America's Expansion 1789-1838

Timeline

1789	George Washington is inaugurated as the first ever President of the United States of America.
1793	Eli Whitney invents the Cotton Gin.
1794	Native Americans defeated at the Battle of Fallen Timbers leading to Treaty of Greenville expanding into the Northwest Territory.
1803	Thomas Jefferson signs the Louisiana Purchase for $15million.
1804	Lewis and Clark Expedition explores the continent.
1811	Charles Deslondes leads a slave revolt on New Orleans.
1814	Creeks are forced to sign a treaty handing over 23 million acres of land after being defeated by an army led by Andrew Jackson
1820	Cotton makes up 42% of all US exports.
1820	'Missouri Compromise' agreed to keep the balance of slave and free states.
1827	The Cherokee nation adopted a constitution
1828	Nat Turner leads a slave revolt in the Deep South which kills 60 White Americans.
1830	The Indian Removal Act is the first act of President Andrew Jackson
1831	Cherokee nation took the state of Georgia to the Supreme Court to defend their homelands.
1835	Second Seminole War cost the US Government $40-60 million ending in 1842
1838	Cherokee are forced from their land and thousands die on the Trail of Tears

Key Terms and Concepts

Abolitionist	People who campaign for slavery to be abolished
Constitution	The rules by which a nation is governed
Coffle	A chained group of slaves
Congress	The name of the body that passes laws in the USA
Cotton Gin	A machine which separates cotton fibres
Cotton Kingdom	The name given to the Deep South for its dependence on growing cotton
Declaration of Independence	A document which split the original 13 American Colonies from British rule after the War of Independence
Federal	National. i.e. something which affects all the different states of the USA
Founding Fathers	People who signed the Declaration of Independence
Frontiersman	People who lived beyond the western borders of the USA
Land speculators	People who bought up land and sold it on for profits
Manifest Destiny	A belief in a God-given right to take over the whole of America
Monroe Doctrine	A claim by President Monroe to the American continent
Plantations	Large farms which grow a single crop, for example cotton
Pushing System	A violent slave system which forces slaves to pick more
Senate	The part of the USA's Congress where laws are passed
Territories	Name given to areas of land that were owned by the USA but not yet ready to become states
Yeoman Farmer	A self-sufficient landowner

Other Important Figures

Chief John Ross	Chief of most of the Cherokee during the 1830
Osceola	Seminole Chief who fought the Second War
David Walker	Abolitionist who published a pamphlet in 1829

Key Questions

"The actions of Government were the main driving force behind American expansion up to 1838" How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

[18 marks]