

Odawa

Odawa

Odawa group areas.

Total population

15,000

Regions with significant populations

[United States](#) ([Oklahoma](#), [Michigan](#))

[Canada](#) ([Ontario](#))

Languages

[English](#), [French](#), [Ojibwe](#) ([Ottawa dialect](#))

Religion

[Midewiwin](#), [Animism](#), traditional religion, [Christianity](#), other

Related ethnic groups

[Ojibwe](#), [Potawatomi](#), and other [Algonquian peoples](#)

The **Odawa**^[1] (also **Ottawa** or **Odaawaa** [/ooˈdɑːwə/](#)) are an [Indigenous American](#) ethnic group. Their name means "traders". They are part of the [Northeastern Woodlands](#) cultures. Their language is part of the [Algonquian language family](#). They mostly live in the northern [United States](#) and southern [Canada](#). The [US Government](#) federally recognizes these [Native Americans](#) as a tribe. They have numerous recognized [First Nations bands](#) in Canada. They are one of the [Anishinaabeg](#). They are related to but different from the [Ojibwe](#) and [Potawatomi](#) peoples.^[2]

History

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The Odawa may have come from some [Hopewell](#) traditions.^[3] The Odawa were historically grouped with the [Ojibwe](#) and [Potawatomi](#). The three were allied in the Council of Three Fires.^[4] They fought against other tribes like the [Iroquois](#) and [Dakota](#).

The Odawa were important in the [fur trade](#). They traded beaver, deer, marten, raccoon, fox, otter, and muskrat. The Odawa got metal tools, cloths, weapons, jewelry and alcohol in return.^[5] The Odawa fought wars over trading. They fought against the powerful [Mohawk](#) and [Iroquois](#) in the [Beaver Wars](#).

Many Natives later died from European diseases. The natives were not immune to these new diseases.

In 1752, the French [Charles Langlade](#) attacked the [Miami](#) people at [Pickawillany](#) with Odawa, Potawatomi, and Ojibwe. The Miami surrendered

and handed over Englishmen for [negotiations](#). The Odawa [ate](#) one Englishman and the Chief of the town. This was one of the events that led to increased tension in the Ohio Country. This eventually led to the [French and Indian War](#) between France and Britain.^[6]

The Odawa were together with the [French](#) against the [British](#) in the [French and Indian War](#) or [Seven Years' War](#) (1756-1763). [Pontiac](#) was an important Odawa chief. Chief [Egushawa](#) allied with the British during the [American Revolution](#) (1775-1783).^[7]

After the American Revolution, Odawa and other tribes fought against the [United States](#) in the [Northwest Indian War](#). The natives lost this war and had to give up much land. The Odawa gave lands in the [Treaty of Greenville](#) (1795). They gave up more land in the [Treaty of Detroit](#) (1807).^[8] After the [Indian Removal Act of 1830](#), the remaining Odawa moved to [Kansas](#).^[9]

Odawa Chief [Pontiac](#) speaking at a council on April 27, 1763, 19th-century engraving.

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

1. ↑ ["Odawa Ottawa First Nation Portal Websites"](#).
2. ↑ [Odawa](#) at [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#), accessed September 4, 2019
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4. ↑ Williamson, Pamela, and Roberts, John (2nd ed. 2004). *First Nations Peoples*, p. 102. Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications. [ISBN 1-55239-144-2](#).
5. ↑ The Wisconsin Cartographers' Guild (1998). *Wisconsin's Past and Present: A Historical Atlas*. Madison, WI: The University of Wisconsin Press. p. 4.
6. ↑ ["Raid On Pickawillany"](#). *World History Project*. Archived from [the original](#) on 2022-09-27. Retrieved 2022-08-06.
7. ↑ Barnes, Celia (2003). *Native American Power in the United States, 1783-1795*, p. 203. Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. [ISBN 0-8386-3958-5](#).
8. ↑ ["Treaty Between the Ottawa, Chippewa, Wyandot, and Potawatomi Indians"](#). *Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540 USA*. Retrieved 2022-08-06.
9. ↑ ["Ottawa"](#). [www.tolatsga.org](#). Archived from [the original](#) on 2016-04-06. Retrieved 2022-08-06.

Other websites

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- Shultzman, L. (2000). *First Nations Histories*.
- [Frederick Webb Hodge, "Ottawa", *Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico*, Vol. N-Z, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1910, pp. 167–172, full text online](#)
- ["The Middle Woodland Period", The Archaeology of Ontario](#)
- [Odawa](#) at The Canadian Encyclopedia
- [Odawa – *First Nations seeker*](#)
- [Odawa – Word finder](#)

Official Tribal Websites

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- [Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians](#)
- [Little River Band of Ottawa Indians](#)
- [Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians](#)
- [Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma](#)

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