

KAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA
Tribal Headquarters: Kaw City, OK



A brief history

The Kaw Tribe, also known as the Kanza, is a southwestern Siouan tribe. Their linguistic relation is closest to the Osage and Quapaw. Their traditional homelands were in southern Indiana and Illinois. The tribe's migration brought them to the mouth of the Kansas River where they established 20 villages and lived until 1873 when they settled on a reservation at Council Grove on the Neosho River in Morris County, Kansas. Later they were relocated to another reservation in Indian Territory next to the Osage.

About the flag

The seal of the Kaw Nation is centered in a white field with the words "Sovereign Nation of the Kaw" positioned at the top. The word "Kanza" is at the bottom. Two horses are in the center of the seal against a natural landscape of grasslands and hills. The horse on the left is feeding while his rider in traditional dress is holding a spear facing out toward oneself. The horse on the right is facing towards the horse on the left, its' rider in traditional dress with arms outstretched towards the west while holding a bag offering.

Educational Activity

Discuss the meaning of the Kaw tribal flag. What do you think the two figures represent? What is the significance of the spear and the outstretched arms?