

USA. 1. The Nation. Glossary, Transcription, Translation

The Stars and Stripes (*звездно-полосатый флаг*) is the US flag, an important symbol to all Americans. It is also known as Old Glory (*доблесть прошлого*) or the Starry Banner or the Star-Spangled Banner. This flag had 13 stripes, seven red and six white, and in one corner 13 white stars on a blue background to represent the 13 states. On 14 June 1777 it became the flag of the independent US. As each new state became part of the US an extra star was added.

Today, the flag, called Old Glory or the Stars and Stripes, is widely seen in the US. When somebody important dies, flags are flown at half mast. When a soldier dies his or her coffin is covered with a flag, and after the funeral the flag is given to the family. The flag has also been used as a symbol of protest, especially during the Vietnam War, when some people burnt the flag to show that they were ashamed of their country's actions.

The Great Seal (*большая государственная печать*) is the national seal of the US. It is kept by the Secretary of State and used on documents of national importance.

Bald eagle (*белоголовый орлан*) aka the American eagle is the national symbol of the United States. It appears on the Great Seal of the United States and on coins. In its mouth, the eagle holds the words *e pluribus unum* ("one out of many"). It holds arrows (a symbol of war) in its left foot and an olive branch (a symbol of peace) in its right foot.

The Star-Spangled Banner (*знамя, усеянное звездами*) is the national anthem of the United States. The melody was taken from "To Anacreon in Heaven," a drinking song of the Anacreontic Society (of London) that was written by the British composer John Stafford Smith. Key's words were first published in a broadside in 1814 under the title "Defence of Fort M'Henry." The song's title was changed when it appeared in sheet-music form later the same year. After a century of general use, the four-stanza song was officially adopted as the national anthem by act of Congress in 1931.

Uncle Sam (*Дядя Сэм*) is a popular U.S. symbol usually associated with a cartoon figure having long white hair and chin whiskers and dressed in a swallow-tailed coat, vest, tall hat, and striped trousers. The origin of the term Uncle Sam, though disputed, is usually associated with a businessman from Troy, N.Y., Samuel Wilson, known affectionately as "Uncle Sam" Wilson. The barrels of beef that he supplied the army during the War of 1812 were stamped "U.S." to indicate government property. A resolution passed by Congress in 1961 recognized Wilson as the namesake of the national symbol.

The Liberty Bell (*колокол свободы*) is a bell used by Americans during the American Revolution. It was made in London and taken to Philadelphia in 1752 where it cracked when it was first used. It was repaired and rung for such events as the Boston Tea Party and when the Declaration of Independence was first read to the public. It cracked again in 1835 and 1846. In 1976 it was placed in a special case of glass and steel behind Independence Hall.

Washington, D.C. ("District of Columbia") is a city and capital of the United States of America. The city is located at the head of navigation of the Potomac River, which separates it from Virginia to the southwest. In 1790 Congress designated 260 square km of territory for the seat of government for the new nation on land ceded by Maryland and Virginia. However, in the mid-19th century the land south of the Potomac was returned to Virginia, and since then the District's boundaries have made it essentially a 177-square-km enclave carved from Maryland.

New York City is the largest U.S. city. It was founded in 1624 by the Dutch, who called it New Amsterdam. Its Dutch origins can be seen in place names such as Brooklyn and Harlem. In 1664 the English gained control and changed the name to New York. Many immigrants to the U.S. stayed in New York, giving the city the variety of cultures it has today. During the 1920s New York had many speakeasies, which were illegal but very popular. This was also the time of the Harlem Renaissance, when Harlem became a centre for African-American arts and culture. In the latter half of the century wealthier people began moving out to the suburbs.

Los Angeles is the second largest city in the U.S. and the largest in California. Local industry produces aircraft, chemicals, drugs and electronic products. The U.S. captured the town from the Mexicans in 1846, and oil was discovered there at the end of the 19th century. Americans think of Los Angeles as an exciting city with many opportunities. But it is also seen as a dangerous place because of its earthquakes, pollution, traffic problems and race riots.

