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Aristotle's views on slavery

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According to Aristotle the state is made up of households. The parts of the household are those individuals who compose it. A complete household consists of slaves and freemen. Aristotle considered slaves the parts of household management. This management necessitates the possession of the different kinds of the instruments. Some of them are living while others are lifeless. Property is a part of the household because a man cannot live happily unless he be provided with property. A slave is a living possession. He wholly belongs to his master.

Aristotle's theory of slavery rests upon the following postulates:

- (a) By nature men are unequal and divided with respect to their capacities for virtue.
- (b) It is possible to determine who is virtuous and who is non-virtuous.

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