

LESSON NOTES

SCHOOL: SUVA SANGAM COLLEGE

YEAR/LEVEL: YEAR 11

SUBJECT: HISTORY

STRAND	TIME, CONTINUITY AND CHANGE
SUB STRAND	GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE
CONTENT LEARNING OUTCOME	Explore and express relationship between people and events in relations to their culture, resources and environment and apply their knowledge and skills to become responsible and productive citizen.

WEEK 1: MONDAY 05/07/21- FRIDAY 09/07/21

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR:

At the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Define the types of government.
- Describe the features of governments

LESSON NOTES

Unit 1: Types of Government

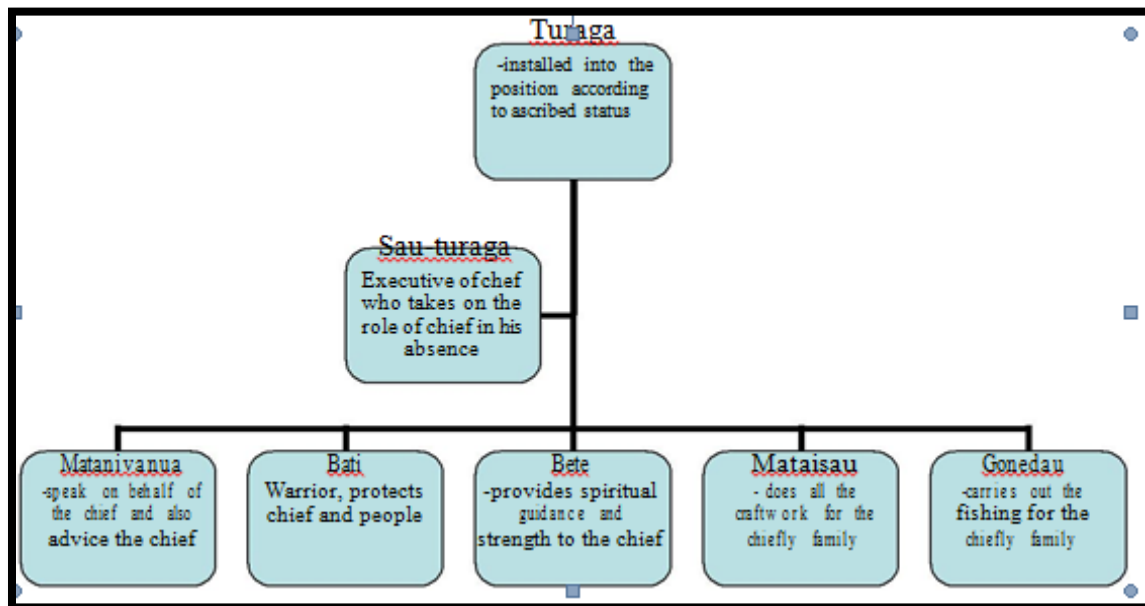
Governments can be classified into several types. Some of the common types are tabulated below:

1. Democratic government	The word "democracy" literally means "rule by the people." In a democracy, the people govern. The people choose their leader through an election.
2. Republic	A state not ruled by a monarch. The head of state is usually a president. All "democracies" are really republics.
3. Monarchy	A state ruled by a monarch. A monarchy consists of rule by a king or queen. Sometimes a king is called an "emperor," especially if there is a large empire, such as China before 1911. There are no large monarchies today.
4. Aristocracy	A state ruled by the aristocrats. Aristocrats became rulers through birth and family connections.
5. Dictatorship	A dictatorship consists of rule by one person or a group of people. The dictator may be one person, such as Fidel Castro in Cuba or Muammar Gaddafi in Libya. A dictatorship can also be a group of people, such as the Communist Party in China or a

	group of military officers for example, the “Junta” in Chile. (Sometimes this is called authoritarian rule or totalitarian rule)
6. Constitutional Monarchy	A form of national government in which the power of the monarch (the King or Queen) is restrained by law (constitution). e.g. The Kingdom of Tonga
7. Chiefdom	A traditional form of government. For example, Ratu Seru Cakobau was Chief of the Kubuna confederacy. Today there are paramount Chiefs who are leaders of their province. Chiefdom is led by an individual known as a Chief.

