

Social and Spiritual Development
Social Science

Unit 3: Transition and Change

Module 3.3 Papua New Guinea History – An Overview



Student Support Material

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Cover picture:

An affray at Traitors' Bay. On the 9th May 1873, HMS *Basilisk* was taking on wood at Traitors' Bay (Mambare Bay near Cape Ward Hunt) when a party of local inhabitants threatened three of the ship's officers who were walking on shore. Captain Moresby, who had come ashore to warn his officers of their danger, fired a shot at the leading man which pierced his shield but did not wound him. 'There was no need to fire again and take life,' reported Moresby, 'for the whole body of warriors turned instantly, in consternation, and ran for canoes, and we followed till we drove them on board. Source: Gash & Whittaker (1989).

All photographs in the text and the cover are from: Gash & Whittaker (1989): A Pictorial History of New Guinea. Carina: Robert Brown and Associates



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Unit outline

Unit 3 Transition and Change	3.1 Skills for Investigating Change (Core)
	3.2 Independence (Core)
	3.3 PNG History – an Overview (Optional)
	3.4 Power, Control and Change (Optional)
	3.5 PNG at War (Optional)
	3.6 Technological Change (Optional)
	3.7 Pre-history and Archaeology (Optional)

Icons



Read or research



Write or summarise



Activity or discussion

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Module 3.3 Papua New Guinea History – an overview

This module aims to provide students with a broad overview of the social, cultural and political developments which have occurred in Papua New Guinea from pre-history to independence.

Objectives

By the end of this module students will:

1. Understand the significance of particular stages in the development of PNG
2. Appreciate and value the traditions of the nation
3. Have examined and discussed the impact of events such as the world wars on PNG
4. Understand the significance of past and present trade links
5. Be able to present a balanced view of the impact of European settlement on PNG

Section 1: Topics

Topic 1: The first arrivals

It is believed that humans reached PNG and then Australia by island-hopping across the Indonesian archipelago from Asia at various stages, the first possibly 50,000 years ago. This migration was made easier by a fall in the sea level caused by an ice age. The little evidence available suggests that people have been living in Papua New Guinea for at least 27,000 years. In the highlands, there is evidence of substantial garden traditions in place over 10,000 years ago, indicating the presence of stable and enduring communities. Possibly about 3,000 years ago, people from the mainland coasts and islands districts began to move out from New Guinea to settle in other Pacific Islands. This migration continued for perhaps 2,000 years.

European contact

The first European impact on PNG was indirect but important. The sweet potato was taken from South America to South-East Asia by the Portuguese and Spaniards in the 16th century and it is believed Malay traders then brought it to Irian Jaya, from where it was traded into the Highlands. Its high yield and tolerance for poor and cold soils led to its cultivation at higher and higher altitudes, and promoting greater population expansion, especially in the Highlands. The next development preceding the permanent arrival of Europeans was the arrival of steel axes, which were also traded from the coast up into the Highlands.

D'Abreu, a Portuguese sailor, reached the island of Ceram in 1512 and was probably was the first European to sight the coast of New Guinea. From 1526 to 1607, there were five separate contacts. In 1526, Jorge de Meneses, a Portuguese, gave the land the name Papua, a Malay term meaning fuzzy-haired man. The name Nova Guinea was given by Ortiz de Retes, another Portuguese, in 1545. Luis Vaez de Torres, a Spanish navigator, sailed along the entire south coast of the mainland in 1606 and 1607.

In the following centuries, various Europeans sailed past the main island and its smaller associated islands. Only the Dutch made any move to assert European authority over the island and that was mainly to keep other countries from getting a toehold on the eastern end of their fabulously profitable Dutch East Indies. Indonesian and Malay traders had for some time carried on a limited trade with coastal tribes for valuable items like bird of paradise feathers. So the Dutch simply announced that they recognised the Sultan of Mydore's sovereignty over New Guinea once they, in turn, held power over the island of Tidore (a small island to the west of Irian Jaya). New Guinea was therefore indirectly theirs - without expending any personal effort. That was sufficient for over 100 years.

William Dampier, an Englishman, named New Britain and navigated Dampier Strait. Another Englishman, Phillip Carteret, navigated St. George's Channel. After 1788, these areas were on shipping routes between Sydney and Canton and Java. The people had regular contact with Europeans such as traders and whalers who put in for food and water. The French explorers Louis de Bougainville, Jean Francois de Surville, and Bruni D'Entrecasteaux navigated the

dangerous waters of eastern New Guinea and named many of the islands and ports. John Moresby charted the southern and northeastern coasts for the British navy.

The British East India Company investigated parts of western New Guinea in 1793 and even made a tentative claim on the island but, in 1824, Britain and the Netherlands agreed that the latter's claim to the western half should stand. In 1828 the Dutch made official statement of their sovereignty claim and backed it up by establishing a token settlement on the Vogelkop.



Emma Kolbe (1850-1913) set up coconut plantations in ENB around 1880.



