

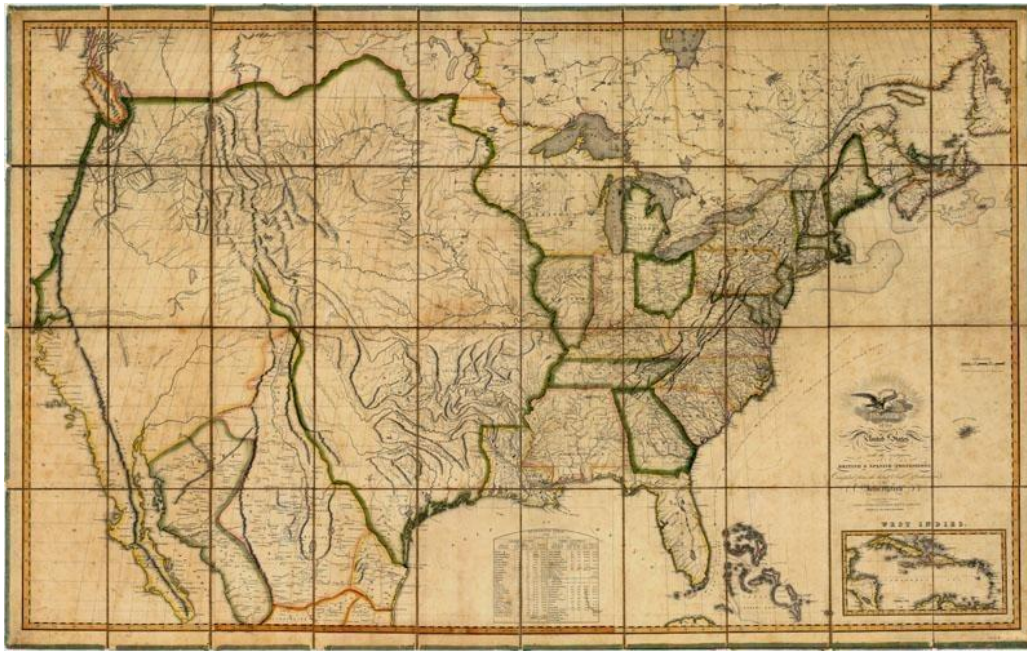
WHAT IS MANIFEST DESTINY?

Use the following sources to develop a definition of Manifest Destiny. With your group, summarize each source in 1–2 sentences.

In 1811, John Quincy Adams, who later served as the sixth president of the United States from 1825 to 1829, wrote: *“The whole continent appears to be destined...to be peopled by one nation. The [pursuit] of a definite line of boundary to the [Pacific Ocean] forms a great [time] in our history.”*

Summary:

In 1816, John Melish published the following map. In an accompanying geographical description published in 1818, he wrote:



“To present a picture of it was desirable in every point of view. The map so constructed, shows at a glance the whole extent of the United States territory from sea to sea; and in tracing the probable expansion of the human race from east to west, the mind finds an agreeable resting place on its western limits. The view is complete and leaves nothing to be wished for.”

Summary:

In 1845, John O'Sullivan, a New Yorker and editor, wrote:

“The American claim is by the right of our **manifest destiny** to overspread and to possess the whole of the continent which [God] has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and... self-government. It is a right such as that of the tree to the space of air and earth suitable for the full expansion of its... **destiny** of growth...”

Summary:

MANIFEST DESTINY IS...

My Group's Brainstorm

Class Response

Adams, J. Q. (1811, August 31). To John Adams. Founders Online, National Archives. <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Adams/99-03-02-2020>

Melish, J. (1816). Map of the United States with the contiguous British and Spanish possessions [Map]. Baylor University Libraries Digital Collections. <http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu/cdm/ref/collection/tx-maps/id/404>

Melish, J. (1818). A geographical description of the United States, with the contiguous British and Spanish possessions, intended as an accompaniment to Melish's map of these countries (3rd ed.). <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/009592230>

O'Sullivan, J. L. (1845, December 27). The true title. New York Morning News.