Traditional Government – Fiji

1. The early Fijian society has its own unique governing system referred to as chiefdoms. The leader is not elected nor can be voted out since he or she has ascribed right to the position. Below is a skeleton structure of the Chiefdom.



2. Chiefdom has an authoritarian governing system where the chief directs all the welfare of the chiefdom. The social structure outlined above actually puts the chief’s command in to actions.
3. Failure to carry out commands of the chief resulted in severe punishment such as exile, banishments or even death.
4. The arrival of Explorers, Traders, Whaler, Missionaries and Early European Settlers brought western ideas, materials and values that influenced the chiefdoms. Chiefs were empowered with guns and became affluent with modern materials.
5. One chiefdom was the Kingdom of Bau which had rivalry with Enele Ma’afu of Tonga whose dominance was extended from Northern Lau to Vanua Levu. These two chiefs

aspired to dominate Fiji. The status of all chiefs was recognized in the colonial administration

Strengths: organized and controlled. Efficient and there are no protests or riots.

Weaknesses: limited individual rights, no debate or opposition and dependent on one person.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

<https://thebestschools.org/magazine/common-forms-of-government-study-starters/>

LESSON ACTIVITY

1. State **one** of the reasons that made the vanua of Ba u powerful.

2. Briefly state Cakobau's main ambition.

3. How did Christianity or missionary work influence Cakobau's position as dominant chief?

4. Who was Cakobau's main rival and why?

WEEK 2: MONDAY 12/07/21- FRIDAY 16/07/21

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR:

At the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Define the types of government.
- Describe the features of governments

LESSON NOTES

Democratic Government in Fiji

1. The transition from a traditional chiefdom to democratic government took place in the 1800's and eventually materialized in 1874.
2. On 10th March, 1874 an interim colonial government was set up pending negotiations for the ceding of Fiji to Great Britain. Fiji was ceded to Great Britain on 10th October, 1874 at Nasova in Levuka.

3. Since 1874 Fiji had been governed through indirect colonial rule with representative government mostly dominated by Europeans.
4. The natives were governed through the Fijian Administration but were represented by Europeans in the representative government.
5. In this government there was an executive council and a legislative council whose members are nominated by the Governor. There were unique political changes that took place from 1874-1970, which reflected a more democratic type government.

Political Changes

Year	Political Changes
1904	Constitutional changes which resulted in governor becoming the commander in chief with enlargement of the legislative council. Legislative Council -1904 had 6 elected members (Elected by voters who are engaged in Agriculture, producing sugar and earns more than £120/year) and 2 Fijian (iTaukei) members (Nominated by the Council of Chiefs).
1910	3 electoral divisions were set up for the Legislative Council.
1914	Official member of the Legislative Council raised to 11 and 7 elected members.
1916	Legislative Council was enlarged to 12 nominated officials of whom one was an Indian. However both Indian and native do not have the right to vote. This was a source of grievance for the Indians who strongly felt that their democratic rights needed to be recognized because of their significant population.

Year	Political Changes
1929	Indians were finally allowed to vote with an enlarged Legislative Council. 13 nominated members, 6 elected European members, 3 Fijian members and 3 Indian Elected members. The Indian members began to pursue election based on common roll
	Enlargement of the Legislative Council to a size that remained until 1936. Sixteen official members, five European member, five Fijian member still chosen by Great Council of Chiefs, and five Indian members (2 elected, 3 nominated). In 1937. The colonial government began to expand its role in providing better service. From the sixteen official members three were drafted automatically in important Government position to ensure good governance –a Colonial Secretary, Financial Secretary and Attorney General
1954	The appointment of Speaker to the legislative council, a role used to be carried out by the Governor General. This was the appointment of Rt. Sir Lala Sukuna as the first speaker of the legislative council.

1963	The Legislative council was enlarged again. There were 19 Official members and 18 unofficial members. The 18 unofficial members included 4 elected Fijians, 4 elected Europeans, 4 elected Indians (who were elected based on common roll). In addition to that were nominees , 2 Indian , 2 European , and 2 Fijians nominated by GCC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/RP9798/98RP07

LESSON ACTIVITY

1. Which two parties contested the 1977 election?
2. Which party won the election? (Try to find out the leader of the party.)
3. Why did the Governor General choose Ratu Mara to be the Prime Minister?

