

PEONAGE

Meaning: Peonage is a system of forced labor in which individuals are bound to work to pay off debts, often leading to exploitation and a cycle of poverty.

1. Peonage was a widespread practice in the southern United States after the Civil War, trapping many in cycles of debt.
2. The abolition of peonage marked a significant step towards civil rights for the formerly enslaved population.
3. Despite its illegality, forms of peonage still exist in some parts of the world, ensnaring vulnerable workers.
4. Historical accounts reveal how peonage systems exploited laborers under the guise of employment contracts.
5. Efforts to eliminate peonage have been complicated by socioeconomic factors that continue to affect marginalized communities.

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