



*Tatanka Lyotanka (Sitting Bull, 1831?-1890), with his two wives and three children, posed outdoors in front of a tipi, 1882. Photograph by Bailey Dix & Mead Co. at Fort Randall in South Dakota. NMAI N21546*

As U.S. settlement expanded westward in the nineteenth century the Northern Plains Native Nations were increasingly pressured and forced to defend their lands and ways of life. They defended themselves vigorously, strategically, and with tenacity. Tatanka Lyotanka, or Sitting Bull, was a Hunkpapa Lakota holy man and was one of the Oceti leaders during many years of resistance to the United States government. He remains an important leadership figure for the people of the Oceti Sakowin Nation today.

