

North American Indians A Very Short Introduction

Presents an illustrated reference that covers the history, culture and tribal distribution of North American Indians.

20 papers by European specialists on North American Indians. Includes papers on traditional Indian cultures with an emphasis on religion, ethnohistory and contemporary situations of Indians in North America, such as the problems of alcoholism, assimilation and bilingual education.

Rich anthology of the myths and legends of the Algonquins, Iroquois, Pawnees, and Sioux: warrior rivalries, steadfast love, and victory over powerful forces. Extensive historical and ethnological commentary. 36 illustrations.

This book focuses on the effects of interaction between Indian and non-Indian peoples and on the complex relationships between Indians and their environments. It presents information for an accurate assessment of whether North American Indians can survive as a distinct culture. .

"Reprinted from the original 1907 edition published as the Twenty-fourth annual report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, 1902-1903, Smithsonian Institution"--T.p. verso.

When Europeans first arrived in North America, between five and eight million indigenous people were already living there. But how did they come to be here? What were their agricultural, spiritual, and hunting practices? How did their societies evolve and what challenges do they face today? Eminent historians Theda Perdue and Michael Green begin by describing how nomadic bands of hunter-gatherers followed the bison and woolly mammoth over the Bering land mass between Asia and what is now Alaska between 25,000 and 15,000 years ago, settling throughout North America. They describe hunting practices among different tribes, how some made the gradual transition to more settled, agricultural ways of life, the role of kinship and cooperation in Native societies, their varied burial rites and spiritual practices, and many other features of Native American life. Throughout the book, Perdue and Green stress the great diversity of indigenous peoples in America, who spoke more than 400 different languages before the arrival of Europeans and whose ways of life varied according to the environments they settled in and adapted to so successfully. Most importantly, the authors stress how Native Americans have struggled to maintain their sovereignty--first with European powers and then with the United States--in order to retain their lands, govern themselves, support their people, and pursue practices that have made their lives meaningful. Going beyond the stereotypes that so often distort our views of Native Americans, this Very Short Introduction offers a historically accurate, deeply engaging, and often inspiring account of the wide array of Native peoples in America.

About the Series: Combining authority with wit, accessibility, and style, Very Short Introductions offer an introduction to some of life's most interesting topics. Written by experts for the newcomer, they demonstrate the finest contemporary thinking about the central problems and issues in hundreds of key topics, from philosophy to Freud, quantum theory to Islam.

Here is an in-depth look at spiritual experiences about which very little has been written. Belief in reincarnation exists not only in India but in most small tribal societies throughout the world, including many Indian groups in North America. The reader is offered a rich tapestry of stories from a number of North American tribes about death, dying, and returning to this life. Included are stories from the Inuit of the polar regions; the Northwest Coast people, such as the Kwakiutl, the Gitksan, the Tlingit, and the Suquamish; the Hopi and the Cochiti of the Southwest; the Winnebago of the Great Lakes region; the Cherokee of the Southeast; and the Sioux people of the Plains area. Readers will learn about a Winnebago shaman's initiation, the Cherokee's Orpheus myth, the Hopi story of A Journey to the Skeleton House, the Inuit man who lived the lives of all animals, the Ghost Dance, and other extraordinary accounts. The ethnological record indicates reincarnation beliefs are found among the indigenous peoples on all continents of this earth as well as in most of the world's major religions. This book makes a valuable contribution towards having a deeper understanding of North American Indian spiritual beliefs.

Categorized into eight geographical regions, this encyclopedic reference examines the history, beliefs, traditions, languages, and lifestyles of indigenous peoples of North America.

A brief survey of life in five North American Indian tribes--Makah, Hopi, Creek, Penobscot, and Mandan--at the time Columbus arrived in the New World.