WEEK 3: MONDAY 19/07/21- FRIDAY 23/07/21

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR:

At the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Describe the interim government
- Describe the multi-party cabinet

LESSON NOTES

Interim Government

1. An interim government refers to a group of people who are responsible for controlling a country or state in the meanwhile or in the mean- time, waiting for an election process to decide on the permanent government.
2. This started in 1977 in Fiji, after the Governor General appointed Ratu Mara to form a minority government until September elections.
3. The 1987 election was won by the National Federation Party-Fiji Labour Party Coalition, and they were able to form a government through the leadership of Doctor Timoci Bavadra, who was sworn in as Prime Minister on the 13th of April 1987.

4. A month later, on the 14th of May 1987, the Coalition government came to an end through the coups that were led by Major Sitiveni Rabuka. After another coup in September, an interim government was set up.

Multi- Party Government

1. A multi-party government clearly defines itself as a country's system of administration which comprises of more than one party.
2. In this case party manifesto will not be a priority to the multi-party government; therefore the nation's needs would have to be looked at first.
3. For a multi-party government to work, it will depend on the willingness of the political parties' leaders and members to put aside differences and work towards the good of the country.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

<https://www.flp.org.fj/labour-nine-sworn-into-multi-party-cabinet/>

LESSON ACTIVITY

1. Name the Prime Minister that was deposed in the 1987 coup
2. **Define** the following terms:
 - a) Coup d'état -
 - b) Coalition –
 - c) Interim government –
3. Why was the loss of the Alliance Party seen as such an issue amongst itaukei's and this was a factor that led to the coup?

WEEK 4: MONDAY 26/07/21- FRIDAY 30/07/21

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR:

At the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Explain the reasons for the establishment of the Fijian Administration.
- Discuss the purpose of the co-existence of the two administration systems.

LESSON NOTES

Unit 2 Administration

Native / Fijian Administration

1. The Native Administration was set up by Sir Arthur Gordon with the purpose of preserving Fijian institutions and safeguard itaukei interests in terms of land , prevent land alienation.
2. Fijians would live their everyday life in the villages with their chiefs as heads, this was to give them time to progress slowly into the modern world.
3. The chiefs were always the leaders and people lived in their villages instead of moving into the urban areas, which was a desire of Sir Arthur Gordon.
4. However since changes are inevitable, the Fijian Administration had to be restructured.
5. The Fijian Administration system went through phases of changes from 1944 to 1946, under the guidance of Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna
6. The Fijian Administration had lay down a structure of sustainable leadership where Fijians could be governed and at the same time they could preserve their traditions, customs and culture.

Effects of the Native Administration on the itaukei.

1. Fijians were kept in their villages under their chiefs , who were given great powers over commoners,
2. Fijians not given individual rights of British subjects, subject instead to their chiefs.
3. Government taxation in crops.

Modern Administration

1. The British also established a western style of government which up to 2006 was the Parliamentary System.
2. This system promoted the idea of democracy where any citizen could be a leader , or become a member of parliament.

Co-existence of the Two Systems

1. The co-existence of the administration systems started all the way back during the colonial period and continues to the present day period.
2. Sir Arthur Gordon was trying to preserve the iTaukei way of life through indirect rule and at the same time slowly introducing the Parliamentary system.
3. This dual administration allowed the British to rule Fiji without interfering so much with the traditional leadership structure and has been seen as a way of addressing itaukei's matters of concern at the parliament level.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

LESSON ACTIVITY

1. When was the Fijian Administration established?
2. Name the 1880 law which confirmed the communal ownership of land in Fiji.
3. State one of the changes to the Fijian administration in 1945.

WEEK 5: MONDAY 02/08/21- FRIDAY 06/08/21

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR:

At the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Identify the key issues surrounding the creation of a constitution.
- Explain the reasons for changes or abrogation of a constitution.

