

The background of the slide is a faded, grayscale photograph. It depicts two large, conical tipis standing in an open field. Several people, likely Native Americans, are visible near the entrances of the tipis. The overall tone is historical and educational.

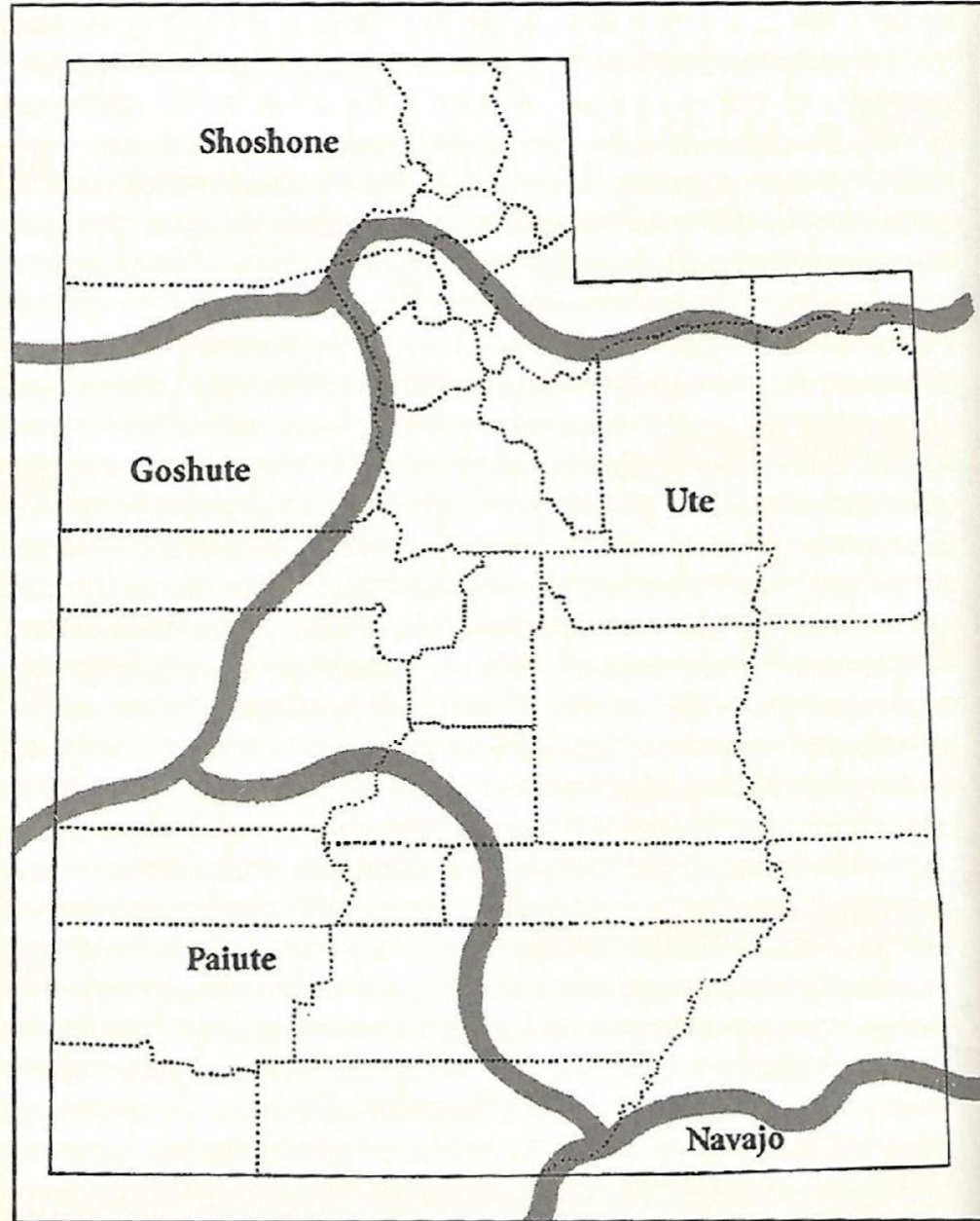
# Utah's American Indians

Five Nations

*Eight Tribal Governments*

# The Indigenous tribes and bands of Utah:

- **Goshute** (Several bands, presently 2)
- **Navajo/Dine'** (Numerous clans)
- Northern **Ute** (Originally 6, presently 3)
- Northwestern Band of **Shoshone**
- **Paiute** (Several bands, presently 3)



Map showing approximate general territory of Utah's Indian tribes just prior to white settlement in 1847. Note that not only are boundaries inexact but also there was some interaction and use of adjacent territories by members of virtually all tribes.