Chicago is the third largest U.S. city. It is in the state of Illinois on Lake Michigan and is sometimes called the “Windy City” (*город ветров*). It had the world’s first skyscrapers, and the Sears Tower is now the tallest building in the U.S. Chicago is the centre of the American Middle West. The El train runs around the business district, called the Loop. During Prohibition, Chicago was known for its gangsters, especially Al Capone.

Native American (*коренной житель Америки*) is a member of the indigenous peoples of North America. The aboriginal peoples of the Western Hemisphere usually are recognized as constituting two broad groupings. The first and larger group, called Native Americans, is further divided geographically into North American, Middle American, and South American Indian peoples. The second group consists of a number of Arctic peoples, most of whom are variously called Eskimo or Inuit but also including such other groups as Aleuts.

African-American (*афроамериканец*) is a recent U.S. name for black Americans descended from Africans, especially those descended from American slaves. In the 1990s, the name has become more popular and politically correct than “black”.

Immigrant (*иммигрант; переселенец*) is somebody who goes to settle permanently in a different country. The U.S. is known as a nation of immigrants. Apart from Native Americans who were living in North America when people first arrived there from Europe, all Americans have ancestors who were immigrants. In the U.S. the word immigrant is often used with a positive meaning. People are proud to say that their ancestors were immigrants who came with very little and built a better life for themselves.

Sioux [su:] (*сью*) is a member of a Native-American people, also called the Dakota people, many of whom live in South Dakota on reservations. The Sioux were originally an association of seven groups on the Great Plains where, led by Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, they fought the US Army. They defeated General George Custer at the Battle of Little Bighorn but lost their final battle at Wounded Knee.

Apache [ə'pætʃ.i] (*апачи*) is a member of a Native American group in the south-western US. In the late 19th century the Apaches, under such leaders as Cochise and Geronimo, were the last Native Americans to be defeated by the US Cavalry. Today many Apaches live on reservations in the states of Arizona, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Pueblo ['pweɪ.ləʊ] (*публо*) is a member of one of the groups of Native-American people who live in the US states of Arizona and New Mexico. The groups include the Hopi and the Zuni. They are descended from people who lived in cliff houses, some of which can be seen in the Mesa Verde National Park. They now live in communities called pueblos and build their houses of dried clay, called adobe.

Cherokee ['tʃer.ə.ki:] (*чероки*) is a member of a Native-American people who lived by farming and trading. Their language was written in 1826 by Sequoyah, and they had a form of government called the Cherokee Nation. The US government moved them in 1838 from Georgia to Oklahoma, and many died on the journey, called the Trail of Tears. Some Cherokees still live in the eastern US in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Navajo ['næv.ə.həʊ] (*навахо*) is a member of the largest group of Native-American people, related to the Apache. There are about 100000 Navajo, and they live mostly in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah on reservations. They work mainly as farmers and raising sheep. They have also earned money from oil and other minerals on their land. The Navajo are known for weaving carpets and blankets and for making silver jewellery.

Iroquois ['i.r.ə.kwɔɪ], pl. ['i.r.ə.kwɔɪz] (*ирокезы*) is a member of any of a group of North American Indian peoples formerly living between the Hudson River and the St Lawrence and Lake Erie. The Iroquois League was a union of Native-American peoples established about 1570. The groups involved, all in north-eastern America, were the Cayuga, the Mohawk, the Oneida, the Onondaga and the Seneca. The League was originally also called the Five Nations. When the Tuscarora joined in 1722, it became known as the Six Nations. Its members were farmers and hunters. They supported the British in the French and Indian War and, except for the Oneida and Tuscarora, also in the American Revolution.

Indian reservation is any of the areas of land given to Native Americans by the US government. The US Bureau of Indian Affairs protects them and provides schools for them. There are 333 reservations in 33 states, with the majority of them in California and Oklahoma. Most Native Americans on reservations are poor and receive financial help from the government.