# Cultural Contact

Chapter Issue: To what extent does cultural contact affect people?

Related Issue II: To what extent should contemporary society respond to the legacies of historical globalization?





## Different Cultures, Different Perspectives

What are some perspectives of cultural contact?



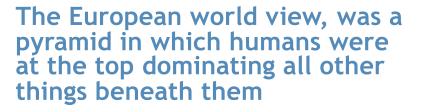


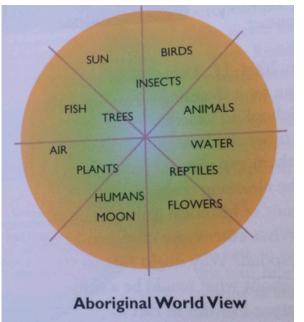


Everyone has a **world view:** a way of interpreting the present, understanding the past, and imagining your future. Your world view reveals your attitudes, beliefs, and values

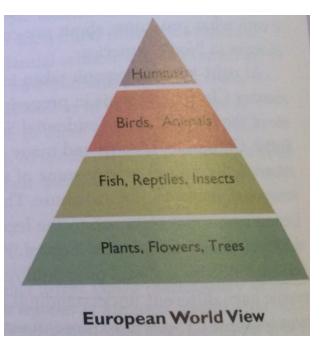
## Aboriginals vs European World Views (at first contact)

The Aboriginal world view is a web of life in which all living things are in harmony with one another and are all equal partners





What impact do you think these different world views may have had following contact?





North America before contact with Europeans. Compare this map with a map of the physical features of North America. What does this suggest about Indigenous peoples' relationship with their environment?



## CULTURAL CONTACT IN NORTH AMERICA

In what ways can cultural contact affect people?

### Christopher Columbus

• 1490s

- Searching for a water route for trade with India and China
- He went WEST rather than EAST!

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ae2B9TO</u> <u>BvpM</u>







### The Beothuk story

#### Depopulation:

- Conflict
- Disease
- Loss of resources
- Cultural change
- Assimilation
- \*\*Eventually, extinction
- How did contact lead to depopulation?
- Record of the past: The Drawings of Shawnadithit (p. 124)



#### Goods

- Furs
- Food (corn, potato, and so on)
- Fish
- Timber
- Minerals
- Raw resources

#### First Nations Cultures

#### Goods

- Metal items (knives, axes, and so on)
- Manufactured trade goods (needles, buttons, alcohol)
- Firearms
- Horses
- Clothing, blankets
  - Farm implements

#### **European Cultures**

#### Knowledge/Technology

- Knowledge of local agriculture
- Knowledge of local wildlife
- Knowledge of local natural resources
- Knowledge of local hunting/fishing techniques
- Knowledge of local medicines
- Knowledge of local geography

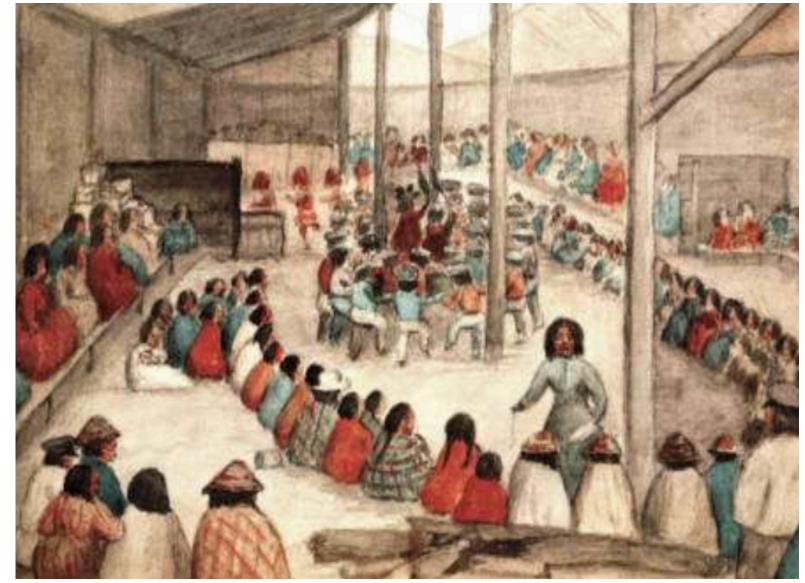
#### Knowledge/Technology

- Industrial technology
- Printing
- Firearms
- Manufacturing

# **Figure 7-7** This diagram illustrates some of the goods and technologies that Europeans and Plains peoples exchanged. How would these exchanges have affected each culture?

