



Ngalpun Danalayg; Keriba Kerker

"Our life; Our time"

KOD:

Mi
Malora Zogo
Lu Babad
Zogo Le
Meriam Ira Tonar
Malora Ira Tonar
Zogo Kab/Kab Kar
Kopat
Orwai
Giz
Ait Ira Ped
Wed
Gobar Werem
Meriam Mir

Kuyku Mabaygal
Buwayl Woeydhay
Zugubal
Zugu Ngurpay
Buwayl
Awdghal
Gubal/Gubaw Gizuya
Kupay/Saabu
Muruygaw Danalayg
Nawul/Kaabal
Ngalpun Maalu/ Ngalpun
Boeradhar/ Ngalpun Dapar
Yagar Yagar

- Time Immemorial
- 10,000 years of sovereignty

- Four Brothers Fighting:
 - Kulkalgal
 - Maluilgal
 - Guda Maluilgal
 - Kaurareg
- Traditional governance/ occupation – chiefs
- Traditional commodity routes:
 - Islands
 - Mainland
 - PNG

1606
Torres travel through Zenadth Kes

1770
Colonisation: Cook landed at Tuined, renamed it 'Possession Island', and claimed possession of the east coast of Australia

1850
First European settlement established at Somerset on Cape York

1876-88
Massacre of Kaurareg at Muralag

1872
• Free citizens
• deed of transfer and Letters Patent to annex Islands from NSW to Qld

1872
Admin moved from Somerset to Waiben (Thursday Island)

1879
Establishment of Mamoose system – Island head, Councillor, Island Councils and Courts

1899
System of Island Councils established

1904
Establishment of Pacific Industry Ltd (PIL)
• Island owned vessels

1914
WW1

1918
Betterment System: Health and housing

1934
Government run Aboriginal Industries Board took over PIL

1936
Maritime Strike: 398 Trochus and pearl divers strike

1937
Technology Employment Settlement Immigration (No CDEP)

1942
Japanese bomb Ngurapai (Horn Island)

1943
Aborigines Welfare Fund established to 'manage' wages and savings

1943-44
TS soldiers strike for full pay and non-discrimination

1950
• Stone church at Hammond Island completed
• End of pearling

1955
Prosperous pearl shell and trochus fisheries

1956
Assimilation Policy

1966
Currency change

1966
Federal Council for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advancement (FCAATSI/A)

1972
Dept of Aboriginal Affairs

1973
• *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth) (RDA)
• Started recognising women's leadership roles - Ellie Gaffney

1975
PNG Independence

1982
• Consensus of self government
• Eddie Mabo challenge
• High Court challenge lodged in court

1983
Federal Gov compensation for underpayment of soldiers

1985
CDEP introduced
• No one needs to work
• PM Fraser visits Torres Strait

1986
Queensland Govt complies with RDA on award wages

1992
Torres Strait flag designed by Bernard Namok adopted and launched by the ICC

1992
• *Mabo* High Court decision (3 June) – recognised Meriam people's ownership of their land through 'native title' and overturned *terra nullius*.
• TS Islanders confident to go back to Government as true, traditional owners
• Federal Government more involved

1995
Torres Shire Council elected after 40 years of administration by a State Government Administrator

1993
Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) established (*ATSIC Act*)

1993
Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (NTA) passed to recognise and protect native title throughout Australia

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First Torres Shire Council full time elected mayor – Pedro Stephen

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TSRA becomes Native title representative body under the NTA: Native Title Office established

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TSI flag gains legal recognition as an official flag of Australia

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Palm Island Wage case forces Qld gov settlement

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Stolen Children's Inquiry report handed down: *Bringing them Home*

1997
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs published a report *Torres Strait Islanders: A New Deal* supporting greater autonomy

2000
Prawn and Cray industry not owned and participated in by TOS – outsiders

2001
• Successful court decision on fishing rights: *R v Nona & Gesa*
• Torres Strait Maritime Summit

2001
Kaurareg determinations: Kaiwalagal

2002
• *Bamaga Accord*
• Greater Autonomy Task Force
• Proposed Torres Strait Assembly – Merging TSRA and ICC

2002
Torres Strait regional Sea Claim lodged

2005
Determinations
• Mura Badualgal
• Erebum Le
• Ugar
• Malu K'i'ai
• Magani Lagaagal
• Garboi
• Wakeyama
• Porumalgal
• Maliugal

2006
• Buy back finfish licences. Introduction of quota for TRL
• Signing of ownership of fishing quota

2006
Determinations
• Mualgal
• Badu ar Mua Migi Lagal

2009
• Integrated Service Delivery Plan
• Regional Plan (Torres Strait and NPA)
• 1st workshop of native title stakeholders (TSRA/PBCs)
• Sea claim hearings
• Determination of 4 pending claims
• CDEP \$33 million
• Withdrawal of CDEP planned



The Torres Strait History Time-line Contributors



Back row (LtoR): Doug Passi, Sari Stephen, Francis Nai, Gabrielle Bani, Cyril Manas, Willie Lui, Herbert Warusam, Stanley Marama, Wayne Guivarra, Keith Fell, Toshie Kris, Lota Warria.

