



3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

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LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 9

Name:

Subject: Social Science

Week 10

Year:

Strand	Time, Continuity and Change
Sub Strand	History of Fiji (pre-contact to cession) 1800 – 1874
Content Learning Outcome	Explore the events that took place from pre-contact to cession and describe how the actions of individuals and groups during these events contributed to cession for Fiji's political development.

Chapter Two: Time, Continuity and Change

Unit One : History of Fiji

BEACHCOMBER

Beachcombers were such men as shipwrecked sailors, runaway convicts and ship deserters.

They brought with them not only their immoral ways of life, but also firearms and alcohol thus more serious changes were brought by these people which influenced the Fijian way of life.

REASONS FOR ESCAPING FROM SHIPS

- To escape poor conditions on board
- Low wages
- Severe punishment

EFFECTS OF BEACHCOMBERS

They lived with Fijians and also brought them new ideas of Western Technology, including fire arm sled led to the change in the communal lifestyles because these people lived with the Fijians.

They settled and married in villages. They fought amongst themselves

CHARLES SAVAGE: 1808



- Beachcomber who survived a shipwreck and found his way to Bau.
- Savage took a supply of muskets and ammunition from the wreck
- Bau was then able to conquer its rivals and establish itself as one of the most powerful links in Fiji.
- With his ability to speak both Tongan and Fijian made him become accepted as the Vunivalu of Bau's Whiteman.

WHALING

- The whaling era in the Pacific lasted from 1789 – 1860.
- It was dominated by Whalers from the New England coast of North America.
- By 1840 there 700 American whaling ships in the Pacific. They provided employment for the people in the Pacific.
- Even though Fiji was a long distance from the whaling areas, it established a small whaling settlement using the sheltered harbor at Levuka by 1830.
- The Rotumans obtained whales teeth from the whalers and used them for trading with i-Taukei during inter – island voyages.

Follow-up Questions

i) Who were Beachcombers and how they helped locals. (2 marks)

ii) Who came to Fiji as a beachcomber and state the reasons for becoming very important? (2 marks)

iii) What were the reasons for escaping from the ships? (4 marks)

iv) What were two effects of whaling on economic lifestyle of the Fijians? (2 marks)

