

Student Essay on Andrew Jackson

Andrew Jackson

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Contents

Student Essay on Andrew Jackson.....	1
Contents.....	2
Essay.....	3

Essay

Andrew Jackson was a US statesman and seventh president and he served from 1829 to 1837, Andrew was born in Waxhaw, South Carolina. His parents left Carrickfergus in Northern Ireland in 1765 and settled in the Carolinas. He lived in a frontier settlement and was mostly self-educated, he was admitted to the bar and in 1788 was named public prosecutor in Nashville, in North Carolina territory. When the territory became the new state of Tennessee, he became its first US representative in the House in 1799; he was also its senator for two years, and a judge on its supreme court.

Andrew was named major general of Tennessee militia during the War of 1812; in September 1814 he defeated the Creek Indians, who were British allies, at Horseshoe Bend. Commissioned a major general in the regular army, he stormed Pensacola, FL, and then routed the British in the Battle of New Orleans.

He was named the South's hero, known everywhere as Old Hickory; he was elected to the Senate, and narrowly lost the presidency to John Quincy Adams when the election was thrown into the House of Representatives. He later won the election of 1828; he set a precedent for the 'spoils system' by filling hundreds of offices with his supporters.

As president, he was torn between the issues of slavery, nullification, and states' rights; in the name of the latter he suppressed the Bank of the USA. And he was remembered for his relentless removal of many Indians to West of the Mississippi.

In the long run, Jackson's main legacy was the new strength his personality bequeathed to the office of the presidency for the future. Also, the new Democratic Party formed around him and his popular image as champion of the common man, even though he himself had little patience with the wishes of most people. On leaving the presidency, he retired from public life and spent his declining years at 'the Hermitage' and died in 1845.