



On the fourth Thursday of every November, we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a time for family, delicious food, and gratitude for all the fortunate things that have happened to us during the year. Americans usually eat turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, macaroni and cheese, cranberry sauce, cornbread stuffing, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pies. We also have Thanksgiving parades with huge floats that fill the streets of cities across the country.

Abraham Lincoln made Thanksgiving an official holiday in 1863, but Americans have been celebrating this occasion since the early 17th century. It is widely acknowledged that one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations was in 1621 between the Plymouth pilgrims and the Wampanoag Native Americans. They supposedly shared a peaceful autumn harvest to give thanks for the bountiful harvest. However, recent research has proven this is false. The pilgrims and the Native Americans had a much less ideal relationship that previously believed. The pilgrims saw the Native Americans as savages who did not deserve the land they were living on, and so they began killing and displacing the Native Americans from their homes. In fact, some historians argue that the Wampanoag tribe was not even invited to the feast. Modern day Thanksgiving may be a celebration of people coming together, but that's not the whole story when it comes to the dark history of this day.

Surya Adams



**Quiz :**

1. When was Thanksgiving made a national holiday ?
2. What do Americans eat on Thanksgiving ?
3. When was the first Thanksgiving celebration ?
4. Were the Pilgrims and the Native Americans friends ? Why or Why not ?
5. Would you celebrate Thanksgiving ?