### Potlatch Societies

--First Nations of Pacific Cost



### First Nations of the Pacific Coast

#### The Effects of Contact on Potlatch Societies:

- Traditional economy was based on obtaining renewable natural resources via hunting, fishing, gathering; potlatch gifts were made from these resources
- Europeans introduced non-renewable trade goods into potlatch communities
  - Potlatch hosts began to give those as gift in potlatch...this changed the nature of the economy in potlatch community
- 1884-1951: Canadian government banned the potlatch
- Banned potlatch + First Nations children sent to residential schools → the expression of cultural traditions was threatened

Cultural Revitalization initiatives to restore their traditional ceremonies

### **INVESTIGATION: The Effects of Cultural Contact on North American Society**



The Six Nations Confederacy developed a democratic form of government, The Great Law of Peace



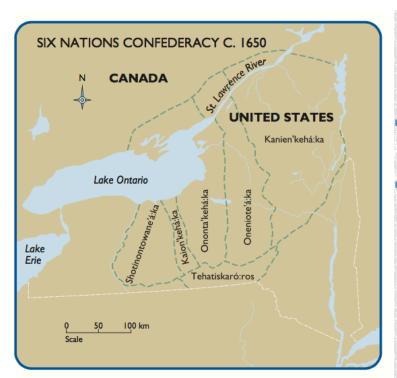
Read 127-128



Consider the following question:

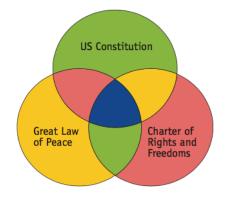
To what extent did cultural contact between First Nations societies and Europeans influence the development of modern North American society?





### **Governance and the Six** Nations Confederacy

- Six Nations Confederacy:
  - Alliance of 6 Haudenosaunee nations
- Co-operated to form a **democracy** based on an unwritten **constitution** known as the **Great Law of Peace** 
  - It divided powers between different levels of government
  - Equal participation in government (including women)
  - Guaranteed certain rights and freedoms (freedom of speech and rights of the individual)



- Upon contact, Europeans knew very little about democracy (feudal system)
- Following contact, Europeans interacted with SNC via the fur trade...learned about the Great Law of Peace
- Globalization--

# Lasting Effects of Contact

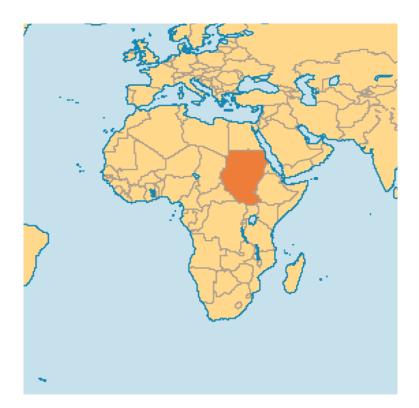
Can the effects of cultural contact still be felt years later?





## **Colonialism in Sudan**

- Colonized by the British, 1881-1956
  - Egypt ruled simultaneously with Britain for a part of that time
- 1920s--"Closed door" policy to separate peoples and cultures of north [Arabs descent] and south Sudan [African origin]
- 1956- Sudan gains independence
  - North Sudan was given majority of the power and this led to a lot of displacement
- Civil war →depopulation and displacement of Sudan's Indigenous peoples in the south
- 2011→referendum; North Sudan & South Sudan





## **Chapter 6 Review Questions**

Investigation p. 127-128

 Consider the following question: To what extent did cultural contact between First Nations societies and Europeans influence the development of modern North American society?

Explore the Issues p. 131

• #1 & #2