George Brown (1835-1917) set up the Methodist mission in ENB in 1875



Nicolais Miklouho-Maclay (1846-1888) was a Russian scientist who spent several years around Astrolabe Bay

In the last quarter of the 1800's, European traders, planters, scientists, and missionaries began to settle in Papua New Guinea. Australian beche-de-mer traders operated around the Gulf of Papua. Germans traded beche-de-mer, trochus shell, and coconuts in the Bismarck Archipelago. Some bought land and grew copra on the Duke of York Islands and the Gazelle Peninsula. The Russian scientist Nicolaus Mikluho-Maclay spent several years on the Maclay Coast. The Italian scientist Luigi D'Albertis explored the Fly River



A group of Koiari men and women at the time of first contact with Europeans – 1885. This photograph was taken by Rev GW Lawes of the London Missionary Society

A third colonial power -Germany - was taking a definite interest in the north-east coast, so the British announced, in September 1884, that they intended to lay serious claim to a part of New Guinea. In response, the Germans quickly raised the flag on the north coast, annexed northeastern New Guinea and the islands off its shore. Powers of administration in the colony were assigned to the Neu-Guinea Kompagnie. In November of the same year, the United Kingdom (UK) government proclaimed a protectorate over what is now Papua. A highly arbitrary line was drawn east-west in the 'uninhabited' highlands between German and British

New Guinea. At that time no European had ventured far inland and it was nearly 50 years before it was discovered that the line went straight through the most densely populated part of the island.

New Guinea was now divided into three sections - a Dutch half protecting the eastern edge of the Dutch East Indies, a British quarter to keep the Germans (and everybody else) away from Australia and a German quarter because it looked like it could be a good investment.

Germany granted a charter to the German New Guinea Company in 1895 to administer northern New Guinea on behalf of the German Government. Administrative and financial problems, however, forced the German Government to revoke the charter in 1899 and assume direct control of the colony, which lasted until 1914 when Australian troops captured the colonial headquarters at Kokopo, near Rabaul, and other centres.

In 1888, Sir William, MacGregor became the administrator of British New Guinea and set out to explore his possession, establishing a native police force to spread the benefits of British government. He instituted the policy of 'government by patrol' which continued right through the Australian period. The Papuan side remained under British sovereignty until March 1902 when, by Royal Letters Patent, Australia accepted responsibility for the colony. However it was not until September 1906 that Australia formally took over the colony and renamed it the Territory of Papua under the terms of the Papua Act 1905.

The territory annexed by Germany was known as German New Guinea until the defeat of Germany in World War I (1914-1918). It then became a mandated territory of Australia. The territory annexed by the UK was known as British New Guinea until 1906, when Australia took over full responsibility for it.

Topic 2: World War I

In the early years of the 20th century, Britain was keen to devolve some of its imperial responsibilities to the 'dominions'. As a consequence of this policy, when the war with Germany broke out in 1914 the British government asked Australia to occupy German New Guinea. An Australian task force was despatched to New Britain in September 1914 and, after a few brief skirmishes, the Australian commander received the German surrender - although the German navy was still active elsewhere in the Pacific. The Australian military administration was slow to take control of the area and it was mid-1915 before all German posts were occupied. German planters, confident that the war in Europe would be won, had continued to develop their plantations between 1914 and 1919 and were amazed when their property was expropriated by the Australian authorities after the war, and sold for reparation. In 1920 the League of Nations officially handed PNG over to Australia as a mandated territory.

Topic 3: Between the Wars

Australia was quick to eradicate the German commercial and plantation presence from PNG, baulking only at the German missions. Beyond this, Australia enacted mercantilist legislation aimed at restricting the commercial exploitation of Eastern New Guinea to British nationals, and (more precisely) Australians. Sydney had become the de facto headquarters for all major commercial decisions concerning PNG, and the base of the head offices of the main plantation and trading companies: CSR (Colonial Sugar Refining Company), Burns Philp and WR Carpenter.



James Burns (1846-1923), co-founder of the firm Burns, Philp and Company Ltd. Born in Scotland, Burns came to Queensland in 1862 and over twenty years built up extensive interests in commerce and shipping. In 1883 his various business interests were amalgamated under the name Burns, Philp and Company Ltd, with Burns as chairman. In the same year the firm began trading along the coast of Papua and this was the beginning of the important and continuing influence it exerted in New Guinea's economy.

The main plantation commodities - copra, rubber, coffee and cocoa - experienced large price fluctuations in the 1920s and 30s, many of the smaller plantations falling under the direct management of their creditors, the trading companies. Needless to say, indigenous production was largely ignored by the colonial rulers but subsistence agriculture continued to provide for the needs of the majority of the population.

In 1929 the police and almost the whole local workforce in Rabaul, then capital of the mandated territory of New Guinea, went on strike for higher wages. It was short-lived and the leaders were rather savagely treated but it marked the first true Melanesian urban-based protest against the inequalities of the colonial system.

A significant improvement in the price of gold spurred further exploration for the commodity, and major finds were located at Edie Creek in 1926, followed by the discovery of large alluvial deposits in the Bulolo Valley. These finds reinvigorated the mining industry until war came along again. But the most significant consequence of gold exploration at this time was the discovery, by a party of miners in 1930, of about a million: people - almost a quarter of the total Melanesian population of PNG - in the secluded valleys of the central New Guinea Highlands.

The Highlanders were physically separated, and culturally distinct, from the Lowlanders, who were already known to the Europeans, but had long been trading and in social contact with each other. The fact that this discovery by Europeans happened so late in the colonial era is revealing of the enormous cultural gap between the colonists and colonised - and the blithe arrogance of the European mastas.

