

The end of Living and Beginning of  
Survival

Chief Seattle

# Chief Seattle

- **Chief Seattle** (1780 – 1866) was a Duwamish chief.
- A prominent figure among his people, he pursued a path of accommodation to white settlers.
- The city of Seattle, in the U.S. state of Washington, was named after him.





SEATTLE,

Chief of the  
Sugwampsh, and  
Allied tribes.

DIED JUNE 7, 1866.

The firm friend of the  
whites, and for him the

CITY OF SEATTLE,

was named by its  
FOUNDERS.





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# City of Seattle Today







# The end of Living and Beginning of Survival



- How can you buy and sell the sky and the land?
- The idea is strange to us
- Because we humans are not the owners of sky and land



# All Sacred

- Every part of this earth is sacred to my people
- Pine- Sandy shore-dark woods-insects
- The sap of the trees carries the memories of the redman
- Whites forget their dead ones but we cant
- We are part of the earth and earth is part of us
- Flowers- horse- eagle- rocks- all belong to the same family

# Not Easy



- Government asks much of us
- They offer us another place to live in –
- But it is tough for us to leave here where our ancestors are buried
- Shining water is the blood of our ancestors

# Differences in the ecological views of White men and red men

1. Red men consider rivers, forest etc. as siblings where as white men ruthlessly exploit them
2. Earth for white men is like an enemy- he subdue and conquer it
3. White men do not care their father's grave
4. He treats his mother, the earth, and his brother, the sky, as things to be bought, plundered, sold like sheep or bright beads.
5. There is no quiet place in the white man's cities
6. All things are precious to the red man
7. Whiteman does not notice the air he breaths – he pollutes the air but for red man the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports

# Condition



- The white man must treat the beasts of this land as his brothers
- What is man without these beasts?
- If all the beast are gone, man would die from a great loneliness of spirit
- For whatever happens to the beasts soon happens to man.
- All things are connected

# Conclusions

1. The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth
2. All things are connected like the blood which unites one family.
3. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of earth. Man did not weave the web of life: he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.
4. Our God is the same God
5. To harm the earth is to heap contempt on its Creator

6. Contaminate your bed, and you will one night suffocate in your own waste.
7. It is the strength of God who brought you to this land for some special purpose, gave you dominion over this land and over the red man. This destiny is mysterious to us
8. Where is the thicket? Gone.

Where is the eagle? Gone.

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"All things share  
the same breath -  
the beast, the  
tree, the man,  
the air shares  
its spirit with all  
the life it supports."

~ Chief Seattle





**Chief Seattle:**  
**“Contaminate your bed  
and you will one night  
suffocate in your own  
waste.”**





We are  
part of  
the earth  
and it is a  
part of us...  
for all things  
are  
connected.

-Chief Seattle

