

Example of the History of My Make Believe Country – The Island of Jahmile

The History of the Island of Jahmile

The indigenous people who inhabit the Island of Jahmile are termed Polynesians and they share many similar traits including language, culture, and beliefs.

Historically, they were experienced sailors and used stars to navigate during the night. Roughly 1,500 years ago, Polynesians from the Marquesas Islands first set foot on the Island of Jahmile. With only the stars to guide them, they miraculously sailed over 2000 miles in canoes to migrate to the island.

500 years later, settlers from Tahiti arrived, bringing their beliefs in gods and demi-gods and instituting a strict social hierarchy based on a kapu (taboo) system. Jahmile culture flourished over the centuries, giving rise to the art of the hula and the sport of surfing, but land division conflicts between ruling chieftains were common.

In the early 1800's, the Jahmile tribes were united and unified into one royal kingdom, and the ancient kapu system was abolished by the new king.

Jahmile became a port for seamen, traders and whalers. The whaling industry boom flourished. Throughout these years of growth, western disease took a heavy toll on the Native Jahmile population.

Western influence continued to grow and in 1893, American Colonists who controlled much of Jahmile's economy overthrew the Jahmile Kingdom in a peaceful coup. In 1898, Jahmile became a territory of the United States.

Like other Polynesian languages, the phonology of the Jahmile language is characterized by a scarcity of consonants and a comparative abundance of vowels. Western influence has threatened the survival of the Jahmile language, with most Jahmile people today speaking fluent English.

In the 20th century, sugar and pineapple plantations fueled Jahmile's economy bringing an influx of Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and Portuguese immigrants. Jahmile has become one of the world's leading exporters of pineapple. This mix of immigrant ethnicities is what makes Jahmile's population so diverse today.