



3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

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LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 9

Name: _____

Subject: Social Science

Week 16

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

THE FAILURE OF CAKOBAU'S GOVERNMENT

By mid- 1873 Cakobau's government collapsed due to the following reasons:

- A failure to reach agreement among the subjects of the kingdom on how much Fijian participation there should be in the government.
- Participation of Europeans in the government
- The Europeans in the government were not qualified either by experience or by character to govern the country
- Ministers spent money recklessly leaving the government in debt In February 1873, the Burns family, who had settled on the Ba River were murdered by a mountain tribe threatened to break away from the government.



Cakobau's flag - 1871

Economically Fiji was in a bad way. The price of cotton had fallen and many settlers were in difficult. The Fijians were discontented. The government ruled more in the interests of the settlers who regarded the Fijians as a source of cheap labor. Fijians were sentenced to work for the planters if they failed to pay a poll tax. In 1873 – Ma'afu threatened to leave the Kingdom after expressing his dislike of European control. The government had failed to solve the planter's

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problems in the way that the planters would have liked them solved. In January 1873, Thurston made another appeal to Britain asking if the British Government would consider annexing Fiji. This time it was successful. Fiji was annexed in 1874.

Follow-up Questions

i) Explain result of the failure of the Cakobau's government. (2 marks)

ii) Discuss the importance of ceding Fiji to Britain (2 marks)

iii) Discuss the concept of annex. (1 mark)
