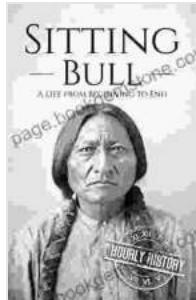


# Life From Beginning To End: A Comprehensive Guide to Native American History

Native American history is a vast and complex subject, spanning thousands of years and encompassing a wide range of cultures and experiences. In this article, we will provide a comprehensive overview of Native American history, from its origins to the present day. We will cover key events, figures, and themes, and we will illustrate our discussion with numerous historical images.



## Sitting Bull: A Life from Beginning to End (Native American History) by Hourly History

4.3 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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## Origins

The first humans arrived in North America from Asia across the Bering Land Bridge around 13,000 years ago. These early migrants were nomadic hunters and gatherers who gradually spread across the continent, adapting

to the different environments they encountered. Over time, they developed distinct cultures and languages.

## **Pre-Columbian Era**

By the time Europeans arrived in the Americas in the 15th century, there were an estimated 10 million Native Americans living in North America. These Native Americans belonged to hundreds of different tribes, each with its own unique culture, language, and traditions. Some of the most well-known tribes include the Apache, Cherokee, Iroquois, Navajo, and Sioux.

Native Americans had a profound impact on the environment of North America. They cleared forests to create farmland, built irrigation systems to water their crops, and hunted and fished to provide food for their families. They also developed complex political and social systems, and they created beautiful works of art, music, and literature.

## **European Contact**

The arrival of Europeans in the Americas had a devastating impact on Native Americans. Europeans brought with them diseases, which killed millions of Native Americans. They also brought with them a desire for land and resources, which led to conflicts with Native Americans.

In the 16th century, Spain established a number of colonies in North America. These colonies were based on the forced labor of Native Americans, who were enslaved and worked to death in mines and on plantations.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, England and France also established colonies in North America. These colonies were based on the fur trade, and

Native Americans were forced to trap and sell furs to European traders.

## American Revolution

Native Americans played a significant role in the American Revolution. Many Native American tribes allied with the British, while others allied with the Americans. The Iroquois Confederacy, for example, remained neutral throughout the war.

After the American Revolution, the new United States government began to expand westward. This expansion led to conflicts with Native Americans, who were forced to give up their land and move to reservations.

## Indian Removal Act

In 1830, the United States Congress passed the Indian Removal Act. This act authorized the federal government to forcibly remove Native Americans from their land in the East and relocate them to reservations in the West. The Indian Removal Act was a disaster for Native Americans. Thousands of Native Americans died on the Trail of Tears, the forced march from their homes in the East to reservations in the West.

## Indian Wars

The Indian Removal Act led to a series of wars between Native Americans and the United States government. These wars lasted for decades and resulted in the deaths of thousands of Native Americans.

Some of the most famous Indian Wars include the Apache Wars, the Black Hawk War, the Cheyenne War, the Comanche War, the Nez Perce War, and the Sioux War.

## **Reservation Era**

After the Indian Wars, Native Americans were forced to live on reservations. Reservations are areas of land that are set aside for Native Americans by the federal government. Native Americans are not allowed to leave reservations without permission from the government.

Life on reservations was difficult for Native Americans. They were often poor and had little access to education, healthcare, and other basic services. They were also subject to discrimination and violence from non-Native Americans.

## **Termination Era**

In the 1950s and 1960s, the United States government pursued a policy of termination. This policy aimed to end the federal government's relationship with Native American tribes and to assimilate Native Americans into American society.

Termination was a disaster for Native Americans. It led to the loss of tribal land, culture, and identity.

## **Indian Civil Rights Movement**

In the 1960s, Native Americans began to fight for their civil rights. They organized protests, marches, and other actions to demand an end to discrimination and to improve their living conditions.

The Indian Civil Rights Movement was successful in achieving a number of important goals. In 1968, Congress passed the Indian Civil Rights Act, which prohibited discrimination against Native Americans in employment, housing, and other areas. In 1975, Congress passed the Indian Self-

Determination and Education Assistance Act, which gave Native American tribes more control over their own affairs.

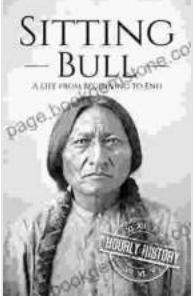
## Native American Today

Today, there are over 570 federally recognized Native American tribes in the United States. These tribes have a combined population of over 5.2 million people. Native Americans live in all 50 states, but they are most concentrated in the West.

Native Americans face a number of challenges today, including poverty, unemployment, and discrimination. However, they are also working to preserve their cultures and traditions and to improve their quality of life.

Native American history is a complex and often tragic story. However, it is also a story of resilience and hope. Native Americans have survived centuries of oppression and discrimination.

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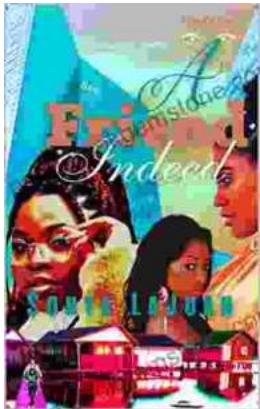
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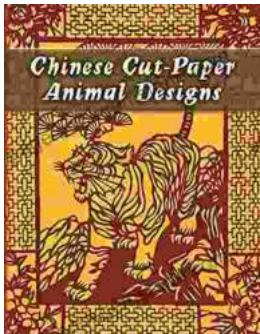
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