

Glossary: Historical Terms for Students

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acculturate – to adopt the customs of a different (usually dominant) culture.

ANC - African National Congress

acronym – the use of letters instead of a full title or name, eg., SPC, SPREP, UN, WHO.

Act – the final decision of a parliament or legislature; a law; a statute.

aggression - an attack on the rights or territory of others.

agrarian reform - policies to achieve a more equal distribution of farmland by granting land to the landless.

agriculture – the sector of the economy to do with production based on land resources.

al-Fatah - an important guerilla group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

allegiance – loyalty, to a nation, government or cause.

alliance - an agreement or joining of interests between nations or persons.

ambition - a desire for fame, success, honour, wealth, high position or great power.

amendment - a change made to a law, policy, agreement or treaty.

Americanization – to make similar to the U.S.A. (also means the spread of American ideas, customs and technology).

ancestor – a very early member of a family (perhaps before written language was used).

annexation – to take control of territory as a colony or protectorate.

Anschluss - the political union of Germany and Austria in 1939 under Adolf Hitler.

anthropology – the study of culture and people from the past, and present.

apartheid – a system of social, political and economic discrimination on the basis of race; particularly South Africa.

appeasement – a policy of trying to please and make agreement with an aggressive nation, in order to keep the peace.

arable – land able to be used for agriculture.

archaeology – the study of the things left behind by people who lived a long time ago e.g. remains of old buildings, irrigation canals and buried artefacts.

architecture - the study of the design and construction of buildings.

archive – a type of library; a collection of private or government documents.

artefact – an object remaining from previous cultures and civilisations.

ASEAN - the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

assimilation – a policy of forcing one group to adopt the culture of another group.

atoll – a flat island made of coral, often with a large lagoon.

atomic test – a massive explosion caused by releasing the energy in atoms.

atrocities – acts of cruelty and violence inflicted by an enemy, or an armed force on civilians or prisoners.

autobiography – a book written by a person about his or her life.

autonomy – (1) Self-government or self-determination. (2) the right to make decisions affecting your own nation.

Axis Powers - Germany, Italy, Japan and their allies, during the Second World War.

Balfour Declaration – an official announcement made by Britain in 1917 in an attempt to gain Jewish support for its war effort. The announcement stated Britain's support for the creation of a Jewish 'national home' in Palestine.

banana republic – a term used to describe independent nations in Latin America with a poor economy, and few resources on which to base economic growth, often with a central (military) government.

bias – an opinion, action or statement that strongly favours one side in an argument or description of events.

bibliography – a list of books and other documents about a particular topic usually found at the back of books. Libraries publish subject bibliographies to help researchers on specific topics.

bilateral – a decision or policy agreed to by two nations.

Blackbirding – a word used to describe the nineteenth century labour trade.

black power – a phrase used to describe the rising influence of African Americans in the U.S.A.

boycott – to agree not to purchase, participate or associate with; usually in anger over matters of policy and decision-making.

brain drain – a phrase used to describe the loss of educated, well trained people to another, usually more developed country.

cabinet – a meeting of executive members chosen by the winning political party (the government) to control each of the separate areas of government business.

call number – a number on a library book which allows readers to quickly find a book.

campaign – a series of connected military operations in a war, or political action for some special purpose (such as an election or protest).

canvass – to conduct a poll or survey of public opinion.

carbon dating – a scientific technique for calculating the age of very old materials.

catalogue – a card or computer list of all books in a library.

catchments – areas where rainfall is collected; the inland or mountain area which feeds water into a river system.

cede – to yield, especially through a treaty. (See Cession)

central government – the national or federal government which exercises control over matters affecting the whole country.

century – 100 years.

cession – the official act of ceding your country to another nation.

Chamorros - indigenous people of the Mariana Islands, including Guam.

chronology – a time line or list of events in the order in which they happened.

circumnavigation – to travel completely around an island or around the world.

civil – action or policy to do with citizens (compared to military, naval, or church affairs).

civilian – an ordinary citizen (people not in the military forces).

civil rights – the rights of all citizens (usually refers to campaigns to change racial policy in the U.S.A.).

civil war – a war between the citizens of a country.

