

The European Era

- Arrival of Europeans
 - 1500s-1800s Europeans from several countries explored South Pacific
 - Captain James Cook-British
 - 3 voyages- 1768-1779
 - claimed eastern Australia for Britain, explored several island, and circled Antarctica
 - Produced very accurate maps
 - Despite Aboriginal population of 300,000, Brits saw Australia as uninhabited
 - Original purpose for colonization- penal colony- 160,000 convicts would be dumped off in Australia to serve their sentence

The European Era

- Mid-1800s- British stopped sending convicts to Australia
- Settlers moved to the coasts- by 1861- over 1 million Europeans
- Mostly wheat farmers
- Wool also became a major product
- Copper exports and 1851 Gold Rush
- Aboriginees eventually upset with land being taken- started to fight
 - Spears vs rifles----- rifles win
 - Aboriginal populations down to 80k by late 1800s bc of disease

The European Era

- Building Empires
 - Brits divided Australia into 5 colonies- each with its own legislature
 - Allowed all men to vote
 - First Europeans in New Zealand- shipwrecked sailors or escaped convicts
 - Later set up whaling settlements
 - British colonists arrived in 1820s and 1830s
 - Maori held off Europeans until diseases hit- population was at 100k in 1840 (half what it was)
 - Treaty of Waitangi- Maori kept land if they accepted British rule
 - Settlers still moved into Maori land- war of 1860s- Maori lost
 - Settlers set up economy on dairy and sheep

The European Era

- Global trade led to major ports in Oceania
- Western countries (like US) began to colonize Pacific Islands
- Increased trade and missionaries
- Western culture and Christianity was somewhat accepted by locals
- Disease continued to take a toll

Independent Nations

- Australia and New Zealand
 - Both one peacefully
 - 1901- Australia became the Commonwealth of Australia
 - 1907- New Zealand became independent
 - Both are parliamentary democracies- representatives choose a prime minister
 - Australia is also a federal government
 - 1893- New Zealand was first official country to give women suffrage (right to vote)
 - 1902- Australia did the same
 - New Zealand was one of first to have gov't aid sick, elferly, and jobless
 - Aboriginees and Maoris often discriminated against
 - Until 1970s immigration limited- especially Asians

Independent Nations

- Oceania and Antarctica
 - After WW1 (1918) Germany's islands went to Japan
 - World War II partially fought in Pacific Islands btw US and Japan
 - US gained Japanese territories (like Micronesia) after WWII- became trust territories (temporarily placed under control of another country)
 - Most Pacific Islands have become independent since 1960s
 - Some are torn by ethnic conflict- Fiji and Solomon Islands
 - 1959- Antarctic Treaty- continent shared for research