Under the Australian administration, government-by-patrol was the key to both exploration and control. Patrol officers, or kiaps, were not only usually the first Europeans to venture into previously uncontacted areas but were also responsible for making the government's presence felt on a more or less regular basis. This situation persisted pretty well until independence.

Sir Hubert Murray was lieutenant governor of Papua from 1908 until his death in 1940. During his long term of office, Murray had the territory almost completely explored in a peaceful fashion. The most dramatic expedition was the crossing of the mainland from the Fly River to the Sepik River in 1928 by patrol officers Karius and Champion.

Topic 4: World War II

By December 1941, when Japan bombed Pearl Harbour, Britain and her allies, including Australia, had been at war with Germany for over two years. With a population of just over 7.5 million, Australia had already devoted an inordinately large war effort to the European and North African campaigns. New Guinea was not a priority at this stage and consequently the expatriate population was very small.

In a well-orchestrated campaign, the Japanese simultaneously extended three prongs of their attack in the Asia-Pacific theatre: firstly, through Indochina to Malaya, Singapore, Sumatra and then Java; secondly, to the Philippines, Borneo and the Celebes; and thirdly, to New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, with a view to eventually occupying the north and east coasts of Australia.

On Jan. 4, 1942, Japanese planes bombed Rabaul. Seventeen days later, 3,000 Japanese troops invaded Rabaul. The Japanese approached New Guinea boldly, rapidly leap-frogging along the north coast. They powered their way south along the rugged Kokoda Trail and came to within 50kilometres of Port Moresby, the only remaining Australian stronghold on the island. In a flanking move, they also landed at Milne Bay but were repulsed after encountering heavy resistance from the Australians.

Nevertheless, with an unsustainably extended supply line, they had run out of steam by September 1942 and with the Pacific War less than a year old, they started their long and bloody retreat back along the Kokoda Trail, harassed all the way by the Australians. In December, American and Australian forces captured Gona and Buna on the north coast in order to attack the enemy from the rear, but the Japanese tried to regroup near Lae to launch a counter-attack. The fighting around Salamaua and Ue proved to be some of the fiercest and most protracted of the war. Lae was eventually captured in September 1943. It took until 1945 to regain all the mainland from the Japanese but the islands - New Ireland, New Britain, Bougainville - were not relieved until the final surrender. The Japanese fleet was finally destroyed in the Battle of the Coral.

Most Melanesians were militarily neutral in the conflict, although they were used extensively on both sides as labourers, guides, carriers and informers. But some were heavily involved, such as the Tolai of northern New Britain. It is estimated that the Tolai population was reduced by almost a third during these years.

Each year, 23 July is celebrated as Remembrance Day to honour Papua New Guineans killed during the war. It also marks the anniversary of the battle in 1942 between the Papuan Infantry Battalion soldiers and Japanese invaders. This took place near the Kumusi River in Oro Province.

Topic 5: The end of colonialism

The war left great destruction in its wake, but few villages were destroyed (except in New Britain and New Ireland). Everywhere roads, bridges, airstrips and equipment lay abandoned. Marston matting became the universal building material. Jeeps were salvaged and used for many years, with some Quonsett huts still in use today. But the main impact was social and political - the colonial rulers, who had been seen as the only possible form of government, were no longer beyond question. -

The territory entered a new period of major economic development with a large influx of expatriates, mainly Australians. The expatriate population grew from about 6,000 to over 50,000, its peak, in 1971. Since then it has stabilised at around 24,000.

Australian involvement with Papuans and New Guineans during the war led to new thinking about labour questions and social welfare. The United Nations accepted the terms Australia proposed for a trusteeship agreement, and New Guinea came under the international trusteeship system. The Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act came into force in 1945. It restored civil administration to Papua and New Guinea and combined the two territories under one administration with its headquarters in Port Moresby. This joint administration was formalised in 1949 with the passage through the Australian Parliament of the Papua New Guinea Act. This Act also gave approval for New Guinea to be placed under the United Nations Trusteeship system, which had been approved by the UN in 1946.

In 1951, the first Legislative Council for the combined territories was inaugurated. The first major constitutional step came in 1964 when a House of Assembly of 64 members came into being. Everyone over the age of 21 was entitled to vote and for the first time the legislative body had a preponderance of indigenous members.

The House of Assembly was enlarged to 94 in 1968. It was further enlarged for the elections of 1972 to a House of 100 elected members. The Papua New Guinea Constitution adopted at Independence in 1975 increased the number of members to 109, which has remained the number since then. Self-government was declared on 1 December 1973 and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea came into being on 16 September 1975.

Topic 6: Post-Independence

During the immediate post-independence period, political pressures from a number of regions, not least the threatened secession from Papua New Guinea of the island of Bougainville, led to the introduction in the Constitution of regional provincial government. By 1978, all 19 provinces had been granted provincial government status.

The most significant issues to confront PNG in recent years have been:

- The Bougainville Crisis
- The 1997 Sandline Affair
- Border problems involving the *OPM (Organisasi Papua Merdeka, or Free West Papua Movement)*
- Major macroeconomic problems involving government overspending and requiring international debt rescheduling
- Environmental concerns, particularly with respect to the overexploitation of forest resources
- A crisis in health care, with malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition and, most recently, HIV/AIDS cases reaching worrying proportions
- Problems with law and order
- The volcanic destruction of Rabaul in 1994

An Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Government was passed in 1995. It modified the system of provincial government which had attracted increasing criticism due to its inability to deliver services in the regions. The new law resulted from deliberations over a number of years of a Constitution Review Commission. The Organic Law created provincial assemblies and local level governments which assumed a number of the central government's responsibilities.

