

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S LAND RIGHTS



Art by Ines Ixierda, from the Sogorea Te' Land Trust Facebook page.

The rampant gentrification and displacement seen today in the SF Bay Area is built upon an extended history of systemic dispossession centered on race and driven by capitalism. The earliest forms of conquest by Spanish, Mexican, and early U.S. settlers and governments may seem far removed, but beginning in 1769, indigenous people of the Bay Area were forcibly dispossessed of land through state violence, disenfranchisement, and exclusive laws preventing their right to property. Thus, the foundation for legal structures to uphold racial exclusion in California was laid. A series of broken treaties and laws driven by a system of racial capitalism gradually rendered them landless noncitizens in their own land. To understand how present-day movements to access food, decent housing, education, and healthcare are inextricably linked to the state dispossession and violence faced by indigenous communities, this section honors land back movements here in the Bay Area and the Pacific Islands.



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Lisjan (Ohlone) History & Territory



West Berkeley Shellmounds



American Indian Movement and Alcatraz



The Pacific Indigenous Rights Movement



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