The Age of Jackson: 1828-1850

A Presentation Based on the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) Test Objectives
GSE Objective SSUSH7

Investigate political, economic, and social developments during the Age of Jackson.
SSUSH7a. Explain **Jacksonian Democracy**, including expanding suffrage, the Nullification Crisis & states' rights & the **Indian Removal Act**.
Three Major Issues during the Jackson Presidency

1. Expanding Suffrage
2. The Nullification Crisis and States’ Rights
3. The Indian Removal Act
Expanding Suffrage

- **suffrage** (the right to vote) broadened in the U.S. during the early 1800s.
- states dropped land ownership as a voting requirement, thus many more white working class men became eligible to vote.
- this led to greater political participation by average citizens:
- In 1824, only 350,000 people voted; by 1840, over 2.5 million cast ballots.
Who Was Andrew Jackson?

- orphan with little formal education
- teenager in Continental Army
- hero of the War of 1812
- leader in First Seminole War
- successful lawyer and Tennessee politician
- fought in over 100 duels, and killed Charles Dickinson in one
- lost the 1824 Presidential election; won in 1828 & 1832
- called “Old Hickory” and “The People’s President”
The 1824 Presidential Election

• Jackson won the popular vote, but no candidate won a required majority of electoral college votes, so the House of Representatives had to decide a winner.

• Speaker of the House Henry Clay gave his support to J.Q. Adams who not only won, then appointed Clay as Secretary of State.

• Jackson said a “corrupt bargain” had been made between Adams and Clay.

• Jackson spent the next four years preparing for the 1828 election.
Rise of Popular Political Culture

• Jackson’s presidential campaigns caused an increase in public participation in politics:
  – campaign rallies were first introduced
  – both sides accused the other of wrong doing
  – these accusations were turned into songs, buttons, and posters
Jackson Forever!
The Hero of Two Wars and of Orleans!
The Man of the People!
HE WHO COULD NOT BARTER NOR BARGAIN FOR THE
PRESIDENCY!

Who, although “A Military Chieftain,” valued the purity of Elections and of the
Electors, MORE than the Office of PRESIDENT itself! Although the greatest
in the gift of his countrymen, and the highest in point of dignity of any in the world,

BECAUSE
It should be derived from the

PEOPLE!

No Gag Laws! No Black Cockades! No Reign of Terror! No Standing Army
or Navy Officers, when under the pay of Government, to browbeat, or

KNOCK DOWN
Old Revolutionary Characters, or our Representatives while in the discharge of
their duty. To the Polls then, and vote for those who will support

OLD HICKORY
AND THE ELECTORAL LAW.
Ideas of Jacksonian Democracy

• Jackson sought to strengthen the executive branch and weaken Congress
• expanded voting rights broadened political participation
• Jackson used a “spoils system” (appointing loyal party members to government jobs)
• opposed the national bank
• favored **Manifest Destiny** (a belief that it was God's plan for the U.S. to settle from coast to coast)
American Nationalism

• Jackson believed that the U.S. was superior to other nations and people:
  – most people in the U.S. at that time had the same religion (Protestant), language, and culture

• Thus, the U.S. should expand (Manifest Destiny) to spread its values and beliefs

What is nationalism?
The Nullification Crisis

- In the early 1800s South Carolina’s economy began to weaken in part due to high government tariffs (taxes on imports).
- In 1828 Congress passed another tariff, which many called the Tariff of Abominations.
- Many people in South Carolina threatened to secede (break away) from the U.S. over the high tariffs.

Question: Why would tariffs hurt South Carolina and other southern states more than they hurt northern states?
The Nullification Crisis (Cont.)

• To prevent this secession movement from growing, Vice-President John C. Calhoun, himself a South Carolinian, instead supported the idea of nullification, or the right of the states to declare federal laws null, or void.

• Calhoun declared that states had this power of nullification because the states had created the federal government.

• Thus, nullification became a facet of states’ rights ideology.
The Nullification Crisis (Cont.)

• In 1832, Congress passed another tariff law.
• In November of that year, South Carolina declared the tariffs of 1828 and 1832 null, and refused to pay the federal government’s taxes on imports.
• President Andrew Jackson, who viewed nullification as a treasonous act, ordered a warship to Charleston.
The Nullification Crisis (Cont.)

