Collage 2 photoshop description

Collage2

**Paragraph 1 – Concept, Composition, Message** This photomontage explores the theme of Indigenous identity and historical trauma through symbolic layering and spatial rhythm. I was drawn to Native American imagery because of a personal connection to Indigenous heritage, and I wanted to create a piece that represents memory, loss, and resilience. Surrounding it are four images, each chosen to reflect a different facet of cultural survival and historical tension. Each image was selected, contributes to the message and guiding the viewer’s eye to highlight both the **respect for Indigenous identity and the trauma, erasure, and fragmentation caused by colonization**.

**Paragraph 2 – Techniques, Blending Modes, Image Sources** To create this photomontage, I used multiple layers, precise selections, and masking to isolate and combine visual elements. I experimented with blending modes to achieve emotional depth while Multiply and Overlay distorted the chief’s image; I ultimately used Dissolve to preserve clarity without overpowering the background and center (“Trail of Tears plaque”). Some layers use Soft Light and Normal with reduced opacity for subtle integration. All images were sourced online from public domain archives and educational resources, including Wikimedia Commons and historical image databases. I selected each image based on cultural relevance and visual impact, ensuring they supported the overall message. The final composition was exported as a 5"x7" JPG under 2MB, and my PSD file includes all masks and adjustments.