



KOYOUE TUKADU:
PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE KIT



◆ WE ARE ALL PEOPLE OF THIS EARTH

The Western Shoshone Indians of Battle Mountain, Nevada, call themselves “Newe,” a word that means, “The Valley People.” The Shoshone Indians spoke Uto-Aztecan. The Newe territory covered parts of Nevada, Utah, Idaho, and Southern California, but most settled in the Snake River area in Idaho. To the North of Newe territory were the Northern Paiute and Bannock; to the East were the Northern Ute; to the West the Washoe; and to the South the Southern Paiute tribes. The Shoshone were few in numbers, their total population being somewhere in the area of 8000.

Before white emigration, the Newe camped all over their ancestral lands and gathered food, according to the different seasons. Native foods were deer, antelope, mountain sheep, rabbits, and many small animals. The Newe harvested the fruits, seeds, and roots of many plants at the proper time of the year. Some types of food included fresh watercress, morning glory roots, cattail roots, and young cattail stems. Family relationships were important to the Newe. Families made up small nomadic bands.

Religion was a part of daily life. Round dances and social gatherings brought people together, strengthened the bonds among them and helped to preserve any aspects of Newe life.

Winter was a time for storytelling. Newe legends dealt with all parts of life. The legends told of how people were created, life morals, and explained past events. Usually the characters in the stories were animals.

In 1875, resident Ulysses S. Grant established a 100 square mile executive order reservation for the Lemhi Valley Shoshone, establishing the Lemhi Valley Indian Reservation for use by the Shoshone, Bannock, and Sheep-eater tribes.

In 1905, nearly one hundred years after their first contact with the white man, the Lemhi Shoshone began their "Trail of Tears", being forcibly removed from their ancestral homelands to the Fort Hall Indian Reservation which became their newly "appointed" home. Today, the Shoshone are still holding onto their aboriginal land!

Information obtained from www.battlemountain.org/local.html and <http://www.shoshoneindian.com/>

Shoshone Indians