Reforms to the national political system, such as the recently enacted Organic Law on Political Parties and Candidates, are as yet untested. This law seeks to restrict the ability of MP's to swap party allegiances after an election. It also seeks to strengthen political parties and support female candidates.

Section 2: Timelines

Pre 1900

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1512	D'Abreu may have sighted New Guinea	
1526	De Meneses gave the name Papua to the northwest coast	
1527	Alvaro de Saavedra (Spanish) travelled the north coast and visited Manus	
1528		Chocolate drink introduced to Europe
1545	De Retes named the island New Guinea (West Papua)	
1602		Dutch East India Company founded
1605	Luis de Torres (Spanish) examined south coast and Louisiade Is, sailed between New Guinea and Australia	
1616	Le Maire and Schouten sail around Sepik region, Admiralty Is and New Ireland	
1643	Abel Tasman (Dutch) sailed around the whole of New Britain and New Ireland	
1664		Great Plague starts in Europe (ends in 1666)
1700	Dampier (Dutch) named New Britain and Dampier Passage	Industrial Revolution begins
1767	Philip Carteret (British) named St George's Passage (between New Britain and New Ireland)	
1768	Louis de Bougainville (French) named Bougainville Island	
1770-90	Voyages of exploration by James Cook, John Shortland, Brampton and Yule	James Cook explored the east coast of Australia First settlement in Australia (1788)
1790's	Antoine d'Entrecasteaux first European to explore islands near the south-eastern coast of the island of New Guinea – (now called d'Entrecasteaux Islands)	
1842-46	Blackwood explored the Torres Straight and other islands near New Guinea	
1846-50	Owen Stanley (British) explored and mapped New Guinea and the Louisiade Archipelago	
1826-29	Dumont d'Urville (French) charted areas around Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea	
1828	Holland annexes the western half of New Guinea island	
1837		The accession of Queen Victoria
1847	Marist Brothers established mission on Woodlark Island	
1861		The America Civil War begins and continues to 1866
1871	Reverend MacFarlane established London Missionary Society station in Torres Strait Baron Nicolai Maclay (Russian) spent 18 months on the Rai coast	Charles Darwin publishes <i>The Descent of Man</i> , in which he set out his theories on the evolution of

		human beings
1874	Reverend Lawes arrived in Port Moresby (London Missionary Society)	
1875	Reverend Brown commenced work in the Duke of York Islands	
1876	Luigi Maria d'Albertis (Italian) sailed 930 km up the Fly River	Alexander Graham Bell, successfully tested his design for the telephone
1878	Formation of Vulcan Island (volcano) during eruptions in Rabaul	
1879	Emma Forsyth (first planter) arrived from Samoa	
1882	Father Navarre and other members of the MSC arrived at Matupit Simpson sailed into Blanche Bay	
1883	Chester took informal possession of area between 141 st and 155 th meridian	Krakatau Island (Indonesia) erupts
1884	Britain establishes a protectorate over south east coast and eastern islands, with headquarters at Port Moresby. Germany annexes the remaining area, except NSP. The private New Guinea Company runs the German colony from Finschhafen, Morobe. (German South seas Syndicate) The mainland is called Kaiser-Wilhelmsland. Britain claimed Papua and Germany claimed New Guinea	
1885	MSC established at Yule Island Otto Finsch (German) explored Sepik Borders between British and German New Guinea officially marked	Karl Benz, a German, developed the first motor vehicle powered by an internal-combustion engine
1886	Vice-Admiral Freilerr G. E. von Schleinitz becomes the first administrator of German New Guinea. NSP is added Reverend Flierlierr started the Simbang Lutheran mission	
1888	British New Guinea is declared a colony, and William MacGregor begins 10 years' service as Administrator. He starts a policy of government by patrol and began a Legislative Council Village constables are named to act as agents of government Gold discovered at Gira, Misima and other islands	Kaiser Wilhelm becomes Emperor of Germany
1890	Church leaders and MacGregor set up spheres of influence	Tetanus immunization discovered
1891	Reverend Bromilow commenced work in the Milne Bay district. Reverend Maclaren began Anglican mission at Dogura	
1893		New Zealand is the first country to give women the right to vote
1895	Gold discovered at Woodlark Is	Ronald Ross, a British doctor, proves mosquitoes are carriers of malaria
1896	Lauterbach explored Markham and Ramu rivers	Klondike Gold Rush in Yukon Territory, Canada
1898	George Le Hunte begins 5 years as Lieutenant- Governor of British New Guinea	Marie and Pierre Curie discover the radioactive element Polonium

1899	The German government takes over from New Guinea Company, makes Herbertshoe (Kokopo), ENB, its headquarters, and begins expanding government stations and roads and territory to Marianas and Bougainville Albert Hahl governor until 1914 MacGregor named Lieutenant -Governor	The Eiffel Tower, of wrought-iron construction, was built in Paris for the Paris World's Fair
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3.3 Activity 1

Set out the pre-1900 discoveries as a properly constructed time line.

Identify all the nationalities involved in the early discovery and exploration of PNG.

Study a good atlas and identify all landmarks, locations etc named after early explorers.

