



3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

PH: 6674003/9264117 E-mail: basangam@connect.com.fj



LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 9

Name: _____

Subject: Social Science

Week 12

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

An agreement was made between Wilkes and Tanoa of Bau

- Tanoa and other chiefs agreed to give protection to foreign ships and to supply them with water and provisions.
- Crews of wrecked ships were to be protected
- Alcohol was not to be brought ashore
- Deserters were to be captured and returned to their ships
- No seamen were to remain ashore after nine o'clock in the evening.
- Ships were required to pay three dollars for port charges and seven dollars for a pilot's services.

EUROPEAN PLANTERS AND SETTLERS

- Permanent settlers in Fiji after 1860 became involved more directly with Fijian life and Politics (they wanted land and labor for their plantations and settled government which would give them a firm title to their land as well as protection.
- Most Europeans arrived in Fiji in 1860s as there was the boom in cotton prices (a.k.a the GREAT FIJI RUSH). Fiji's climate and cheap land attracted settlers and planters.
- In between 1860 – 1871, the numbers increased from 30 to 2760.

REASONS FOR COMING TO FIJI

- Attracted many who had failed to make good on the goldfields of Australia and New Zealand or in the towns of the colonies.
- Some saw an opportunity to make their fortune by investing money in Fiji (as a result, the Polynesian company was formed comprising of Europeans and Settlers who invested in Fiji). They bought men to run shops and other services so Levuka then Suva sprang up as pioneer towns.
- 1868 – 1871 – Levuka changed from a village for i-Taukei to a European style town. It served both as a business centre for Fiji and a place to which Europeans came for social and cultural events.
- Wooden houses were built and proper furniture was brought in.
- Fijians were not included in activities as before, and the gap between the two races grew.

WILKINSON & THURSTON

- These two planters saw the only way to maintain a stable society was for the Europeans and Fijians to trust each other and work together.
- They tried to create a government with both Fijian and European members.

LAND

- Land was sold to the Europeans by the i-Taukei in many parts of Fiji.
- At times, the same piece of land was sold many times and this caused a lot of disputes over titles. Sometimes chiefs sold land belonging to another tribe in order to attract the white settlers to the area and obtain the protection of his guns.
- As a result, the settler could then find himself attacked by the real owner and could often get driven off the land in dispute.

LABOUR

- Labour was needed for the plantations and this led to the LABOUR TRAFFIC where labourers were shipped from other Pacific Islands and Melanesian Islands (often against their will) to work in plantations.
- The two new groups were from Kiribati (then called Gilbert Islands) and the Solomon Islands.

Follow-up Questions

i) Discuss the reasons for an agreement was made between Wilkes and Tanoa of Bau. (2 marks)

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

iii) What were the reasons for the European planters coming to Fiji? (2 marks)

iv) Discuss the concept of Labour Traffic? (1 mark)
