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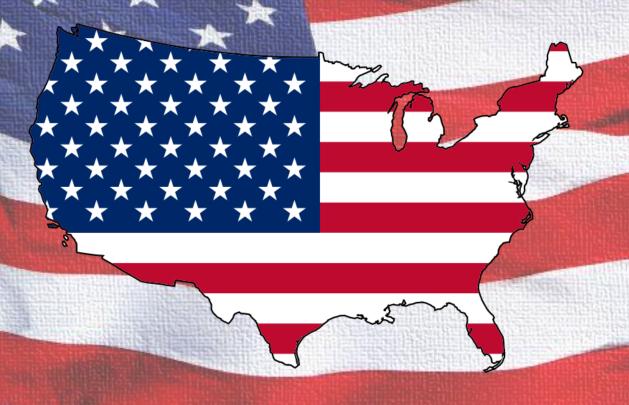
Etymology

In 1507,
the German cartographer Martin
Waldseemüller produced a world
map on which he named the
lands of the Western
Hemisphere "America" after the
Italian explorer and
cartographer Amerigo
Vespuccio.



AMERIC VESPVCE.

 The phrase "United States" was originally treated as plural, a description of a collection of independent states, included in the Thirteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, ratified in 1865.



 The difference has been described as more significant than one of usage, but reflecting the difference between a collection of states and a unit.

Geography



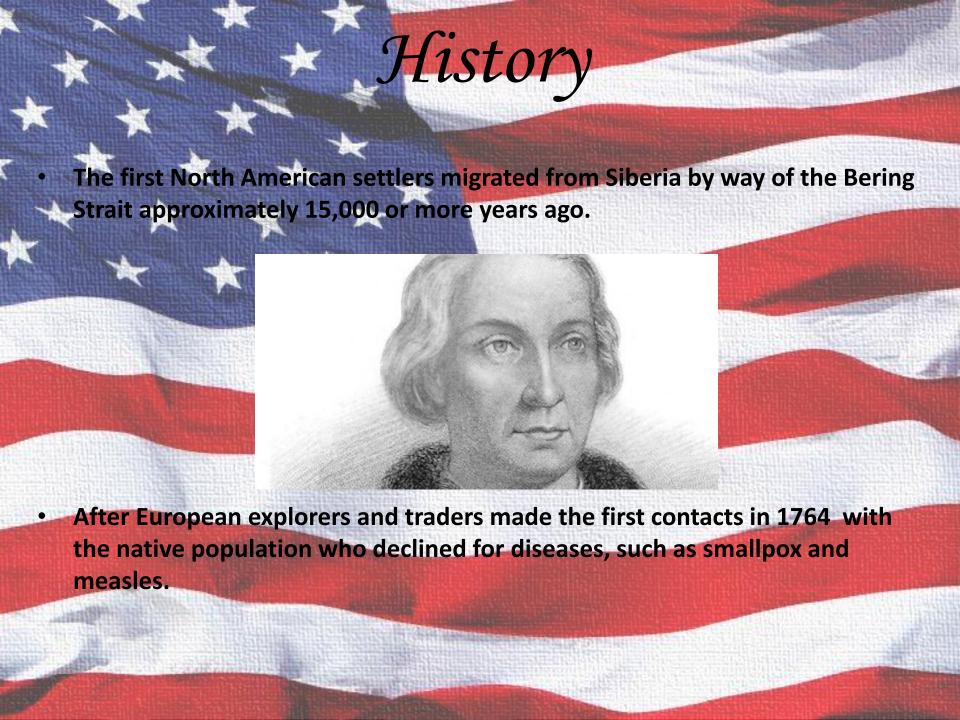
There are about 320,321,000 people living in the USA.

The land area of the United States is 7,663,941 sq km.

The USA is formed by 50 states.

The official currency is the US dollar.

Nowadays, the president is Barack Obama since 2008.



In the early days of colonisation, many settlers were subject to food shortages, disease and attacks from Native Americans. They were also often at war with neighboring tribes and allied with Europeans in their colonial wars.



 At the same time, many natives and settlers came to depend on each other. Settlers traded for food and animal pelts, natives for guns, ammunition and other European wares.

Settlements

After Columbus first voyage to the New World in 1492, other explorers followed with settlement into the Floridas and the American Southwest. There were French attempts to colonise the east coast, and later more successful settlements along the Mississippi River. English settlement on the eastern coast of North America began with the Virginia Colony in 1607 at Jamestown and the Pilgrims' Plymouth Colony in 1620.



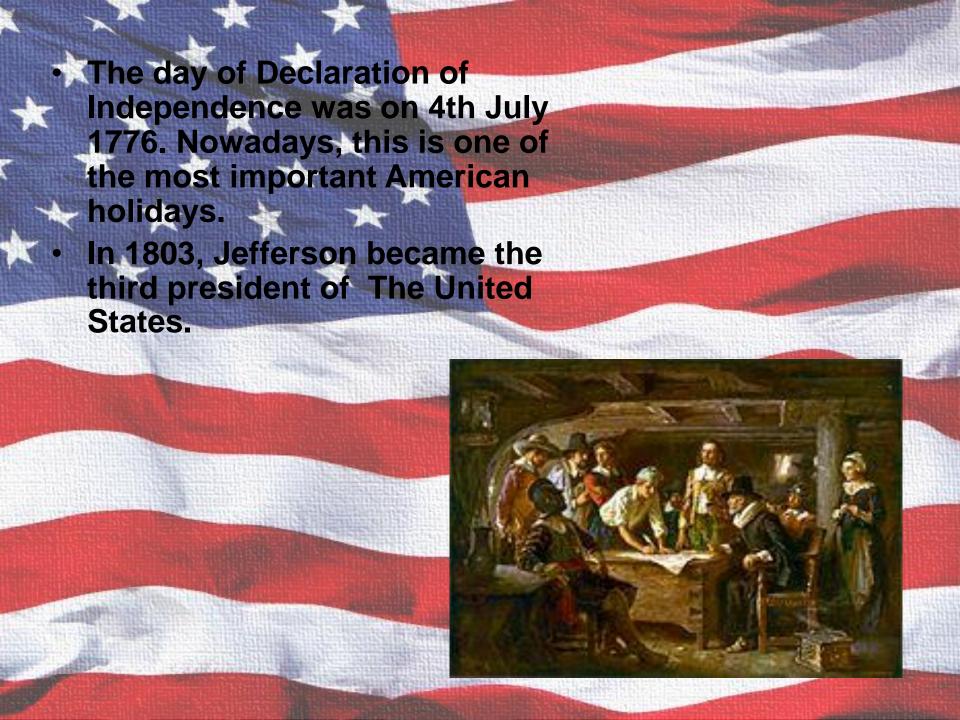
- The Mayflower Ship signed by the Pilgrims before disembarking, established precedents for the pattern of representative self-government, signing of the Mayflower Ship in 1620.
- With the colonisation of Georgia in 1732, the 13 colonies that would become the United States of America were established. All had local governments with elections. The colonial population grew rapidly. The Native Americans, who were being conquered and displaced, had to move to the west. Those 13 colonies had a population of over 2.1 million in 1770.







A man called Thomas Jefferson wrote the famous 'Declaration of Independence' where he said that the King, George the Third, was not a good King because he had not let his people have their rights.



Celebrating July 4th

On 4th July, 1776, we claimed the independence from Britain and Democracy was born. Every day thousands leave their homeland to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American Dream.







 Each year on July 4, Americans celebrate that freedom and independence with fireworks, parades, barbecues, picnics, and family gatherings.



Happy Birthday, America!





Nicknames

