





BELL RINGER:

What are these two types of dwellings?

Which cultures would use these?

How do these structures reflect the lifestyles of the two cultures?





LIFE ON THE PLAINS

Who lived here?

 Native American groups lived on the plains for centuries.

What roles defined their lives?

- Some farming and hunting communities.
- Most were nomads roaming to follow the buffalo herds.

How were the Indian groups divided?

 Into bands: from small (a few dozen) to larger groups (several hundred)



THE CULTURE OF THE PLAINS INDIANS



NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS INDIANS

Montana/Dakotas to Nebraska

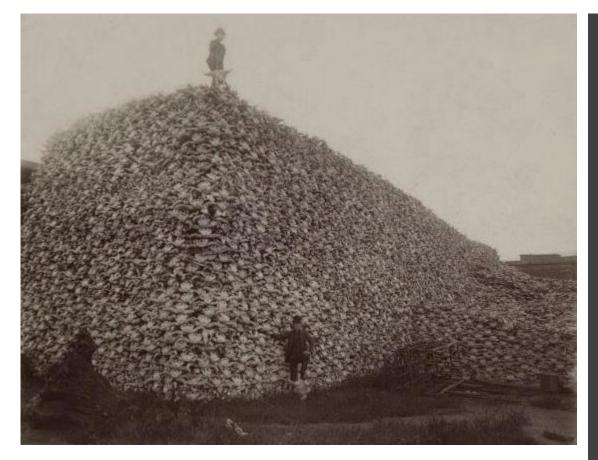
Lakota, Flathead,
 Blackfoot, Assiniboine,
 Cheyenne, Arapaho, Crow,
 Hidatsa, & Mandan

Frequently at war with various tribes

Migratory hunters/gatherers
In the Central and Southern
Plains

Five Civilized Tribes,
 Pawnee, Comanche, Kiowa,
 Arapaho, Apache

The peoples are exceedingly diverse!



CHANGING NATIVE AMERICAN LIFE

What changed Native life?

The arrival of settlers and miners.

How did this change them?

- Settlers believed in land ownership and would 'take' possession of the river valley areas first.
- Whites systematically hunted the animals— the native food and clothing source.

William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody

- Famous scout that killed thousands of buffalo from 1867-1868.
- These buffalo were used to feed the railroad workers.

Army commanders also encouraged hunting.





THE DAKOTA SIOUX UPRISING

▶ 1862: Minnesota conflict

- Dakota people part of the Sioux tribe.
- Agreed to live on a reservation
- Would be given <u>annuities</u>: money paid by contract at regular intervals
- The Dakota lived in poverty
- The people would starve locals refused them food!

The Dakota lost the uprising!

- 300 Dakota were tried for the uprising
- President Lincoln reduced the number
 convicted to 38 all were executed

RED CLOUD'S WAR

The Dakota Territory

Home to MANY groups of Sioux

Lakota Sioux

- Nomads who gained control through warfare
- Chiefs: Red Cloud, Sitting Bull, Crazy
 Horse

December 1866: U.S. Army builds forts on the Bozeman Trail

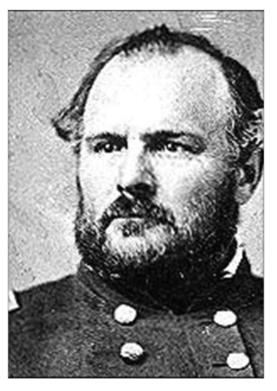
- Why build these forts?
 - Path to the Montana gold mines
- Why would the Indians be upset?
- The chiefs trapped the Army units in their area.







CONTINUED RESISTANCE





THE MASSACRE AT SAND CREEK

Army action:

In 1864, Army soldiers destroyed Cheyenne and Arapaho camps.

Native reaction:

 Retaliation on travelers occurred as a result of this massacre.

Government action:

- Colorado's governor ordered settlers to seek and kill hostile natives.
- John M. Chivington was ordered to avenge the 'murder of women and children at the Platt River.
- Chivington's troops massacred peaceful natives camped at Sand Creek.

Sand Creek caused the public to debate if the government should protect natives!

1867: Congress wanted to end the fighting!

- 2 LARGE land reserves were created:
 - north of Nebraska
 - south of Kansas
- Natives would:
 - settle down
 - take up farming
 - convert to Christianity



What if the natives REFUSE?

