

10-15-85

To: Business Committee Members
From: Loreta V. Mitoku
Re: Tour of Onida by foreign students

The attached writings are insights of students from foreign countries (mostly Asia) who took a tour of the Onida Reservation on October 4, 1985.

I read them and found them interesting. I thought you would, also.

Kin Shik Law
Hongkong

Oneida Indians.

8th Oct, 1985

Nowadays, the Oneida Indians change a great deal in their way of living; this ^{being} is caused by the influence of western culture. The Oneida Indians give up their traditional housing style when their ancestors first moved to Wisconsin from New York, they built their houses in their own way by using round-wood. This kind of traditional housing is known as "longhouse". However, their descendants in the present eliminate the longhouse and live in modern apartments and houses. The western culture also changes the Oneida Indian's daily living habits. In the past, their recreation activities were patterned by their own culture. For example, their children played only the game which were introduced by their custom.

Today, the Oneida Indian's kids are very fond of playing basketball and also advanced electronic games. Furthermore, the twentieth century Oneida Indians change their clothing style too. They no longer wear their custom clothing, such as ^{amber coloured} deer - skin clothes and glass beads of their own tribe. They now wear jeans, shirts and sport shoes just as the western people do. Unfortunately, the genuine ancient Oneida Indian's living style can only be understood and recognized through the incomplete historical references in Oneida Nation Museum but not in real Oneida life.

CHAN, CHI LEUNG, Hongkong

Oct 8, 1985.

Having a trip to Oneida Nation Museum is a great experience to me. Different people have different culture for themselves. The American Indian in Oneida are one of the examples of this.

The population of American Indian is 9000 but only 3,700 ^{are} living in Oneida. There are six

tribes in Oneida. They have their own language but they seldom use it now.

Moreover, they have their own school, nursing centre, library, and recreational centre.

They get the fund ~~for~~ by running a Bingo

centre. The women in their tribes were very

^{powerful} powerful and important in the past.

For example, they were the owners of the long houses which were built by the men. They were the one who could select the Chief in their tribe. Furthermore, the long houses were one of their special ~~home~~ living places in the past. These houses were made of tree bark. There were 10 families living in the long house. Finally, but not the last, they played a game called "La Crosse" to settle the quarrel. It is hard to believe that they can settle their quarrels in this way. In conclusion, the Onondaga trip can let me know more about the past of the American Indian which was completely different to ours.

Jamilah Razak.

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10/7/85.

Singapore

Field Trip to Oneida Reservation

Oneida reservation is only about 30 minutes away from UWGB. We, ESL students, visited the Oneida reservation on Friday, ~~October~~ October 4th. It was cold but scenic and pleasant journey. Along the way we saw seapulls, and beautiful colors of trees, fall foliage, such as red fern, white birch, poplar and many others.

Our first stop was the Oneida Nation Museum.

At the museum we learnt about ^{ancient} brief history of the Oneida. The Oneida is one of the tribes of Iroquois Confederacy. They, People of the Standing Stone, migrated to Wisconsin from ^{New York} in early 1820's during the American revolution.

They lived in Long house. The men worked as hunters and warriors. The chief and sub-chief of the Oneida were elected by the family

members. The Oneida men married the Oneida women, and normally the marriage was arranged by the family. They had their own games for both summer and winter times. One of the games ^{like hockey,} was uniquely used to settle disputes with other tribes or among the Oneida without bloodshed. The game may take one whole day, there was feasting between game time, and the winner of the game won the dispute. The Oneida had American and European contacts even before their migration to Wisconsin, and they were as the results of these contacts they embraced Christianity. But the present Oneida lives and leads the same way of life as the rest of the Americans, and they speak English too. The only great different is they live in the reservation land

2
of about 6,500 acres. ~~They~~ The land
was given by the USA government, and
the Oneida formed and elected council
members to look after their tribe's properties.

The Oneida, under the leadership of the
council, is very enterprising such as they
built bingo facilities which churning a
great deal of money for them. Currently
they are building a hotel near the ^{airport} ~~airport~~.