Sitting (LtoR): Milton Savage, Ron Enosa, Nancy Pearson, Dan Mosby, Florianna Bero, Donald Banu, Walter Mackie

Other Contributors not pictured

PBCs: Maluwap Nona, Peo Ahmat, Terrence Whap, Nazareth Fauid, David Bosun, Joel Gaidan, John Mills, Ned David, David Ned David.

TSRA Board: Kenny Bedford, Napcia Bin Tahai, Mario Soki, Reg Williams, Ron Day, Jeffrey Aniba, John Mosby, Philemon Mosby, John Abednego, David Bosun, Phillip Mills

1864
• Establishment of bêche-de-mer, pearling/shell and Trochus commercial fisheries
• Tudu and Mabuig
• Immigration from Pacific and Asia

1871
• 'Coming of the light' (1st July)
• Missionaries arrive: London Missionary Society established on Erub and Mer
• New systems of values – old ways continue
• Estimated population 3800

1884
Kidnapping Act: *The Native Labourers Protection Act 1884* (Qld)

1888
• Haddon's perceptions of who TSI people are
• 1897 Cambridge Expedition

1895
Queensland Coast Islands Act 1897 & Colonial Boundaries Act 1895 'confirmed' Qld sovereignty over Islands of the Strait

1897
Aboriginal Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act 1897
• First Protector appointed to TI – John Douglas
• Largely excluded from protection

1904
Protectors role increased: Islanders become Wards of State under 'the dog Act'

1912
Islands gazetted as Reserve:
• Industry: traditional economies became industries
• Movement around the region

1920
Segregation Policy

1922
Kaurareg forceful removal from Keriri

1926
Last island reserves gazetted

1926
100 tonne trochus trade



1937
• First meeting of Island leaders – Masig (August 23rd)
• First call for "Ilan Government"

1939
Department of Native Affairs: *Torres Strait Islanders Act 1939* (Qld)
• formal creation of Island Councils
• recognised Torres Strait Islander people as a distinct people for the first time

1941
WWII:
• TSI Light Infantry
• Charles Mene
• Ted Loban
• Ali Drummond
• Ettie Pau
• Elia Ware
• Steve Mam

1945
• UN formed
• End WWII
• Second call for independence
• First Torres Strait Zone Commissioner

1946
Return to country of Kaurareg families

1947
Work permits granted to travel to mainland – under award wages

1947-69
Stolen Wages and cheap labour

1949
Bamaga and Seisia established

1960
Collapse of trochus shell price

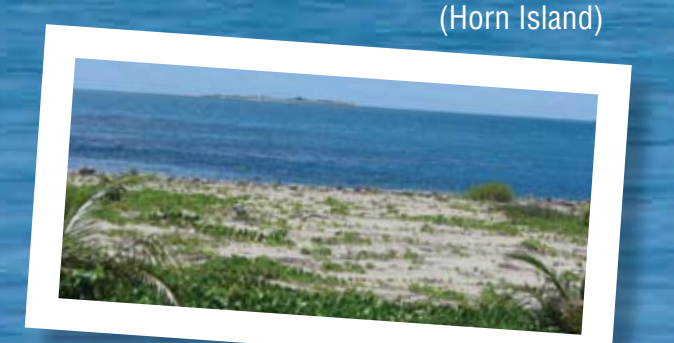
1962
Qld Indigenous right to vote in Federal Election

1964
Right to vote in Qld elections

1965
Aborigines and Torres Strait Affairs Act 1965 (Qld) established the Dept of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs – Indigenous people still classed as "fauna"

1967-73
PNG Border change dispute

1969
First Council elections of Kaurareg, Ngurapai (Horn Island)



1975
Intergenerational leadership at the kitchen table

1975-76
Torres Strait United Party Call for Independence
• Jim Akee
• George Mye
• Getano Lui Snr
• Carlemo Wacando
• Sam Passi

1978
• Signing of Torres Strait treaty
• Pearl industry declined

1984
• *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984* (Qld)
• Island Coordinating Council (ICC) formed
• Church reserves became communities – DOGITs introduced

1984
• *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* (Cth)
• Establishment of PZJA

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• Second call for independence
• Establishment of Torres Strait Regional Council/ATSIC
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