

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



# DIPLOMACY AND FIJI



FIJI YEAR TWELVE CERTIFICATE

YEAR 12 HISTORY

**PUPIL'S BOOK** 

# CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT UNIT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SUVA, FIJI. 2015

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## Cover Photograph;

Prince Lilohilo (1797-1824), later King Kamehameha III of Hawaii, visited Europe in 1824. Another delegation to Europe in 1842-43 convinced the super-powers to acknowledge Hawaii's sovereignty.

#### Source:

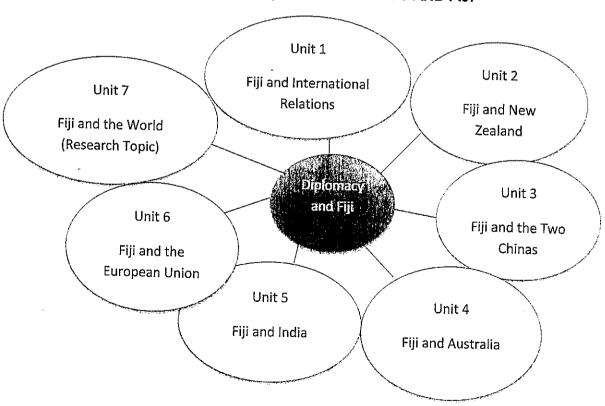
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TOPIC MAP
For the seven topics in DIPLOMACY AND FIJI



## NOTE FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

## Welcome to the topic "Fiji History: Diplomacy and Fiji".

This is one of the optional topics in Year 12 History that you will study in this subject. The Pupil's book will help you understand diplomatic ties that Fiji has set up with other countries. The Pupil's book is a resource for teaching and learning. Teachers and students are also encouraged to use information from other relevant and appropriate sources to supplement the textbook.

## Using the Pupil's Book

This book has been designed to provide you, the student, with maximum interaction with the topic under study. This is the best way to gain an in-depth understanding of these issues and ideals that you will cover in this topic. Your role is to actively engage with this book as you read and study. You can do this by:

- Constantly thinking about the value of the content to you as a student.
- Completing all the activities.
- Working with a study group or talking about your learning with other students and friends; and
- Reading the Pupil's Book as many times as you need in order to understand the main ideas.
- Search elsewhere TV, movies, newspapers, Internet, friends, family members

Each unit has a number of important features to help you in your studies.

#### Study Organiser

This outlines the topics that will be covered in each unit, and lets you know:

- The objectives that relate to each topic (what you should be able to do after you complete the unit);
- The activities and readings you will need to complete to help you achieve the objectives of each topic.

#### Checklist

 After you complete each unit, you should honestly answer the questions in the checklist to see if you have done well in the unit. If you have answered 'No' to any question in the checklist, read the relevant section(s) in the unit again to help you improve your understanding.

### Reading and Activities

 Each unit has readings and resources which you are required to read and study before attempting the activities that usually follow.

#### Glossary

 At the end of each unit there is a glossary to help you learn the key words used in the unit. The terms and their definitions have been provided for you but we would like you to add other words that may be new to you.

We wish you all the best in your studies.

**DIPLOMACY AND FIJI** 

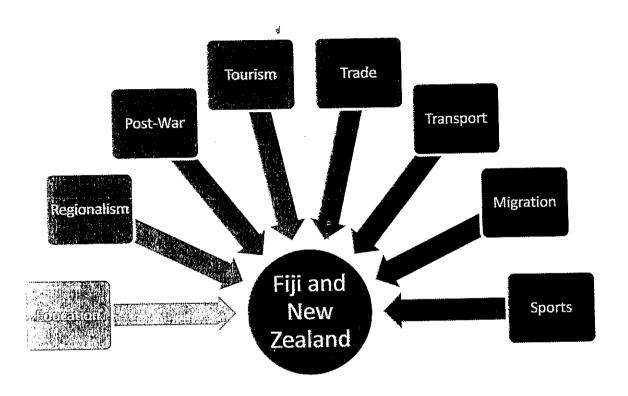
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FIJI AND NEW ZEALAI FY12

AOTEAROA ME NGA MOUTERE O TE MOANA NUI A KIW (MAORI: "NEW ZEALAND'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER PACIFICISMENTS

BY MORGAN TUIMALEALI'IFANO

# CONCEPT MAP KEY CONCEPTS FOR STUDY THIS UNIT



#### Definitions

Post-War era The immediate period after WWII when changes were occurring world-wide

Education A major activity creating linkages between nations.

