

Virginians in the War

Many Virginians played an important role, making contributions during the Revolutionary War. Some were **patriots** who served in the Continental Army and fought for independence against the British, while others were **loyalists** who remained loyal to Great Britain. There were even some Virginians that were **neutral** and did not take sides.

Women helped during the war by taking on more responsibilities to support the war effort.

African Americans in Virginia were divided about the war. Some **enslaved African Americans** fought for a better chance of freedom. Some **free African Americans** fought for independence in the American Revolution.

Many **American Indians** fought alongside both the Virginia patriots and the British,

George Washington provided military leadership by serving as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.

Thomas Jefferson provided political leadership by expressing the reasons for colonial independence from Great Britain when he wrote the Declaration of Independence.

James Lafayette, an enslaved African American from Virginia, served in the Continental Army and successfully requested his freedom after the war.