

# CADDO

(KAD doe)



facial tattoos and pierced nose

Location	POPULATION	Language Family
northeastern Texas	1500 (estimate) 200,000 1690 (estimate) 8,500-10,000 1990 Census 289 Caddo in Texas	Caddoan

#### HISTORY

In 1541-42 the Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto and his army reported Caddo bands living in northeastern Texas and northwestern Louisiana south of the Red River. In 1686 the French explorer La Salle and his companions encountered Caddo bands living along Shawnee Creek in Rusk County, Texas.

Early in 1691 four Spanish missions were established among the Caddos in East Texas. Not wanting to give up their own religion, the natives became hostile, and the missions were abandoned. By 1715 the Spanish decided to try again and reopened these missions.

Meanwhile the French had founded Natchitoches in 1699, and had built trading posts in this area. At first the Caddos bartered mostly with the French, who had a more generous trade policy than did the Spanish. When the Caddos found out that the French also traded with their enemies, they decided to align themselves with the Spanish.

By 1835 the Caddos of Louisiana had been pushed westward and relocated among the Caddos and Choctaws in Texas. In 1859 the Caddos were removed to Indian Territory in Oklahoma.

#### SETTLEMENTS

Made up of more than two dozen tribes, the Caddos were the most sophisticated of all Texas Indians. Successful sedentary (settled) farmers, they produced a bountiful food supply and had a well-developed social and religious organization.

The Caddos were grouped into three large, loosely organized confederacies — the Hasinais (the largest), the Kadohadachos ("real Caddo" or "Caddo proper"), and the Natchitoches (the smallest) — all sharing the same culture, but living in separate villages.

The large Caddo population of about 200,000 at the beginning of the 1500s decreased quickly as they died from the European diseases of smallpox, measles, and cholera. Two hundred years later, the population had fallen to perhaps 10,000.

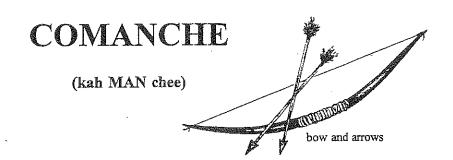
Caddo country is in East Texas, gently rolling countryside sloping toward the Gulf of Mexico, now known as the "piney woods." Part of the Texas coastal plain, it has a mild climate. The Caddo tribal complex, controlled by the tribe, is located on 37 acres, seven miles north of Gracemont, in Caddo County, Oklahoma.

### **APPEARANCE**

When seeing Caddos for the first time, early visitors were startled. Caddos had obviously slanted foreheads (deliberately deformed during infancy), pierced ears and noses (Caddo means "pierced nose"), and were tattooed on their faces from the forehead, down the nose, to the tip of the chin. On their bodies were fancy tattoos of plant and animal designs.

Men's hair styles varied from tribe to tribe. Some men cut their hair short but let a thin, waist-length lock grow from one spot. Others shaved or plucked out all their hair except for a narrow band extending over the head from forehead to neck.





LOCATION	POPULATION	Language Family
Texas Panhandle south to western Texas	1700 (estimate) 20,000 1990 Census 1,478 in Texas	Shoshonean

## HISTORY

The Comanche name comes from the Spanish term, camino ancho, meaning "wide trail." The Comanches were said to be the most determined enemies the Spaniards, Mexicans, other Indians, and Texans ever had.

Before 1600 there was one large group, the Shoshones. During the 1600s the group separated — the Shoshones remained in Wyoming and Montana, and the Comanches moved into what is now Colorado.

Originally the Comanches were made up of six divisons that had very descriptive names -- Honey Eaters, Those Who Turn Back, Those Who Stay Downstream, Liver Eaters, Buffalo Eaters, and Root Eaters. Later, a seventh division was added, the Antelopes.

In the early 1700s, the Comanches moved south from Colorado into Texas to challenge Apache control of the Plains. The Spaniards had taught the Comanches the value of horses in the hunt and in war. Comanches became master horsemen. They owned many horses, more than any other American Indian tribe of that time.

