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NEW ZEALAND IN 1800: A SUMMARY

LEARNING INTENTION

In this lesson you will:

- examine the notion that in 1800 New Zealand was a Māori world.

INTRODUCTION

New Zealand in 1800 was very much a Māori world. Europeans, who arrived in greater numbers from 1800 onwards, interacted with Māori, and especially with those living in coastal areas. These early contacts were very much on Māori terms. In the long term, the impact of Europeans on Māori had a dramatic effect on political, economic and social conditions and by 1900 New Zealand was dominated by European ideals and institutions.



In 1800:

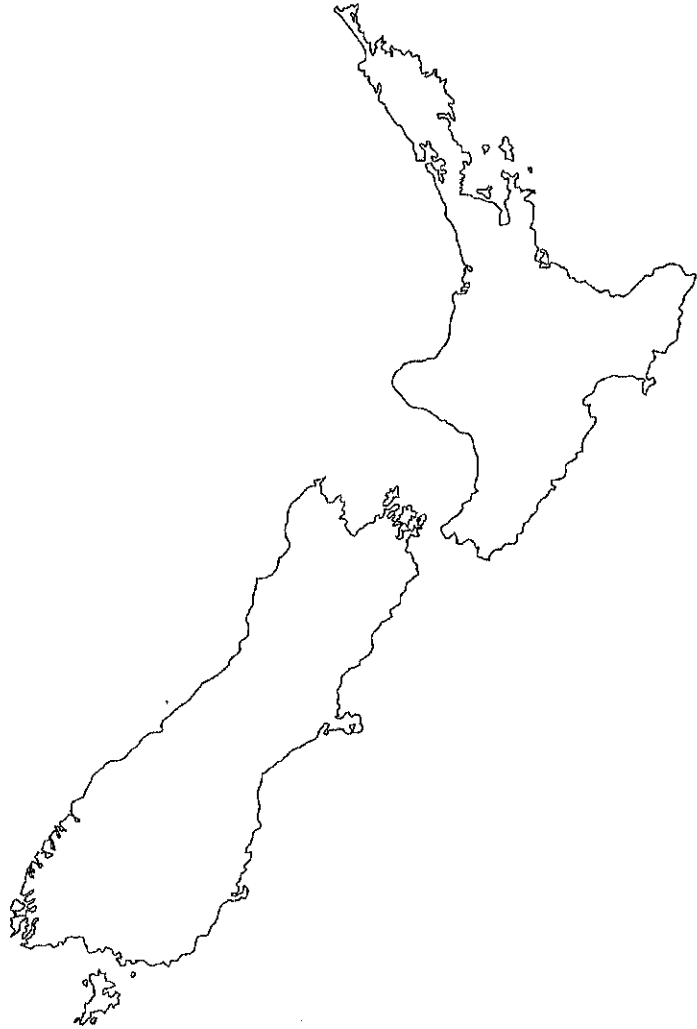
- New Zealand was a Māori world, and Māori authority and custom were dominant.
 - Māori society had well-established practices and customs in terms of economic activity, social control and spiritual beliefs.
- There were an estimated 120,000 Māori.
 - This population was divided on the basis of iwi and location.
 - There was interaction between iwi in terms of trade and competition for resources.
- Politically, economically and socially, Māori society was based on tribal affiliations.
 - There was no Māori nation or sense of collective identity.
- Most Māori had no contact with Pākehā.
 - Contact was confined largely to the far north and isolated parts of the deep south.
 - The arrival of Europeans was viewed in economic terms as much as anything else for those iwi who had contact.
 - Contact with the settlements in Australia was just beginning to develop.

The Europeans who began to arrive in greater numbers by 1800 brought with them their own established beliefs, practices and values.

The first part of the course will examine how Māori and European started to interact given their own world-views.

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1. Make a copy of this map on your own paper and locate and name the following places:
 - a. Punakaiki: it is near here that Tasman first spotted land
 - b. Golden Bay
 - c. Young Nick's Head
 - d. Poverty Bay
 - e. Cape Maria van Diemen
 - f. Mercury Bay
 - g. Bay of Islands
 - h. Cape Kidnappers
 - i. Hokianga Harbour
 - j. Doubtless Bay
 - k. Mount Egmont/Taranaki



2. Choose three of these locations and state the part they played in the story so far.

Check your answers.

Key point

In 1800 there were an estimated 120,000 Māori living in New Zealand. Māori authority and customs were dominant. They were organised into iwi and hāpu and did not have a concept of nationhood as we understand it.