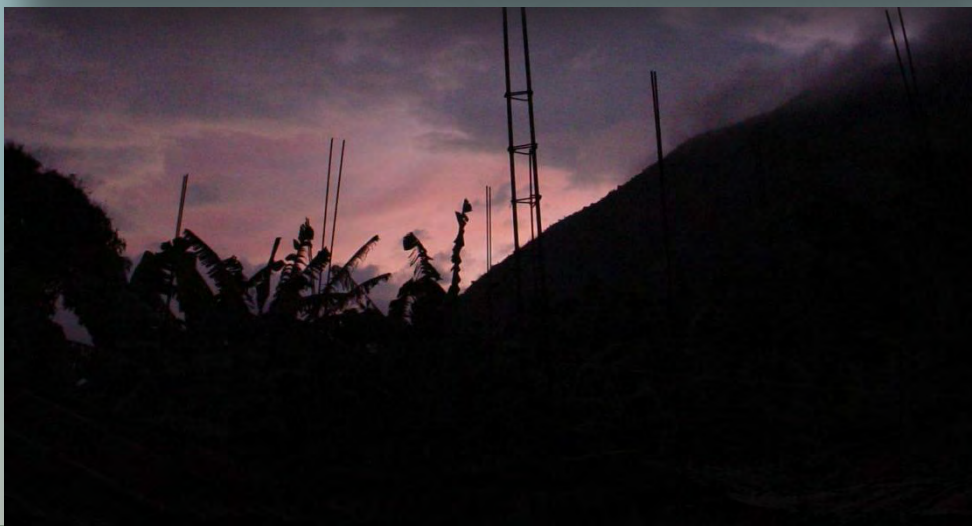


TIRE CHANGE

**...on the road to DonDon
6 hours on a very
bumpy road!**



DONDON The country...



DONDON



DONDON



LAUNDRY DAY



OUR SCHOOL



**20 students
to 176
in one year..**

OUR SCHOOL



**Jean-Wilno
Saint LaFleur**

OUR TEACHER



FUTURE SCHOOL



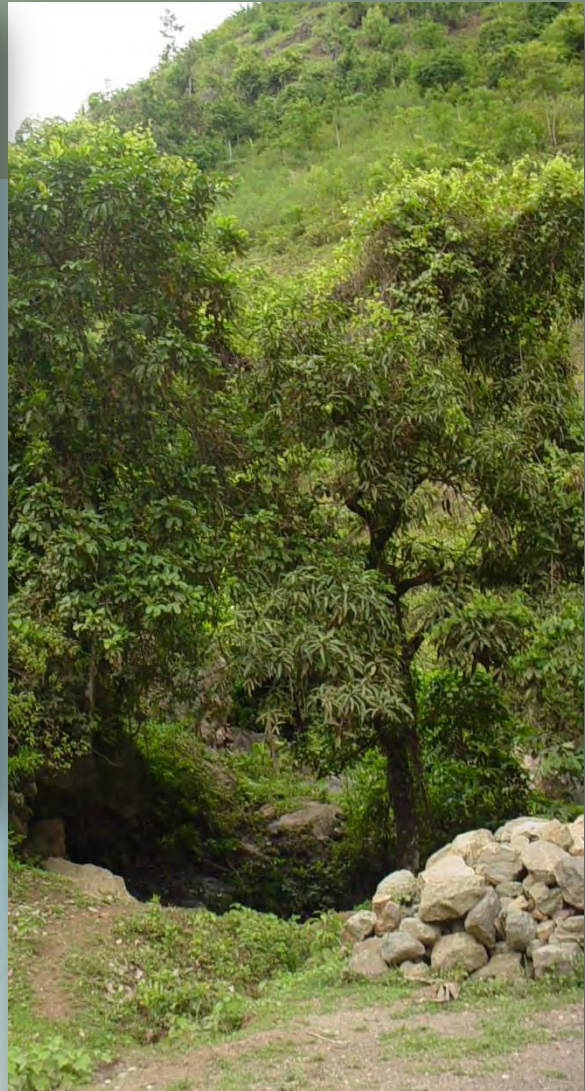
HAITI



HAITI



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HAITI



HAITI... ANDRISE... FUTURE AMBASSADOR



HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR HAITI SCHOOL IN DONDON

<http://humanitarianfocus.org/donate/>

- School bookbags – we need 200 of these asap...
- Books
- School supplies
- Benches for the students
- Food
- 9 more school teachers – \$150 pays a teacher's salary monthly

*Your donations go **directly** to this school!*

Please help us give hope where hope seems impossible.

MY NAME IS EZELL

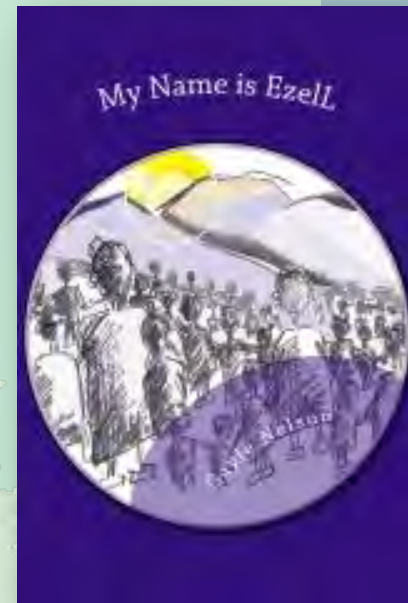
ILLUSTRATED BY GAYLE NELSON

100% of the proceeds of this book go to the Humanitarian Focus Foundation - *Building a Stronger Community*. <http://humanitarianfocus.org/>

The words were given to me...

"My name is Ezell and here is my story..." Later when I looked up the meaning of Ezell (I thought it sounded French), it was Hebrew and means Strength of God. – Gayle Nelson. This little book about a boy in an earthquake is a gift shared from one mother to another. It will help us all heal.

Order here: <https://www.createspace.com/3868238>
or on [Amazon](#)



SOURCES

- **CIA World Factbook**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ha.html>

- **Lambi Fund of Haiti**

http://www.lambifund.org/news_HaitiStats.shtml

<http://www.lambifund.org/Stats2011/HaitiStats2011.pdf>

- **UNdata Country Profile Haiti**

<http://data.un.org/CountryProfile.aspx?crName=Haiti>

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pocketbook/PDF/Haiti.pdf>