

Up and Down the River: Film Guide

Up and Down the River by Madeline Sayet and Melissa Tantaquidgeon Zobel

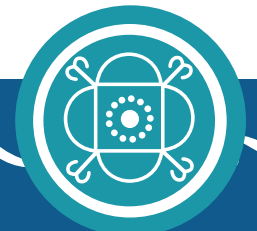
This is a dramatized story reflecting Mohegan written and oral history around the American Revolution. It features dramatized depictions of real issues and real people during the Revolutionary Era.

Before Viewing, Discuss the Opening Narration:

“The waterways are not only our life source and our relation, but our highways. They connect people. Living along the shoreline means understanding the water’s changeability. You become responsive and adaptable like the river to survive.”

In Order of Appearance:

1. **Mary Fowler** (wife of Samson Occom)
2. **Samson Occom**
3. **Rev. Eleazar Wheelock**
4. **Hannah Maminash Ashbow** (wife of Samuel Ashbow Sr.)
5. **Samuel Ashbow Sr.**
6. **Jerusha Tantaquidgeon Ashbow**
7. **Samuel Ashbow Jr.** (husband of Jerusha Tantaquidgeon Ashbow)
8. **Sachem Anne Uncas**
9. **CT Colonial Governor Joseph Talcott**
10. **Martha Uncas**
11. **Fidelia Fielding**
12. **Gladys Tantaquidgeon**
13. **Lynn Malerba**



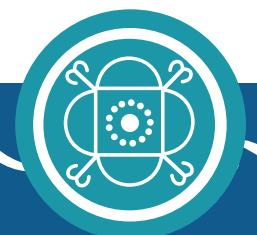
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After Viewing, Questions to Consider:

1. How has assimilation already impacted Mohegan Culture?
2. Provide examples of adaptability for the Mohegan people's survival in the Revolutionary War Era. (see quote #1 below)
3. Identify and explain individual or collective acts of betrayal as well as loyalty and how these impacted Mohegans. The Colonies.
4. What Cultural Differences between the Mohegans and Colonists are illustrated in this film?
5. How does the American Revolution forever change Mohegan society?
6. What is the symbolic and historical significance of the belt made by Martha Uncas?
7. If you had to choose between your life, your liberty, or your land- which would you choose? Explain. What do you believe Martha Uncas might say? Support your answer.
8. Martha Uncas was taught by Hannah Ashbow that everything is a circle. How is this illustrated in this film? Can you connect this to the present day? Explain.
9. How was the American Revolution a turning point of acculturation for Mohegans? (see quote #3 and conversation #1 & #2)
10. Demonstrate how the Treaty of Paris 1783, which ended the Revolution, was a crucial moment in American History, and a stark example of how Indian Nations were marginalized and their interests disregarded in the forming of the new nation. Provide examples of adaptability for the Mohegan people's survival in the Revolutionary War Era. (see quote #1 below)

Some Notable Quotes:

1. "We will be able to educate generations of Indian scholars, preachers, great thinkers." (Samson Occom) ... "You said £12,000! That's far too much money for an Indian School. We have the chance to do something remarkable. Make a real change for once." (Rev. Eleazar Wheelock)
2. "It's important to know who your allies are." (Rev. Eleazar Wheelock)
3. "Women always made the decisions about going to war." (Hannah Ashbow)...Those were different times mother. We cannot go back to the past." (Samuel Ashbow Jr.)



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A Conversation Between Jerusha and Samuel Jr.:

1. “Aunt Mary says a sovereign American nation would mean terrible changes for Indian women. Colonial women already have no rights.” (Jerusha Ashbow)...I dare them to try to make our Mohegan women obey anyone.” (Samuel Ashbow Jr.)
2. “Remember what happened to Chief Anne.” (Jerusha Ashbow)
3. “Listen, my brothers are going to fight. I’m going as well. It’s my duty for our people and theirs. Sachem Uncas was a great Chief who allied us with the colonists more than 140 years ago. I’m not going to break that now. (Samuel Ashbow Jr.)
4. “Even if they break their promises to us?” (Jerusha Ashbow)
5. “...Our people will be rewarded. You'll see.” (Samuel Ashbow Jr.)
6. “We all return to the earth at some point or another. So, I’d still fight for it if I could - if it would help - if it would make things better for those that come after. With your permission of course. We have a new country now. There will be a lot to fight for. There’s constant talk in the streets about new ideas. How to build a nation different from England. In some ways even like our Mohegan Nation” (Martha Uncas).

Mohegan Revolutionary War Soldiers:

John Ashbo, Amos Tanner, Robert Ashbo, Ebenezer Tanner, Simeon Ashbo, Joseph Tanner, Samuel Ashbow, Jr, Zebulun Tanner, Noah Chinchin, John Tantequigeon, Simon Choichio, Jacob Teconweas, Jacob Copper, Isaac Teconweas, Samuel Cooper, Peter Temcomwas, John Horsecoat, John Quanne, Joseph Bird Jacquoi, Abimelech Uncas, Joshua Meech, Benjamin Uncas, Jonathan Occum, David Unchus, David Occum, John Uncas, Benjamin Squadob, Noah Uncas, Joseph Squip, Soloman Wampy, Turtle Hunter.

(Spellings vary as Mohegan lacked standardized orthography at that time.)

Credits:

Directed by: **Madeline Sayet**

Written by: **Madeline Sayet & Melissa Tantaquidgeon Zobel**

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