

1. Description

1.1 Name of society, language, and language family:

-Interior Salish-Northern-Thompson (Canada). The language of Thompson is Nlaka'pamuctsin. The language family is ('Nthlakampx') the language of Interior Salish.

1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): [THP]

1.3 Location (latitude/longitude):

-British Columbia, south central, Fraser River north of Yale, lower Thompson River and tributaries.

1.4 Brief history:

-The Thompson is an indigenous First Nations/Native American people of the Interior Salish language group in southern British Columbia. Their traditional territory includes parts of the North Cascades region of Washington.

1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors:

-The Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council despite its name does not include all Nlaka'pamux people, but is one of three main tribal bodies within the region, the others being the Fraser Canyon Indian Administration and the Nicola Tribal Association

-The Nlaka'pamux were the object of both Anglican and Roman Catholic missionary efforts in the nineteenth century.

1.6 Ecology:

1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density

-Ethnic population: 3,000 and small village size.

2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s):

- Traditional Interior Salish pit-cooking methods to process balsamroot, which is a former food staple that contains the complex carbohydrate insulin.

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources:

-Maple sap is a solution of sugar (mostly sucrose) plus small amounts of proteins, lime, and potash in water

2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns:

- The Thompson weaponry that typically included bows and arrows, spears, traps and snares.

2.4 Food storage:

-The Thompson hey used elevated caches to store fish all winter and the only the fish left over in the spring were stored in the cellars until the following spring.

2.5 Sexual division of production:

!!!2.6 Land tenure:

- Land tenure probably arose following population increases accompanied by more intensive use of subsistence resources beginning in the mid to late Holocene and served to monitor territory boundaries and to supply valued mountain resources to lowland population centers.

2.7 Ceramics:

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns:

- The shared with the other tribes around them.

2.9 Food taboos:

- The Thompsons had a food taboo against mushrooms.

2.10 Canoes/watercraft?

- Canoes were important and were used for transportation, hunting and fishing. Canoes were made in a variety of sizes and styles, depending on their use and type of water they called home.

3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f):

- In many cultures women were married very soon after menarche so that the chances of pre-marital pregnancy were minimized

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):

- The average age of first birth was 16

4.3 Completed family size (m and f):

-The Thompson average family size was small.

4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):

4.5 Age first marriage (m and f):

-The age of the first marriage is 16-18

4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce:

-They were allowed and were legal.

4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?:

-The Thompson tribe has a big tribal ceremony

4.9 Inheritance patterns:

-tried were loosely organized in families and villages.

4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict:

-There hasn't been any reported or evidence of conflict but if there was it was all handle with the chief.

4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals:

-Two-Spirit is a term for third gender people that are among many, if not most, Native American and Canadian First Nations tribes. It usually implies a masculine spirit and a feminine spirit living in the same body.

4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy):

- Most villages though of exogamy and disapproved of or forbade marriage among cousins.

4.13 [What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized?](#)

-4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows")

- They go through a series of rituals, also they have certain things that they are required to do.

4.15 [Is conception believed to be an incremental process](#) (i.e., semen builds up over time)?

4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape

- sexual coercion or rape was an occurring thing but not with in the tribe, other tribes would rape the women of other tribes

4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms?

- Females enjoy sexual freedoms that men enjoy also they don't like that they aren't equal.

4.19 [Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring](#)

4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?

-The Thompson trust in the grandmother to look after the children if the mom dies.

4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females

-The Thompson's sex ratio is there are more males than there are reproductive females.

4.22 [Evidence for couvades](#)

4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older)

-The Thompson's potential fathers are younger and they are decided when they are really young.

4.24 [Kin avoidance and respect?](#)

4.24 [Joking relationships?](#)

4.25 [Patterns of descent \(e.g., bilateral, matrilineal\) for certain rights, names or associations](#)

4.26 Incest avoidance rules

-The Thompson's were NOT allowed to marry with in the blood family, it was against their rules and they were very strict about it.

