

# THE MODOC WAR

One of the most profound stories  
in American Indian history.

The 1873 six-month Modoc War ultimately pitted 1,000 U.S. soldiers against some 55 Modoc fighting men. The jagged, hostile terrain of the battlefield—today's Lava Beds National Monument in northern California—was the scene of a war like none other.

- ✘ What was the incredible circumstance behind the first two shots fired in the Modoc War?
- ✘ What stands in war history as America's most impregnable natural fortress?
- ✘ Outnumbered 20 to 1, how did this fiercely driven group of Native warriors hold off the might of the U.S. Army?
- ✘ Why did so many Modocs die as prisoners of war in Oklahoma Indian Territory?

Teachers and Students — bring a classroom alive  
Families — read-aloud time  
History Buffs — who want accuracy and understanding

**BATTLEFIELD MAP INCLUDED**



Cheewa James, born on the Klamath Reservation, Oregon, is enrolled with the Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma. Her great-grandfather was a warrior in the Modoc War. She is a professional keynote speaker—who in the Native tradition is a master storyteller. Cheewa is also an award-winning television producer and on-screen talent. She is a credentialed educator.

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Heartbreak of a  
Homeland Lost

by  
Cheewa James

