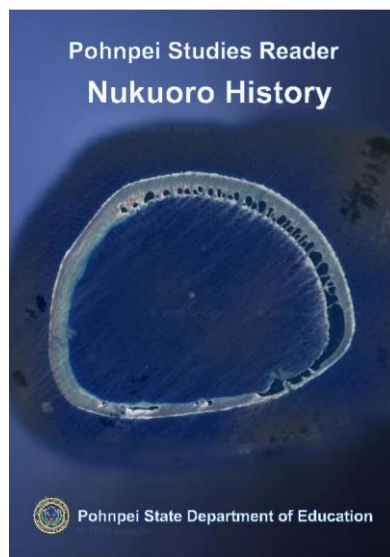
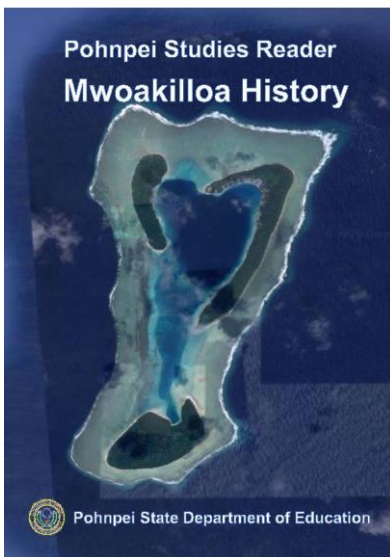


Report on Pohnpei Studies History Reader Production Project, Pohnpei State
in the Federated States of Micronesia



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Past Teaching Materials.....	2
2.1. Pohnpei.....	2
2.2. The Outer Islands.....	4
3. Objectives.....	5
4. History Readers.....	5
4.1. General Outline.....	5
4.2. “Mwoakilloa History” Reader.....	6
4.3. “Nukuoro History” Reader.....	6
4.4. “Kapingamarangi History” Reader.....	6
5. Conclusion.....	6
References.....	8
Appendix A: Past Pohnpei Sate DoE’s supplementary teaching materials.....	9
Appendix B: The Table of Contents of “Mwoakilloa History” Reader.....	11
Appendix C: The Table of Contents of “Nukuoro History” Reader.....	12
Appendix D: The Table of Contents of “Kapingamarangi History” Reader.....	13
Appendix E: The Downloadable Links for E-Book Version of the History Readers.....	14

LIST OF TABLE

1. The major areas of the Pohnpei Studies and the past teaching materials.....	4
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1. Introduction

The post-war decline of traditional culture in Pohnpei State put public schools in a position to take appropriate responsibility in certain aspects of cultural education. Thus, Pohnpeian culture had been taught as part of Social Studies at public schools in Pohnpei educational system. The Pohnpei State Department of Education (hereafter “Pohnpei Sate DoE”) has produced numerous supplementary teaching materials on history and culture since the 1950s, although those materials are out of print and are not used in schools presently. In addition, the past materials mainly focused on Pohnpei, and those on its outer islands were very limited.

More recently, Pohnpei State DoE made a bold step to develop Pohnpei Studies as a new core subject from the 2018-2019 school year. This new course of study is a cultural studies that emphasizes community- and project-based learning, requiring students from every grade level to “learn directly from and share information with their families, clans, and communities” (Bolden *et al.* 2018:4). The curriculum teaches the information on Pohnpeian culture and language, especially focusing on four main themes: (1) communities, (2) environments, (3) traditional values, beliefs and practices and (4) communications (Iriarte 2017:6). Intergenerational learning approach of this program, however, often faces a problem that many communities lack appropriate knowledge holders.

To support the implementation of this new subject, our project aimed to produce history readers of the islands in the Pohnpei State, namely Mwoakilloa, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi. By utilizing past anthropological works and contemporary elders’ knowledge, Principal Investigator (Takuya Nagaoka) of NGO Pasifika Renaissance (hereafter “PasiRena”) will closely work with Pohnpei Sate DoE staff (including school teachers) to develop the history readers in vernacular languages.

2. Past Teaching Materials

At the beginning of the project, a survey on the past teaching materials and other resources on Pohnpei Studies was conducted at Pohnpei Sate DoE, the COM-FSM Library’s Pacific Collection and on the internet (1) to understand the array of those materials and (2) to utilize those materials in classrooms more fully in the future. Those teaching produced by Pohnpei Sate DoE are mostly in the form of books and booklets and on the Pohnpei main island but much less on the outer islands. Those booklets and books are out of print and are only held at the COM-FSM Library in Pohnpei. With kind permission from Pohnpei Sate DoE, those books and booklets were scanned and the scanned PDF files were shared on the internet (Appendix A). Since the past materials are valuable teaching resources, they will need to be utilized in classrooms more fully in the future. Videos, for example, will be shown and necessary parts of books/booklets will be printed out for distribution in classrooms.

