

Background Essay Questions

1. How many Cherokees were removed from Georgia on the Trail of Tears? How many died?
2. How did the Cherokees respond to the civilization policy?
3. Who was John Ross and what was his opinion of removal?
4. Why do you think a majority of Cherokees opposed the treaty of New Echota?
5. Define these terms:

Trail of Tears

politics

civilization policy

social prejudice

Indian Removal Act

economics

cede

EV

Timeline

- 1792** – George Washington initiates “civilization” program among Cherokees
- 1802** – Georgia trades Yazoo Territories (Alabama and Mississippi) for Indian lands in Georgia
- 1821** – Sequoyah introduces a Cherokee alphabet
- 1827** – The Cherokee Nation adopts a constitution
- 1830** – Andrew Jackson signs Indian Removal Act
- 1832** – In *Worcester v. Georgia*, Supreme Court defends Cherokee land rights
- 1838** – Trail of Tears