

List of Authors

Paul Geraghty

Paul graduated from Cambridge with an MA in Modern Languages and earned his PhD from the University of Hawai'i, with a dissertation on the history of the Fijian languages. He was director of the Institute of Fijian Language and Culture in Suva from 1986 to 2001, and is currently associate professor in linguistics at the University of the South Pacific (USP). Author and editor of several books (including *The History of the Fijian Languages* [University of Hawai'i Press, 1983] and the Lonely Planet *Fijian Phrasebook*) and numerous articles on Fijian and Pacific languages, culture and history, he is also well known in Fiji as a newspaper columnist and radio and TV presenter.

Nicholas Halter

Nicholas is a lecturer in history at USP. He has been teaching courses on Pacific history and historiography at Laucala campus since 2016, and together with his students developed the Fijian History website and mobile app to document some of the historical sites of Fiji. Nicholas has ongoing interests in the history of Australia's relationship with the Pacific Islands, histories of tourism and travel, and the Micronesian region. His monograph *Australian Travellers in the South Seas* was published by ANU Press in 2021.

Kantilal Jinna

Kanti was born in Kaunikuila, Suva. He completed his tertiary schooling in New Zealand, United Kingdom and Australia. He was the chief librarian of the Library Service of Fiji. Kanti migrated to Australia in 1984 and has since lived in Canberra and worked in librarianship and publishing. He is retired and continues his passion in travelling to and in Fiji, reading, writing, publishing and multicultural and multifaith activities. He lives with his wife Jyoti, two children and four grandchildren. In 2010, he

received the Member of the Order of Fiji Award (MF) and in 2018 he received the Medal of the Order of Australia Award (OAM) for service to the community.

Brij Vilash Lal

Born in 1952 in Labasa, the grandson of a *girmitiya*, Brij rose from humble beginnings to become Fiji's most prolific and renowned scholar. He published extensively on Fijian history and politics, as well as the Indian diaspora, over 50 monographs and edited collections. An overview of Brij's writings is best obtained by consulting his three volumes of collected essays: *Chalo Jahaji* (2000), *Intersections* (2011) and *Levelling Wind* (2019). He was a member of the Order of Australia and an Officer of the Order of Fiji. In 2009 Brij and his wife Padma were banned for life from Fiji because the Bainimarama government deemed them a threat to Fiji's peace and security. His chapter, reprinted here, was written shortly before he was deported. Brij was emeritus professor of The Australian National University when he died suddenly on 25 December 2021 at his home in Brisbane.

Jacqueline Leckie

Jacqueline is an adjunct research fellow with the Stout Centre for New Zealand Studies, Victoria University of Wellington, and a conjoint associate professor, University of Newcastle. Her research and publications are on the history and anthropology of the Asia-Pacific. Jacqui has taught in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at Otago University, USP and at Kenyatta University. In 2018 she was the J.D. Stout Research Fellow at the Stout Research Centre at Victoria University of Wellington. Her most recent books include *Invisible: New Zealand's History of Excluding Kiwi-Indians* (Massey University Press, 2021) and *Colonizing Madness: Asylum and Community in Fiji* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2020).

Anawaite Matadradra

Anawaite is a PhD candidate in the School of Law and Social Sciences at USP. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and politics and a Master of Arts in development studies from USP. Her PhD thesis is titled 'Melanesians on the Margins: A comparative study of Melanesian communities in Fiji and Samoa'. Anawaite is from Deuba in Serua Province with maternal links to the Ra province.

Vijay Naidu

Vijay obtained his undergraduate and masters qualifications at USP. He completed his doctoral studies in the sociology of development at the University of Sussex, England. He served USP in various academic and senior administration positions. From 2003 to 2006, he was professor and director of development studies at the Victoria University of Wellington. He is currently adjunct professor in the School of Law and Social Sciences, USP. He has researched and written on a range of areas concerning development of Pacific Island countries, including on poverty, social protection and human security.

Robert Nicole

Robert was educated at Suva Grammar School, USP (BA and MA) and the University of Canterbury (PhD). He has held academic and research positions at USP and the University of Canterbury, and has also worked for the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs in New Zealand. He currently lectures in politics at USP. Robert's publications span several disciplines including literature, cultural studies, education, history and politics. He is currently working on a study of war and peace in Fiji's pre-Christian era.

