

Section 1: Jacksonian Democracy

A CHANGING ELECTORATE

In the early 1800s, state legislatures expanded democracy, giving more people voting rights. However, women and African Americans still had no voting rights in most states. By 1828 almost all states had changed the system under which state legislatures nominated electors in the electoral college. Now, the people nominated their own electors. Some parties began to hold **nominating conventions**. Broader voting rights and conventions allowed more people to actively participate in politics.

JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY

Andrew Jackson entered the political scene as American democracy grew. Historians called the expansion of democracy in this era **Jacksonian Democracy**. Jackson's supporters were mainly farmers, frontier settlers, and southern slaveholders. They believed he would protect the rights of the common people and the slave states. They referred to themselves as Democrats and established the **Democratic Party**. Many supporters of President John Quincy Adams called themselves National Republicans.

THE 1828 ELECTION

The presidential candidates were President Adams and Andrew Jackson in a replay of the 1824 election. Jackson selected South Carolina Senator **John C. Calhoun** as his running mate. The campaign concentrated on personalities. Jackson's campaigners said he was a war hero who was born poor and earned success through hard work. They said that Adams knew nothing about everyday people because his father had been the second U.S. president. Adams's backers said Jackson was too coarse to be president.

Jackson and Calhoun won the election. Jackson's supporters described his victory as a triumph for the common people. A crowd of some 20,000 people held a big party on the White House lawn to celebrate. Jackson began the **spoils system**, but he replaced fewer than one-fifth of federal officeholders. One of Jackson's strongest cabinet members was **Martin Van Buren**. Jackson also relied heavily on a trusted group of advisors that was called the **kitchen cabinet**.

Section 2: Jackson's Administration

SECTIONAL DIFFERENCES INCREASE

In Andrew Jackson's presidency, people's reaction to almost every policy was based on where they lived and the economy of their region. The North's economy depended on trade and manufacturing. The North supported tariffs, which helped it compete with foreign manufacturers. Southerners marketed a large portion of their crops to foreign countries. Most southerners opposed tariffs, which led to higher prices in manufactured items that they bought. Westerners wanted cheap land.

THE TARIFF OF ABOMINATIONS

Northerners continued to demand high tariffs to guard their new industries from foreign competition. In 1828 Congress passed a law that southerners called the **Tariff of Abominations**. (An abomination is a hateful thing.) The tariff intensified sectional differences.

THE STATES' RIGHTS DEBATE

Vice President John C. Calhoun of South Carolina argued that certain tariffs violated **states' rights**. The debate over states' rights led to the **nullification crisis**. Jackson opposed nullification. Calhoun resigned from office. South Carolina's legislature declared that a new 1832

tariff would not be collected in the state. **Daniel Webster** backed a unified nation. Congress finally agreed to lower the tariffs gradually. South Carolina's leaders agreed to obey the law, but still backed the nullification idea.

JACKSON ATTACKS THE BANK

President Jackson and many southern states questioned the constitutional legality of the Second Bank of the United States. However, in the case **McCulloch v. Maryland**, the Bank was found to be constitutional. Jackson moved most of the Bank's funds to state banks. This action caused inflation.

VAN BUREN'S PRESIDENCY

The **Whig Party** backed four candidates for president in 1836, and the Democrat, Martin Van Buren, won. When the country experienced the **Panic of 1837**, Van Buren was blamed. In 1840 the Whigs nominated **William Henry Harrison**, who won with an electoral landslide.

Section 3: Indian Removal

THE INDIAN REMOVAL ACT

President Andrew Jackson's policies toward American Indians 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.

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. The Cherokee adopted some of the white culture 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.

AMERICAN INDIAN RESISTANCE

Conflicts broke out in Illinois and Florida when some Native Americans decided to resist removal with force. 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. By 1850 American Indians had been driven from the Illinois region.

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 of dollars, U.S. officials gave up.