Cold War – a phrase to describe unfriendly relations between Communist nations and Western democracies from 1945-1990 (usually means U.S.A. – U.S.S.R. policies and disputes).

collective security – the coming together of several countries to help each other should they be threatened or attacked by another country.

collectivise – to transfer ownership of land from individuals to the state or the people collectively (usually in Communist or Socialist countries).

collectivism – a political and economic system in which the means of production of goods and services and the distribution of wealth are controlled by the people as a group or by the government (such as Communism or Socialism).

colonialism – a term used to describe the long period in history when one nation took control of other countries by creating colonies.

colonization – the process by which one nation occupies and settles in territory belonging to another people.

colony (1) – a country or area of land governed by another nation.

colony (2) – a group of people who leave their own country and go to settle in another land, but who still remain citizens of their own country.

Comintern – the Third International, an organisation founded in Moscow in 1919 to promote Communist revolution in countries outside Russia. It was dissolved in 1943.

commemorate – to honour people and events with a ceremony or monument.

commercial – to do with trade or commerce.

Commonwealth (1) - a self governing country voluntarily associated with the USA. **Commonwealth (2)** - a union or linking together of countries (e.g. the British Commonwealth).

Commonwealth (3) - the linking of states within a country eg. The Australian Commonwealth (with its 6 states).

compact – an agreement.

conclusion – an opinion or judgement, at the end of a piece of writing or a speech.

Congress (1) – the lawmaking body of a nation, especially of a republic.

congress (2) – a major national or international conference or meeting.

Conquistador – Conqueror. Spanish soldiers who travelled to the Americas in order to conquer local inhabitants and create Spanish colonies.

conservation – the protection of natural resources, such as forests, soil, and water systems and cultural property such as papers, paintings, books, tools and old items.

context – the circumstances or situation in which an event happens.

constitution – a statement of the fundamental principles by which a nation, state, or association is governed and makes decisions.

corroboration – evidence that provides support for a point of view.

coup d'état – a “coup” is a sudden change of government, often illegal and to do with the military.

Creole – a person of mixed European and indigenous blood.

cult (1) – a small group of alternative religious believers.

cult (2) – a group showing strict and great admiration for an idea or person.

Cultural Revolution – name for a period used by Mao Tse Tung to promote rapid change in China (1965-68)

custom – to do things based on old traditions, and old cultural patterns.

customary rights – land rights based on cultural traditions (not modern law).

crusades – military campaign by European Christians against Muslims in the Middle East (1096-1254)

decade – ten years.

decolonise – to remove foreign rule and establish self-government.

decolonisation – used to describe the period after WWII when many colonies achieved their independence.

decree – to issue an order or policy.

democracy – the idea that a government is run for the people and by the people (through their elected representatives).

demonstration – a protest usually by marching or picketing.

dependency theory – a post WWII idea that growth was controlled by outside rather than internal factors in newly emerging independent nations, that relied on foreign aid and trade.

de-segregation – to end the separation of people on the basis of race; usually refers to

the campaign to enrol Blacks in American schools.

destabilization – attempts to weaken the stability of a government, usually through secret, indirect or violent methods.

detente – an Italian word meaning a period of relaxation in a crisis between two or more countries.

Dewey system – a numbering system of dividing books into different topics and areas of study. Used by most libraries.

diaspora – a nation or ethnic group spread across several countries (rather than occupying a nation of their own).

dictator – a person who has absolute authority, often without having any claim through inheritance or free popular election.

dictatorship – a government controlled by a single powerful leader.

diplomacy – the method of conducting international relations between nations.

direct rule – a type of government in which colonial powers took full control over the people (opposite of “indirect rule”).

disarmament – a policy which attempts to limit the number of weapons of war.

discrimination – the act of naming, dividing or separating people on the basis of differences.

displaced – citizens forced to leave a homeland because of war or disaster.

