

history of aryan brotherhood

Introduction to the Aryan Brotherhood

The **Aryan Brotherhood** is a notorious white supremacist prison gang founded in the 1960s in the United States. Known for its violent criminal activities and strong adherence to racial ideology, the Brotherhood has evolved into one of the most significant and influential white nationalist organizations in the country. This article will explore the history of the Aryan Brotherhood, its origins, ideology, activities, and the impact it has had on American society.

Origins of the Aryan Brotherhood

The Aryan Brotherhood emerged in the early 1960s within the California prison system. It was founded by a group of white inmates as a response to the increasing influence of Black and Latino gangs. The initial goal of the Brotherhood was to provide protection and solidarity for white inmates, but it quickly evolved into a more organized criminal enterprise.

Key Events Leading to the Formation

Several key events contributed to the formation of the Aryan Brotherhood:

1. Prison Overcrowding: In the 1960s, California's prison system faced severe overcrowding, leading to heightened tensions among inmates.
2. Racial Tensions: The civil rights movement and the growing influence of minority gangs in prisons fueled racial animosity among inmates.
3. Need for Protection: White inmates sought to protect themselves from violence and exploitation by forming a cohesive group.

Ideology of the Aryan Brotherhood

The Aryan Brotherhood's ideology is rooted in white supremacy and racism. Members adhere to a belief system that promotes the superiority of the white race over others. This ideology is often expressed through symbols, tattoos, and codes that reinforce their beliefs.

Core Beliefs and Symbols

The Brotherhood's core beliefs can be summarized as follows:

- White Supremacy: The members believe in the supremacy of the white race and reject any form of

racial integration.

- Violence as a Means of Control: The Brotherhood is known for its use of violence to maintain control and discipline within its ranks and to intimidate rivals.
- Loyalty and Brotherhood: Members emphasize loyalty to the group above all else, leading to a strong sense of brotherhood among members.

Common symbols associated with the Aryan Brotherhood include:

- Swastikas: Often used to signify their allegiance to white supremacy.
- The Number 88: Represents "Heil Hitler," as 'H' is the eighth letter of the alphabet.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the origin of the Aryan Brotherhood?

The Aryan Brotherhood originated in the California prison system in the 1960s as a white supremacist gang formed to protect white inmates.

What were the initial motivations for the formation of the Aryan Brotherhood?

The initial motivations included the need for self-defense against rival gangs and the desire to maintain racial superiority within the prison environment.

How did the Aryan Brotherhood expand its influence outside of prisons?

The Aryan Brotherhood expanded its influence through criminal activities such as drug trafficking, extortion, and murder, establishing a network beyond prison walls.

What is the significance of the 'AB' tattoo?

The 'AB' tattoo stands for Aryan Brotherhood and is a symbol of membership and loyalty to the gang, often used to identify members both in and out of prison.

How does the Aryan Brotherhood view race?

The Aryan Brotherhood promotes a white supremacist ideology, advocating for the superiority of the white race and engaging in racist activities against other racial and ethnic groups.

What role does violence play in the activities of the Aryan Brotherhood?

Violence is a central aspect of the Aryan Brotherhood's activities, used as a means of enforcing discipline among members, retaliating against rivals, and establishing dominance.

How has law enforcement responded to the Aryan Brotherhood?

Law enforcement agencies have increased efforts to dismantle the Aryan Brotherhood, using tactics such as surveillance, infiltrations, and prosecutions for organized crime.

What challenges does the Aryan Brotherhood face today?

Today, the Aryan Brotherhood faces challenges from both law enforcement crackdowns and internal conflicts as rival factions compete for power and resources.

What is the relationship between the Aryan Brotherhood and other white supremacist groups?

The Aryan Brotherhood has ties to other white supremacist groups, often collaborating with organizations like the Ku Klux Klan and various skinhead factions.

How has public perception of the Aryan Brotherhood changed over time?

Public perception has shifted from viewing the Aryan Brotherhood as a fringe group to recognizing it as a significant organized crime entity with deep-rooted racial violence and hate.

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