

3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

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



LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sang	am College	Year/Level: 9	Name:
Subject: Social S	Science	Week 16	Year:
Strand	Time, Continui	ty and Change	
Sub Strand	History of Fiji (pre-contact to cession) 1800	- 1874
Content	Explore the eve	nts that took place from pre-	contact to cession and describe
Learning	how the actions	of individuals and groups du	ring these events contributed to
Outcome	cession for Fiji'	s political development.	

Chapter Two: Time, Continuity and Change

Unit One : History of Fiji

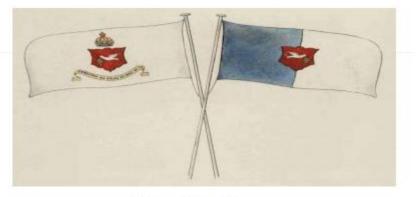
THE FAILURE OF CAKOBAU'S GOVERNMENT

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 *Sangam Education Board – Online Resources*

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.		
ii) Discuss the importance of ceding Fiji to Britain	(2 marks)	
iii) Discuss the concept of annex. (1 mark)		

Sangam Education Board – Online Resources