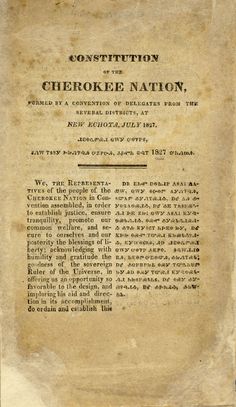
**Indian Removal**

* Indian Removal was Jackson’s policy of forcing Indians to move to Oklahoma, or Indian territory
* For many white Americans this was seen as a tremendous success
* *5 Civilized Tribes:* Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole that lived in the “Old Southwest” GA, AL, MS, & FL



* The 5 tribes adopted many white ways and customs
* Cherokee Nation had a sophisticated political, economic, and cultural institutions
* The Cherokee expected to be treated as a sovereign nation
* Cherokee signed a treaty w the US gov’t in 1785
* They also set up large and effective trading networks w other tribes and white settlements
* In 1827 they adopted a written constitution for the Cherokee Republic

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CAcQjRxqFQoTCM_p04yP1MgCFUWXgAodK9EHWQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pinterest.com%2Fpin%2F574068283729385510%2F&psig=AFQjCNG_2UAE6q6APMYtqi1ThFZPZ19O0A&ust=1445535877567449)

* Some Cherokee grew cotton and had African slaves
* This assimilation was exactly what the US gov’t claimed to want
* President Jackson chose to ignore this and were focused on taking Cherokee land
* GA was the first state to ignore prior treaties starting in 1830
* *Indian Removal Act:* Legislation passed that provided funds for removing & resettling eastern Indians to the West



* Initially Cherokee tribes were given a choice
* Stay, and be subject to GA law
* Move west and their independence would be recognized in the Indian Territory
* Not every gov’t official supported moving natives
* Some wished to recognize the treaties that had been in place for 50 yrs
* Within the decade most tribes made the trek from their native lands to Oklahoma, except for Seminoles
* AL and MS followed GA’s lead and voted to end tribal rights for Creeks
* *Trail of Tears:* 12,000 members of the Cherokee tribe forced march from GA to Indian Territory

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CAcQjRxqFQoTCKjgpsGm1MgCFUTMgAodprsLBA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.arkansasguesthouse.com%2Ftrail-tears-symposium-pocahontas%2F&psig=AFQjCNGsd3nXT7NdoWYJ7KVcxEDM-h5yFQ&ust=1445542205562077)

* Winter of 1838-1839 was unseasonably cold, leading to 1/3 of Cherokees dying
* Approximately 46,000 Indians were forcibly removed during Jackson’s administration
* Subsequent Presidents removed even more Indians
* Cherokee Nation is located in NE Oklahoma today
* They are the largest federally recognized tribe

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