dispossess (dispossession) – to remove or deny a person or group the use of their land.

dissident – someone who expresses views against government policy or action.

documents – any written evidence, e.g. census results, letters or government papers.

domino theory – the fear that if one country becomes Communist, its neighbours will be affected one after the other (like a line of domino tiles toppling over).

draft – a first piece of writing to be checked and corrected before being completed or agreed to.

economy (economic) – the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.

economic development - putting in place policies that would result in the expansion of production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.

economic miracle – a phrase used to describe the remarkable recovery of Japan's economy in the short period after the Second World War.

electorate - the number of voters in a given area who vote for a Member of Parliament or government representative.

embargo – a ban on trade with a foreign nation.

enquiry – to ask questions or to test an hypothesis.

enterprise (1) – any new, exciting undertaking.

enterprise (2) – a commercial project (e.g. a business enterprise).

erosion – the process of wearing down the land by wind, water, over-cropping.

ethnocentric – to think first of your own kin/clan/race; to judge only through your own cultural rules.

ethnographic – studies to do with investigating human activity.

evacuation – to move people from a dangerous to a safe place.

evidence – anything that establishes a fact or supports a point of view.

exile – to legally force a person to leave their country, as a punishment.

expatriate – a person from another country who is a resident (foreigner).

exports – goods or services that are sold to another country.

eye witness – a person who saw an event happen.

expropriation – Governmental action to take possession of land or property.

face to face questionnaire – a questionnaire when the interviewee answers the interviewer's questions immediately.

fallout – the radioactive waste that enters the atmosphere, earth and water after an atomic or nuclear explosion.

fascism – usually refers to a period in 20th century governments, when industry and labour were regulated by a strong national government and opposition was suppressed. There was often a dictatorship, racist policies and military aggression (for example Spain, Italy and Germany).

federal government – a central government, which looks after national affairs (in a federal system individual states keep control of local and state affairs).

feudalism (feudal system) – a political and economic system based on the rule

of landowners or “lords”. Peasants, or serfs, or vassals owe loyalty to their lord, and work for him; in turn the lord protects people and property.

fieldwork – to investigate by visiting a place.

foreign aid – money or technical assistance donated by one nation to another to further its development or to recover from a disaster or war.

Francophone – supporters of France, French language and French culture.

GATT - General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

genealogy – a list of members of a family, from the past (ancestors) to the present.

genocide – the planned extermination of an entire national, racial, political, or ethnic group.

globalisation – the international flow of trade, finance and information.

guinea pig – an animal that is used for scientific experiments.

green revolution – an idea that science and better methods of agriculture could quickly feed the growing population of Asia.

guerrilla – military or paramilitary units that operate in small bands to quickly and secretly attack a more powerful enemy.

Haole (Hawaiian) – non-indigenous people in Hawaii, usually from the United States or Europe.

heritage – something that has been inherited, or passed on, from the past (includes natural heritage, built heritage and cultural heritage.)

hierarchy – the order from oldest to youngest, senior to junior, most important to least important.

History (1) – School and University study of the past, people and events.

history (2) (small “h”) – a story or stories about the past; the things that happened in the past.

historian – someone who studies, writes or teaches history.

historiography - to examine the way history is researched and recorded: the study of History as a subject.

human rights – the rights of all human beings to fair treatment, justice and basic needs, such as food, shelter, and education.

humanitarian – person or organisation that works to reduce human suffering and promote human well-being.

hypothesis – a statement of an idea. It is the starting point of an investigation that has to be proved or disproved.

ideology (1) – the principles behind opinions that people have **ideology (2)** – doctrines, assertions, and intentions of a social or political movement.

imperialism – used to describe a period in history when powerful nations tried to extend their control over other countries and colonies.

independence – the right to make decisions affecting your own self or nation, free from

outside control.

index – an alphabetical list of topics in a book.

indigenous (1) – the original land holders.

indigenous (2) – ideas and beliefs that come from the original people.

indirect rule – a system of colonial government in which the rulers govern through local kings, chiefs or leaders (see Direct Rule).