On a map mark all the locations listed in this section of the overview.



Luis Vaez de Torres – Spanish naval officer who sailed along the south coast of new Guinea in 1606



Louis Antoine de Bougainville – French aristocrat who navigated east coast of new Guinea and islands region in 1768-69



Luigi Maria d'Albertis – Italian naturalist who explored the Fly River region 1875-77



Dr Otto Finsch – German zoologist, anthropologist and explorer who surveyed the east and north-east coasts and Sepik region in the 1880s

1900-1909

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1900		
1901	Britain announces plans to transfer British New Guinea to the newly-independent government of Australia British New Guinea transferred to control of Commonwealth of Australia, but not accepted until 1905 Goaribari massacre	Death of Queen Victoria. Accession of Edward VII to British throne Australia becomes a nation - Federation
1902		
1903	Le Hunte retired. Judge Robinson appointed Acting Administrator	First powered flight – Wright brothers
1904	Robinson replaced by Captain Barton	
1905	Australia's Parliament adopts the Papua Act, accepting British New Guinea as a territory and naming it Papua Overland mail begins between Port Moresby and Kokoda	Earthquake destroys Kingston, Jamaica
1906	Australia adopts a Land Ordinance controlling leases of land in Papua by Europeans Royal Commission appointed to enquire into conditions in Papua	San Francisco earthquake destroys much of city. Over 1000 dead
1907	Murray appointed Acting Administrator The Native Labour Ordinance makes it easier to recruit Papuans for mine and plantation work, but it sets rules to protect them German New Guinea introduces a head tax to encourage work for wages or, as an alternative, free road work for the government. The first government school opens at Namanula, near Rabaul	The Second Hague Conference agrees on general principles for the conduct of land and sea warfare
1908	Murray appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Papua	
1909		Robert Peary (an American) reaches the North Pole

1910-1919

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1910	Rabaul becomes headquarters for German New Guinea Gold discovered on the Lakekamu River Capital of German New Guinea moved from Kokopo to Rabaul	Death of Edward VII and accession of George V
1911		Portable radio first used by British Army
1912	German scientific expeditions in the Sepik	Roald Amundsen is the first to reach the South Pole. Scott reached the South Pole soon afterwards but perished in a blizzard
1913		Suffragette Derby, a tragic event where leading suffragette Emily Davison deliberately threw herself in protest in front of George V's horse Anmer
1914	With the outbreak of World War I, Australian troops capture Rabaul and take control of German New Guinea including parts of Madang, Morobe and Kavieng. A military administration continues for 7 years	World War I begins Panama Canal opened – 68 km
1915	Stricter labour laws passed by Australian military administration	Allied landing at Gallipoli April 25
1916		Battle of Verdun
1917		The formation of the USSR
1918	In Papua, the Native Plantations Ordinance sets up reserve land for plantations near villages. The Native Taxation Ordinance imposes a head tax on males 16 to 36 except policemen, teachers, and those with large families	Russian civil war (to 1922)
1919	The Treaty of Versailles gives Australia a mandate to administer former German New Guinea Royal Commission appointed to report on proposed union between Papua and New Guinea	Germany signed Treaty of Versailles resulting in the loss of all her colonies

3.3 Activity 2

Research what happened in New Guinea during World War 1.

- *Describe any significant events*
- *What battles, if any occurred?*
- *What involvement did the local people have in the war?*



Major General William Holmes who commanded the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force which captured and occupied German New Guinea in September 1914



Brigadier General E Wisdom who was appointed administrator of the civil government of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea in 1921



Sir Hubert Murray, lieutenant governor of Papua, 1908 to 1940. He formulated a policy of protection for the Papuan people, controlled European economic activity and careful application of law and administration



Papuan police at Buna in 1920



Dr Albert Hahl (1868-1945) – Governor of German New Guinea from 1902 until the outbreak of WW1 in 1914. His policy was to give equal weight to indigenous and European interests and to establish a plantation economy.

1920-1929

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1920	New Guinea Act passed: Australia sets up a separate administration for the Mandated Territory of New Guinea (hereafter, New Guinea), headquartered at Rabaul. Its leaders have less power than Murray in Papua Plantations under the control of the New Guinea Expropriation Board 1920-26 Exploration of Papua by Austen, Lyons, Logan, Thompson, Karius, Champion brothers and Murray	League of Nations formed but USA refused to join
1921	Military administration ended in New Guinea Navigation Act applied to Papua and New Guinea	Founding of Chinese Communist party
1922	Gold prospecting on Waria and Bulolo Rivers	Banting and Best (both Canadians) discover Insulin
1923		
1924	Copper smelting in the Astrolabe Ranges	
1925	Navigation Act abolished	
1926	Gold discovered at Edie Creek	Invention of the pop-up toaster International Slavery Convention, the modern legislation against slavery was initiated at this Convention and adopted League of Nations
1927		
1928	Karius and Champion crossed New Guinea from the Fly to the Sepik	First radio invented - It was the size of a suitcase Crash of stock market and start of Great Depression
1929	Workers strike for wage increases in Rabaul, the first united defiance of colonial powers in either territory. Many leaders are imprisoned First contact with the Huli wigmen	Hubble's Theory of the expansion of the universe published

3.3 Activity 3

Choose two explorers active in this decade and research one their journeys

Write two journal entries – one from the point of view of an explorer and one from the point of view of a Huli wigman. Make sure you describe what you would have seen during that first contact and how you would have felt

