

U.S. Human Rights Abuse Against Refugees and Immigrants: Truth and Facts

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Introduction

The United States is a nation of immigrants. Ever since colonial times, immigrants from around the world have come to the country in waves. However, the history of U.S. treatment of immigrants is one rife with inhumane tragedies such as discrimination, exclusion, arrest, detention, expulsion, and a litany of human rights abuses. Worse still, the recent years have witnessed one humanitarian disaster after another caused by the U.S. government on refugees and immigrants going to the country.

This report gives a truthful account of the United States' egregious record on the issue of refugees and immigrants by reviewing events in the past and present within the United States and beyond. Using facts and figures, this report lays bare the lies and double standards on the issue of refugees and immigrants of the United States, a self-proclaimed "beacon of democracy."

I. Violations of the Rights of Immigrants in the United States

◆ When the United States was first founded, white Americans, mainly Anglo-Saxon Protestants, were very suspicious of immigrants and tried to restrict and assimilate them. A U.S. president once said outright that there is no need to encourage emigration "except of useful mechanic's—and some particular descriptions of men—or professions." Fearful of domestic chaos inspired by the French Revolution, in 1798, the U.S. government formulated the laws such as the Naturalization Act, the Alien Act, the

引言

美国是一个移民国家。自从殖民地时代起，世界各地的移民就源源不断地前往美国。然而，美国对待移民的历史充满歧视、排斥、逮捕、拘留、驱逐的非人道惨剧，对移民人权的侵犯比比皆是、从未间断。近年来，美国政府更是制造了一桩又一桩针对赴美难民和移民的人道灾难。本报告从历史和现实、国内和国际多个角度如实记录了美国在难移民问题上的恶行劣迹，用事实和数据证明美国在难移民问题上并非自诩的“民主灯塔”，而是充斥着谎言和双标。

一、美国侵犯各种族移民权利恶行累累

◆美国建国之初，以盎格鲁-撒克逊新教徒为主体的美国白人就对外来移民疑虑重重，试图限制或同化。有美国总统曾直言，除了有用的技术工人和一些特定及有专长的人外，无需鼓励其他移民。由于担心法国大革命在美国引起骚乱，美国政府于1798年制定《归化法》《外侨法》《敌对外侨法》和《外国人叛乱法》等法律，使外来移民更难归化为美国公民，并授权总统监禁

Alien Enemies Act and the Sedition Act. These acts made it more difficult for immigrants to become U.S. citizens and gave the president the power to imprison and deport dangerous immigrants or those from enemy countries. It is worth noting that the Alien Enemies Act is still in effect today.

◆ Black people are among the earliest immigrants to the United States. Their immigration was not voluntary, but forced. After they arrived in the United States, they suffered inhuman abuses and had no human rights to speak of. In 1619, the first 20 Africans were sold as slaves to the colony of Virginia. Soon after that, the colonies passed laws to legitimate black slaves as “permanent property” whose children also automatically became slaves. The idea and the system of racism against blacks have thus taken root in America. In order to justify the enslavement of blacks, white people established an oppressive racial hierarchy based on skin color. The United States Declaration of Independence declared that “all men are created equal. Nonetheless, the earliest U.S. Constitution did not recognize the civil rights of blacks. The three-fifths clause was introduced, under which the actual number of black slaves would be multiplied by three-fifths in the allocation of House seats. The harms of historical enslavement still haunt black descendants today. Their rights to life, development and political participation are not effectively secured.

◆ Irish immigrants were severely discriminated against and alienated in the early years of the United States. Between the 1830s and the 1860s, Catholic Irish immigrated to the United States in large numbers. A strong movement against Irish immigrants emerged. Irish immigrants were stigmatized and labeled as being lazy, inferior, violent and dangerous. A large number of early American nativist and exclusionist organizations and political parties were formed at this time. The American Party, or the Know-Nothing Party, made anti-Irish immigration its main agenda. In the 1850s, the party produced seven governors, eight senators and 104 House representatives. New York and Massachusetts enacted laws to deport and repatriate Irish immigrants. Xenophobes even resorted to violence, attacking Irish immigrants and burning down their churches. In 1844, riots against Irish immigrants broke out in Philadelphia, causing at least 20 deaths. Irish immigrants were treated as blacks and were not accepted by white Americans until the 20th century. They were long-time victims of racial discrimination in the United States.

◆ The anti-Chinese movement is among the most infamous in discriminating and ostracizing immigrants in the U.S. history. Since the mid-19th century, Chinese laborers were trafficked in large numbers by Americans to the United States as coolies. By 1880, the total number had exceeded 100,000. The Chinese laborers undertook the most arduous work in the construction of the Central Pa-

和驱逐危险移民或来自敌对国家的移民。值得指出的是，《敌对外侨法》至今仍有效。

◆黑人是美国最早的移民群体之一。黑人移居美国并非出于自愿，而是被强迫移居，抵美后遭到非人虐待，毫无人权可言。1619年，首批20名非洲黑人被当作奴隶卖到弗吉尼亚殖民地。随后，各殖民地很快通过立法，将黑人奴隶视为“永久财产”，黑人奴隶子女自动成为奴隶。歧视黑人的种族主义思想与制度自此在美国土地上生根发芽。白人为证明奴役黑人的合理性，根据肤色在不同种族间建立起压迫性的等级体系。美国《独立宣言》宣称“人人生而平等”，但最初的宪法却不承认黑人的公民权，并制定了“五分之三条款”，即在分配众议院席位时将黑人奴隶实际人口乘以五分之三。白人对黑人的奴役历史至今仍对黑人后裔造成严重伤害，使其生命权、发展权和政治权利很难得到有效保障。

