

THE ALBERT MAKES CRY STORY (ORIGIN OF INDIAN CUSTOMS, SUN DANCE, ETC.)

God brought the Indian here on this earth--no telling how many tribes. There was no other people on this continent so the Indian was placed here so that he could reside or live here. God wanted the Indian to know Him. The Indian called God the Maker, as he made us and all of the creation on earth. The Indian talked to God and God showed him how to do things, to know how to exist in life, to be independent on Him for his life on earth. God showed him the animals that he should eat for his subsistence--corn, beans, pumpkin, wild turnip, grapes to eat and dry for winter foods. The people, after killing the buffalo were told to see the carcass of the buffalo. People lived in clans and they themselves were afraid of certain parts of the meat and each clan favored some part and others did not care for other parts which was taboo to them. Each clan appointed their leader or chief among themselves. Each leader had supervision of his clan who lived in a group separately to themselves. God told each leader what portion of the meat to take. If they did take other portions they would have misfortune fall on their being. If they did things right they would rear their offspring in the right way of life. If they abided by the rules, they would be good hunters and to remember to always turn to Him for help. God gave the pipe to the Indians, he must clothe it and always keep it in respect in his lodge. When he failed to find game or was in trouble he must take the pipe out, gathering sweet willow for offering to the Great Spirit and as for His guidance. So the Indian has brought the pipe and its respect to the present day. They used the sacred pipe in all ceremonies, in the selection of their chiefs, dances, games, war parties and visiting of other or hostile tribes. The pipe was respected by all tribes. It was a sort of a flag of truce. The pipe was held by a chief and the hostiles would circle around the chief and seeing that he was armed by the emblem of peace they would stop and ask the people into their camp for consultation or friendship. They would give gifts and exchange regalia, sleep and go on their way on the morrow.