Write a page describing the impact of the gold discoveries on the development of PNG – in the 20's and beyond

On a map mark in all the locations of gold discoveries and present day mines



Miners' huts on Edie Creek – 1925. Gold discoveries here brought hundreds of prospectors into the Bulolo Valley

1930-1939

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1930	Leahy and Dwyer explored headwaters of the Purari and Wahgi rivers	
1931	Rubber from Papua and from the Territory of New Guinea admitted to Australia free of duty	World economic depression at its peak
1932		Amelia Earhart first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic
1933	Legislative and executive councils are established in New Guinea, giving its administrators more control. Taylor, Spinks and the Leahy brothers explored much of the Highlands Students from Papua sent to Australia to train as medical assistants	Famine caused millions of deaths in the USSR Adolf Hitler Becomes German Chancellor
1934		Long March is the name given to the trek of 9,600 km of the Chinese Communists and Red Army units retreating the forces of Chiang Kai-shek. Mao Zedong was confirmed as the Communist leader during the march.
1935	Hides and O'Malley explored the Southern Highlands Radio broadcasting began in PNG	Dust Bowl in America - throughout most of the 1930s, low rainfall and poor farming techniques turned the fertile landscapes of the Great Plains, including parts of Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico into arid deserts
1936	Champion brothers and Hides take patrols to Lake Kutubu Exploration by Fox brothers between Mt Hagen and the Dutch border	The British economist John Maynard Keynes publishes his <i>The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money</i>
1937	Eruption of Tavurvur and Vulcan volcanoes in Rabaul. 507 people killed	Amelia Earhart disappears during pacific flight
1938	Administration patrols of Taylor and Black supported by aircraft and radio	Munich Pact, signed by Britain, France, Germany, and Italy, required Czechoslovakia to surrender control of the Sudetenland region to Germany
1939	Committee appointed to report on the union of Papua and New Guinea	Outbreak of WW II in Europe

3.3 Activity 4

Research the different types of technology first used in PNG during the 1930's

Describe the patrols of Taylor and Black from 1938-39

Watch the video 'First Contact' and describe the aspects of the contact you find most interesting, upsetting



Michael Leahy making contact with the people of the upper Purari River during the 1930 expedition across New Guinea from Salamaua to Port Romilly at the mouth of the Purari River.



Plate 293 The cathedral of the Sacred Heart at Vunapope, the headquarters of the Sacred Heart mission in New Britain, about 1932. This cathedral was destroyed by Allied bombing in 1943.




1940-1949

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1940	Hubert Murray dies at Samarai, MBP. Leonard Murray (a nephew) becomes Administrator of Papua	
1941	Japanese declare war and attack Rabaul	Japan entered WW II without warning, bombing the American fleet in Hawaii
1942/45	Japan invades New Guinea and Papua at the start of World War II. Rabaul is Japan's South Pacific command centre Australian and American soldiers lead the counter-attack, supported by PNG carriers and small fighting units. Major battles occur in ESP, Madang, Manus, MBP, Morobe, NSP, Oro, WSP, and WNBP. EHP, ENB, Port Moresby, and NIP are hit by heavy bombing Angau (Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit) runs both Papua and New Guinea. It helps villages as they are freed of Japanese control. Japanese land in New Britain. Rabaul captured. Landings on mainland and Milne bay. Battle of the Coral Sea Fighting on the Kokoda Trail	By march 1942 Japan controlled all SE Asia and most of the northern Pacific islands
1943	Allies counter-attack. Re-took Salamaua, Lae and Finschhafen General fighting in New Guinea. People working on plantations and fighting for Allies Fighting ceased in Papua	Advances in the use of penicillin Discovery of vitamin K
1944	Allies advance in Pacific. Damage to villages Re-took Madang	Normandy Campaign, code-named Operation Overlord, is where allied forces began the invasion of north-western Europe
1945	Japanese troops surrender A provisional civilian government is established. J. K. Murray begins 7 years as Administrator of both Papua and New Guinea.	End of war in Europe and the Pacific
1946	Australian administration under United Nations Trusteeship Council Public Service expanded War Damage Compensation New Native Labour Ordinance	Cold War starts and lasts to 1985
1947		

1948	Co-operative Societies established Patrols and new stations in Highlands	Olympic Games held in London
1949	Australia's Parliament passes the Papua and New Guinea Act, formally merging the territories Mr Percy Spender appointed Minister for External Affairs	Establishment of North Atlantic Treaty organisation (NATO)

3.3 Activity 5

Describe the outbreak of war in Rabaul and how the Japanese troops held Rabaul for so long

		
Japanese soldiers of the South Seas Force landing near Rabaul on 23 January 1942. The operation was under the command of Major General Tomitaro Horii	Allied leaders in Port Moresby, October 1942 – (left to right) F Forde, General Douglas Macarthur, General Sir Thomas Blamey and Lieutenant General G Kenney.	Carriers under the control of members of the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit (ANGAU) taking supplies to a forward area in 1942.