Robert Norton

Robert is an honorary senior research fellow in the Department of Anthropology at Macquarie University in Sydney, where he taught from 1969 until 2004. He began researching the politics of race and ethnicity in Fiji in 1966 with the encouragement of anthropologist Rusiate Nayacakalou, and has maintained a strong interest in the subject by field and archival research. His *Race and Politics in Fiji* was first published by University of Queensland Press in 1977, the first book-length study relating the national-level politics of Fiji to its societal context. An extensively revised edition was published in 1990. Robert continues to publish papers on Fiji's historical and contemporary politics in various academic journals and books.

Max Quanchi

Max has had a distinguished career as a historian in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. Born in rural Victoria in 1945, he studied at Frankston Teachers College, Monash University and the University of Queensland. His research includes studies of the history of photography in the Pacific and developing educational resources for Australia and the Pacific. His

recent books include *Postcards from Oceania: Plantations, Pirogues and Port Towns* with Max Shekleton (University of the South Pacific Press, 2015), *An Ideal Colony and Epitome of Progress: Colonial Fiji in Picture Postcards* with Max Shekleton (University of the South Pacific Press, 2019) and *Glorious Company: The Polynesia Company in Melbourne and Fiji* (Pacific Studies Press, 2022).

Simione Sevudredre

Simione has been working extensively in the area of indigenous iTaukei performance customs and protocols for the past 15 years. Because indigenous iTaukei culture is traditionally oral, he extracts a deeper insider understanding through studying iTaukei customs, protocols and the semiotics of signs and symbols. He is currently based at the iTaukei Institute of Language & Culture in the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs in Suva, Fiji.

Kate Stevens

Kate (Pākehā) is a senior lecturer in history at the University of Waikato. Her research focuses on comparative histories of cultural, environmental and economic exchange in the colonial and postcolonial Pacific. Her teaching includes courses on Pacific history, global food and commodity history, and histories of the ocean.

Anurag Subramani

Anurag is an academic, researcher and writer, who currently teaches history at USP. He has also taught English literature and creative writing at USP. He attended Suva Grammar School and Dame Elizabeth Cadbury High School in Birmingham, England. He did his tertiary studies in Hawai‘i and Fiji, culminating in his gold medal-winning PhD thesis (‘Carnivalizing History’), which consists of an original novel (*Dakuwaku*) with a supporting exegesis. He recently completed a commissioned book on the history of the *Fiji Times* and is currently working on a ‘people’s history’ project that seeks to recover and resuscitate the untold and minor narratives from Fiji’s past.

Daryl Tarte

Daryl’s family came to Fiji in 1868 and settled on Taveuni where he grew up. His parents sent him to boarding school in Suva in 1944 then to Melbourne in 1946. After school he studied accountancy before returning

to help his father operate the family business. In 1968 he left Taveuni to join the sugar industry, where he served in various capacities for the next 30 years. His hobby has always been writing and he has published 11 books in Australia, the United Kingdom, Japan and Fiji. He has been married to Jacque for 63 years: he has a son with a family living in Sydney, and a daughter living in Suva with her son, who is the sixth generation of the family in Fiji.

Kaliopate Tavola

Kaliopate, from Dravuni, Ono, Kadavu, worked for 11 years as a civil servant, 14 years as a diplomat in London and Brussels, six years as a politician, and 10 years as a consultant. For the first seven years as a diplomat, he conjointly held the post of the company representative for Fiji Sugar Marketing (FSM) Co Ltd in the EU. He was deputy general manager of FSM Co Ltd when he resigned in 2000 to join politics. Now, fully retired and living in Suva, he enjoys writing, including for his own website.

Larry Thomas

Larry is a former senior lecturer in literature and language with the then School of Humanities, teaching literature and theatre arts. He later joined the Pacific Community (SPC) as coordinator of the Regional Media Centre. He began his writing career over 30 years ago, writing his first play *Just Another Day*. Since then, he has written several more plays and directed many of them. He was also the director of the Pacific Writing Forum. His documentary films include *Compassionate Exile* (1997) and *Race for Riots* (2001). He is currently the acting director of the Oceania Centre for Arts and Culture at USP in Suva, Fiji.

Christine Weir

Christine studied history at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom and then trained as a history teacher. In 1976, she accompanied her husband Tony to USP in Fiji for eight years and during that time she taught in Fiji schools and tutored at USP. Later she returned to study at The Australian National University (ANU), gained a PhD in Pacific History in 2003 and in 2007 she took up the position of lecturer in history at USP, which she held for seven years. Her research focuses on colonial and contemporary Christianity in the Pacific. Since returning to Canberra in 2014, she has continued her research as a Petherick reader at the National Library of Australia.

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University, Canberra, Australia.