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 **Manzanar Relocation Center**

**Introduction**

Manzanar is renowned as one of the ten concentration camps of America where more than 110,000 Japanese Americans were detained during World War II. They were detained from December 1942 until 1945. Manzanar is one of the best-preserved sites of the former camps known as the Manzanar National Historic Site. Essentially, it reflects the legacy of incarceration of Japanese American in the United States of America (USA). The relocation center now features a center for visitors, located in the restores Manzanar High School Auditorium, that reveals the tales of the internees. The significant element is that despite it appearing as a happy site kntted with an integrated community, the internees dwelling there had to settle into the overcrowded barracks of the camp, with little privacy, shortage of supplies and had to face extreme temperatures.

**Discussion**

 To begin, it represents the remnants of World War II and rejuvenates the instance of the incarceration of the Japanese American population. Irrefutably, the confinement of the community in Manzanar is a contentious debate. Primarily, it reflects the adversities, injustices and inequalities brought by war. This aspect of the history of the United States is clearly manifested in it. Though Manzanar and the history related to it highlights the peaceful dwelling of the internees, the actual state of events contradicts it. As per the empirical evidence and narratives of the internees, the harsh temperature of the desert soared extremely high. In winters it used to plunged below the freezing point (“At 92, A Japanese-American Reflects On The Lessons Of Internment Camps”).

Moreover, the history of the United States is interpreted in a rather radical and contentious manner. The Manzanar relocation center urges the visitors to recall the events associated with World War II. It was chosen to detain Japanese Americans because of being a remote and suitable place. It raises a critical question that most of the incarcerated persons were American citizens by birth. However, they were forced to be detained amid the crisis as a notion of revenge. The rest of the internees had lived in the United States for decades but were denied citizenship as per law (*Manzanar | Densho Encyclopedia*). America has dictated a potential presence in the previous century especially in wars. The fundamental aspect of hegemony is reflected in the park. It can vary as per the perceptions of a person but in essence, it reflects a dark side of the history.

It raises an intricate question. The assessment of the state of the events with the contemporary era urges the visitors to deem the state of affairs in America. The treatment with the immigrants, both legal and illegal, underpins them to be in a rather confined state. Another intriguing element is the laws and regulations imposed which are specifically subjected to the immigrants in the United States. However, the visitors comprehend the park is a notion of the radical events that took place in the past and entices them to denounce war. Several historic orchards, remnants of the camp and scorching sunlight welcomes the visitors in the park. A mess hall constituting exhibit and two reconstructed barracks further rejuvenate the instances and timeline of the second world war. Such critical are the manifestations of the park which causes the visitors to ponder upon the people confined there. Irrefutably, those communities lived under severe circumstances and faced an acute shortage of supplies.

 In addition, the ponds and gardens at Manzanar glorify hope, beauty, resistance and are symbolic in nature. The barracks illustrate the daily life in confinement. A critical appraisal of the site stipulates that the historic place and the collections are reminiscent of the painful tale of relocation. Three distinct eras are highlighted as Pauite community inhabiting the territory of Manzanar from 600 to 1900s, the farm period of 1860 to 1930 and the war relocation center that detained above 100,000 Japanese Americans from 1942 to 1945 (*Life on the Inside · Inside-Out: Japanese Americans during World War II · Digital Exhibits*). The collections comprise historic photographs, objects, paintings and several documents which indicate the daily life at Manzanar. Besides, the multimedia feature includes a virtual tour of the place. For instance, the slide shows explore the life of the Manzanar internees and the oral history category incorporates tales from personnel with an intimate connection with Manzanar.

It is essential to deliberate the photographic record which is the most comprehensive in comparison to any War Relocation Authority centers. These photographs had an intensity to reveal the truth but the historical aspect is perhaps underrepresented. In reality, the internees were faced with challenging circumstances which are not comprehensively demonstrated (Independence and Us). The authorities had also restricted the exposure of such substance to undermine and hide the truth. However, these elements still demonstrate a definite record of the time when American citizens had to live behind the barbed wires without the due legal process. In comparison to the other nine concentration camps, Manzanar relocation center speaks volumes about the conditions that internees were faced with.

**Conclusion**

 The Manzanar relocation center offers an explicit account of American history related to the second world war where Japanese Americans were detained under harsh circumstances. At the end of the day, a precious resource and platform are dispensed to assist people to assimilate the camo experience The crux of the matter lies at the very heart of denouncing the radical existence of war after observing the site and thus assessing the tumult and distress faced by the incarcerated American citizens.

Work Cited

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