

Strand: Government and Governance

Substrand: Electoral Commission

Objective: *function of electoral commission*

Why political parties were formed

Identify the role of opposition and government

- ◆ Is an independent constitutional authority.
- ◆ The Commissioner is appointed by the President – the President also appoints through the advice of the PM.
- ◆ The Commissioner cannot be holding any public post upon appointment.
- ◆ The Electoral Commission is given the responsibility to supervise the election process.

(Read 4.8-4.16 to further understand the *Electoral System in Fiji & its Mechanics*; the processes undertaken in an *Election Campaign*; the *1977 Election Campaign & Political Representation*)

Week 14

Content Learning Outcome: - Explain the functions of the mechanisms of government, and how to promote good governance.

Scope & Content: - Voting System & Development of Political Parties.

Representation: -



- Majority of democracies start with a two party system – it is through the parties that they promise voters that they will represent their interests at the national level.
- This means that an election is contested over both ideologies (the best policies) and representation (having your voice heard)
- Ideology and Representation is usually the centre of political debates and arguments.

(Read pg. 5.9 to further understand *Ideologies and Representation*)

Party Leadership: -

Below are some pictures of political leaders who have influenced the political system in Fiji.



(Mr. Jai. Ram. Reddy)



(L-R: Ratu. Mara & Rabuka)



(Mahendra. Chaudry & Laisenia Qarase)



(Timoci. Bavadra)



(Adi. Kuini.Speed)



(Mick.Beddoes)

- Political parties have a strong leader.
- Political parties win seats in parliament because of strong leaders – leaders need to have the vision, charisma and confidence through some of these traits voters will trust them that they will lead them and have their voices heard in parliament.