Trade A major activity – imports and exports – linking nations

Trade A major activity – imports and exports – linking nations

Regionalism The idea that Pacific island nations could have a strong voice and improved

Social and Economic futures if they worked together in a single regional

organization.

Transport Shipping and aviation systems that link nations

Tourism An industry based on the history, people and natural beauty of a site

Migration A major form of personal relationship between nations

Sport A major activity both private and commercial forging relations between nations

# STUDY ORGANIZER

Before you begin check the topic, skills and activities that will help you study..

Objectives	Skills	Activities
At the end of this unit you should be able to:  Identify key events in Fiji's international relations with New Zealand  Describe role played by NZ in the post-war period  New Zealand's role in Development of Fiji as a communication and transport in the Pacific.  Personal and informal links between NZ and Fiji  Formal and official links between NZ and Fiji.	What skills are we developing in doing this topic?  Identifying chronology of key events shaping relations  Describing and analysing contexts of key events  Analysing tourism, cultural, education and sport linkages.  Communicating an analysis in meaningful forms.	Summary of activities  1 based on source

## ORGANIZATION OF THE UNIT

There are seven topics spread across thirteen weeks (five lessons per week);

- 1 Fiji and International Relations (the introduction) (1 week)
- 2 Fiji and New Zealand (1 week)
- 3 Fiji and the two Chinas (2 weeks)
- 4 Fiji and Australia (2 weeks)
- 5 Fiji and India (1 Week)
- 6 Fiji and the European Union (1 week)
- 7 Fiji and the World Research projects (2 weeks)

(Note: three weeks are set aside for Enrolment, Revision and Examinations)

In each topic there are skills that you will learn. These are the skills of an historian and include

- Chronology being able to place events in the order in which they occurred
- Describing the context the local, regional and global factors that influence events
- Analysing evidence (what does a speech, document, photo, treaty, etc, include, and include)
- Searching for additional and unusual evidence
- Identifying the motives of nations involved in regional and international affairs
- Comparison policies in the past and present
- Distinguishing between policy, rhetoric and propaganda



Mr. Smith opened the Branch at Labasa in 1952. He has been the General Manager of the Bank of New Zealand since 1973.

The Bank of New Zealand opened in Levuka in 1877 with Mr JM Butt as Manager (remembered today in the name of Butt Street in Suva). In the 1950s, the BNZ expanded across Fiji. Mr Smith returned to New Zealand and later became GM (General Manager). Source: RH Griffin, A century in Fiji 1876-1976, Suva: Bank of New Zealand.p.32.

## The type of questions Historians might ask about this evidence?

Why did a New Zealand bank open up business in Fiji in the 1870s?

Who took this photograph?

Was it a family photo or from the BNZ Archives?

How important was 'Fiji experience' in Mr Smith getting promoted to GM?

How many New Zealanders were in Fiji when the BNZ opened in 1876?

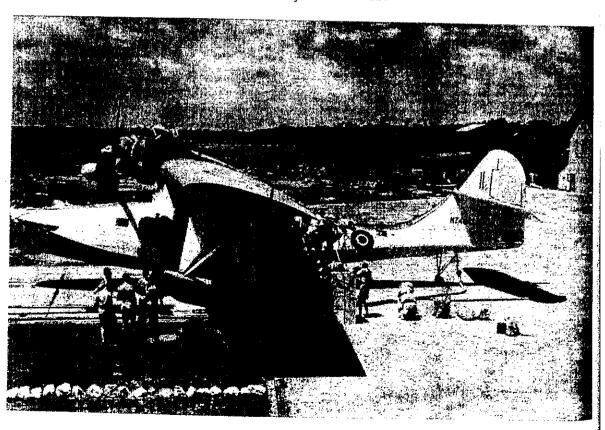
How many New Zealanders were in Fiji when the bank celebrated 100 years?