# Native A

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Within the last in the tide of writin the Indians' view of achieve. Native Ame their own story for a desire to leave the p group, and the belie be divulged for pub how much has been few tribal histories

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# Shoshone Nation/Uto-Aztecan

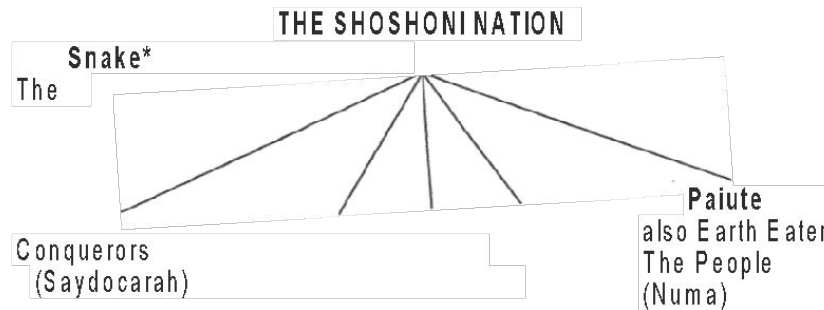
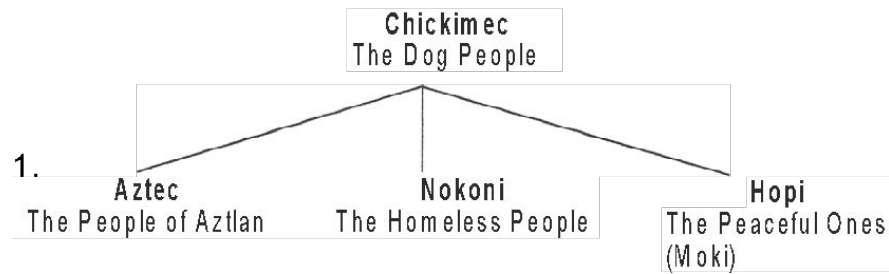
With the exception of the Navajo/Dine people, all other tribes of Utah are part of the Great Shoshone Nation, tribes which occupied most of the Western United States. They all belong to the Uto-Aztecan language family which extends throughout most of the western states extending south all the way to the Yucatan Peninsula.

# Origins

According to Shoshone lore, they have occupied these western homelands for 20,000 years.

Originally, they called themselves the Chickimec (The Dog People), then Nokoni (The Homeless People), and eventual they came to be known as the Shoshone Nation. There is no reference to Bering Straits in Shoshone lore.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE SHOSHONI



**Bannock**  
also Banatte Snake  
Hair Tossed Over the Head People  
(Pannakwate)

**Comanche**  
Children of the South Wind  
(Kansas)

**Ute**  
The Sun Land People  
(Yuhta)

\*The Snakes were the Shoshoni proper.

# Scientific Evidence

The earliest scientific evidence of human occupation in Utah are the human remains that were found in caves (Smith, Danger, and Deer Creek) located on the Utah-Nevada border. Those human remains were carbon-dated to be approximately 10-11,000 years old. To put this in perspective, we have only been keeping track of time for a little over 2,000 years.

# Navajo Nation/Dine'

Navajo/Dine' people belong to the Athabascan Language Family which include several tribes occupying Alaska and Canada. The Athabascans split into a northern and southern group. The Navajo and their Apache cousins broke from the southern group and settled the southwest where they currently reside. It is believed that the Dine' crossed a land bridge called the Bering Strait from Asia into Alaska and migrated south along the west coast to their present location.



# The Numic People

Anthropologists and Linguists sometime refer to the Shoshone as Numic People derived as follows:

- Nuche – Ute
- Newe – Goshute
- Numa – Northern Paiute
- Nuuvi – Southern Paiute
- Neme - Shoshone

# Major Historical Events

- Dominguez-Escalante 1776
- Mormon arrival 1847
- Fort Utah War 1850
- Walker War 1853-1854
- Mountain Meadows Massacre 1857
- Bear River Massacre 1863
- Circleville Massacre 1866
- Black Hawk War 1865-1870

# In 1847 Mormon Immigrants Arrive





## Utah's Indian Tribes

*To have dominion over them, “for their good, which is the duty of the Elders, you must not treat them as your equals, you cannot exalt them by this process. If they are your equals, you cannot raise them up to you.”*

