

## **Abstract**

### **Research on Denmark and Slavery: A Historical Case Study**

**Author: Beshoy Samy**

**Program: UWC Slavery Studies 2025**

This research explores Denmark's role in the transatlantic slave trade, focusing on its colonial activities in the Danish West Indies—modern-day U.S. Virgin Islands. As the seventh-largest participant in the global slave trade, Denmark transported approximately 120,000 Africans to work on sugar plantations in Saint Thomas, Saint Croix, and Saint John. The study highlights the inhumane conditions enslaved people endured and the significant resistance movements they led, such as the 1848 St. Croix uprising, which led to the abolition of slavery. It also recounts the tragic story of Victor Cornelius, a child taken from the colonies to be displayed in Denmark. Today, Denmark continues to grapple with this painful legacy, with ongoing public discussions about historical accountability and reparations. Artistic expressions like the song *Blodsukker* and the statue *I Am Queen Mary* play a vital role in remembering and honoring the struggle for freedom. This case study not only sheds light on Denmark's colonial past but also connects it to contemporary conversations about justice and memory.