4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony?

-There is a very spiritual marriage ceremony that the girl and boy getting married also have the chief of the group orchestrate.

4.28 [In what way\(s\) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name?](#)

4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)

-Prohibitions on marriage between blood relatives linked villages by marriage and helped in the development of systems of alliance.

4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)?

-marriages were not arranged but consisted of marrying within your social class.

4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who:

-the only evidence of conflict consist of marriage with blood relatives, because that is there number one rule.

Warfare/homicide

4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:

-somewhere close to two percent of men died in warfare

4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death:

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4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:

-Of course there are cases of in-group and out group killings but there is not any set number on how many or how often.

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations):

-The diversity and relationships between neighboring societies depends on their environments.

4.18 Cannibalism?

-cannibalism existed but wasn't something of regular occurrence.

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 [Mean local residential \(village\) group size:](#)

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality):

-The Thompson had two houses, a winter and summer, both were changed by the way the seasons were.

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes):

- The Thompson have a chief and they have communities divided into wealthy, common people and slaves.

5.4 Post marital residence:

- Post marital residence consisted of married couple, children, wives and spouses of young adult children, dependants and slaves.

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense):

-There is no evidence of territoriality in the Interior Salish Thompson people.

5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex):

- Women were secluded at the time of menarche and stayed out of public life while unmarried; some assumed political influence after menopause.

5.8 Village and house organization:

-The Thompson in the winter lived by the river, and in the spring they lived further away from the river but still close enough so they could access it.

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere?

- The Thompson slept in hammocks or on the ground; it was really dependent on the social class.

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc:

-There was no clans or moieties or lineages that were too distinct to notice.

5.12 Trade:

-Trade networks were extensive and certain male members of each village inherited or earned positions as traders.

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies?

-The Thompson was a warrior society with no clans, small caste system and no complex social hierarchy.

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6 Time allocation to RCR:

-The Thompons revolved their time around ritual/ceremony/religion

6.1 [Specialization \(shamans and medicine\)](#):

6.2 Stimulants:

-The only stimulants they used were the ones that were naturally in food, they would give them to the hunters and the small children.

6.4 Other rituals:

6.5 Myths (Creation):

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games):

6.7 Sex differences in RCR:

6.8 Missionary effect:

6.9 RCR revival:

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs:

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people?

6.12 Is there teknonymy?

6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.)

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint:

-The interior salish Thompson use body painting and tattooing mostly on the face, and mostly during the rituals.

7.2 Piercings:

-The Interior Salish Thompson used piercing on mostly the nose and ear.

7.3 Haircut:

-The Interior Salish Thompson have long hair and don't cut it often or if ever.

7.4 Scarification:

-The Interior Salish Thompson has certain scarification is they do heavily scarified burns.

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: -The Thompson had ceremonies that involved a lot of music and dancing which were both used to

7.7 summon up religious powers. It was mainly singing, but they used other instruments too like bird-bone flutes, rattles, sticks striking boards, and hide covered wooden drums.

7.7 [Sex differences in adornment](#):

7.8 Missionary effect:

-The Thompson have a few organizations that are set up to preserve and revitalize they languages.

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

-The Thompson cultural revival is not much they don't have a lot of information on them.

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system:

-The oldest had the most power in the Thompson group, which compared to other Salish groups this was normal.

8.2 Sororate, levirate:

- Cousins were equated with siblings and sororate were practiced, a system that contributed to the maintenance of relations between groups connected by marriage.

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.):

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

Numbered references

1. (n.d.). Kinship, Family, and Social Organization. Retrieved from <http://www.multiculturalcanada.ca/Encyclopedia/A-Z/a10/4>
2. **Encyclopedia of Canada's Peoples** By Paul R. Magocsi, Multicultural History Society of Ontario
3. <http://www.hellobc.com/thompson-okanagan/culture-history.aspx>
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5. **Canadian History for Dummies** By Will Ferguson
6. <http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Thompson.aspx>