What key events shaped Fiji and New Zealand relations since 1945?

# 1. INTRODUCTION: A LONG, CLOSE RELATIONSHIP

What happened after the WWII in relations between Fiji and New Zealand is the main focus of this unit but relations between the two countries has a much longer history and stretches back to the 1870s. At that time, Fijian leaders were seeking the protection of various powers, including Britain. Britain agreed to annex Fiji under pressure from British subjects in New Zealand and Australia. The impact of these two countries on Fiji is undeniable. When Fiji gaine Independence in 1970, for example, almost Fiji's school curriculum was patterned on the New Zealand curriculum and in English. Most if not all government teachers were recruited from New Zealand and some of the brightest Fijian students continued their schooling in New Zealand. They included prominent leaders like Ratu Jone Tabaiwailu, Ratu Sukuna, Ratu Epeli Ganilau, Ratu Edward Cakobau, Ratu Kamisese Mara, the Brown-Toganivalu brothers and many others When they came home, they returned with New Zealand 'English' and a love for the game of rugby! Until 2006, relations between the two were very friendly. New Zealanders could enter Fiji without visas and New Zealand has long been a significant source of development aid, tourism and economic partner. In return, Fiji has been a steady source of workers for the New Zealand labour market and athletes for its contact sports such as rugby.

This unit examines key events in Fiji's historical relationship with New Zealand by using oral, visual and written sources to reveal how these events unfolded. The events concern the development of education, airports and transport, and rugby. The main sources of these events are secondary material from books in the library and the web.



Source; "farewell flight" (last Catalina to take of at Laucala Bay base) reprinted in *The Fiji Times*, 11.8.2009.

#### FIJIANS IN NEW ZEALAND; NEW ZEALANDERS IN FIJI 2

In WWI many Fijians went to New Zealand to join the Maori battalion and fight in the war in Europe. But many had been in New Zealand in the 19th century and early 20th century. Frances Steel noted two different groups of Fijians who went as 'exhibits' to represent Fiji at international Exhibitions:

"Colonial exhibitions in the Australasian colonies also presented indigenous men with new mobility opportunities. Three Fijian men recruited from Levuka resided at the 'Fiji House' set up at the Sydney International Exhibition of 1879 ... a more tight regulated scheme was put in place for the International Exhibition of Arts and Industries in Christchurch during the summer of 1906-1907. Tw groups of Fijian men proceeded to new Zealand. Ratu Ifereimi and the Assistant Native Commissioner, WA Scott, led one group of twenty-five men. In planning the trip, Scott desired, "as many men as possible to be ex-Armed native Constabulary (ANC) members who have had the benefit of military training and who will be accustomed to discipline ... another group of twenty-six firewalkers from the island of Beqa arrived under the Union Steamship Company's agent Duncan's command."

Source; Frances Steel, Oceania under şteam, 2011 p.203-204

New Zealanders were therefore familiar with Fiji. This familiarity goes back to the 'Fiji Rush' of the 1860s when hopeful New Zealand planters rushed to Fiji to plant cotton. This was the start of a regular link between New Zealand and Fiji, including banking, schools, shipping lines and trade, for example in bananas and copra. The Bank of New Zealand recognized this link and moved to Levuka in 1877. By the 1950s, it was Fiji's main bank and was expanding. Here is an extract from the BNZ's 100 year commemorative booklet;

"During the 1950s the BNZ saw its greatest period of expansion in Fiji. Branches were opened at Lautoka on 26 July 1951, Labasa on 14 August 1952, Nadi on 11 March 1954 and Ba on 25 March 1954. On 30 June 1962 Ba became a sub-branch of Lautoka. In 1974 however, it was re-opened as a full branch ... Today (1976) there are no less than 18 branches and agencies in Fiji. Added to these there should be the Staff Training Centre opened at Suva in February 1974 and the regional Office (to be the Head Office) opened on 3 February 1975 in Suva ... In 1975 the BNZ introduced computer processing of customer accounts in Fiji. Two ICL2903 computers were installed in Suva and items for processing are sent from each branch each evening."

