

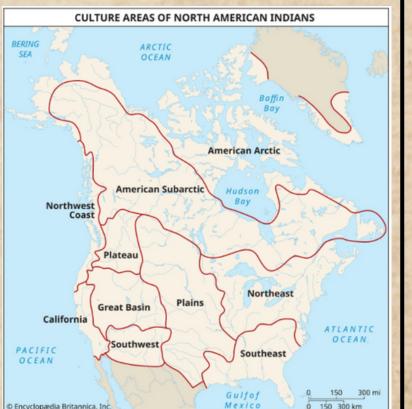
NATIVE AMERICANS

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To what extent were the lives of Native Americans disrupted by the British landing in America?

I.WHITE EXPANSIONISM: THE COLONIZATION OF THE NATIVES' TERRITORIES BY THE EUROPEANS

- A) Before the colons' arrival: the way of life of the Native Americans.
- Between 40 and 60 million people were living in the Americas.
- Their presence dates back to the Paleolithic era.
- An ancestral way of life based on spirtuality and communion with nature.
- Hunting-and-gathering cultures & agricultural people.
- => Plants and animals domestication
 - => Buffalo hunting



- B) The arrival of the colonists in the American lands
- : their impact on the Native Americans' lives.
- 1774: the battle of Fallen Timbers.
- 1830: the discovery of gold in Cherokee territory
- =>1831-1838: Indian Removal Act

TRAIL OF TEARS 25% of Cherokee died

- 1848: the California Gold Rush: the massacre of many of the tribes.
- 1860s: construction of transcontinental Railroad : monopolization of Native lands.
- Disappearance of buffalo (intensive hunting by the US army).
- 1890: the Wounded Knee

WEAKENING OF NATIVE AMERICANS

- C) The point of view of the colons: the "Indian problem"

 "The only good Indian is a dead Indian."
- THE DESIRE TO SEE THE IDENTITY AND THE CULTURE OF NATIVE AMERICANS DISAPPEAR: ASSIMILATION
 - 1851: Indian Appropriations Act
 - => the creation of reservations

- The Indian termination policy (1940-1960s) in the US:
- => Public Law 280 in 1956
- The assimilation in Canada:
- => 1876: Indian Act
- => 1920: control of children education by government

II. TODAY'S SITUATION

- A) Hard living conditions
- 310 reservations in the US:
- => Commercial fishing and hunting bans
- => Between 50% and 70% of unemployment
- => The poorest communities in the US
- => The highest mortality, suicide, unemployment and addiction rates.
 - Example: Pine Ridge Reservation

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In this Monday, March 25, 2019 photo, water from White Clay Creek pools near the ranch of Ernie Little on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, near Pine Ridge, S.D. (Ryan Hermens/Rapid City Journal via AP)

B) A delicate position in American society

- A DESIRE TO INCLUDE NATIVE AMERICANS / TO RESPECT THEIR RIGHTS:
- => The Indian citizenship act
- => The Indian reorganization act
- => Use of tribal names in sports
- BUT:
- => Discrimination, racism and issues with voting rights
- => The issue of cultural appropriation

Some historians talk about an "ethnocide".

- C) The Native Americans' fight for recognition and an end to discrimination
- THE DEMANDS OF NATIVE AMERICANS:
- => Recognition of the crimes committed by the settlers
- => More equality and rights
- => Memory of their history
- The Red Power association
- => Demonstrations
- => Alcatraz Bay
- The American Indian Movement
- => The Longest Walk in 1978