Below teaching materials and other resources on Pohnpei and the outer islands are listed depending on the organizations that produced them.

2.1. Pohnpei

There are four major areas in the Pohnpei Studies:

- Archaeology: Pre-contact history based on the results of past archaeological studies (e.g., chronological sequence of cultural changes based on carbon dating and other archaeological data)
- Legendary History: Legendary history based on Pohnpeian oral traditions (*poadoapoad*) which divide it into four eras (i.e., “People’s Period,” “Saudeleur’s Period,” “Nahmwarki’s Period,” and “Foreigners’ Period”)
- Post-Contact History: Post-contact history including European exploration and discovery, active interactions during the 19th century (e.g., whaling, Christianization, copra trade), and colonial and post-colonial periods
- Tiahk: Pohnpeian customs and other knowledge (e.g., *mahsen*, *lepin kahs*, place names, *nohpwei*, chiefly titles)

2.1.1. Pohnpei State DoE’s Story Books/Booklets and Readers of *Tiahk*

Pohnpei State DoE produced many story books/booklets and readers of *tiahk* (customs) in the past. Principal Investigator scanned these materials and shared their scanned PDF files on the internet for public use with permission by Pohnpei State DoE. See Appendix A for the list and downloadable URLs.

2.1.2. Island Research & Education Initiative’s (iREi) Books

Island Research & Education Initiative’s (hereafter “iREi”) produced several books in two series, Pohnpei Legends Series and Pohnpei Culture Series, in collaboration with Pohnpei State DoE.

- Pohnpei Legends Series: (1) “*Mwein Aramas 1: Seiloak Keiieu, Keriau, Kesiluh*,” (2) “*Mwein Aramas 2: Seilok Kepahieu, Kelimau, Keweneu*,” (3) “*Mwein Olisihpa oh Olosohpa*,” (4) “*Mwein Saudeleur Kan*.”
- Pohnpei Culture Series: (1) “*Soaren Tu*,” (2) “*Lapkopwou*,” (3) “*Pel*.”

2.1.3. Micronesian Seminar’s Educational Materials

Micronesian Seminar (hereafter “MicSem”) produced books (mainly for high school students), videos, and online photo albums for public education, which are very useful for school education due to the visuality.

A. Books

Timothy J. Smit and Francis X. Hezel, 2010. *Over Seas and Time*. FSM Department of Education (downloadable from <https://goo.gl/2x1CXE>).

Francis X. Hezel, 1979. *Micronesia: Winds of Change*. Saipan: Omnibus Program for Social Studies Cultural Heritage (downloadable from <https://goo.gl/xd37Hj>).

Francis X. Hezel, 2016. *German Rule in Micronesia*. Pohnpei: FSM Historic Preservation Office.
(downloadable at <https://goo.gl/XP94Zi>).

B. Videos

1. “Voices of Pohnpei” (Part I and II): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/3eAMQFc>
2. “History I: Early Encounters” (first contact-1885): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/2Vp7sIO>
3. “History II: Planting the Foreign Flag” (1885-1920): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/3cBLyYE>
4. “History III: Sunburst in the South Seas” (1920-1940): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/3eGnV3d>
5. “History IV: Ruin and Reconstruction” (1940-1960): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/2VKTOPt>
6. “History V: March toward Self-government” (1960-1980): downloadable from <https://bit.ly/2yuupkY>

C. Online Photo Albums

1. Precolonial period

- “When Spirits Roamed”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3ayFPLe>
- “Life 100 Years Ago”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VqKqRP>
- “What the First Europeans Saw”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3eFCvb5>
- “Founding the Protestant Church”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3arSiab>

2. German period

- “The German Era”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/34SYoPy>
- “The Sokehs Rebellion”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2W1mioj>

3. Japanese period

- “The Japanese Flag Unfurled”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3cEeiQI>
- “The Rise of Towns”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VrxkUz>
- “The Era of Big Business”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VpICJ2>
- “Campaign in the Marshalls”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VsTHsT>
- “The Battle of Palau”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VqfcKI>
- “War Comes to the Marianas”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2xPo3MX>

