Department of Chahta Immi's Mission Statement:

Chahta Immi tokșali at nanah michachikat,
Chahta Immi ātokma anokfokkchit, annowachit, achonnachit, hayakachit isht okliyachih.

DEPARTMENT OF CHAHTA IMMI
“Lifeways of the Choctaw People”

Tribal Archives
Choctaw Museum

Cultural Affairs
Tribal Language

Special Projects / Media

Chahta Immi Cultural Center

The mission of the Department of Chahta Immi is to inspire, promote, embrace, and enhance the Cultural heritage of the Choctaw People.

* For more information please call (601) 663-7506 or the MBCI Office of Public Information at (601) 663-7532 and visit the MBCI website: www.choctaw.org

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians ©2011

Beaver Meat

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There was once an old man who was very fond of beaver meat. He hunted and killed beaver so frequently that his son argued with him, telling him that some misfortune would surely overtake him as a punishment for his hunting of the clever animals. As the beavers are endowed with the magic powers of the medicine men.

The old man did not heed the warning, but continued to kill beaver nearly every day. Again, the son said, "If you kill them, they will soon catch and kill you."

Not long afterward, the old man saw a beaver enter a hole in the bank. Disregarding his son's advice, he plunged head first into the burrow to catch the animal.

The son saw the old man enter the hole and went in after him grabbing him by the heels pushing him farther in the hole. Thinking another beaver was attacking him, the old man was at first too frighten to move and he cried for mercy.

"Let me go beaver and I will give you my knife." He threw his knife back toward the entrance but received no reply to his plea. Once again, he said "Let me go and I will give you my awl." Again, no answer.

Let me go beaver and I will give you my arrows. The son took the knife, the awl, and the arrows as they were handed to him and quickly hurried away without making himself known.

When the old man returned back to the hut, he said nothing of his adventure. As soon as the old man left the hut, the son placed the knife, the awl, and the arrows in his father's fire bag. When the father returned, the son asked "where is your knife?" "I gave it to the beavers to convince them to let me escape with my life" said the father.

"I told you they would catch you," said the son. The old man never hunted beaver again.