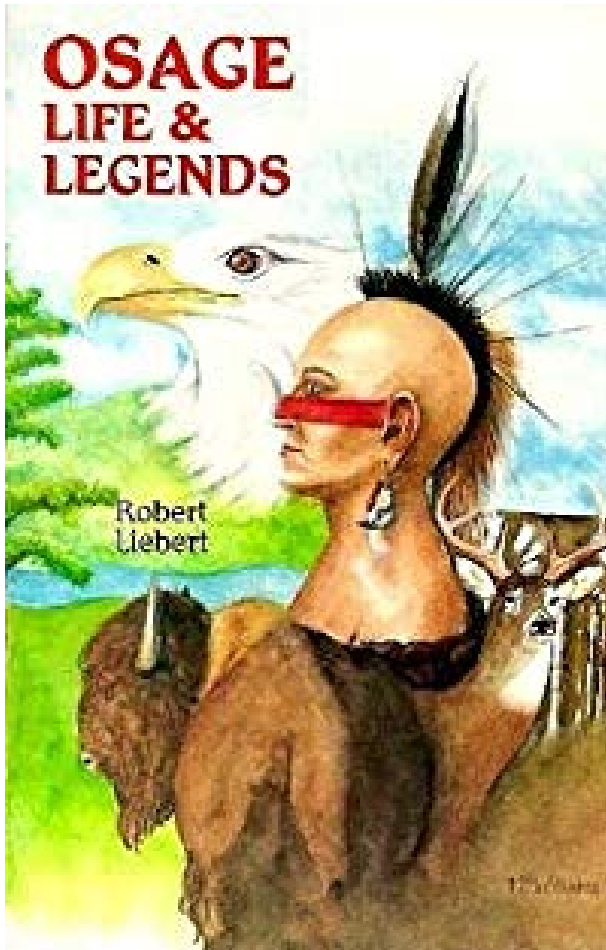


# Osage Life and Legends



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The Osage who were the principal native inhabitants of the Ozarks were often described as the most handsome of the Native Americans, tall, proud and humble. They were once one of the most powerful and well-organized North American tribes.

Their traditions and world views were handed down verbally for generations in a series of poems called wi-gi-es. The poems have been recorded and form a brief history of the tribe.

Rituals were at the heart of Osage Life.

Rituals were faithfully observed such as rising in the morning to preparing to go into battle.