ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TIMELINE





60,000 years ago Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is the oldest surviving culture in the world.

Dating back 60,000 years evidence of Australia's First peoples can be found in archaeological sites across Australia.

Over many thousands of years Australia's First peoples were influenced by severe

environmental changes including the rising of sea levels and drying out of the continent.

In the last 200 years Australia's First peoples have endured and survived sudden and often destructive changes to their cultures and way of life brought about by the arrival of the Europeans in 1788.

)1451

Aboriginal contact with various Melanesian groups of Papua New Guinea and the Torres Strait Islands

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Dutch explorers record Indigenous traders from Indonesia to northern Australia



1600s

Earliest recorded contact between Europeans and Aboriginal people

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1770

Lieutenant Cook lands in Botany Bay, and claims possession under the doctrine of 'terra nullius'

()1788

Colony of Port Jackson is established, and transportation of convicts begins



Outbreak of smallpox introduced by the British devastates Aboriginal population



1804

Pemulwuy leads a campaign of resistance against British settlers on the land of the Dharug people



Colonists are authorised to shoot Aboriginal people in response to resistance to settlement



1824

Martial law is declared in Bathurst, NSW when seven Europeans are killed by Aboriginal people

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1830

Tasmanian Aboriginal people are forcibly settled on Flinders Island



The Battle (Massacre) of Pinjarra in Western Australia



British Select Committee recommends 'Protectors of Aborigines' be appointed



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER



TIMELINE

CONT...



1838

Myall Creek Massacre – Settlers shoot 28 Aboriginal people near Inverell, NSW

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The Board for the Protection of Aborigines is established in Victoria



The NSW Aborigines Protection Board is established

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Australia becomes a Federation. The Constitution states that we would legislate for any race except Aborigines



In NSW, The Aborigines Protection Act 1909 becomes the primary statute governing Aboriginal lives

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Aboriginal people serve in World War I and are among Australian troops at Gallipoli

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1925

The NSW Aborigines Protection Board is given powers to remove Aboriginal children without a court hearing

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Australian Aborigines' Progressive Association is formed to oppose NSW Aborigines Protection Board



Coniston Massacre (NT) Europeans shoot 32 Aborigines

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First Commonwealth/ State conference on 'native welfare' adopts assimilation as the national policy

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World War II begins. Aboriginal people serve in Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific and New Guinea

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The NSW Aborigines Protection Board loses its power to remove Aboriginal children



'Freedom Ride' by Aboriginal people and students is led by Charles Perkins into North Western NSW in support of Aboriginal rights



Constitutional Referendum on Aboriginal Rights is held



Commonwealth government establishes Office of Aboriginal Affairs



NSW Aboriginal Welfare Board is abolished



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TIMELINE



CONT...



Neville Bonner is sworn in as Australia's first Aboriginal Senator

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1972

Aboriginal Tent Embassy is pitched outside Parliament House in Canberra demonstrating for Land Rights

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The Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act is passed by the Federal Parliament

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Nine Pintupi people who had been living on their Country in South Australia meet non-Aboriginal people for the first time



The Bicentennial celebration of British Settlement in Australia - Barunga Statement by Prime Minister Hawke

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The Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation is established



1992

The High Court of Australia hands down its landmark decision in Mabo vs Queensland



The High Court hands down its decision in the Wik Case



The Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission presents Bringing Them Home

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The Intervention - NT Emergency Response to the Little Children are Sacred Report

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Prime Minister Kevin Rudd formally apologises to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for abuse under past governments

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Australian Government ratifies UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



The National Congress of First

the interests of Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander peoples

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Peoples established to represent



Northern Territory Intervention renamed Stronger Futures and renewed for 10 years.

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Nova Peris becomes first Indigenous woman to be elected to Federal Parliament



Indigenous Advancement Strategy announced by the Australian Government







2016

The Redfern Statement, 9 June, calls for a more just approach to Aboriginal Affairs and government action

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Linda Burney becomes the first female Aboriginal MP in Australia's history (seat of Barton)

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2017

The 'Uluru Statement from the Heart' is released following the 4-day First Nations National Constitutional Convention

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The Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park (UKTNP) board agrees to close the Uluru climb in 2019

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