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“But our concept of territory follows natural law. It does not follow European or American concept of territory. And so there were many other smaller nations that also lived within this geographic territory, and all of us, it doesn't matter what nation they were, all of us lived with this spiritual, physical-based philosophy, life philosophy.

So we all had our purposes, we all had our place, we all knew what we were supposed to do and how we were to live where we were at.”

Charmaine White Face (Lakota), NMAI Interview, August 2016

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Charmaine White Face, Lakota, is the official representative for the Sioux Nation Treaty Council. Charmaine is a scientist, teacher, and activist. In this interview excerpt, she explains how “natural law” informs purpose, behavior, and place of tribal nations.