The BNZ closed operations in 1990 and was sold to the ANZ. (The ANZ has no ownership connection with New Zealand).

Fijians are found today in New Zealand playing sport, working for corporations, attending regional meetings, studying at universities, working on short-term casual contracts, serving on merchant ships, or as tourists or visiting family who had already migrated.

#### FIJIANS EDUCATED IN NEW ZEALAND 3

The first Fijians to be educated in New Zealand were chiefs like Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna, (22 April 1888 - 30 May 1958). He is regarded as the forerunner of the post-independence leadership of Fiji. He died a dozen years before independence was achieved but his vision set the course that Fiji was to follow in the years to come.

Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna was exposed to diverse cultures early. Sukuna's father had enrolled him at the Wairuku Indian School in Ra. One of the teachers at the school was the Rev. Charles Andrew. Rev Andrew was a colourful character, an Oxford-educated Anglican clergyman who had converted to Roman Catholicism and then back again, before sailing for the mission field in Fiji. He was a private tutor at Wairuku and a strict teacher, beating Sukuna on occasion.

Sukuna proved to be an exceptionally able student. Largely as a result of Rev. Andrew's influence, the young Ratu Sukuna was sent to the prestigious Wanganui Collegiate School in Wanganui, New Zealand. He proved to be a bright pupil. He was a strong debater, played rugb and cricket, and became the Wanganui Collegiate boxing champion.

Sukuna hoped to remain in New Zealand to pursue a university degree, but his source of funds dried up and he was forced to return to Fiji, where, in 1907, he joined the civil service as a fifth class clerk. His superb command of English, however, ensured his rapid promotion and it was not long before he became the chief translator for the government. In 1909 he was invited by hi uncle, Ratu Alfred Finau Ulukalala, to return to the Lau Islands to become assistant master of the Lau Provincial School at Lakeba. He also became visiting examiner at Queen Victoria School and Levuka Public School, at the age of 21. In Lau, Sukuna became an assistant maste to A. C. Hocart, the headmaster of Lau Provincial School. Hocart was a keen **ethnographer** and between 1909-1912, he mapped out the house sites in Tubou village, Lakeba. Many of the house site names came from different parts of Fiji. It also included names from outside of Fiji. For example, Manono, Samoa, Niu Kini, Ta'iti, Wanganui, and Niu Silandi. Manono refers to ar island in Samoa; Niu Kini was suggested by the fact that a Fijian Pastor (teacher) was in New Guinea; Wanganui recorded the fact that the chief's sister's son (probably Sukuna) had been to school in Wanganui, New Zealand.

#### **ACTIVITY 1**

1.	Using the library and the web, locate Wanganui in a map of New Zealand and describe its location.
2.	Where was Sukuna's first school?
3.	Look up the word ethnographer in your dictionary. What does it mean?

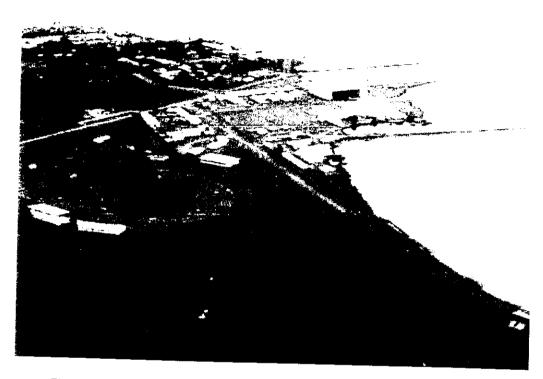
A. M. Hocart, Lau Islands, Fiji, (Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin 62 1929), Honolulu, pp. 10-11.

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## 4 TRANS-PACIFIC ROUTES FROM EUROPE TO AUSTRALASIA.

On 3rd September 1939, a small flying boat facility was opened by the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) at Laucala Bay, to the east of the capital, Suva, with facilities for civil use. In October 1939, an *Imperial Air Lines* (IAL) "*Empire*" flying boat flew in from Auckland. The New Zealand airline, TEAL, was partially owned by the British Overseas Aircraft Corporation (BOAC) and it continued to fly occasional flights between Auckland and Laucala Bay. Services also went from Laucala Bay to Palmyra Island and on to Honolulu until stopped by the start of the Pacific War in December 1941.