◆爱尔兰移民在美国建国初期遭到严重歧视和打压。19世纪30到60年代，信仰天主教的爱尔兰人大量移居美国。美国出现强烈的排斥爱尔兰移民运动，将爱尔兰移民污名化，贴上懒惰、低劣、暴力、危险等负面标签。大批美国早期本土主义、排外主义组织与政党此时纷纷成立。19世纪50年代，以反爱尔兰移民为主要政纲的“美国入党”（又称“一无所知党”）产生7名州长、8名参议员和104名众议员。纽约州和马萨诸塞州制定驱逐和遣返爱尔兰移民的立法。排外主义者还诉诸暴力，袭击爱尔兰移民，烧毁移民教堂。1844年费城爆发反爱尔兰移民骚乱，导致至少20人死亡。爱尔兰移民被视为黑人的同类，直到20世纪才被美国白人接纳，成为美国种族歧视的长期受害者。

◆排华运动是美国历史上最臭名昭著的歧视与排斥移民暴行。从19世纪中期开始，大量中国劳工被美国人当成苦力贩运到美国，至1880年时总数已超过10万人。华工承担了美国中央太平洋铁路建设中最艰巨的任务，

cific Transcontinental Railroad. Thousands of people died. They made enormous contributions to the development of the United States with their hard work and even their lives, but were not treated with respect and kindness which they deserved because of rampant racism in the United States. As the railroad projects came to completion, the United States began to turn its back on those who helped it. In 1875, the U.S. Congress passed the Page Act, obstructing the entry of Chinese laborers and women. In 1882, the United States went further and enacted the Chinese Exclusion Act, putting an absolute end to immigration from China and denying resident Chinese immigrants U.S. citizenship. It was the first and only law in the United States to ban all members of a specific ethnic group from immigrating to the country on the grounds of race and nationality. It was not until 1943 that it was formally repealed. To prevent Chinese immigration, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services established an immigration detention facility on San Francisco's Angel Island in 1910, which remained open until 1940. Meanwhile, Chinese immigrants suffered from severe violent attacks. On Oct. 24, 1871, 19 Chinese immigrants were killed by hundreds of white people around Calle de los Negros in Los Angeles. In 1877, the houses of Chinese residents in Calle de los Negros were burned down by white people. In 1876 and 1877, two riots erupted in which armed white racists attacked Chinatown in San Francisco. Then on Sept. 2, 1885, white miners rioted on the Stone Springs mine in Wyoming, destroying the residential village of Chinese workers and killing at least 28 Chinese immigrants.

◆ Japanese immigrants were discriminated against and ostracized in the United States. Although Japan had undergone Meiji Restoration and championed "leaving Asia and entering Europe" at the turn of the 20th century, Japanese immigrants still faced discrimination and exclusion in the United States because of their different skin color and distinctive culture. The U.S. West Coast saw a particularly strong anti-Japanese sentiment. San Francisco adopted a policy to ban Japanese schoolchildren from public schools. In 1907, the United States and Japan reached the so-called Gentlemen's Agreement, meaning the United States would limit the entry of Japanese immigrants, and Japan would voluntarily ban immigration to the United States. In 1913, the California state government enacted the Alien Land Law, barring Asian immigrants, including Japanese, from owning land. In 1917, the U.S. Congress enacted the Asiatic Barred Zone Act, which barred most Asians from immigrating to the United States. After the adoption of the Immigration Act of 1924, the Japanese were completely banned from immigrating to the United States. After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were forcibly moved by the

死亡人数以千计，用自己的辛劳、汗水甚至生命为美国的发展做出巨大贡献。但受到美国国内严重的种族主义氛围影响，华工并未获得应有的尊重和善待。随着有关铁路项目竣工，美国忘恩负义、过河拆桥的一面迅速显露。1875年，美国国会通过《佩奇法案》，限制中国劳工和妇女进入美国。1882年进一步制定《排华法案》，彻底阻止来自中国的移民，并禁止已在美国的中国移民获得美国公民身份。这是美国第一部也是唯一一部以种族和国籍为理由，禁止特定族裔所有成员移民美国的法律，直到1943年才被正式废除。为抵制华人移民，美国移民局于1910年在旧金山天使岛设立移民拘留所，直到1940年才关闭。不仅如此，当时的中国移民还遭到严重的暴力攻击。1871年10月24日，19名华人移民在洛杉矶尼格罗巷一带被几百名白人杀害。1877年，尼格罗巷的华人住宅被白人尽数纵火焚毁。1876年和1877年，美国连续两次发生白人种族主义分子武装袭击旧金山唐人街的动乱。1885年9月2日，白人矿工在怀俄明州石泉矿区发动暴乱，捣毁华工住宅村，至少28名中国移民遇害。

◆ 日本移民曾遭到美国歧视与排斥。19世纪末20世纪初，日本虽然经历明治维新和脱亚入欧，但与美国迥异的肤色和文化使日本移民依旧被美国歧视与排斥。美国西海岸的排日情绪尤其高涨。旧金山市实施“日本学童隔离”政策，禁止日裔学童进入公立学校。1907年，美日两国达成所谓“君子协定”，即美国限制日本移民入境，日本主动禁止移民前往美国。1913年，加利福尼亚州政府颁布《外籍人土地法》，禁止包括日本人在内的亚洲移民拥有土地。1917年，美国国会制定《亚洲禁区法》，禁止大部分亚洲人作为移民进入美国。《1924年移民法》通过后，日本人被彻底禁止移民美国。1941年珍珠港事件爆发后，12万日本移民及其后裔被美国政府强行从西海岸迁往内地的拘留营，必须通过忠诚审查才能彻底解除敌侨嫌疑。直到1988年，美国政府才就此事