They have their own newspaper, schools, library,
health center, nursing home, home for the aged,
recreation center, churches and even family
funding housing projects for the family
tribe's members. Many of the Oneidas ~~work~~
work in the farm and in any other
industrial sector outside the reservation.
And their life partners are no longer restricted
to the Oneida, they married to Americans and

other tribes. In many ways we could see that the Oneida is currently living in American civilization, but they are very proud of their own own culture and treasure their reservation to such a great extent.

Nutthasak Desai
10/5/85

The Oneida Indians ^{Thailand}

The Oneida Indians are the people who took pride in their culture. Today, the Oneida descendants of those early settlers preserves and share their culture to all peoples of the world. By preserving these cultures, the Oneidas ~~now~~ ^{can} now show its visitors some of ~~these~~ ^{are} prides. The Oneida people are truly artistical. For example, the cloth in which the Oneidas wear are made from animal skins ranging from deer to beavers. And these cloth are always decorated with thousands and thousands of colorful decorations made from dyed porcupine quills; moose hair, and glass beads. The Oneida Indian are also a very skillful craftsmen. They carves

Nutkasak Doo

beautiful plates, bowls, forks and spoons from woods. They also ~~carve~~ carve cones and some tools such as war clubs from woods.

Lastly, the Oneida have a great deal of love and respect for nature. They ^{believe} in the spirits of the woods and they believe that the animals of the forests are their brothers. Even today, if the visitors were to visit the and learn about the Oneida Indians, they would feel the pridefulness of the culture that has existed for thousands of years.

Ignatius Sorrowinoro

258-84.1347

Tuesday, October 8, 1985

Indonesia

ESL 103.

The Oneida Indians

The Oneida Indians, who live in a reservation near Green Bay, have some differences and similarities in their way of life with the others American people. The similarity with the others American people is that they live modernly. They are no longer stay in a longhouse, their traditional house, but they stay in modern house. Their clothes are similar to the others American such as: jeans, t. shirts and sweaters. Even though the Oneida Indians live modernly, they never forget their tradition. Up to now, they still have a leader which is called a chief. In carrying out his duties, the chief is helped by a council whose members are the representatives of the Oneida people. Although they live in reservation, Oneida Indians do not isolate themselves.

They are willing to accept the marriage between Oneida people and non Oneida people. Everybody who lives outside the reservation can enter the reservation freely without permission, and also can build or rent a house. As a conclusion, it can be concluded that although the Oneida Indians live modernly and do not isolate themselves, they still have their own characteristics.

David Yang Taiwan

In late 1700s, President George Washington ordered to establish a permanent reservation for Onieda Indians. This is to prevent the fighting between Onieda and white men", saided the guide in the museum. Last Friday, Dr Johnson invited us to visit the Onieda Indian reservation. We began at Onieda nation museum in order ^{to} understand the Onieda Indians' history, culture and custom. Onieda Indians were originate came from New York state who are also in the Pact of Itaque Indian league. Itaque Indians ~~are~~ ^{were} also called long house Indian because they live in ~~the~~ long house instead of tent, and the long house was shared by many different families. Each family has their own room and belong to the mother of family. It is different from

most ~~of~~ other culture because father of the family is belong to his mother's tribe, and he doesn't gain his wife to his tribe.

Like most of ~~the~~ culture in the world, Ohieda Indians have their ^{own} religion. Although, they worship some idol but they ~~only~~ believe the nature. They believe everything are create by nature and should not be own or waist by anyone, therefore their idea is sharing not owning.

This visited had make me learn a lot of things on Native American, for example, before the European came to America, the Indians did not have written language or anything make of metal. This is important for studying culture, language or history.

I was very ~~happy~~ happy that I visited the reservation and I think, I will visit it again for more informations.

R AHMAD
Pakistan

10/8/55

I found myself a bit disappointed at what I saw when we reached the Onida Nation reservation. The life around me did not appear Indian, as I had expected, but appeared just as all american life appears. I felt as though the Indians had forsaken their traditional life styles. They have modernized their homes with all the latest electrical appliances. As the guide told us, the indians possess refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers. Not only ~~do~~ do they possess these somewhat necessary appliances but they also own such excessories as televisions, microwaves and telephones. I do not believe their ancestors used such applicances. Neither do I believe that their ancestors, the traditional Indians, spent their freetime playing bingo or gambling. The

KAHNAT.

