

# Angola Janga: The Kingdom of Runaway Slaves



**Angola Janga: Kingdom of Runaway Slaves** by Jody Houser

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Angola Janga was a kingdom founded by runaway slaves in Brazil in the 17th century. The kingdom existed for over a century and was a haven for escaped slaves from all over the region.

The kingdom was founded by a group of runaway slaves led by Ganga Zumba. Zumba had been a slave on a sugar plantation in the captaincy of Pernambuco. In 1670, he led a group of slaves in a successful revolt against their masters. The slaves fled into the rainforest and established a new settlement, which they named Angola Janga.

Angola Janga quickly grew into a thriving community. The kingdom had its own government, laws, and army. The people of Angola Janga were skilled farmers and hunters, and they also traded with neighboring villages.

The Portuguese authorities were determined to destroy Angola Janga. They sent several expeditions into the rainforest to capture Zumba and his

followers. However, the slaves were able to successfully resist the Portuguese attacks.

In 1694, Zumba was captured by the Portuguese. He was taken to Recife and executed. However, the kingdom of Angola Janga continued to exist for another 20 years. In 1716, the Portuguese finally succeeded in destroying the kingdom.

The story of Angola Janga is a powerful reminder of the resilience and determination of the African people. The kingdom was a symbol of hope for escaped slaves throughout the Americas. It showed that slaves could not only escape from slavery, but they could also create a new society based on freedom and equality.

### **Further Reading**

- [Angola Janga: The Kingdom of Runaway Slaves](#)
- [The Quilombo of Angola Janga: A Documentary History](#)
- [Angola Janga: The Kingdom of Runaway Slaves in Colonial Brazil](#)



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