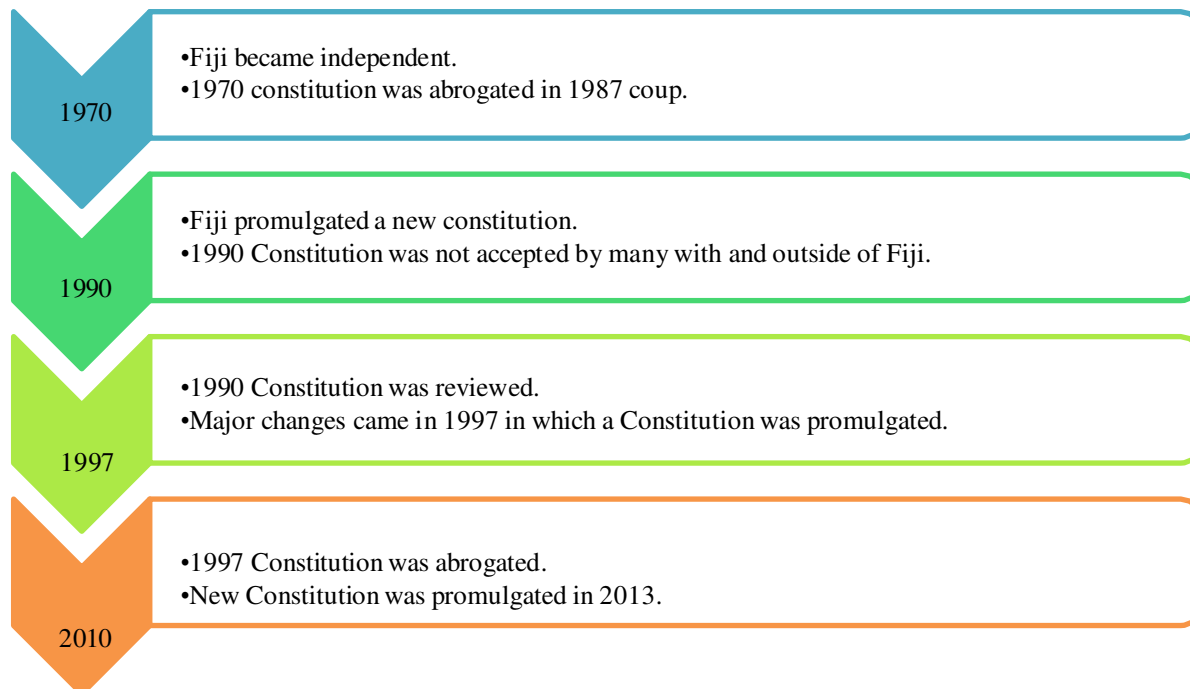


PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
YEAR 11 HISTORY

Worksheet 8

Constitutional Development: -

- ┌ A constitution is an important document for a self-governing country and it sets the rules and regulations that guide a country on how it should be run.
- ┌ Fiji has had four constitutions ever since it became independent in 1970.



- ┌ There was a period of confusion and bitter debate when Great Britain unexpectedly indicated that it would grant independence to Fiji.

(For further understanding of the 1970 *Constitution and the Road to Independence* read pg. 3.5-3.7)

Main Features of the 1970 Constitution

Principles & Provisions

- ┌ The 1970 Constitution gave priority to *i*Taukei interests.
- ┌ The 1970 Constitution also had a communal electoral system – which means that people vote for candidates from their own ethnic group.
- ┌ This is not to say that the electoral system was purely communal because people from other ethnic groups could vote for candidates of another ethnic group.
- ┌ The 1970 Constitution did not guarantee that any one ethnic group would gain a majority of seats in parliament.

Activity 8

1. define the term constitution.
2. briefly describe how a constitution is made.
3. state two advantages of a constitution.
4. define the term Bill of Rights under Fiji's constitution.
5. identify two constitutional changes that have occurred in Fiji before independence