

and (Western) democratic principles, most of the authors here seem to suggest that the two are not incompatible in the longer term, and that an explicit recognition of common principles may present a way forward.

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Historical Dictionary of Polynesia. By Robert D. Craig. The Scarecrow Press, Inc., Metuchen, N.J. & London, 1993. xxvi, 298 pp. Price: \$US37.50.

THIS *Dictionary* commences with a Polynesian chronology. It begins with '1300 BC Colonization of Tonga by Lapita settlers' and concludes with '1922 US President Bush visits Australia' and also 'Robert Muldoon dies'. Overall the chronology is Eurocentric. Many of the entries are also rather facile, such as '1945 End of World War II' and '1954 Father Pierre Chanel canonized'. Then follows a 'Dictionary'. The choice of many entries seems somewhat curious. The New Zealand entries illustrate the point. It would never have occurred to me to find in a dictionary of Polynesia entries for Anzac Day, Bolger, Kiwifruit, Lee, Labour Party, Muldoon, Social Credit Party Then follows a bibliography divided by theme and geographic location. A cursory glance reveals omissions. The New Zealand section omits Orange's *Treaty of Waitangi*. Sorrenson's and Binney's books are not listed, though Muldoon's are. The Tonga section omits Campbell's *Island Kingdom: Tonga Ancient and Modern*. Other entries are misplaced. For example, Oliver's *The Pacific Islands* wrongly comes under 'History — Contemporary' instead of 'History — General'. Spate's *Paradise Found and Lost* is wrongly included under 'History — Colonial', whereas the previous two volumes of his trilogy are correctly included under 'History — Exploration'. Other entries are confused. Belich's *The New Zealand Wars* has two entries, the second under the slightly retitled version published overseas.

The *Dictionary* may be of some use as an introduction to the region for US undergraduate students, but for serious researchers of Polynesia much of it is idiosyncratic and limited.

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Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, 2 vols. Edited by Nicholas Tarling. Cambridge, 1992. Australian price: \$75.00 each vol.

A RECENT ISSUE of the *RSA Review* recorded the unveiling of a memorial in Dunedin to the dead of what were called 'New Zealand's Southeast Asian Wars', namely Korea, the Malaya emergency and confrontation, and Vietnam. Both the geographical looseness of the term and the sense of a New Zealand/Southeast Asian *past* are suggestive. Southeast Asia had a higher salience in New Zealand thinking between about 1955 and 1975 than at any time before or perhaps since. It is not unreasonable to discern one legacy of this salience in the significant role New Zealand or New Zealand-based Southeast Asianists of that generation have played in the assembling of this extensive and stimulating volume