**Utah Territorial Governor Brigham Young**



## **The Devastation European Diseases Bring to the Native peoples**

***“THEY DIED OFF ABOUT AS FAST AS THEY WENT INTO THE WATER\*. SOME THEY BURIED AND SOME THEY DIDN’T BURY. I HELPED TO BURY THOSE THAT WERE LEFT UNBURIED. WE BURIED 36 IN ONE GRAVE; AND 44 DOGS IN ANOTHER. THEIR CUSTOM WAS TO KILL THEIR DOGS WHEN THEIR MASTERS DIED. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME MEASLES APPEARED HERE. IT WAS A NEW DISEASE TO THEM, AND THEY DIDN’T KNOW HOW TO CURE IT, OR WHERE THEY GOT IT.”***

**JOHN NEBEKER, 1884**

**\* HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS IN NORTH SALT LAKE VALLEY**

# The Goshutes

- This tribe consisted of small family groups who occupied the west desert and are essentially desert dwelling Shoshone
- They were considered the ethnobotanists of the western desert – they excelled when it came to the use of native roots, plants and other vegetation for food and medicines
- They were highly adaptive and strong willed people/survivors

# The Goshutes Today

There are two Goshute Tribal Governments:

- Skull Valley Band (65 miles west of Salt Lake City)
- Confederated Tribes of Goshute Reservations, headquarters in Ibapah (70 miles south of Wendover)

# The Horse

- Historians argue over who acquired the horse first, the Comanche or the Ute
- Shoshone lore claims the Comanche began rounding up stray horses and the Ute served as middlemen driving the horse north to Shoshone strongholds.
- The Ute and Comanche engaged in a bitter war which did not end until the summer of 1978, when a peace agreement was made in Ignacio, Colorado.





## Mounted Ute Warriors

The Northern Ute acquired the horse from their cousins, Ute Bands of Southern Colorado, who acquired them early from the Spanish. The horse transformed the culture. They became a mountain/plains tribe.

# Depredations

*James Goff recalled “that the murder of the Indian was talked of at the time by many of the settlers, and that it was asserted that the men who killed the Indian ripped his bowels open and filled them with stones preparatory to sinking his body”—a process called “nepoed,” based on “open.”*

Note: No one knows for sure but it was either a broken no-hunting treaty or an argument over a stolen shirt inspired this murder. And this marked the beginning of depredations in Utah Valley, eventually leading to the Utah War of 1850.



## The Utes Resist Mormon Intrusion

# Black Hawk War and Spanish Fork Treaty 1865

**This war was far more costly financially and in lives than originally believed. Recent research conducted by Gottfredson indicates that Utah Territory spent \$1.5 million dollars on the war (equivalent to \$28.23 million in 2018.) Mormon settlers were pushed out of 4 counties and over 70 settlements. Over 70 Utes and about 15 settlers lost their lives. It resulted in the removal of the Utes to the Uintah Valley Reservation, established by Executive Order of Abraham Lincoln in 1861.**

# Ute Removal

The original homelands of the Utah Ute Indians was all points south and east of central Utah – Utah Valley, San Pete Valley, home to Uinta-ats, Cumumba, Tumpanawats /Timpanogos, San Pitch, Pahvant, and Sheberetch Bands of the Utah Indians.

Huge influx of Mormon settlers crossing through and staking homes and livestock in traditional food gathering areas. Conflicts arise, Territorial Governor Brigham Young negotiates the Spanish Fork Treaty of 1865 to remove them to the Uintah Valley, which was not ratified by congress.

In 1861, the Uintah Valley Reservation is established by Executive Order by President Abraham Lincoln.

# Ute Land Loss

- 1905 - Congress authorizes Homestead Act which opens reservation land to homesteaders
- Two national forests, Wasatch and Ashley
- Utes revolt and leave Utah to form an alliance with Cheyenne River Sioux Indians
- Total acreage of approx. 4.5 million acres reduced to half million acres
- 1984 Congress returns half million acres known of as southern extension, total acreage is presently 1.3 million acres



# **Bear River Massacre**

**January 29, 1863**

- **1840's settlers are pouring into traditional Shoshone land**
- **By 1860's overland passage increases as gold is discovered in California**
- **Violence and food shortages lead to raiding and small skirmishes in Idaho**
- **California Militia under Colonel Patrick Conner attack innocent Shoshone camped on the Bear River near the Idaho/Utah border**
- **Between 350 – 493 Shoshones of the Northwest Band are slaughtered**
- **Food stores are taken after the massacre while the dead are dumped in the river**



**Bear River Massacre**



**Oral tradition, accounts  
from survivors:**

“Indian men, women,  
children, and babies  
were killed left and  
right.”

