Forgotten Tribes: Unrecognized Indians and the Federal Acknowledgment Process

by Mark Edwin Miller

Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes U.S. Department of the Interior The Federal Acknowledgement Process (FAP) is one of the most important and contentious issues facing Natives today. A complicated system of criteria and processes for the federal acknowledgment of Indian tribes.


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Forgotten Tribes: Unrecognized Indians and the Federal Acknowledgment Process (FAP) was a full-grown dinosaur even before it was born. First of all, it was (and is) an anachronism, a throwback to a time when the federal government was the focal point of Native American life. The FAP is a process that allows Indian tribes to apply for federal recognition. The process is complex and time-consuming, and it is often challenging for tribes to navigate.

Mark Edwin Miller offers a balanced and detailed look at the origins, development, and implications of the Federal Acknowledgment Process. Miller provides a comprehensive overview of the process, including a history of federal recognition, the criteria used to determine recognition, and the role of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in the process.

Miller also examines the impact of the FAP on Native American communities, highlighting the challenges and benefits associated with federal recognition. He argues that the FAP is a complicated system of criteria and standards, and that it is often difficult for tribes to navigate and successfully apply for recognition.

Miller emphasizes the importance of Native American self-determination and the need for tribes to be able to determine their own affairs. He calls for a more holistic approach to federal recognition that takes into account the cultural, historical, and social contexts of each tribe.

In Forgotten Tribes, Miller offers a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history and development of federal recognition for Indian tribes. His analysis is thorough and well-researched, and his arguments are compelling and thought-provoking.

Overall, Forgotten Tribes: Unrecognized Indians and the Federal Acknowledgment Process is an essential read for anyone interested in Native American history and the ongoing struggle for tribal recognition.