1950-1959

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1950	Local Government Councils are established at Hanuabada, NCD; Baluan, Manus; and Reimber and Vunamami, ENB South Pacific Post (Post Courier) first printed	War between North and South Korea.
1951	A 29-member Legislative Council is appointed to advise the Australian minister for territories. It includes 3 Papua New Guineans, appointed by the administrator - Merari Dickson from Kwato Mission, MBP; Aisoli Salin from Tatau village, Tabar Is, NIP; and Pita Simogen from Japtian village, ESP Mr Paul Hasluck appointed Minister for Territories. Legislative Council met Eruption at Mt Lamington kills 4000	Colour television introduced in the USA
1952	Donald Cleland begins 12 years as Administrator Colonel Murray dismissed Policy of development from below Expansion of health and education services Law and order extended in Highlands and other Districts People take more part in economic development. Trouble in West Irian First stamps issued for territory of Papua and New Guinea	Elizabeth II became the new British monarch
1953		USSR exploded a hydrogen bomb
1954		USA exploded a hydrogen bomb at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific
1955		
1956		
1957	Personal tax introduced	USSR launches the first artificial satellite
1958		
1959	Income tax introduced. Elected members resign from Legislative Council	1959 – 1975 Vietnam War

 **3.3 Activity 6**

Find eyewitness accounts of the Mt Lamington and trace a chronology of events. What was the extent of the physical and social damage?

Examine PNG's sports history and record the dates for any world quality achievements

Research the history of the local area. Draw up a timeline of significant events, activities and visitors

Write a brief history of Air Niugini or another important National institution

Identify female world leaders since 1950. Select one female leader from your list and prepare a one-page profile of her background and achievements

1960-1969

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1960		Contraceptive pill introduced
1961	The Legislative Council's make-up is revised. It has 37 members, including 6 Papua New Guineans, elected by committees of regional leaders, and 6 appointed by the administrator. Elected are John Guise (East Papua), Simoi Paradi (West Papua), Somu Sigob (New Guinea coastal), Nicholas Brokam (New Guinea islands), Vincent ToBaining (New Britain), and Kondom Agaundo (Highlands). Appointed are Retiben Taureka (Central), Alice Wedega (MBP), Ephraim Jubilee (ENB), Mancto Kuradal (Madang), Kimbunki (Enga), and Pius Bonjui (ESP)	First manned space flight (USSR)
1962	A United Nations mission headed by Sir Hugh Foot urges rapid action for self-rule in PNG Indonesian attacks on West Irian Select Committee on Political Development Currie Commission on Higher Education and World Bank Mission begin work Mr Charles Barnes appointed Minister for Territories First PNG team to Commonwealth Games	First communication satellite (Telstar I) launched
1963	First South Pacific Games in Pacific – PNG competes	US President Kennedy assassinated
1964	Elections are held for the first House of Assembly. It has 54 elected and 10 appointed members Changes in the Public Service	Civil war in Cyprus Alaska devastated by earthquake
1965	Select Committee on Constitutional Development appointed	First US Marines landed in South Vietnam
1966	The first national census estimates the population at 2 150 317 The University of PNG opens in the NCD Public Service wage case begins. Debate on self-government continues	Artificial heart development
1967	David Hay begins 3 years as Administrator Michael Somare and others form Pangu Pati, the first successful political party United Democratic Party, All People's Party, National Progress Party, Agricultural Reform Party formed	European Community formed
1968	Elections are held for the second House of Assembly (84 elected and 10 appointed members) The Liquor Act allows Nationals to drink alcoholic beverages United Nations Visiting Mission reported on progress towards Independence	Czechoslovakia invaded by the USSR
1969	Riots on Bougainville cause the Australian government to overrule its colonial administrators and assure higher compensation for Bougainville Copper land. The incident adds pressure in Australia for early independence PNG hosts South Pacific games. First gold medal won by Kito Kaida	Worldwide demonstrations against US involvement in the Vietnam war Man landed on the moon – Apollo 11 crew First supersonic plane flight (Concorde)

1970-1979

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1970	Les Johnson succeeds Hay as administrator	USSR lands unmanned spacecraft on the moon
1971	The House of Assembly adopts the National Flag, the National Emblem, and the name Papua New Guinea A new census estimates the population at 2 435 409	Japan launched world's largest ship, Nisseki Maru, 379,000 tonne supertanker
1972	Elections are held for the third House of Assembly (100 elected and 4 appointed members) Somare forms a National Coalition government, which leads the way to independence Mr Barnes resigned and Mr Andrew Peacock became Minister for Territories. In December with a new government in Australia Mr Peacock was replaced by Mr William Morrison	US astronauts stayed on the moon for 80 hours
1973	On 1 December, PNG becomes internally self-governing. Australia keeps charge of defence, foreign affairs, and the court system Somare is Chief Minister. Les Johnson is Australian High Commissioner PNG appoints a Commissioner to Australia National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) established Air Niugini established	Worldwide energy crisis caused by Arab embargo on oil
1974	House of Assembly forces Bougainville Copper to share more profits North Solomons becomes the first provincial government	US President Nixon resigns
1975	Groups who want to withdraw from PNG raise flags in Port Moresby (Papua Besena) and on Bougainville, but with no effect. The House of Assembly adopts the Constitution on 15 August On 16 September, PNG becomes an independent country. Somare is Prime Minister. John Guise is Governor-General The House of Assembly becomes the first National Parliament.	End of Vietnam War. Top Nixon aides found guilty of Watergate Conspiracy and sent to jail
1976	The Constitution is amended to require provincial government Words to the National Anthem written First PNG team to the Olympic games (Montreal – Canada)	Launching of APPLE microcomputer
1977	Elections are held for the second National Parliament (all 109 members are elected and must be citizens of PNG) Somare remains Prime Minister Sir Tore Lokoloko appointed as Governor General and Visit by Queen Elizabeth II	Steve Biko, founder of the South African Students' Organization, murdered by South African police officers
1978	PNG the first country to generate power with microwave power cells Official opening of the National Library Inauguration of the National Sports Council	Peace settlement signed between Israel and Egypt
1979	National Council of Women formed by an Act of Parliament	Margaret Thatcher first woman to become British Prime Minister

