



500 Nations: An Illustrated History of North American Indians

By Alvin M. Josephy Jr.

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A book that grew from an eight-hour TV series, this is the epic and unforgettable story of the history, lore, legends, and legacy of North American Indians. With a highly accredited author and over 485 paintings, woodcuts, drawings, and photographs--329 in four-color--this oversized volume addresses a subject of never-ending fascination, providing detailed information about the lives, culture, and heritage of hundreds of North America's Indian nations. Never before has this subject been so thoroughly and deeply explored from the perspective of the Native American viewpoint.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The companion volume to the 1995 popular PBS series of the same name, **500 Nations** is a richly illustrated, absorbingly written history of North America's indigenous peoples. Drawing on creation stories, oral history, archaeological evidence, federal documents, and hundreds of published sources, Josephy takes us on an encyclopedic journey through Native America's past and present. Few scholars have Josephy's command of his broad and complex subject, and fewer still write as dexterously. The result: the best one-volume, general-interest study of Native American history now available.

From Publishers Weekly

This stunningly illustrated companion to a forthcoming CBS television series (produced by Kevin Costner, James Wilson and Jack Leustig) stands on its own as a stirring introduction to hundreds of distinct Native American nations that once blanketed the North American continent. Largely a story of conquest, displacement, betrayal, genocide and forced assimilation, the book wondrously fuses an eloquent text and more than 450 illustrations, most in color, to convey a sense of each tribe's culture, social structure and struggle to survive in the face of white settlers' encroachments. Distinguished historian Josephy (The Patriot Chiefs) has written an extraordinary work focusing on a Native American viewpoint, which ranges from the ancient Maya and Olmec civilizations of Mexico to Hopewellian mound-builders of the Ohio Valley who forged a continent-wide trade network before A.D. 500, to the democratic Nez Perces of Idaho, Washington State and Oregon, nearly exterminated by 1880. 100,000 first printing; History Book Club main selection; BOMC alternate.

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From School Library Journal

YA?This companion to the television documentary is an excellent chronological overview of the history of North American Indians from the ancient legends of the peoples' origins to the problems faced during the Western expansion to the present. While Josephy does not explore specific tribes in great detail, he writes in a most interesting style that gives readers the feeling of being witnesses to the events. The narrative is brought to life by excerpts from journals and diaries as well as through contemporary interviews. The book is beautifully and colorfully illustrated with 485 paintings, drawings, prints, historical photographs, and artifacts. Many are large and eyecatching. The detailed index will assist researchers focusing in on a specific topic or person.?Sandi Hammonds, W.T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marisa Reber:

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exercise. Well, probably you should have this 500 Nations: An Illustrated History of North American Indians.

Flora Godfrey:

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Lauren Veach:

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Jill Lee:

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