

**PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
P.O.BOX 44, RAKIRAKI
LESSON NOTES**

Worksheet 7

School: PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL

Year/Level: 9

Subject: Social Science

WEEK 19

Strand	Time, Continuity and Change
Sub Strand	History of Fiji
Content Learning Outcome	Students should be able identify the reason for tanoa name to be changed to cakobau. Able to identify when did Mafau came to Fiji.

2.3 THE RISE OF MA'AFU AND CAKOBAU

In 1829 – Tanoa (Naulivou's sons) succeeded his father's title. Bau controlled the coastal areas and by 1830, the Island Kingdom of Cakobau became the most powerful in Fiji. Bau became powerful because of;

- Intermarriages between Bauan chiefs and chiefly families of neighboring Vanua, especially Rewa and Cakaudrove.
- The increasing number of Vasu to Bau
- Bau's influence spread and its huge canoes enabled Bau to intervene in disputes and carry out raids along the northern and western coasts of Viti Levu and in Lomaiviti.

In 1837, Cakobau remained the real power in Bau (Tanoa was old and weak). Cakobau restored his father's power. Tanoa died in 1852 and was succeeded by his son, Seru who took the name Cakobau.

MA'AFU



- In 1847 – Ma'afu (King Taufa Aha'u in Tonga) came to Fiji in an expedition to Vanua Balavu to investigate the killing of a preacher..
- He was the Protector of Wesleyan missionaries and he too Vanua Balavu by force after the murder of 17 Wesleyan converts.
- Ma'afu power stretched from Lakeba to Yasawa, Beqa and Kadavu, Bua and Macuata.
- He became a threat to Cakobau because of his growing power.

Short Answers

1. Why did Tanoa's son adopt the name Cakobau?

CAKOBAU



- 1843 – Cakobau succeeded in capturing Rewa and placing his own King, Cokanauto, in charge of the captured part. He could not seize the Rewan chief, Qaraniqio, who had fled to the hills.
- 1852 – Cakobau went to Macuata to fight Ritova who had refused to recognize Bauan claims; he stripped Ratu Mara Kapaiwai (a great grandson of Tui Nayau) of his canoe to make him less powerful.
- Ratu Mara had good terms with the Europeans at Levuka who blamed Cakobau for the attacks by Lovoni tribesmen on Levuka. At the same time, the Ovalau tribes revolted.
- 1854 – Cokanauto died, Qaraniqio returned, recaptured Rewa, and held off all Cakobau's attempts to win it back.
- On the same year, Cakobau was so downcast that he was persuaded to accept Christianity and to renounce his old heathen beliefs.
- This led to further trouble for many of the allies who, disliking Christianity, went over to the enemy.
- 1855 – Qaraniqio died and the Rewan chiefs, tired of war, sought peace. Cakobau agreed but rebel Bauans at Kaba disagreed.
- Led by Mara they opposed Cakobau's conversion to Christianity.
- This resulted to the Battle of Kaba which was seen as a victory for Christianity over heathenism, a victory which led to a series of mass conversions of Fijians to Christianity.
- The battle was won by the unorthodox tactics of the Tongans. They insisted on charging at a time when the normal tactics would be to and thus made the enemy confused.
- The Bauan Kingdom became the leading kingdom of Fiji.

THE AMERICAN CLAIM

- Cakobau had ordered a ship from America and had hoped to use it to trade in bech-de-mer. The sum was not paid.
- 1849 – The house of a Johns Williams accidentally burnt during the celebration of America Independence Day on Nukulau Island.
- The Fijians, rather than putting out the fire, looted the house. Williams claimed that he had lost property valuing at £5000 pounds.
- 1853 – Levuka was burnt down by the Lovoni tribesman and many Americans were victims.
- 1855 – Williams house was burnt down again and again and he appealed to American government for help. This time the American claim grew from £5000 to £45000.
- 1858 – The U.S.S Vandalia came to Levuka and Cakobau was called on board. He was forced to sign a promise that would pay the debt, this time within one year.

Short Answers

2. When did Ma'afu come to Fiji?

THE FIRST OFFER

- Apart from his inability to pay the American debt, Cakobau was also worried over Ma'afu's growing power which had now spread to Beqa and Rakiraki.
- Cakobau approached the British consul, W.T.Pritchard with an offer to cede Fiji to Great Britain.
- Cakobaus conditions were;
 - a. He should be allowed to keep the title *Tui Viti*
 - b. Britain should pay the American debt in return for eighty- two thousand hectares of land (200,000 acres).

Britain refused the offer

- Pritchard did not like the Tongan expansion in Fiji and also he was worried over the increased activity of German traders in the South Pacific.
- Pritchard went to England to urge the British government to accept the offer.
- He believed that Fiji could be important both as a naval base and as a centre of trade for ships going between Panama and Australia.
- On his return, he called a meeting of all leading chiefs, at which he persuaded Ma'afu to give up his claims in Fiji and to give back the lands he conquered.
- Ma'afu and the other chiefs agreed to the offer of cession and signed a document which promised protection for all Christians, the stopping of cannibalism and infanticide, and which recognized the rights of Europeans to hold land and to trade.
- Pritchard set up courts to resolve conflicts. This was an attempt to bring law and order into Fiji.
- Soon his work became unpopular due to poor decision making.

Short Answers

3. Why did the Island of Bau become the most powerful in Fiji by 1830?