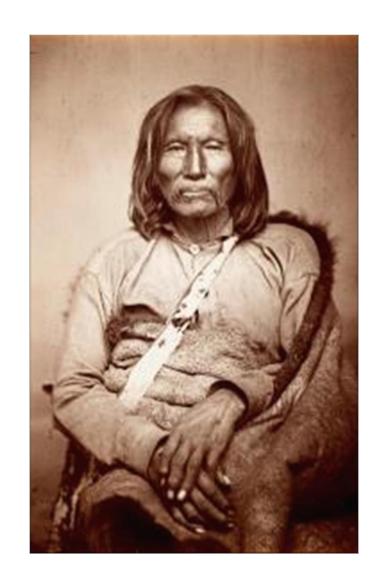
Force would be used!

Did the move work?

- At first, yes the Medicine Lodge Treaty (1867) was signed and a large delegation pledged to live in Oklahoma.
- By 1868, the Fort Laramie
 Treaty was signed moving the
 Sioux to the Great
 Reservation in South Dakota.

Were the natives satisfied?

 NO! Native life had been disrupted.



CUSTER'S LAST STAND, 1876

Which warriors were the most vicious?

- The Dakota Sioux!
- Battles with this group caused extensive bloodshed

Which leaders are involved?

- Chief Red Cloud (Oglala)
- Chief Spotted Tail (Brule)
- Chief Sitting Bull (Lakota Sioux)

Which Army leaders are involved?

- General William Tecumseh Sherman
- Colonel George Armstrong Custer









What happened to start this battle?

- Red Cloud and Spotted Tail had maintained their lands.
- These tribes antagonized the settlers by:
 - Raiding encroaching settlements in Nebraska and Wyoming
 - Intimidating federal agents.
 - Harassing those entering their lands.

How does Sherman respond?

- He sends one of his most famous and celebrated leaders to 'extract concessions' with the Sioux.
- Custer did begin negotiationswhich broke down because of the Native asking price!



Were there any Americans outraged by the government's actions?

YES! Women's National Indian Rights Association (1883)

Helen Hunt Jackson

- Published <u>A Century of Dishonor</u> (1881) to rally the people against the government's treatment of the Indians.
- Jackson advocated Indian boarding schools.

Richard Henry Pratt

- Founded schools to 'kill the Indian and save the man'
- Assimilation would 'help the natives progress toward white society.'



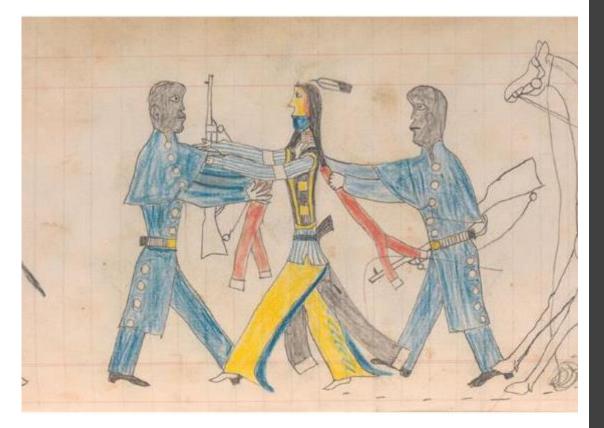
"SAVING" THE INDIANS



THE DAWES SEVERALTY ACT (1887)

What does this ACT do?

- Turn Indian families into landowners and farmers.
- Emphasized severalty the treatment of Indians as individuals rather than as tribal members.
- Called for the distribution of 160 acres of reservation land for farming or 320 acres for grazing.
- Land would be granted to the 'head' of an Indian family.
- Any remaining lands would be sold to speculators or settlers (not natives).
- The government would 'protect' the native lands by holding the property in a trust for 25 years and then make them citizens.



PROBLEMS WITH THE DAWES ACT

The Dawes Act did NOT:

- Specify a timetable.
- Few allotments were made.

Who did the ACT help?

Speculators.

Did anything help the natives?

 YES! Mother Nature – droughts and the landscape would push the speculators from the land in the 20th Century!

How were the native people impacted by these decisions?

- Many struggled to survive.
- Hunting restrictions prevented natives from supplementing their farming yields.
- Alcoholism was a continuing problem

DEFINITIONS

Ghost Dance: a Native
American group dance of a
late 19th century believed
to promote the return of the
dead and the restoration of
traditional ways of life.

Sand Creek Massacre:

a massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho people by the U.S. Army in the American Indian Wars that occurred on November 29, 1864.