

The fate of the Natchez - a vanished people?

Those who study the Natchez cannot help but find references to their demise and the loss of a rich culture in literature. Despite the displacement and fragmentation of the Native American people in the first half of the 18th century, however, people still refer to their Natchez origins today. Karl-Hermann Hörner takes a close look at this contradiction in „Displacement and Diaspora in the North American Southeast." The book is published by GRIN Verlag in January 2022.

On their flight from the encroachments of the French military, the Natchez, who originally lived on the lower reaches of the Mississippi, came into contact with the Cherokee and the Creek, among others. These peoples also fell victim to colonial rule to some extent and had to flee their old homeland. Karl-Hermann Hörner examines the traces of the Natchez, which can be discovered over the three centuries since their last uprising against the French colonial power until today. In this way, he makes the fate of the Natchez tangible and illustrates how they managed to consistently hold on to their cultural tradition despite their expulsion and the partial dissolution of their community.

Pursuing unexplored paths

The fate of the Natchez in the period between their expulsion from the Mississippi and their forced settlement in Oklahoma has been little researched. In "Displacement and Diaspora in the North American Southeast," Karl-Hermann Hörner traces paths that uncover as yet unrecognized traces of the Natchez odyssey. In this way, he pays tribute to a people and their traditions that, against all odds, persist in one way or another to this day. The book is a continuation of his publication "The Natchez of the Lower Mississippi," in which he describes Natchez society up to the beginning of the colonial era. Hörner's latest title is aimed at both experts and interested laymen. Since the fate of the Natchez is closely tied to that of the Creek and Cherokee, he also appeals to readers who are concerned with these groups and are considering traveling to the indigenous lands of Oklahoma.

About the author

Karl-Hermann Hörner is a graduate sociologist, ethnologist and historian and has been studying Natchez society since his studies. His book "Die Natchez vom Unterlauf des Mississippi" is published by GRIN Verlag in 2019. Other publications can be found on the website of the Arbeitskreis Indian North America. In his current book he continues the story of the Natchez and gives another exciting insight into their culture and fate.

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