LESSON NOTES

UNIT 3 CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Constitution

1. Every nation like every home, school or organization needs a set of rules to guide it and its citizens so that all may benefit.
2. These rules and regulations that guide a country and says how it should be run, is its **constitution**.
3. Fiji has had four constitutions since gaining independence in 1970:
 - 1970
 - 1990
 - 1997
 - 2013

Key Issues Surrounding the 1970 Constitution

1. Before Fiji could be granted independence in 1970, the leaders of the two existing political parties, the Alliance Party and National Federation Party, had one major source of disagreement.
2. By 1963 everyone over the age of 21 had the right to vote.
3. The major disagreement was on which form of voting system to adopt:

- Voting had been carried out under separate **communal rolls**. Electors voted in their racial groups or communities with Fijians electing Fijians, Indians electing Indians and Europeans voting for Europeans.
- A section of the Indian community felt very strongly that the balance of representation was not even and that everybody should be placed on one common voting roll to vote for whichever candidates they chose regardless of race. They felt that Europeans electors who were by far the smallest group had too many representatives compared with either the Fijian or the Indian electors.
- A **common roll** would have meant that a far greater number of Indian representatives would have been elected over representatives of other races, because the Indian electors outnumbered the Fijian and other electors. Opposition to this scheme was based on the belief that the Fijians' place in their own land interests should not be swamped by those of other races.

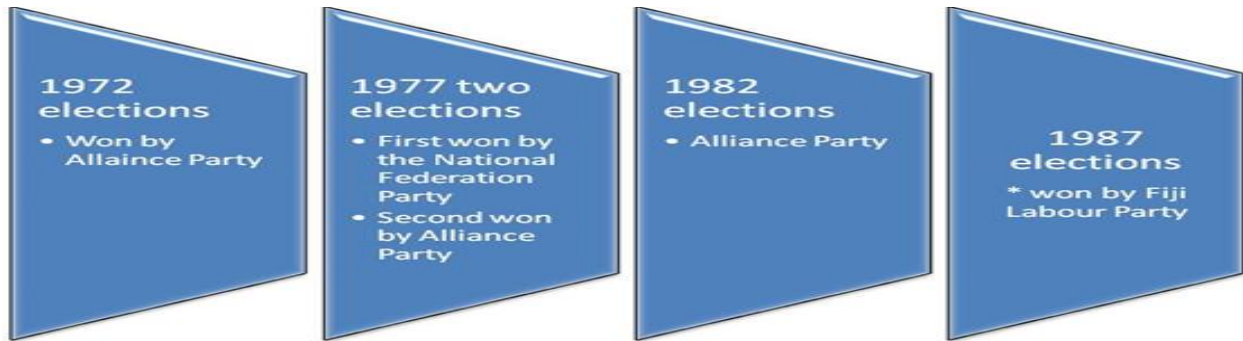
Features of the 1970 Constitution

1. The 1970 constitution recognised the principle that the highest priority should be given to iTaukei interests (including preservation of land ownership, culture and system of administration).
2. It also adopted a communal **electoral system** (i.e. systems of voting), which means that people vote for candidates from their own ethnic (communal) group. But the electoral system was not purely communal, because it included a unique cross-voting arrangement as well, whereby people from all ethnic groups could vote for candidates of another ethnic group.

Government Under the First Constitution

1. The Alliance Party won the first election held under the 1970 constitution and then remained in power for the next 17 years under the leadership of iTaukei high chief, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.
2. The Alliance Party members were a mixture of Fijian leaders, some Indians, and people of other races (who at the time were called "General Voters ")
3. Then in the general elections of 1987, the Alliance government lost power. It was defeated by a coalition of two opposition parties; the Indian-based National Federation Party and the multiracial Labour Party.

- The defeat of the Alliance was seen as a defeat for iTaukei interests, because the Alliance Party drew support mainly from the iTaukei population.
- iTaukei's were afraid that the new Coalition government would threaten their land ownership, culture and administration . However not many iTaukei understood the relationship between the constitution, parliament and the voting system.



Coup D' etat 1987

- On 14th May, 1987, Major Sitiveni Rabuka led a coup d 'etat that deposed (removed from office)
- A coup d'etat is the sudden and often violent overthrow of a government.

When Rabuka took power, he announced that:

- The 1970 constitution was suspended;
- An interim government (council of Ministers) was established, which included members of the Alliance Party; and
- The country would eventually return to “democratic government “ under a revised constitution.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/RP9798/98RP07

LESSON ACTIVITY

- Define the term constitution.
- Identify the key issue surrounding the creation of the 1970 constitution.
- Why was the loss of the Alliance Party seen as such an issue amongst itaukei's.