Individual Voters – (category of voters in Samoa’s elections) people whose ancestors can be traced to nationals of other countries who immigrated to Samoa. Even though they are Samoan citizens, they do not have any rights to Samoan customary lands and titles.

industrialisation – the development of factories, manufacturing and industries as an important feature in a country or economic system.

industry – any business, trade, or enterprise. Usually divided into Primary Industry (agriculture, mining, etc), Secondary Industry (manufacturing, processing) and Tertiary Industry (hospitality, service, electronics, information technology, nursing, etc).

infrastructure – the public utilities (water, gas, other essential services) forming the basis of a system or structure.

insurrection – an open revolt or rebellion against a government.

integration – the inclusion of all people of all races, usually refers to periods in USA history during the civil rights movement.

interdependence – when two nations depend on each other for protection, survival and well-being.

interpret (1) – to explain the meaning from one language to another.

interpret (2) – to judge the value of evidence and draw conclusions (in History).

interview – a formal conversation with someone, to find information by asking a set of questions.

interviewee – the person being questioned.

invest – to use spare money to buy something that will later on produce a profit. (Investor, Investment)

jihad – a religious war (in Islam)

judgement – a decision of a Monarch, Court of Law, a Commission of Inquiry; means to decide or give an opinion about something.

labour – work, especially manual work, done by skilled and unskilled workers for wages.

labour relations – the relationship at the workplace between the employer and his employees.

laissez-faire – a system of economics where there is little government interference.

Law of the Sea – the international agreement between nations which affects ownership of the ocean.

leading question – a question that is worded so that it leads the person towards a particular answer e.g. The dog was black wasn’t it? (compared to, What colour was the dog?)

legacy – something that is inherited or passed on from a previous time (or person).

legend – a story based on real events, which is well known and often exaggerated.

legislation – the process of making laws; the laws made by an act of Parliament.

Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, Legislature, Congress, Senate – names for an elected Parliament.

lethal – something that causes death.

liberation – freedom from oppression or outside control. (Usually after War, or the end of Colonial Rule).

lineage – the line of your ancestors and family members.

mandate (1) – authority given to a government by the votes of the people in an election.

mandate (2) – the right given to one nation by the League of Nations (1921-45) to administer the government and affairs of a territory or colony.

manifesto – a public document or list of principles or intentions. (Usually of a political nature.)

martial law – military rule over a civilian population.

Marxism – A view of history, and a prediction of the future based on the work of Karl Marx (the origins of Communism and Socialism).

Mestizo (Spanish) – person of mixed Indian and European ancestry in Spain's former colonies. (Also the culture created by such people.)

metropolitan powers – a phrase that usually refers to the powerful countries of Europe during the colonial period.

microfilm – a type of film kept by some libraries. Old newspapers and documents are often copied on microfilm.

migration – movement of people (often in large numbers) to a new place or country.

military – to do with soldiers or wars.

militarism – policies based on military expansion or the use of military force.

militarist view – a point of view from the military's stand point; a view that implies the use of military force.

mobilise – to call (troops, ships, or other units) into active military service; usually to wage war.

modernisation – the process of introducing or adopting new ideas.

Molotov Cocktail – a homemade bomb

made from petrol and an empty bottle.

Mulato (Spanish) – Mulatto; a person of mixed African and European ancestry.

multilateral – discussions or agreements between three or more countries (see unilateral; bilateral).

museum – a place where objects from the past are kept so future generations can see and study them.

mythology – stories of very early times.

nation (1) – a people, race, or tribe.

nation (2) – an independent country.

nationalise – to bring industries, land, railroads, or other resources or enterprises under the control or ownership of the central government.

nationalism (1) – a belief in one's own country or nation.

nationalism (2) – a period in history when colonial countries gain their independence.

nationalist – an upholder of nationalism; person who believes strongly in their own nation.

nationality – belonging to a nation; usually shown on your passport.

naturalization – the granting of full citizenship to a foreign-born person.

neocolonialism – an informal control by former rulers over their ex-colonies.