• In 1833, Congress passed the Force Bill, which authorized the President to use military force to enforce actions of Congress.

• To ease tensions, Congress passed a bill that would gradually lower tariffs through 1842.

• In response, South Carolina repealed its nullification of tariffs and the issue was temporarily resolved.

Question: How was the Nullification Crisis an example of sectionalism?
The Indian Removal Act

- In the early 19th century, many people advocated the removal of American Indians from their land.
- Two reasons were:
  1. desire for farm land (esp. for cotton in the South), and
  2. discovery of gold in Cherokee territory of northern Georgia.
The Indian Removal Act

• In 1830, Congress passed a bill known as The Indian Removal Act
• Jackson supported this bill and signed it into law
• The law forced thousands of American Indians to leave their homelands and walk thousands of miles to a newly created “Indian territory” west of the Mississippi River (today’s Oklahoma).
• The Cherokee nation sued in the Supreme Court and won its case (Cherokee Nation v. Georgia), but the federal government ignored the ruling.
The Trail of Tears

- During the 1830s, the federal government drove thousands of American Indians from their land.
- Many died on the arduous journey known as the “Trail of Tears.”
- E.g., 3,500 of the 15,000 Creeks who set out for Oklahoma in 1836 did not survive the trip.
SSUSH7b. Explain how the North, South, and West were linked through industrial and economic expansion including Henry Clay and the American System.
America Begins to Industrialize

• As the Industrial Revolution progressed during the 18\textsuperscript{th} and 19\textsuperscript{th} centuries, the United States would capitalize on the ideas of many significant inventors and entrepreneurs.

• While most of this industrialization occurred in the Northeast, several key inventions would transform the South in different ways.
Clay and the American System

• Henry Clay of Kentucky rose to power as Speaker of the House of Representatives.
• Clay promoted “The American System,” a plan to bring unity and prosperity to the U.S. through:
  1. Protective tariffs to aid U.S. industries and generate revenue for the federal government
  2. High public land prices to generate federal revenue
  3. Use of the Bank of the United States to stabilize currency and tame risky state and local banks
  4. Development of a transportation system of roads and canals financed by tariffs and land sales revenues.
• This never came to pass as Clay envisioned.
Erie Canal

- Completed in 1825, it allowed goods to be shipped by water between New York City and the west
- The canal boats could carry greater loads than wagons
- The 365 mile canal was dug by hand, mainly by Irish immigrants
New York City

• The Erie Canal helped turn New York City into a major port leading to an increase in the city’s population and the development of other industries.
The Savannah – Ogeechee Canal
Other Transportation Developments

- **The National Road**: built in 1811 by the Federal Government connected the east coast to the Ohio River, this was the only major road funded by the U.S. government.

- **Steamboats**: First used in 1807, they allowed easier transportation of goods upriver.

- **Railroads**: between 1830 and 1861, the US built 30,000 miles of railroads. (What industries would this benefit?)
Other Significant Developments

• In 1793, **Samuel Slater** created the first water-powered textile mill in Rhode Island.

• In the 1810s, **Frances Cabot Lowell** developed a series of textile factories in Massachusetts.

• Lowell chiefly employed young women who lived in factory-owned boarding houses.

• Consequently, some of the earliest American **labor unions** formed during the early 1800s.

• In 1837, **Samuel Morse** invented the electric **telegraph**, enabling messages to be sent instantly over long distances.
Failure of the American System

• The American system was not entirely successful:
  – it was never funded to make the infrastructure improvements Clay advocated
  – Clay won a victory with creation of The Second Bank of the United States in 1816, but it was not re-chartered in 1836.
  – tariffs were hated by many Southerners and Westerners, and many were weakened by Congress

• Despite this failure, transportation improved and industry flourished as the result of **innovation** and **entrepreneurship**
SSUSH7 Explain the process of economic growth, its regional and national impact in the first half of the 19th century, and the different responses to it.

a. Explain the impact of the Industrial Revolution as seen in Eli Whitney’s invention of the cotton gin and his development of interchangeable parts for muskets.
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Eli Whitney

- Whitney was one of the early founders of the "American system" of mass production
- Identical parts were produced by machines, and then assembled by hand
- Whitney popularized the machine which produced interchangeable parts for guns
This is Cotton:
Eli Whitney

