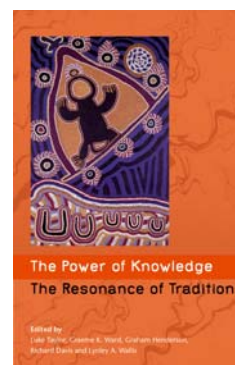


## The Power of Knowledge, The Resonance of Tradition

Luke Taylor, Graeme K Ward, Graham Henderson,  
Richard Davis & Lynley Wallis (eds)



### DESCRIPTION

*The Power of Knowledge, the Resonance of Tradition* is a ground-breaking critique of the concept of 'tradition' as it has been applied in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander context. The authors offer a refreshing new style of analysis. In writing that is rich in detail, strong in analysis and informed by their research experience they argue for a deeper appreciation of the creativity inherent in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social life, and the way that knowledge is constructed and deployed in complex intercultural contexts in contemporary Australia.

Each chapter draws on detailed local inter-cultural information which includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander land and sea ownership and management, native title processes, service delivery arrangements for health and outstation management, and representations in art, song and broadcasting. In each arena there are multiple engagements with broad global processes.

The advent of Native Title legislation has led Indigenous communities across the country being required to demonstrate their 'traditional' connections to country. For many, their experiences of these processes are increasingly at odds with the complex inter-cultural realities of their contemporary lives. They feel the constraining effect of outmoded frameworks of 'tradition' in legislation and policy where social and cultural innovation are characterised as inauthentic.

*The Power of Knowledge, the Resonance of Tradition* draws together key scholars in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social research and amplifies the work of an earlier AIATSIS conference. The authors provide productive ways of characterising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social life and develop a multi-disciplinary theoretical critique to the concept of tradition.

The book's editors have extensive experience of research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They include AIATSIS staff who worked with the AIATSIS Council to structure the themes for the original Conference. They invited the speakers, worked with authors on their papers, and have written the introductions.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Fred Myers, Jon Altman, Richard Davis, Lisa Strelein, Fiona Magowan, Michael Adams, Tony English, Elspeth Youn, Maggie Brady, Neil Thomson, Melinda Hinkson, Philip Batty, Luke Taylor, Britta Duelke, Minoru Hokari and Benjamin Richard Smith

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#### Target markets

- Australian Indigenous studies (academics & students; tertiary & secondary)
- Australian anthropology
- Indigenous native title, health, development, art and culture

#### Selling points

- highlights challenges facing Indigenous Australians re. native title claims
- challenges established theories of 'tradition and change'
- platform for understanding how knowledge about Aboriginal and TSI peoples is constructed
- canvasses range of key contemporary issues
- authors are key researchers across a range of disciplines

#### Categories

- Australian Indigenous studies
- Anthropology

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