



LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College
Subject: Social Science

Year/Level: 9
Week 9

Name:
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

EARLY EUROPEAN CONTACT

The Sandalwood trade

- Europeans came to Fiji in search of sandalwood (Fragrant wood that contained oil which was greatly valued) -found in China and India as they were used for religious articles and scent.

OLIVER SLATER

1800– Olive Slater discovered sandalwood at Bua Bay.

- Was picked up by the ship El Plumier (was sailing to Manila in the Philippines)

1804 – Slater found a market for sandalwood & passed on the news to Simeon Lord, the owner of the schooner, Marcia.

1805 – First cargo of Sandalwood from Fiji

1808 – 1809 Sandalwood trade reached its peak

1813 – Very little sandalwood left and traders turned their attention to beach- de-mer.

1830s – Beach –de-mer trade reached its height.

ITEMS USED FOR TRADE BY EUROPEANS FOR SANDALWOOD

- Iron hoops and bars
- Fishing hooks
- Bottles
- Clothes

Chiefs learnt skillful bargaining.

EFFECTS OF THE SANDALWOOD TRADE

- Brought in a source of wealth
- I-Taukei were eager to sell their sandalwood for the traders, “tabua”, iron, goods and tools
- Jealousy among other chiefs without access to traders and European goods

EFFECTS ON ECONOMIC LIFESTYLE

- New western items were traded in the exchange of goods by the tribes. (It had greater gain for Fiji than for Europeans)
- These new items brought other benefits to Fiji.
- Fijians became exposed to European diseases such as measles and the common cold.
- Men were away from their village a long time cutting trees and loading them on trader’s ships.
- Fijians started to get jobs on board the trader’s ships like temporary pilots, cooks and translators.
- Woman had to make do while men were away from the village

Follow-up Questions

i) Who discovered sandalwood at Bua bay? Which year was sandalwood discovered? (2 marks)

ii) Who came to Fiji in search of sandalwood? (2 marks)

iii) What were the items used for trade for sandalwood by Europeans? (4 marks)

iv) What were two effects of sandalwood trade on economic lifestyle? (2 marks)