- Whitney invented the Cotton Gin in 1793 as a means of easily separating the seeds from the cotton.
- The Gin was mass produced using interchangeable parts.
- This invention increased the amount of cotton that the South produced, thus increasing the demand for slaves.
A Modern Cotton Gin (aka Gin Stand)
from http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=5260&pf=1&cg_id=0
Topics Covered

1. Jacksonian Democracy
2. Territorial & population growth
   - Infrastructure: canals (Erie Canal), New York City, steamboats, railroads, National Road
3. Processes of Economic Growth:
   - cotton gin
   - interchangeable parts
   - textile mills
4. Relationship between growing north-south divisions and westward expansion
   - Manifest Destiny
   - The Nullification Crisis
   - The Missouri Compromise
Religion and Reform
1812-1860

A Presentation Based on the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) Test Objectives
SSUSH7c. Explain the influence of the Second Great Awakening on social reform movements, including temperance, public education, and women’s efforts to gain suffrage.
Second Great Awakening

- During the first half of the 19th century, a new religious revival known as the Second Great Awakening was characterized by a resurgence of faith, growth of many religious denominations and philosophical ideals, and large numbers of conversions to evangelical religions.
- The Second Great Awakening also inspired activists in a number of reform movements such as temperance, public education, penitentiary, mental health, women’s rights and abolition.
- A number of new religious and philosophical groups formed, emerged or enlarged during this time, including:
  
  | African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) | Presbyterian |
  | Baptist | Shakers (no progeny!) |
  | Evangelical | Transcendentalist philosophy |
  | Methodist | Unitarians/Universalist |
  | Mormon | Utopian (New Harmony, Brook Farm) |
Mormons

• Arising from the visions of prophet Joseph Smith, a new religion known as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints formed in the U.S. during the 1820s.

• Church members are popularly known as “Mormons.”

• Moving from New York state to Ohio and Missouri, church members later fled westward following disputes with other settlers and the murder of Smith in 1844.

• Led by Brigham Young, the Mormons settled in Utah in search of religious freedom.
The Temperance Movement

- Alcohol abuse had become widespread by the early 1800s.
- The **Temperance Movement**, heavily supported by women, aimed at limiting alcohol consumption.
- They argued that excessive use of alcohol led to crime and violence, and that men neglected their families by spending their pay on drinking.
- Advocates of temperance also pushed for laws prohibiting the sale of liquor.
- Several groups united in 1833 to form the **American Temperance Union**.
- Maine’s **Neal Dow** was another well-known advocate of temperance.
Educational Reform
Educational Reform

• **Horace Mann**, a Massachusetts state legislator, believed citizens must be educated for the nation to survive and prosper.

• **He began a movement pushing for government funded schools** & teacher training.

• Mann helped pass a bill that created a **state board of education** in Mass. in 1837, then he became its 1st secretary.

• In **1852**, Massachusetts passed the **first mandatory school attendance law**; New York did the same in 1853.
Dorothea Dix

- Dorothea Dix was a remarkable activist who worked to improve care for prisoners, the disabled, and the mentally ill.
- During the Civil War, Dix trained and supervised Army nurses.
- Dix is remembered for her determination to create humane institutions to care for the mentally ill and her activism in the penitentiary movement.
AMERICAN WOMAN AND HER POLITICAL PEERS.

In many states women are classed, politically, with idiots, convicts, the insane, and Indians—not allowed to vote. Women do not, however, escape taxation.

"Taxation without representation is tyranny."
"Resistance to tyranny is obedience to God."
Political and Economic Status of Women in the Early 1800s

- Could not vote or hold public office
- Could not serve on juries
- Few were highly educated
- Could not work in trades or professions
- Were paid less than men for same jobs
- Lost legal control of wealth or property when married
- Could not testify against husbands in court, sue for divorce, or gain child custody
The Women’s Movement

• In the early 1800s, women's primary role had become raising children.
• Many women became involved in various moral causes (abolition, temperance, etc.).
• Women agitated for the right to vote in order to politically support abolition, temperance and other issues.
The Seneca Falls Convention

- In 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who had been active in the antislavery movement, helped Lucretia Mott and others organize a women’s convention in Seneca Falls, New York.
- Stanton’s main focus was on women’s suffrage.
- The Seneca Falls Convention is considered the beginning of the women’s suffrage movement.
Objective SSUSH7d

