

The Age of Jackson

Section 3



MAIN IDEAS

1. The Indian Removal Act authorized the relocation of Native Americans to the West.
2. Cherokee resistance to removal led to disagreement between Jackson and the Supreme Court.
3. Other Native Americans resisted removal with force.

Key Terms and People

Indian Removal Act the act that authorized the removal of Native Americans who lived east of the Mississippi River

Indian Territory the new homeland for Native Americans, which contained most of present-day Oklahoma

Bureau of Indian Affairs an agency created to oversee the federal policy toward Native Americans

Sequoya a Cherokee who used 86 characters to represent Cherokee syllables to create a written language

Worcester v. Georgia a case in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the state of Georgia had no authority over the Cherokee

Trail of Tears an 800-mile forced march westward in which one-fourth of the 18,000 Cherokee died

Black Hawk a Sauk chief who decided to fight rather than be removed

Osceola Seminole leader who called on Native Americans to resist removal by force

Academic Vocabulary

contemporary existing at the same time

Section Summary

INDIAN REMOVAL ACT

President Andrew Jackson's policies toward Native Americans were controversial. They had long lived in settlements from Georgia to Mississippi. Jackson and other political leaders wanted this land for American farmers. Jackson pressured Congress to pass the **Indian Removal Act** in 1830. The **Indian Territory** was set aside as a new home for Native Americans.

Why were Jackson's policies toward Native Americans controversial?

Section 3, continued

The **Bureau of Indian Affairs** was established. Indian peoples began to be removed to Indian Territory. They lost their lands east of the Mississippi. On their trips to Indian Territory, many Native Americans died of cold, disease, and starvation.

Why was the Indian Territory established?

CHEROKEE RESISTANCE

The Cherokee adopted the **contemporary** culture of white people to avoid conflicts. **Sequoya** helped the Cherokee create their own written language.

The Cherokee sued the state when the Georgia militia tried to remove them. In the case **Worcester v. Georgia**, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Cherokee. Georgia ignored the ruling and removed the Cherokee. On the **Trail of Tears**, the Cherokee suffered from heat, cold, and exposure.

OTHER NATIVE AMERICANS RESIST

Conflicts broke out in Illinois and Florida when some Native Americans decided to resist removal. Chief **Black Hawk** led the Sauk of Illinois in raiding settlements and fighting the U.S. Army. The U.S. Army attacked the Sauk as they retreated, and the uprising ended.

How did the Sauk resist removal?

In Florida the Seminole also resisted removal. In 1832 some Seminole leaders were forced to sign a treaty that said they would withdraw from Florida in seven years. Any Seminole of African ancestry would be called a runaway slave. The Seminoles ignored the treaty. **Osceola** led his followers in the Second Seminole War. The Seminole won many battles. Some 1,500 U.S. soldiers died. After spending millions, U.S. officials gave up.

How did the outcome for the Seminole differ from that of other Native Americans?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Analyzing Write an essay explaining how your view of the Indian Removal Act would compare or contrast with the view of an easterner who wanted to settle on Native American lands.