10/8/85
traditional sports of the Indians have been lost.

The children I saw were not playing La Crosse, an Indian game. Instead, they were playing basket ball and tennis in their modern sports center. Right on the reservation they have a sports center along with various other modern facilities. Facilities which can be found in any American community. A health center, a nursery home, a library and a gas station supply modern services for these modern Indians. I have always had much respect for the traditional Indians way of life and way of thinking. Their concern for the preservation of nature is something which I admire. I am sorry to see that many of these Indians philosophies are being forgotten

See Chung-Ten
Taiwan

24 Oct, 84

Since the white people immigrated from Europe two hundred years ago, the Indian culture was influenced by the immigrants, hence we can see there is a big contrast between the past and present Indian life. First, The Oneida Indian is no longer a hunting and agricultural society. Today they own some business, such as the hotel beside the airport. Some of the Indians work in the paper mills in Green Bay. Second, the living condition of the Indian has been improved. The Oneida Indian instead

of living in their traditional longhouses, they live in the modern houses today. Each family has its own independent house, but most of them still maintain the traditional extended family. I find, it is very rare to see the Indians who wear their traditional clothing. They wear jeans, T-shirts as those American. The Oneida Indian is not just influenced by the American culture, they also has been homogenized by the American culture.

Mexico - part
Mayan Indian

Walthira Periche

English

Oct 1/85.

All countries in the whole world have fighting races in their history the United States is not an exception. When the European people came to America they thought the land should belong to them and not to the ^{real} owners: the American Natives. So they started to fight for this land killing the Indians, without compassion, so they can take this land away from the Indians. This massacre went too far, so that is why the Indian thought it was time to think about preserving their life. They made reservations, sanctuaries, etc. Anyway finally the American Government recognized they really needed their own land where they could live safely. Also the American Government had to give them what could really belong to them, although they couldn't give a 'yagui' land to the Mohawk natives because they don't belong to the 'yaguis'. They had to divide the land among the tribes, and as we know there were many native tribes as: menomonees, Mohawk, Iroquois, Redskin, etc.

Let's talk now specifically about the Iroquois Indians.

First of all, the Iroquois Reservations are not alike. New

English

Nathiria Peniche

Oct 10/05:

the race is mixed, sometimes you cannot tell the difference

with another people. Second: they live with the same facilities

as everyone, they're really part of United States and they are

like the other American people, except for one thing: they had a past,

a really proud past.

We can enumerate a lot of things about the Iroquois due

last Friday we went to an Iroquois Reservation and we could

learn some things about them. For example, we have in Wisconsin

the Oneida Reservation where we can see young people of Indian descent.

Everybody knows everybody, there is a peaceful atmosphere.

This land, Oneida, belongs to the Indians so many times de government

rents buildings to work, like the mail office. The downtown is small,

you can see all the stores in only one sight and the best thing: You

don't have to pay tax in Oneida!!!

Also we went to the Oneida Nation Museum where we really

could see the ~~land~~ ^{pl} Indians customs. A lady explained to

us that the Iroquois came in wagons and on foot from

English

Walthira Peniche

Oct 185

New York in the 1820's, they brought to this region the whole Iroquois' treasures, their way of life, their arts, their methods of farming and hunting and their beliefs. The majority of the old people are Catholic but now the young ones are turning to their original beliefs; they really want to preserve their culture.

Through the Oneida Nation Museum we could see their past. We saw their clothing, their old historic pictures, their baskets and other Indian stuff. Leaving the building a faithfully reconstructed Oneida stockaded village. We saw the longhouse, the ancient method of lashing together, and in front this house there was the clan symbol.

Today the culture is changing, even when they're doing their best to preserve it. They still have fighting races although they are separated, I mean they have their own land. (~~they are living~~ in a reserva) And yet they are living in reservations when it suppose they're part of United States. They want their own law system and they really want preserve the most of their cultures.

They have a very proud past, and a proud present although

English

Walkiria Peniche

Oct 18/15 : they still have ^{own} beliefs. And we can see they have a proud future. they build hotels, house, malls, etc., they have good business. So we can see they are really smart people and they still have along way in their future. the future of the people of the standing stone.