“No butcher could have  
murdered any better  
than Colonel Conner and  
his vicious California  
volunteers.”



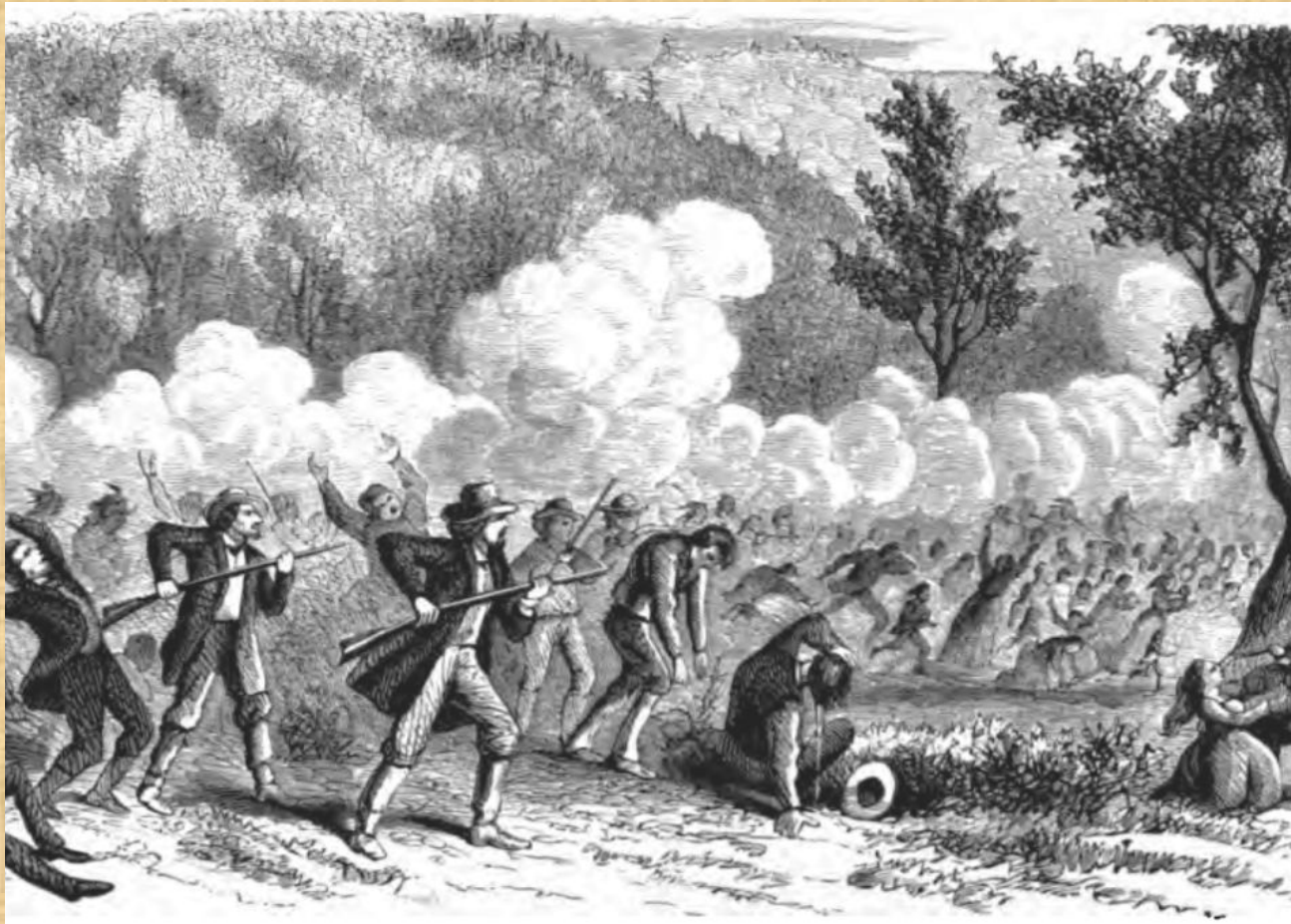
To escape many jumped  
in the frozen river;  
babies on the backs of  
mothers drowned.