1980-1989

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1980	Julius Chan replaces Somare after a vote of no confidence A new census estimates the population at 2 978 057 PNG Defence Force assists Vanuatu government to crush rebellion Sir Buri Kidu first PNG Chief Justice	India and Pakistan conduct nuclear tests
1981	Construction began on Parliament House	Anwar Sadat (Egyptian President) assassinated
1982	Elections are held for the third National Parliament. Mr Michael Somare replaced Sir Julius Chan as Prime Minister Construction of Ramu Sugar factory Visit by Queen Elizabeth 11 and the Duke of York	First Space Shuttle mission
1983	Sir Kingsford Dibella appointed as Governor General Gold discovered at Lihir JICA office established	AIDS epidemic began to cause widespread concern
1984	Parliament House at Waigani opened by Prince Charles Ok Tedi Mining Company commenced gold production at Tabubil Pope John Paul visited Mt Hagen Wokabout sawmill introduced in PNG 10000 West Papuan refugees enter PNG	Indira Gandhi (Indian Prime Minister) assassinated
1985	Paias Wingti replaces Somare after a vote of no confidence	Cold War ends
1986	PNG joined anti-apartheid protests First EMTV broadcast Sanguna (band) toured the USA	Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster
1987	Elections are held for the third National Parliament. Wingti is Prime Minister Placer Mining gold at Misima Is Gold discovered at Mt Kare Gas discovered at Hides (SHP)	
1988	Rabbie Namahu replaces Wingti after a vote of no confidence Gold rush to Mt Kare Landslide in Markham Valley kills 75 and buries villages	AIDS becomes a major global problem
1989	Sir Ignatius Kilage becomes Governor-General	Berlin Wall torn down

1990-1999

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
1990	Bougainville Copper mine closed after fighting in NSP Sir Serei Eri becomes Governor General Genu Tau won PNG's first gold medal at the Commonwealth Games Mining commenced at Porgera Francis Ona declared independence for Bougainville National census conducted	East and West Germany unified
1991	Sir Wira Korow become Governor General PNG hosts the South Pacific Games National Women's policy developed First export of oil palm	Gulf War
1992	4 th national elections – Pias Wingti becomes prime Minister Major flooding of the Sepik PNG participated in Expo 92 in Spain	Bill Clinton becomes US president
1993	First export of oil from Lake Kutubu Wingti resigned and re-elected PNG joined APEC Amnesty International report on human rights abuse on Bougainville Closure of Talair – PNG's largest third level airline	Native Title Act passed in Australia
1994	Rabaul volcanic eruptions – destruction of Rabaul township and surrounding areas Wingti's re-election deemed illegal – Julius Chan becomes Prime Minister Kina floated for the first time NauFM began broadcasting "The National" newspaper first published	Multiracial elections held in South Africa
1995	BTG formally established with Miriung as Premier PNGBC introduces bankcards Beatification of Peter ToRot	Peace accord signed to end the Bosnian War
1996	Assassination of Miriung Orogen Minerals established Oil and gas discovered at Moran	Taliban come to power in Afghanistan
1997	Sandline International contracted by Sir Julius Chan Chan stepped down for Commission of Inquiry Bill Skate becomes first Papuan Prime Minister El Nino drought throughout PNG Burnham declaration: 9 point peace plan for Bougainville	Kyoto Protocol on green house gas emissions Tony Blair becomes Prime Minister in Britain Hong Kong returned to China

1998	Tsunami destroys Sissano, Warupu and Malol – over 2000 dead Building of Poreporena Highway Opening of new international airport in Port Moresby	Good Friday Agreement on Northern Ireland signed
1999	Vote-of-no-confidence in Bill Skate (highest vote ever recorded) – Sir Mekere Morauta becomes Prime Minister VAT (Value Added Tax introduced) POMSOX (stock exchange) commenced trading	Kosovo Crisis

 **3.3 Activity 7**

Find ten important events, other than politics (eg banking, sport, business, industry, education, religious) to add to any decade

2000-2005

DATE	PNG EVENTS	WORLD EVENTS
2000	National census Olympic torch relay in PNG 25th anniversary of Independence celebrations	First Draft Mapping of Human Genome - scientists in Britain and the United States completed the first draft mapping of the entire human genome. The Human Genome Project, a massive international collaborative effort to understand the full genetic make-up of human beings, encoded in the DNA, began in 1990
2001	Rebellion by Defence Force troops 3 students shot in anti-privatisation demonstration in Port Moresby Nandex first PNG citizen to win world sports title	Terrorist attacks on World Trade Centre and Pentagon in US – over 6000 killed
2002		
2003		
2004		
2005		

 **3.3 Activity 8**

Update the list above to include any significant events that have occurred so far in the year you are completing this module

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