NICs - newly industrializing countries (usually referring to the "Tigers" of Asia, such as South Korea, Singapore and Thailand, who have achieved rapid economic growth).

noble savage – a term used by European visitors and writers to describe indigenous people who were regarded as "primitive" but had achieved a "good" society and way of life. (see Savage)

non-aligned movement – a group of small countries who wanted to stay clear of the USA-USSR disputes of the Cold War.

nonviolence – to use peaceful protest tactics as means of gaining one's objectives (made famous by Ghandi in India).

New Deal – name for a major change of policy in the USA (after the Depression).

Nuclear Free Pacific (usually SPNFZ - South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone) – a policy to ban nuclear shipping, waste dumping and tests (particularly French testing on Mururoa Atoll).

observation – to look closely and carefully to find specific information.

occupy – to take possession of by invasion.

occupation – the name given to a period when one nation is invaded and controlled by another nation.

OECD - Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

OPEC - Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Open-Door Policy – a USA policy (1899) which demanded open access for shipping in Japan.

open questions – a question where more than one answer is possible; to offer the person replying the chance to say what they want (opposite to a closed question).
oppression – severe and unjust use of force or authority which denies people their rights and freedoms.

oppressor – one who causes oppression.

oral sources – evidence that is spoken, such as a speech, story, interview or a song. Oral sources may be written down.

oral testimony – a description by someone of things they have witnessed.

oral tradition – stories about the past that have been retold from generation to generation.

pact – an agreement; a compact; a treaty.

Palagi (Samoan) – a European (non-Indigenous) person. Also *Papalagi* (Tonga) and *Vavalagi* (Fiji).

Pan-Africanism – the idea that Africans have common ambitions, despite Africa being divided into many individual nations.

parliament – an elected group who debate the policies and make the laws for a country.

partisans – soldiers who continue to fight for their country, even though it has been occupied by an enemy.

partition – dividing a nation into parts, for example the division into India and

Pakistan.

Peace Corps – volunteers from the USA who work in a wide range of jobs (1916-).

Pearl Harbor – the site of a Japanese air attack which forced the USA into WWII, causing the start of the Pacific War in 1941.

peasant (1) – a farmer of the working class in Europe.

peasant (2) – used as an insult to suggest someone has low education, is rural and unsophisticated.

perestroika – name given to a change of policy in the former USSR leading to the end of the Cold War.

persecute – to treat badly; to do harm again and again; to oppress.

persecution – systematic punishment or oppression.

picket – to express an opinion by blocking the entrance to a building or site.

plebiscite – a direct vote by citizens on an important political question.

plenipotentiaries – diplomatic travellers, representatives or ambassadors sent by their government to discuss a specific problem with another nation (usually 17th – 19th centuries).

political parties – a group who shares a particular idea on how the country should be governed.

politics – the management of political affairs, relations between political parties and between governments and their people.

post war – usually meaning the period after WWII.

prehistory – a European word meaning the time before history was written (the period

studied by archaeologists – now called the “distant past”).

primary industry – industry that processes primary resources (e.g. logging industry, fisheries industry, coal industry).

primary source – original evidence directly related to an event, object or person in the past; meaning from the actual event.

private enterprise – a business or company, making profits for the owner or investor (the opposite of a government enterprise).

private sector – the part of the economy not controlled by the government. (Opposite to the public sector – government enterprise.)

progenitors – your ancestors.

prohibition (a ban) – the name given to a period in USA history when the sale of alcohol was strictly controlled.

propaganda – systematic efforts to spread opinions or beliefs.

protectorate – a form of colonial control, (not quite a full annexation).

provocation – an action or policy that causes anger, often intended to create a confrontation.

public sector – business and industry operated or controlled by the government (opposite of private sector).

purge – to remove an opponent by force, assassination or exile.

questionnaire – a set of questions (oral or printed questions).

quota sampling – when a sample of a population is chosen for a questionnaire to judge what the whole population is thinking about a specific issue.

