

# Andrew Jackson and the American Indians: A Legacy of Conflict and Broken Promises



**Sharp Knife: Andrew Jackson and the American Indians**  
**(Native America: Yesterday and Today)** by Jack L. Grossman

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 2365 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 262 pages



Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, is a controversial figure in American history. His presidency was marked by a number of important events, including the War of 1812, the purchase of Florida, and the Indian Removal Act. Jackson's policies toward Native Americans were particularly harsh, and his actions led to the forced removal of thousands of Native Americans from their ancestral lands.

## **Jackson's Early Life and Career**

Andrew Jackson was born in 1767 in South Carolina. He was the son of Irish immigrants, and he grew up in poverty. Jackson fought in the American Revolutionary War, and he later served in the Tennessee militia. In 1812, Jackson was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He served in the House for four years, and he then served as a general in the War of 1812.

## **The War of 1812**

The War of 1812 was a conflict between the United States and Great Britain. The war began in 1812, and it ended in 1815. Jackson played a major role in the war, and he was one of the most successful American

generals. Jackson's victories at the Battle of New Orleans and the Battle of Horseshoe Bend helped to secure American independence.

### **The Purchase of Florida**

In 1819, Jackson negotiated the purchase of Florida from Spain. The purchase of Florida doubled the size of the United States, and it gave the United States control of the Gulf of Mexico. Jackson's purchase of Florida was a major accomplishment, and it helped to secure the future of the United States.

### **The Indian Removal Act**

The Indian Removal Act was a law passed by Congress in 1830. The Act authorized the president to negotiate treaties with Native American tribes to exchange their lands in the East for lands in the West. Jackson supported the Indian Removal Act, and he used it to force thousands of Native Americans to relocate.

The Indian Removal Act was a disaster for Native Americans. The forced relocation of tens of thousands of people from their ancestral lands led to widespread death and suffering. The Trail of Tears, the forced removal of the Cherokee from their lands in Georgia, was one of the most tragic events in American history.

### **Jackson's Legacy**

Jackson's legacy is complex and controversial. He was a successful military leader, and he helped to secure the future of the United States. However, his policies toward Native Americans were harsh and unforgiving, and they led to the forced removal of thousands of Native Americans from their ancestral lands.

Jackson's presidency was a time of great change for the United States. The War of 1812, the purchase of Florida, and the Indian Removal Act were all major events that shaped the future of the country. Jackson's legacy is still debated today, but there is no doubt that he was one of the most important figures in American history.

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