The Comanches displaced Apache Mescalero and Jicarilla bands who retreated to the south and west. The Lipans alone were left to fight the Comanches. Eventually even the fierce Lipans fled into south-central Texas. The Comanches flourished. The plains were perfect for people who lived on horseback. The canyons of West Texas offered natural horse corrals, and the plains

above the canyons had limitless grass and much game.

By 1750 the Comanches controlled the southern plains including western Texas, and would rule it for the next hundred years. The Texas Rangers were organized to protect the white settlers from the Comanches.

#### **SETTLEMENTS**

The Comanches had no permanent settlements, but lived in tipis as they followed the buffalo. The Comancheria ("land of the Comanche") covered an area of more than 240,000 square miles. It remained under their control until 1875.

# APPEARANCE

The Comanches were copper-colored with long, straight hair. The men wore their hair in two braids decorated with strips of fur, leather, and perhaps a feather. Women cut their hair so it was shorter than the men's and also wore braids.

Comanches were short and muscular. The men plucked out their facial hair and tattooed their faces and bodies. They pierced their ears so they could wear earrings made of shells or bone. Women painted red or yellow lines above and below their eyelids. They also painted the insides of their ears red and drew red circles or triangles on both cheeks.

#### CLOTHING

Buffalo hides and deerskins were used by the women to make clothing for themselves and their



# JUMANO

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LOCATION	POPULATION	LANGUAGE FAMILY
Rio Grande Valley from El Paso downstream to the junction of the Rio Grande with the Mexican Rio Conchos	1582 10,000 (high estimate) 1900 0	originally Uto-Aztecan or Tanoan; later Apache, Spanish, or Caddoan

# HISTORY

Of all the Indian tribes that have lived in Texas, the Jumanos are the most mysterious. In 1536 they welcomed the Spanish traders, Cabeza de Vaca and his three companions, the first Europeans to travel west along the Gulf Coast into the interior of North America. These Spaniards reported that the Jumanos were very friendly and offered to be their guides into the plains. Before long, the Jumanos became the trade middlemen between various Texas Indian tribes and the Spanish colonists who came north from Mexico. The Jumanos had acquired horses from the Spaniards and became busy horse traders.

Anthropologists and historians often refer to the Jumano "problem," that is, where they lived and why they disappeared. There is evidence that the Jumanos were farmers in the Rio Grande River Valley during the winter and buffalo hunters on the plains during the summer. Most of our knowledge about the Jumanos is based on the writings of Spanish and French visitors.

### **SETTLEMENTS**

The Jumanos probably lived in rancherias, or villages, and successfully farmed what was then a fertile part of the Rio Grande's Big Bend region. Their adobe houses (pueblos) were low and square, half under and half above ground. This type of house was well suited to long, hot summers. A Jumano family slept in the cool underground section during the day and, after the

sun set, climbed up to the strong, flat roof to catch the evening breezes.

When Jumanos went buffalo hunting into the western Texas plains north of the Davis Mountains, they lived in easily-transported tipis.

In the late 1600s, when their Spanish friends and protectors left the area, Jumano bands may have allied with the strong Apaches. Other Jumanos may have moved south into Mexico to earn a living by working in silver mines. The Jumano people gradually disappeared during the 1700s as they blended with other Indian groups.

#### APPEARANCE

The Spaniards found the Jumanos to be a clean and handsome people. A Jumano man cut his hair to the middle of his head and used a special red dye to make it look like a cap. From the top of his head grew a long lock of hair into which he twisted goose or crane feathers.

A Jumano woman wore her hair either loose or tied close to her head. Both men and women pierced ears and noses so they could wear the coral and turquoise ornaments they obtained through trade. They also tattooed *rayas* (stripes) onto bodies and faces.

#### **CLOTHING**

Since the Jumanos lived in a climate that was warm much of the year, the men and children usually wore no clothing. The warriors would put on buffalo-skin robes for special occasions. Women and older men wore clothing made from