radical (1) – extreme changes or reforms.

radical (1) – a person who favours extreme changes or reforms.

radical party – political party that favours extreme change.

raid – sudden attack, usually by a small force but not intended to hold the territory invaded.

radioactivity – the after effect (dangerous

rays and particles) of a nuclear explosion.

random sampling – when a sample of a population is chosen by chance, e.g. by drawing names out of a box. (See quota sampling for a similar process)

referendum – a question asked of voters (used for very important national issues).

refugee – a person who flees their country and seeks safety in time of war, persecution, or disaster.

regiment – a military group consisting of at least two battalions, usually commanded by a colonel.

regional organisation – a forum or series of regular meetings by countries within a region for specifically identified aims (e.g. SPC, SPREP, ASEAN, EU).

rehabilitation – to restore to the previous or original condition.

remittance – sending of money back home from a foreign country to family members.

remnants – surviving traces; the last examples of something that was previously popular or in wide use.

reparations – compensation paid by the losers for damages caused during a war.

repatriation – the policy of sending people back to their own countries.

republic – a form of democracy, where the head of state is a President.

research – an investigation to find out information on a specific topic.

research method – the method used in an investigation e.g. interviews, fieldwork, analysis of photographs, questionnaires.

retrench – to cut costs in a business by cutting the number of employees.

revolution – a complete overthrow of an established government or political system; often by force.

revolutionary (1) – a person involved in a revolution

revolutionary (2) – a policy or action causing great changes.

rural – to do with the countryside (opposite of urban).

sabotage – destruction of property to slow down production usually by civilians or enemy agents in time of war.

salary – fixed pay for regular work.

sampling – choosing a small group instead of the whole population. (See random and quota sampling).

sanctions – a penalty imposed by one nation (or the UN) to force another nation to change its policies, usually by stopping trade.

savage – often used in the colonial period by European writers to describe indigenous people. (See Noble Savage)

scandal – an event, or a series of events which bring disrespect on leaders or governments.

scorched earth – the destruction by armies of all things useful to an enemy such as farms, crops, food supplies.

scourge – widespread series of events (such as war or disease) which cause a terrible tragedy.

secondary industry – those industries which turn primary products into manufactured goods for sale or use.

secondary source – a document, or evidence which is about the time or event that an historian is investigating, but not from participants. It includes second hand views, opinions and reports.

Security Council – the council of the UN which debates major military conflicts.

segregation – the separation of one racial group from another especially in schools, theatres, restaurants, and other public and private places. (See apartheid, civil rights, integration)

self-determination – the gaining of the right to determine political status; independence or freedom.

separation (1) – the act of breaking away from a colonial power.

separation (2) – the act of separating or dividing one country into two parts (see Partition).

Separation of Powers – to distinguish between the powers of the government, for example legal, military and Parliamentary powers.

settler – a person who migrates and settles in a new country, region or district.

shantytown – name of an illegal housing area, usually temporary and without normal urban facilities.

show trial – a public trial conducted solely for the purposes of propaganda.

Sinn Féin – a leading political party struggling for independence in Northern Ireland (the political wing of the Irish Republican Army).

site – a place of historic, scientific, cultural or geographical importance.

Six-Day War – a short war in 1967 between Israel and its neighbouring Arab countries in the Middle East.

slave – a person who is the property of another.

slavery (1) – the condition of being a slave.

slavery (2) – the policy of owning slaves.

social – policy and events concerned with human beings in their relations to each other. (See also, economic, political, cultural policy)

social development – measures and activities aimed at improving social relations.

source – something from which historians can get information on past events. Sources need to be analysed and interpreted in order to use them as evidence.

Sovereign (1) – the ruler of a country or region (eg King or Queen).

sovereign (2) – self-governing; independent.

sovereignty – the right of a country or people to control their own fate.