Once the War was over, the United States government indicated that they would be withdrawing all their forces from the region during 1946. Most of the Pacific's newly built airfields and facilities were still under United States control. Pan American Airlines recommenced a civil air service between San Francisco via Honolulu, Canton Island and Nadi to Auckland in June 1946 using a DC4, a converted former WWII transport plane. The British government had granted a United States airline operating rights through Nadi, under the terms of the bilateral air service agreement signed in Bermuda in February 1946 between the USA and Britain. On this first flight the elapsed time for the flight from San Francisco to Nadi was 33 hours and 40 minutes. The DC4 carried only 16 passengers, but a crew of 11. On the first flight the aircraft briefly visited Nausori Airport near Suva so it could be seen by people from the capital, Suva.



The Royal New Zealand Air Force Base, Laucala Bay, Suva, 1940s.

## 5 The Origin of Nadi Airport, Fiji.

Since 1924, the United States military had assumed that in the event of war in the Pacific, the war would be a naval war. However, with the development of larger and longer range bomber aircraft, aircraft carriers and naval fighter planes this strategy was revised. In April 1939 a Defence Conference was held in Wellington in New Zealand and Japan was identified as the enemy. The Wellington conference decided that New Zealand should construct two airfields in Fiji and in August 1939 the New Zealand cabinet approved funds for this purpose. The Fiji Colonial Secretary arranged to acquire land for one of the airfields at Namaka near Nadi on the west coast of Viti Levu, and the other on the east coast at Nausori about 15 miles from Suva. Plans for another at Suva Point were later abandoned.

Nadi was selected because it was flatter, and had better weather conditions for flying than Sw Rainfall was considerably less both in amount and frequency and there was usually a consistently long and pronounced "dry" season. The construction of a small grass air base for use by DH-89 aircraft was completed at Nadi on March 1941.

At another meeting in Wellington in November 1941, the US agreed to finance the construction of two 7000 foot long runways at Nadi by a New Zealand firm, the Southern Cross Construction Company. The cost was NZ pounds 250,000 (then about USD\$1 million). The work was completed by April 1942. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour forced the contractors to redouble their efforts. Between the 3rd and 12th of January 1942 three Boeing B17 Flying Fortresses completed a trip from Hawaii via Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta, New Caledonia to Townsville, Australia.

B17s landed at Nadi on 10th January 1942, just over a month following the attack on Pearl Harbour. This day marks Nadi's emergence as an international airport. Nadi was taken over by the US Military Air Transport Service as their main base in the SW Pacific. Five years later on the 19th December 1946, it was handed over to the New Zealand Department of Civil Aviation. The colonial administration of Fiji was not involved. From 1947 onwards the airport area became an enclave administered by the New Zealand Department of Civil Aviation (DCA).

#### Α

-	/ITY 2		
1.	On a map of the Pacific, locate the	e following ar	nd draw straight lines linking each airport;
	Laucala Bay Auckland Palmyra Island Canton	ì	Honolulu Nadi Nausori San Francisco
2.	Who built the Laucala Bay air bas	e?	
3.	Why were the Nadi and Nausori b	pases constru	ucted?
4.	Who were the two major powers	in the decision	on making about air bases in Fiji.
5.	<del></del>		
6.	Why do you think that control wa	as not passed	d over to the British Colonial authorities?

7.	What is the order of imp	most important reason for building air bases in 1941-1942? List these in ortance; Most important (1) and Least important (5)
	( ) ( ) ( ) ( )	To defend Fiji To improve USA military access to Australia and New Zealand To fight Japan As a back-up if the USA lost air bases in Asia and Southeast Asia To promote tourism

### 6 NEW ZEALANDERS AT NADI

Nadi airport was a vital staging post on the post-war transpacific air route. It became a centre f the Air Traffic Control, Communications, Search and Rescue and Meteorological infrastructure for an area of about five million square miles in the SW Pacific. Much of the basic equipment had been either left, given or sold by the United States forces when they departed from the region but there were no suitably qualified Fijians who were able to operate it. The initial air traffic controllers, meteorologists, technicians, and communication operators had to be provide by New Zealand, and supplemented by a few from the UK and Australia.