Explain how the significance of slavery grew in American politics including slave rebellions and the rise of abolitionism.
Slavery and the Southern Economy

- The **South** was mainly **agricultural** with very little manufacturing during this time period.
- The **main crops** during the mid 1800s were **rice, cotton and tobacco**, all of which required extensive labor to produce.
- Though slavery was prevalent in the South, the vast majority of Southerners did not own slaves.
Slave Revolts

• At least 250 slave revolts have been documented in American history.
• Slave revolts occurred in the North as well as in the South.
• Some of the most significant slave revolts include:
  – New York City slave revolts (1712 and 1741)
  – the Stono Rebellion (South Carolina, 1739)
  – The Denmark Vesey Plot (Charleston, 1822)
  – Nat Turner’s Revolt (Virginia, 1831)
Nat Turner’s Revolt

• Slave Codes put restrictions on slaves, preventing them from learning to read and write and restricting their rights.
• In 1831, Nat Turner, a Virginia slave, believed God had chosen him to lead a revolt.
• Turner and his followers killed more than 50 people before being caught and executed.
• Turner’s Revolt led to Virginia and other states passing even stricter codes and restrictions on both slaves and free African Americans.
The Abolitionist Movement

• The Abolitionist Movement’s goal was to end slavery.

• This movement was tied to the Second Great Awakening during the early 1800s, which focused on sin and repentance, with many viewing slavery as one of the country’s greatest sins.

• Among the earliest organized reactions against slavery was the Germantown Quaker Petition Against Slavery (1688).

• Still, sentiment for abolition in America grew slowly until the early 1800s when a number of individuals and organizations began to address the issue in a wide variety of ways.
Various approaches to abolition were proposed:

– Some believed slave owners could be convinced of the immorality of slavery and submit to manumission (voluntarily freeing slaves).

– A number of groups advocated colonization, or sending Blacks to Africa or elsewhere.

– Others suggested gradualism, an approach to end slavery slowly in several stages.

– Some proposed compensation, or paying slave owners to free their slaves.

– Still others wanted immediate emancipation without compensation to slave holders.
The Abolitionist Movement

- William Lloyd Garrison, one of the country’s leading abolitionists in the 1830s, led the American Anti-Slavery Society and published The Liberator, a pro-abolitionist newspaper.

- Garrison argued for immediate and complete emancipation.

- The Grimke Sisters were South Carolina sisters who moved north to promote the abolitionist movement.
The Abolitionist Movement

• Frederick Douglas, a former slave from Maryland, published the abolitionist newspaper *The North Star* and an influential autobiography.

• Sojourner Truth, a former slave from New York, gave pro-abolition speeches.
American Colonization Society

- The American Colonization Society was formed by a number of religious leaders and prominent citizens in 1816 to facilitate the migration of free American blacks to Africa.
- Among the ACS supporters were Henry Clay, Francis Scott Key, Bushrod Washington and James Monroe.
- Many of its supporters believed that free blacks would never be fully integrated into American society and citizenship.
- Many slave owners also supported the society as a means for removing free blacks from the general population.
- Some African Americans criticized the organization as a drain on free black leadership.
- Others viewed the ACS as a way to “get rid of the slavery problem.”
- In all, approximately 15,000 free blacks emigrated to Africa during the 1800s, most to Liberia as a result of ACS.
The Missouri Compromise

- In 1819 the U.S. consisted of 11 free and 11 slave states.
- Missouri applied for statehood as a slave state in 1819.
- To offset the imbalance, Maine applied to become a free state.
- The Missouri Compromise granted statehood to both territories and set a boundary around areas in which slavery could expand.
- Specifically, slavery was not allowed north of Missouri’s southern border (except in the new state of Missouri).

Why would the South agree not to expand slavery into the Unorganized Louisiana Territory?
The Van Buren, W. H. Harrison and Tyler Presidencies

• Van Buren served only one term (1837-1841), chiefly because of his failure to ease the economic crisis known as Panic of 1837.

• William Henry Harrison, hero of the Battle of Tippecanoe, ran for the Whig party and was elected, but he contracted pneumonia and died 32 days after his inauguration.

• Thus, Harrison’s Vice-President, John Tyler, became the new President.

• Tyler shocked the Whigs because he opposed most of their policies.

• Tyler served the remainder of Harrison’s term (1841-1845), but he was never elected President.
The End