



Andrew Jackson's Presidency

"THE JACKSONIAN ERA"

7th President

- ▶ Known as
 - ▶ “The Common Man’s President”
 - ▶ “Old Hickory”
 - ▶ “King Andrew”
- ▶ Hero of the Battle of New Orleans
- ▶ Did NOT like Native Americans

Era of the “Common Man”

- ▶ The first six Presidents were from the same mold:
 - ▶ Wealthy
 - ▶ Educated
 - ▶ from the east
- ▶ Jackson was a self-made man who declared education an unnecessary requirement for political leadership

Issues Adams Faced

- **THE CORRUPT BARGAIN**
- **ELECTION OF 1828**
- **POWER AS PRESIDENT**
- **NEW POLITICAL PARTIES**
- **SECOND BANK OF THE UNITED STATES**
- **TARIFF OF ABOMINATIONS AND THE NULLIFICATION CRISIS**

The Corrupt Bargain

- ▶ Jackson and his followers cried foul over the bargain Clay made with Adams
- ▶ Vowed to take make Adams' presidency uncomfortable and take him down in the next election.

Election of 1828

- ▶ Mud slinging – talking and campaigning with negativity about the other candidate to garner support
- ▶ Jackson runs as the ‘Common Man’ candidate and beats Adams
- ▶ Many felt ‘mob rule’ had taken hold when Jackson became president

Power as President

- ▶ *“To the victor goes the spoils”*
- ▶ Many felt Jackson abused his power as president and overstepped his Constitutional authority
- ▶ They felt he did not consult Congress on many policy-making acts and misused his veto power

“Kitchen Cabinet”

- ▶ Did not use his formal cabinet of appointed officials
- ▶ Used an informal group of friends and advisors
 - ▶ Often met in the White House kitchen

“Spoils System”

- ▶ Jackson often awarded government positions
 - ▶ Mainly to friends and supporters
- ▶ He believed rotation of office holders instead of career politicians was more democratic
- ▶ This practice occasionally led to corruption during the Jackson presidency

New Political Parties

- ▶ Democrats
 - ▶ supporters of Jackson
- ▶ National Republicans or Whigs
 - ▶ Henry Clay, Daniel Webster

Second Bank of the United States

- ▶ Chartered in 1816 for a 20-year term
- ▶ Privately-owned but housed the money of the US government and became a “monopoly”
- ▶ Controlled smaller banks because it housed gov’t money and often swayed policy
- ▶ Industry and manufacturers liked the idea because they had the money in the banks, thus the power
- ▶ Began the practice of using bank notes for transactions instead of gold and silver

Second Bank of the United States

- ▶ Printed more money and loaned out more than they had in deposits, causing inflation
- ▶ Jackson hated the Bank and vetoed the next charter to continue the Bank because he felt the Bank had undue privilege
- ▶ Jackson withdrew all of the US government's money from the Bank and placed it in state 'pet' banks
- ▶ The Charter expired in 1836



Tariff of Abominations and the Nullification Crisis

Tariff of Abominations

- ▶ Protective tariff – a tax on imported goods aimed at protecting domestic (US) produced goods
- ▶ The “Tariff of 1828” is placed on imported textiles (cloth) to protect northern textile businesses
 - ▶ Eventually known as the “Tariff of Abominations”
- ▶ Backfired by reducing Britain’s demand for southern raw cotton and heavily impacting the South economy
- ▶ Henry Clay pushed through the “Tariff of 1832”
 - ▶ was still too high for Southerners to afford

Nullification Crisis

- ▶ Nullify – to make null and void; in this case, a Constitutional law
- ▶ John C Calhoun pushed South Carolina and other states to nullify the Tariff and not pay it
- ▶ He felt if a state finds a law unconstitutional in their eyes, they had nullification privileges

Nullification Crisis

- ▶ Some pushed for eventual secession (leaving of the Union) if the Tariff wasn't eliminated
- ▶ Jackson was given authority to send troops into South Carolina to enforce the tariff
- ▶ Clay devised the "Clay's Compromise" tariff
- ▶ Lowered the amount of the tax and satisfied Jackson enough to back down

Worcester v.
Georgia, the
Indian Removal
Act and the “Trail
of Tears”



Worcester v. Georgia

- ▶ Lands in Georgia were inhabited by Native Americans
- ▶ Jackson saw it prudent to remove these inhabitants to make way for land speculators and more Americans aimed at growth and expansion
- ▶ **Worcester v. Georgia**
 - ▶ Georgia attempted to seize Cherokee lands
 - ▶ The Cherokee (Worcester) sued Georgia
 - ▶ John Marshall ruled in favor of the Cherokee
 - ▶ Andrew Jackson: “Mr. Marshall has made his decision, now let him enforce it!”

Indian Removal Act

- ▶ Some Cherokee leaders agreed to accept western land and payment in exchange for relocation
- ▶ Treaty of New Echota
- ▶ 20,000 Cherokees were marched of 1,000 miles to lands in Oklahoma and Kansas
- ▶ 1/4 perished during journey
- ▶ Known as the “Trail of Tears”
- ▶ The most sorrowful legacy of the Jacksonian Era