From 1946 onwards the number of New Zealand personnel at Nadi slowly grew reaching a per of around 100 in the early 1960s.

Nadi was directly connected, on a full time basis, by radio teletype links with other regions on both sides of the Pacific Ocean. The communications centre at Nadi included message relayin and routing equipment to other airfields in the South Pacific. The senior technical and administrative staff also served as a South West Pacific regional division of the NZ Departmen for Civil Aviation. It was responsible for the civil aviation in other NZ administered territories such as Western Samoa, Niue and the Cook Islands. The Australian and New Zealand Departments of Civil Aviation continued to play an important role in running and development (Nadi Airport in the 1950s and 1960s.

Technical and administrative personnel were accompanied by their families and housing was constructed, making a community of between three and four hundred expatriates living within the airport boundary. The amenities included an elementary level school, a social club and a nine hole golf course. New Zealand staff in the 1950s and 1960s created tennis, golf and football competitions, and gradually some Fijians began to play. Much later, Vijay Singh, the world champion golfer first learned to play on Nadi airport golf course. The airport had its ownfuelled electrical power station, drainage and water supply. The area of Nadi Airport became a expatriate enclave within Fiji, largely under New Zealand DCA administration although subject to Fiji Laws.

In the 1970s, tourism was a major form of contact between Fijians and New Zealanders. Nadi became the first airport in the region capable of handling larger aircraft. Nadi Airport was developed in the 1960s to take large aircraft such as the Boeing 707 and Douglas DC8. In 197 it welcomed the first 'Jumbo' jet, the Boeing 747 with 400+ passengers and a real tourist boom occurred. This involved lengthening the main runway and building a new terminal complex. The new services stimulated the development of tourism, and it grew rapidly in the 1960s and 1970s. New Zealanders quickly became a major source of visitors for Fiji.

# ACTIVITY 3 QUESTIONS BASED ON TOPIC D

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•	A New Zealand community exavailable to this community.	kpanded at Na	adi airport. _	Name som	e of the facilitie	s 
		- 	-			
		_	-			

## 7 NEW ZEALAND AND RUGBY IN FIJI

New Zealand's influence on the development of sports particularly the game of rugby among indigenous Fijians was very significant. Dr. Samu Baravilala interviewed Fijians who witnessed rugby in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and they highlighted the introduction of the sport by the Bauan chief, Ratu Jone Tabaiwalu, who studied at Wanganui, New Zealand. On his return, Ratu Jone taught the game to the schools of the Roman Catholic Mission at Naililli in Rewa.<sup>2</sup>

It is customary in the history of colonial and post-independence sport to emphasize the moments when the "empire strikes back". In Fiji rugby, that moment occurred before the European community had formed the Fiji Rugby Union in 1913. In February 1900, a Nailillii team captained by Ratu Jone journeyed to Suva and defeated the Europeans by a score of 8-3. In the second match in July 1901, Nailillii prevailed over Suva by a score of 11-3. At the end of the second match, Fijian were suddenly aware that they had beaten the Empire in a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dr. Samu Baravilala, "The History of Rugby Union in Fiji", *The Rugby News* (NSW), 12 July 1952, p. 12.

game that they had leant from the British. The *Fiji Times* reported that when Naililili left the  $p_{ii}$  they sang in Fijian, 'We licked them on their own ground'."

In the early twentieth century, long before the phrase "rakavi viti" appears, rugby was commo referred to as "Veicaqe vaka-Peritania" (football British style), but it was also known as "Veica vaka-Nailiilii". While the language noted it was a sport in an imperial space, it was also definitely a Fijian place.

At its peak, the "Fiji" team, comprised of Europeans, attracted crowds of up to 5,000 to the Albert Park for its matches against visiting Auckland University sides in 1926 and 1928. Thereafter European rugby faded. The 1936 FRU annual report complained that the European competition held little attraction for the player or spectator. In 1937, the FRU was asking whether the European competition ought to be continued at all.