“One baby floated down  
the river, among the  
other dead bodies and  
blood red ice.” Perry

# Shoshone Removal

- The Northwest Band of Shoshone were displaced numerous times. Following the Bear River Massacre, the tribe was removed to the Fort Hall, Shoshone-Bannock Reservation in southeastern Idaho. Most of them resisted and continued to return and occupy their homelands and gravesites of their ancestors in northeastern Utah.
- The tribe was essentially disbanded. In 1881, the Mormon Church purchased 184 acres of land and established the community of Washakie for them to live on. In 1960 the LDS Church sold the land.
- It was not until 1987 that a secretarial election was conducted and tribal leaders were elected to restore the tribe.
- In 1995 Northwestern Band of Shoshone Tribe established two offices, one in Blackfoot, Idaho, and one in Brigham City, Utah. Brigham City is now their official headquarters.





## Mountain Meadows Massacre, 1857

60 members of the Mormon Militia committed the atrocities. 120 members of the Fancher Baker Party were exterminated, several were executed, shot at the base of the skull.

## Mountain Meadows Massacre

The original Mormon version was that the Southern Paiute were responsible for the massacre of 120 members of the Fancher Baker Party, who were passing through from Arkansas to California.

After descendants of the Fancher Baker Party organized and began to research and share information, a book revealed testimony of children victims who stated that some of the Mormons were dressed as Indians. They witnessed them washing the paint from their bodies.

*“They said Indians don’t leave their dead like this. They started blaming the Indians for it. The Paiute Indians around this area, they didn’t know anything about what happened over there. They didn’t even know nothing. There weren’t no Indians around that place there...That’s what takes place that time. Us Paiute nation got blamed for that.”*

Clifford Jake, Paiute Elder



# Fancher Baker Homecoming

Various families make the yearly trip to Utah to commemorate the loss of their descendants.

# The Long Walk

- The Navajo homelands in Arizona and New Mexico, including land in southeastern Utah
- 1863 U.S. declares war against Navajos under General James Carleton, hired Kit Carson
- Under “Scorched Earth” policy, the people were removed on foot to Bosque Redondo, New Mexico
- By 1868 over 3,000 perished and 1,000 escaped
- Treaty of 1868 was signed enabling people to return
- They now occupy the largest reservation in the United States

# Paiute Termination

- During the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was movement in Congress to remove American Indians from federal supervision and take their land away.
- This movement was called termination.
- One of the leaders of this movement was Utah Senator Arthur Watkins who grew up near the Uintah and Ouray Reservation.
- While this effort was directed at all tribes, only the Paiute Tribe Utah was terminated.
- On September 1, 1954, President Eisenhower signed Public Law 762, the bill terminating the Paiutes from federal recognition.
- Thousands of acres of land were lost and the Paiute people became poverty stricken for many years thereafter.

# Restoration

- In 1975, there was movement to restore some tribes to federal recognition
- Besides the Menominee, the Paiute were under consideration
- On April 3, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed P.L. 96-227 the Restoration Act
- In 1984, H.R. 2898 provided the Paiutes with 4,770 acres of land, less than one-third of the 15,000 acres that the restoration legislation allowed them to select



# Intergenerational Historic Trauma

*“Trauma has been garnering more and more attention over the past few years, with the rampant climb of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and the understanding of what can cause it. Intergenerational trauma among American Indians is an area of study that has just started to generate attention from communities inside Indian country, academia and the medical profession.”*

*“According to researchers, high rates of addiction, suicide, mental illness, sexual violence and other ills among Native peoples might be, at least in part, influenced by historical trauma.”*

*“Many present-day health disparities can be traced back through epigenetics to a “colonial health deficit,” the result of colonialization and its aftermath.”* Bonnie Duran, PhD, Director for Indigenous Health Research Institute, University of Washington

# Additional Comments about Trauma

- Trauma is an injury, hurt or damage caused by a deeply disturbing experience—it can be physical, emotional, or spiritual and may have lasting impacts
- Trauma can be passed through the generations—for example, children of active alcoholics are more likely to become alcoholics themselves or marry an alcoholic, thus putting their own children at risk
- Historical trauma is cumulative emotional and psychological wounding from massive group trauma across generations

# **Examples of Dehumanization and Racism Experienced by Utah's Native Peoples**

- Bloody violence – mass killings, rape, and genocide
- Seizure of their traditional homelands and displacement
- Forced relocation on reservations and banishment from traditional hunting and gathering territories
- Disastrous exposure to infectious diseases
- Prohibited from practicing native religions and speaking native language
- Broken promises by government - Seizure of reservation land for homesteaders
- Separation of children from families and suppression of traditional languages and cultures in boarding schools, magnified in some cases by physical and sexual abuse
- Removal of children from families for adoption, and removal of families to far-away cities
- Demeaning and racist treatment of students at public schools
- Abusive law enforcement practices

# Thank You



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