SPC – Secretariat for the Pacific Community (formerly South Pacific Commission).

spheres of influence – a term used to describe agreements between colonial powers which divided territories into areas of control.

state (1) – usually refers to individual states which make up a federal system.

state (2) – the state, usually means the “government”.

state government – government at the state level, state being the next level of political division below the level of federal government.

strategy – the planning and directing of military movements and operations.

strategic – means important or essential in relation to a plan of action.

subsistence – producing only the minimum amount of food with little or no surplus.

suffrage – the right to vote in national or local elections and referendum.

suffragettes – women who campaigned for the right of women to vote (c1900).

Supreme Court – the highest court in a country’s legal system (some countries have the “High Court” as the highest level).

suppression – the act of putting down opposition by the use of police or military force.

summit – term used to describe a special meeting between major powers or key leaders, usually to find a solution to a major problem.

surveillance – close observation of a person or group (often secretly).

survey (1) – to make a map of a particular place.

survey (2) – to make a questionnaire about a particular topic and get some people to answer your questions.

Tamil Tigers – a rebel group and army in Sri Lanka.

tenure – land ownership.

terms of trade – the difference between what countries sell (export) and what they buy (import), (usually described as negative or positive).

tertiary industry – industry involved in providing services, information or expertise (see primary and secondary industry).

timeline – a list, along a line, which shows the order and date on which events happened.

TNC – Trans-National Corporation – a corporation with operations in more than one nation.

totalitarian – a government controlled by one political group which suppresses all opposition, often with force and often with severe controls on private activities.

totalitarianism – the system, principles, or methods of a totalitarian government.

tourism – the sector of the economy to do with travel, holidays and leisure.

trade – the act or process of buying and selling; exchange of goods.

Trade Union – (See Unions)

traders – used in history to describe ships, merchants and people in the 19th C who bought and sold Pacific Island products.

treaty – an agreement between nations.

trusteeship – the administration of one country (usually an ex-colony) by another, approved by the United Nations.

ultimatum – the final terms presented by one party in negotiation, (if not agreed to, may lead to war).

unconditional surrender – when the winner forces the losing side in a war to give up all benefits, rights and privileges.

unilateral declaration – when one country makes a decision in a dispute (the opposite of a bilateral declaration).

unions – a group of workers who join together to promote their interests, wages and working conditions. (Often in a specific industry or related industries; e.g. timber workers, public service workers, bank employees).

urban – to do with cities (and suburban – to do with suburbs around a large city).

user-pays – when private citizens pay for every service that is given. (Compared to Government services which are free to the people).

vassal – subordinate or dependent State or Territory.

Vietcong – a rebel group in the Vietnamese War of Independence (who supported Communist rule).

visual source – evidence from the past in the form of a picture, such as a photograph, cartoon or paintings (used by historians to study the past).

Westminster System – elected democratic system of Parliament, Cabinet and Government (copied from the British political system).

World Bank – A funding organisation made up of the super powers and major nations in order to help poorer nations.

written source – anything written that may give us information about an event or person in the past.

Zionism – a movement that campaigned to set up a Jewish national state in Palestine (now the nation of Israel).

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This glossary has been a collaborative effort and has slowly been compiled over the last five years. The idea was first suggested at a Pacific Island History Teachers workshop in Honiara in 1995. It became a priority for the TTPF project, a five-year program of History teacher workshops, and publications, funded by the Sasakawa Foundation in Japan. At every TTPF workshop over the next five years the idea was discussed, and a large number of teachers have contributed suggestions, phrases and lists of words that Pacific Island history students had difficulty interpreting. Dr Asofou So'o, President of the Western Samoa History Teachers Association, Ms Melinda Noble and Dr Max Quanchi, of the TTPF office in Brisbane, took on the task of putting together a final draft based on these suggestions. A number of published glossaries were also consulted and a shorter "Pacific" list created. We hope the final result, the last publication of the TTPF project, will be helpful to history students across the region.

The TTPF project ended its work in April 2000. The new regional organisation for History teacher associations is called **HistoryCOPs** and is based at the National University of Samoa. Copies of this publication may be obtained by contacting **HistoryCOPs**.

(Note: Non-English words used in the glossary are italicised)

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