Like Ratu Jone before them, the early 20<sup>th</sup> century developments in Fijian rugby were shaped men of chiefly status. Ratu Epeli Ganilau had returned from study in New Zealand in 1913, a taught Fijians how to play. He convinced the football clubs of Suva to change over from socci to the rugby union code in 1914. Some of the first teams included Taipou, Tarirere, Hill and *Ofisa* – Police.

The following year, Ratu Sukuna returned to Fiji and "brought with him more knowledge of th game, and he organized properly the Fijian competition". In its first season, it included five teams. In the decade that followed, the so-called Native Union was hardly mentioned in the *Times*. The Fiji Rugby Union did not admit Fijian representatives to its management committuentil 1932. Despite a lack of funding, shortages of referees and matches being shifted to the least desirable pitches on the Albert Park, the so-called "native competition" flourished.

In 1926, two overseas sides visited Fiji, the Auckland University College and the national tear of Tonga. This became the first time that the national side of Fiji would wear their now tradition white jerseys and black shorts. Two years later, a domestic schools competition was started.

In 1938, a New Zealand Maori team toured Fiji. In the following year, the Fiji Schools Union westablished to govern school rugby. In 1939, Fiji toured New Zealand. The team became famous for becoming the first side to visit New Zealand without losing a match - winning seve and drawing one of their eight fixtures. The Fijians impressed the crowds with their unpredictable and free-flowing style of rugby.

After their final match against the New Zealand Maori, a newspaper wrote that "Fiji is destined to play a big part in world rugby". Fiji toured New Zealand again in 1951, and was successful with most of their fixtures, winning eight of their games, losing five and drawing twice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Fiji Times, 3 July 1901.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Derek Robinson, Rakavi 60 (FRU, Suva, 1973), p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FRU 1936 Annual Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> FRU Annual Report for 1937

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Baravilala, p.12

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> FRU Annual Report for 1915.

# CLASS RESEARCH ACTIVITY.

At home interview your senior family members by asking them the following questions.

- Name any family or community member who played rugby in New Zealand. What year/years they played Where here they played?
- 2
- 3

Name _	Year Team/Location
Name _	YearTeam/Location
Name _	YearTeam/Location
Name _	Year Team/Location
Name _	Year Team/Location
Name _	YearTeam/Location
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IVITY 5 QUESTIONS BASED ON TOPIC E, FIJIAN	N RUGB
Who was the Bauan who went to New Zealand and returned to teac	h the gam
Where did he go in New Zealand?	
When did he return to Fiji?	
When were the first games played?	
What was the outcome?	
Who dominated the administration of Fiji Rugby Union up to the 193	0s?
Name two Fijians of chiefly status who were instrumental in introduci	
(1) (2)	
Name four rugby clubs that were amongst the first to be formed.	
(1)	
(2)(4)	
	Who was the Bauan who went to New Zealand and returned to teach Where did he go in New Zealand?  When did he return to Fiji?  When were the first games played?  What was the outcome?  Who dominated the administration of Fiji Rugby Union up to the 193  Name two Fijians of chiefly status who were instrumental in introduction (2)  Name four rugby clubs that were amongst the first to be formed.

## 8 SUMMARY - FRIEND, BIG BROTHER, OR NEIGHBOUR?

New Zealand has always promoted regionalism and was invited in 1970 to be a partner in the South Pacific Forum (now Pacific Forum) along with the newly independent Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Nauru. New Zealand has been a regional partner with Fiji in the South Pacific Commission (now the Secretariat for the Pacific Community), SOPAC, SPREP and many other regional organizations. New Zealand has also been a financial supporter of USP as a regional university after it started in 1968.