This groundbreaking multidisciplinary book presents significant essays on historical indigenous violence in Latin America from Tierra del Fuego to central Mexico. The collection explores those uniquely human motivations and environmental variables that have led to the native peoples of Latin America engaging in warfare and ritual violence since antiquity. Based on an American Anthropological Association symposium, this book collects twelve contributions from sixteen authors, all of whom are scholars at the forefront of their fields of study. All of the chapters advance our knowledge of the causes, extent, and consequences of indigenous violence—including ritualized violence—in Latin America. Each major historical/cultural group in Latin America is addressed by at least one contributor. Incorporating the results of dozens of years of research, this volume documents evidence of warfare, violent conflict, and human sacrifice from the fifteenth century to the twentieth, including incidents that occurred before European contact. Together the chapters present a convincing argument that warfare and ritual violence have been woven into the fabric of life in Latin America since remote antiquity. For the first time, expert subject-area work on indigenous violence—archaeological, osteological, ethnographic, historical, and forensic—has been assembled in one volume. Much of this work has heretofore been dispersed across various countries and languages. With its collection into one English-language volume, all future writers—regardless of their discipline or point of view—will have a source to consult for further research. CONTENTS Acknowledgments Introduction Richard J. Chacon and Rubén G. Mendoza 1. Status Rivalry and Warfare in the Development and Collapse of Classic Maya Civilization Matt O'Mansky and Arthur A. Demarest 2. Aztec Militarism and Blood Sacrifice: The Archaeology and Ideology of Ritual Violence Rubén G. Mendoza 3. Territorial Expansion and Primary State Formation in Oaxaca, Mexico Charles S. Spencer 4. Images of Violence in Mesoamerican Mural Art Donald McVicker 5. Circum-Caribbean Chiefly Warfare Elsa M. Redmond 6. Conflict and Conquest in Pre-Hispanic Andean South America: Archaeological Evidence from Northern Coastal Peru John W. Verano 7. The Inti Raymi Festival among the Cotacachi and Otavalo of Highland Ecuador: Blood for the Earth Richard J. Chacon, Yamilette Chacon, and Angel Guandinango 8. Upper Amazonian Warfare Stephen Beckerman and James Yost 9. Complexity and Causality in Tupinambá Warfare William Balée 10. Hunter-Gatherers' Aboriginal Warfare in Western Chaco Marcela Mendoza 11. The Struggle for Social Life in Fuego-Patagonia Alfredo Prieto and Rodrigo Cárdenas 12. Ethical Considerations and Conclusions Regarding Indigenous Warfare and Ritual Violence in Latin America Richard J. Chacon and Rubén G. Mendoza References About the Contributors Index

"These essays explore the blending of structural and historical approaches to American Indian anthropology that characterizes the perspective developed by the late Fred Eggan and his students at the University of Chicago. They include studies of kinship and social organization, politics, religion, law, ethnicity, and art. Many reflect Eggan's method of controlled comparison, a tool for reconstructing social and cultural change over time." "Together these essays make substantial descriptive contributions to American Indian anthropology, presenting contemporary interpretations of diverse groups from the Hudson Bay Inuit in the north to the Highland Maya of Chiapas in the south. The collection will serve as an introduction to Native American social and cultural anthropology for readers interested in the dynamics of Indian social life."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

This Day in North American Indian History is a one-of-a-kind, fun-to-read book covering over 5,000 years of North American Indian history, culture, and lore. Wide-ranging and in-depth, it lists over 5,000 important events involving the native peoples of North America in a unique day-by-day format. From the construction of Mayan temples in A.D. 715 to modern political activism and governmental legislation affecting native peoples--and everything in between--virtually every significant historical event in Indian history is listed. It also includes biographical sketches of prominent and lesser-known North American Indian leaders, chiefs, explorers, and their white counterparts, descriptions of migrations, the histories of tribes and ancient languages, and a list of the meanings of tribal names. Well-organized and comprehensive, the thousands of entries in This Day in North American Indian History weave an exciting and panoramic mosaic of North American Indian history. It is the most all-encompassing single-volume reference work on the subject available.

Charming collection of 7 authentic Indian tales told by Iago the storyteller. Includes "The Little Boy and Girl in the Clouds," "The Child of the Evening Star," "The Boy Who Snared the Sun," "How the Summer Came," "Grasshopper," and 3 others. 29 new illustrations.

Encyclopedic summary of prehistory, history, cultures and political and social aspects of native peoples.

A comprehensive reference work on the culture and history of Native Americans.

Artistic traditions of indigenous North America are explored in a study that draws on the testimonies of oral tradition, Native American history, and North American archaeology, focusing on the artists themselves and their cultural identities. Original.

