



## 3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

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### Week 11

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 9

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Social Science

Week 11

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

##### BECHE – DE-MER

(a.k.a. TREPANG OR HOLITHURIUM) Bech de mer trading became popular in Fiji after sandalwood trade. It was a thriving activity to many Fijian villages and many villagers decided to live their village and move to areas where work is provided. The activity had a great impact to the villagers and at the same time interrupted their village organization.

##### IMPACT OF BECHE DE MER





- Many decided to live near the bech –de –mer station. It meant an increase in some Fijians. ( people escaped from village / community work )
- Led to increasing competition between Vanua and Matanitu for access to bech-de-mer station.
- Change in communal lifestyles because temporary villages were started near trading stations
- Concentration on getting bech-de-mer and neglecting daily task.

##### MISSIONARIES

The first missionaries to reach Fiji were two Tahitians, Hanea and Atai of the London Missionary Society(LMS). After being driven out of Lakeba, they established themselves in Oneata in 1830 and soon built a small group of converts.

In 1840, an American expedition of (four) 4 ships arrived in Fiji. Led by Commodore Wilkes carrying out expedition work in the Pacific and included many scientists and artist and a language expert. It was called the USXX – the United States Exploring Expedition.

In the three months which they spent in Fiji waters, the Americans produced the first reasonably complete chart of the Fiji group.

MISSIONARIES	DATE/MOVEMENT/PURPOSE OF COMING	INFLUENCES ON FIJIAN LIFE
<p>WILLIAM CROSS</p>  <p>DAVID GARGILL</p>  <p>(WESLEYAN MISSIONARIES)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1835 – They arrived in Lakeba where they were accepted by Tui Nayau.</li> <li>They were no converts</li> <li>They had come to spread Christianity.</li> <li>Were responsible for producing the first book in Fijian – an extract from St. Matthews Gospel.</li> <li>1837 – W. Cross went to Bau but found that Cakobau was engaged in war.</li> <li>He moved to Rewa where he was welcomed by Tui Dreketi</li> <li>Cross moved to Viwa ( where he set a first printing press)</li> </ul>	<p>CONFLICTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally, missionaries showed little respect for Native Custom &amp; Tradition – this made the Fijians resentful.</li> <li>Most of the missionaries were narrow minded and they forced their converts to give up much of their natural way of life. They made women wear dresses down to their ankles – the women left them on when they were damp. As a result people got influenza and pneumonia. Chief Namosimalua pretended to accept Christianity but only to escape from the threat of naval guns. He thought that being a Christian would protect him against this powerful threat of a Christian God.</li> <li>One man, one wife – Fijians found that hard to accept.</li> <li>Missionaries destroyed temples and idols of Fijian Gods and this caused more resentment among the Fijians.</li> </ul> <p><b>BENEFITS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They educated Fijians – trained teachers, translated scriptures from other books, published a dictionary &amp; grammar &amp; set up schools.</li> <li>Brought medicines</li> <li>Raised the importance of women in everyday life.</li> </ul>
<p>JOHN HUNT</p>  <p>&amp; THOMAS JAGGAR</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1838 – J.Hunt and T. Jaggar arrived in Lakeba and set up another printing press</li> </ul>	

### Follow-up Questions

i) Discuss the USXX and what was it's motive. (2 marks)

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ii) Who were the missionaries that came to Fiji in 1835 and what was their mission? (2 marks)

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iii) What were the benefits of missionaries coming to Fiji? (2 marks)

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iv) What were two effects of beach-de-mer on economic lifestyle of the Fijians? (2 marks)