Professor Ron Crocombe, a distinguished historian and scholar wrote many books and articles on New Zealand's relations with Fiji. He was critical of New Zealand's motives, and critical of Fiji for claiming a large share of New Zealand's aid. In 1992, he wrote:

"Regional coordination was initiated by the external powers, mainly New Zealand and Australia, which paid for most of it in return for influence over its nature and direction ... Within the islands, Fiji has been highly successful in high jacking for its national benefit, opportunities created and financed by others with the intention of benefiting the region as a whole ... Most regional research and training facilities have been located in Suva, and Fiji has been the main beneficiary ... Fiji and its people monopolize the specialist employment, economic advantages and consequent political leverage ... New Zealand was an important advocate of this centralism."

Source; p.231, Ron Crocombe, Pacific Neighbours: New Zealand's Relations with Other Pacific Islands: Aotearoa Me Nga Moutere O Te Moana Nui a Kiwa (1992)

New Zealand's relationship today with Fiji has critics in Fiji and in New Zealand. The evidence since 1970 suggests that at different times as Fiji developed as an independent nation, it was able to manage the relationship so that both nations benefitted equally.

Although New Zealand often chastises and punishes Fiji for the way the Fijian government has been forcibly changed by coups since 1987, the people-to-people relationship among the citizens of these nations continue to be friendly and strong. In New Zealand, Anand Satyanand a Fiji-born New Zealander of Indo-Fijian ancestry served as Governor General from 2006 to 2011. In 2006, there were 37,746 people in New Zealand of Fiji-born descent. There are many clubs and associations linking New Zealand to Fiji, including the the Fiji Association, established in Auckland in 1977, in 1996 the Fiji Women's Society, and in 2003 Fiji Club of New Zealand.

Historically, New Zealand and Fiji have a strong connection shaped by a shared history and geography. New Zealand boasts the largest Polynesian population in the world. The family links are strengthened by a common history and Fijian's cultural affinity with Maori people of New Zealand. New Zealanders of British origins were also very loud in their push for Fiji becoming a British colony in 1874. These links were forged during the colonial period, two world wars and post-war period. They are celebrated in a variety of exchanges that occur both formally and informally and on a daily basis. This includes cultural performances, shipping, aviation, aid and technical assistance, education, religion, military exercises and sports.

## **GLOSSARY**

Aid Big Brother Colonial

Enclave

Ethnographer Neo-colonial Diplomacy

Humanitarian

Localisation Migration Policy

Regionalism

Trade

Monies given by donor nations to help neighbours and less wealthy nati

Usually meaning Australia as a rich and powerful neighbour a relationship between a colonial ruler and its colony

A small, closed, isolated community existing within a nation

A social scientist who records details of indigenous customs and life a relationship between a large nation and a smaller former colony The skill of making the correct decision in foreign policy; also means the

actual formal and informal meetings between nations

Aid given to help less fortunate nations

The process of shifting jobs from Europeans to citizens of a new nation One of the major forms of relationship creating links between nations A statement by a nation about how it will treat another nation, or act in gi

events

The idea that Pacific island nations could have a strong voice and improve

Social and Economic futures if they worked together in a single regional organization.

One of the major forms of relationship between nations

## END OF UNIT QUESTION

What are the major post-1970 links between Fiji and New Zealand?

# TYPICAL EXAM QUESTIONS

Fiji has a long and harmonious relationship with New Zealand- agree or disagree with this statement. Your answer should cover the period from 1970 to 2000.

## **FURTHER ACTIVITIES**

- Check the websites of newspapers under "Foreign News"
- Go the websites of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### New Zealand

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; www.mfat.govt.nz www.mfat.govt.nz/Countries/index.php en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji-New\_Zealand\_relations

Fiji

www.foreignaffairs.gov.fj www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8771

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lala\_Sukuna.

#### RESOURCES

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rugby\_union\_in\_Fiji#Early\_history.

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# CHECKLIST

An	swer yes or No.
2.	Are you able to describe Fiji's links with New Zealand?
	Yes No
3.	Are you able to define the phrase "in the nation's interest"?
	Yes
4.	Can you identify the value of web sites as historical evidence?
	Yes
5.	Could you distinguish between private sector and government links?
	Yes
6.	Are you able to describe why Fiji has a relationship with New Zealand?
	Yes

If you have checked **yes** for all these questions, you may proceed to the next Unit. If not, go back and revise what you have studied.

No