North American Indians: A Very Short Introduction Oxford University Press

This is the stirring, epic story of the hundreds of Indian nations that have inhabited North America for more than 15,000 years and of their centuries-long struggle with the Europeans. It is a story of friendship, treachery, courage and war, beginning when Columbus disembarked at Hispaniola among the Arawaks in 1492, and comes to a climax when the last groups of Sioux were moved onto a reservation following the massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890. We meet men and women, heroes and villains through their own words, their lives recreated from memory, memoir, and ancient documents: Massasoit, whose greeting to the Mayflower pilgrims - 'Welcome, Englishmen' - was given in their own language; Pocahontas, whose father's intervention on behalf of John Smith ironically changed the course of her life; Deganawida, known as the Peace Maker, whose Great Law laid the foundation for the confederacy among the five nations of the Iroquois, which in turn may have influenced the colonists' fledgling efforts at confederation; Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet; Tecumseh, the charismatic Shawnee leader; Satanta, who led the Kiowa resistance; Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce; Cochise and Geronimo of the Apaches; Red Cloud, Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse of the Sioux... Written by the celebrated historian Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., lavishly illustrated with nearly 500 paintings, woodcuts, drawings, photographs, and Indian artifacts, this thrilling and beautiful book shows us the many worlds of North America's Indians, as we have never seen them before.

Recreates the cultures of the ancestors of today's Indian peoples--their religions, customs, tools, weapons, arts, architecture and scientific knowledge--on the basis of evidence from archaeological sites both large and small, bringing to life the North America of edges previously relegated to a kind of historical limbo.

The art of reconstructing civilizations from the artifacts of daily life demands integrity and imagination. Indians of North America displays both in its description of the enormous variation of culture patterns among Indians from the Arctic to Panama at the high points of their histories--a variation which was greater than that among the nations of Europe. For this second edition, Harold Driver made extensive revisions in chapter content and organization, incorporating many new discoveries and interpretations in archeology and related fields. He also revised several of the maps and added more than 100 bibliographical items. Since the publication of the first edition, there has been an increased interest in the activities of Indians in the twentieth century; accordingly, the author placed much more emphasis on this period.

A look at the culture of North American Indian tribes focuses on their clothing, pottery, weapons, masks, baskets, and carvings.

The renowned history and author of The American Heritage Book of Indians traces the history of America's Indians from their arrival across the Bering Strait through their flourishing civilizations during the last millennium and their conquest and near-extinction at the hands of Europeans.

Over the course of 30 years Edward S. Curtis exhaustively documented America's first inhabitants. Follow along on his visits to 80 American Indian tribes from the Mexican border to the Bering Strait--working up to 16 hours a day to gain their trust and document their traditional way of life as it was already beginning to die out. This unabridged, ...

"Native Peoples of North America is intended to be an introductory text about the Native peoples of North America (primarily the United States and Canada) presented from an anthropological perspective. As such, the text is organized around anthropological concepts such as language, kinship, marriage and family life, political and economic organization, food getting, spiritual and religious practices, and the arts. Prehistoric, historic and contemporary information is presented. Each chapter begins with an example from the oral tradition that reflects the theme of the chapter."--Open SUNY Textbooks synopsis.

Written in an easy-to-read, narrative format, this volume provides the most comprehensive coverage of North American Indians from earliest evidence through 1990. It shows Indians as "a people with history" and not as primitives, covering current ideological issues and political situations including treaty rights, sovereignty, and repatriation. A must-read for anyone interested in North American Indian history. This is a comprehensive and thought-provoking approach to the history of the native peoples of North America (including Mexico and Canada) and their civilizations. For Native American courses taught in anthropology, history and Native American Studies.

This book details the growth of the European Fur trade in North America and how it drew the Native Americans who lived in the Great Lakes region, notably the Huron, Dakota, Sauk and Fox, Miami and Shawnee tribes into the colonial European Wars. During the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812, these tribes took sides and became important allies of the warring nations. However, slowly the Indians were pushed westward by the encroachment of more settlers. This tension finally culminated in the 1832 Black Hawk's War, which ended with the deportation of many tribes to distant reservations.

Illustrated in full color, with full-color & black-and-white photographs and maps. Each chapter of this striking survey of Native American life begins in a uniquely appropriate way: with a dramatic, double-page painting showing the dwelling of a particular tribe. From a Zuni adobe pueblo to an Iroquois communal long house, paintings introduce the reader to the book's eight chapters covering the continent's eight regions and offer a comprehensive examination of the lifestyles of North America's native peoples. This splendid reference volume is enhanced by six essays by Native American contributors about their life today--a valuable feature that places the historical material in a contemporary context. A glossary, resource-guide sidebars on such topics as "how to read" a totem pole and the introduction of horses to North America, and over one hundred paintings, color photographs, and maps ensure that this book will rise above all others in bringing to life the world of the American Indian.

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An illustrated introduction to North American Indian tribes and their customs.

Library holds volume 2, part 2 only.

A reference guide to Native American history, culture, and life contains contributions by more than 260 experts, and includes articles on present-day community life, treaties, and the status of women

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