4. Postwar period

- “Transition to Peace”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3cFfiUq>
- “Nuclear Nomads”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2KoDYVk>
- “Rebuilding the Island Economy”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2xRo3vU>
- “The Tranquil 50’s”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3bqX20Y>
- “The 60S: Goodbye to the Jeep”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3bEK00d>
- “The 70’s: Revival of Towns”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3cDG93y>
- “Coming of Age: From Trust Territory to Self-Government”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3cwwhZ8>
- “Leaders at the Brink of Nationhood”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/3eFDdVN>

5. Other topics

“When Copra Was King”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2xGoIk2>

“The Catholic Church in Micronesia”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VMqHLF>

“A Brief History of Education in Micronesia”: accessible at <https://bit.ly/2VI0xcQ>

2.1.4. PasiRena’s Oral Tradition Documentation Videos

PasiRena has been documenting Pohnpeian elders’ narrations on legends, tales historical accounts and traditional customs by a video camera, and share those videos on PasiRena’s YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/3bsPc7d>.

2.1.5. Summary

Three major areas of the Pohnpei Studies and the past teaching materials discussed above are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. The major areas of the Pohnpei Studies and the past teaching materials.

	Archaeology	Legendary History	Post-Contact History	<i>Tiahk</i>
Pohnpei Sate DoE		Books/booklets		Readers
iREi		Books		Books
MicSem	<i>Over Seas and Time</i>	Video 1, online photo albums	<i>Over Seas and Time, Winds of Change</i> , Video 2-6, online photo albums	
PasiRene	Lecture videos	Oral tradition documentation videos	Oral tradition documentation videos	Oral tradition documentation videos

2.2. The Outer Islands

Past teaching materials on the outer islands are largely limited.

2.2.1. Pohnpei State DoE’s Materials

Pohnpei Sate DoE produced a teacher’s guide/textbook on Pingelap and a limited number of story booklets in local languages (see Appendix A).

2.2.2. PasiRena’s Oral Tradition Documentation Videos

PasiRena has been documenting elders’ narrations on legends, tales, historical accounts, songs, chants and traditional customs on the outer islands of the Pohnpei State by a video camera, and share those videos on PasiRena’s YouTube channel. In addition, PasiRena has been sharing Principal

Investigator's recordings on Mwoakilloa oral traditions conducted in 2002-2004 on its YouTube channel:

- Pingelap: <https://bit.ly/2VOlu4z>
- Mwoakilloa: <https://bit.ly/2xPTsPx>, (Nagaoka's sound recordings) <https://bit.ly/3fZVw8P>, <https://bit.ly/368wu2E>, <https://bit.ly/2ThbNfS>, <https://bit.ly/2Xbs07D>
- Sapwuahfik: <https://bit.ly/34XoCjZ>
- Nukuoro: <https://bit.ly/2VrlSbF>
- Kapingamarangi: <https://bit.ly/2xKOWeA>

3. Objectives

- Produce history readers for three islands to assist Pohnpei Sate DoE in implementing new Standard of the Pohnpei Studies in a collaborative manner between Pohnpei Sate DoE and PasiRena
- Enable students to learn their history in order to have a deeper understanding and appreciation to traditional culture
- Assist Pohnpei Sate DoE staff in capacity building in teaching material development
- Share e-book versions (PDF, EPUB, and Kindle) of history readers on the internet for other islanders in Pohnpei and overseas

4. History Readers

4.1. General Outline

The history readers describe the history of individual islands chronologically based on oral traditions. Different sources of information (e.g., past research materials, contemporary elders' knowledge) were utilized to produce history readers depending on their availability on the individual islands (see below). In addition, to add scientific aspect in history education, Principal Investigator drafted an introduction section of the readers that summarize the human migration into the Pacific based on the results of recent archaeological, linguistic and DNA studies. Thus, the history readers cover two major areas of Pohnpei Studies, the archaeology and the legendary history, and the post-contact history in some degree.

The target of the history readers will be higher graders of elementary schools. Footnotes were made for difficult words. Historical photos and drawings from old books and personal collections and chiefly genealogical charts drafted by Principal Investigator were included to promote students' deeper understanding. The readers were produced both in printed and e-book forms (PDF, EPUB, and Kindle). The latter forms, especially EPUB and Kindle, are suitable for reading on popular devices among Pohnpeians, such as tablets and smartphones. The e-book versions were shared on the internet (see Appendix E for the downloadable links) and will be uploaded on the Pohnpei Sate DoE's and PasiRena's websites for Pohnpeian children and adults both in Pohnpei and overseas.

We were initially planning to work collaboratively with local school teachers, by providing them with the past research works or English drafts to translated into local languages.¹ The teachers, however, are largely preoccupied with daily routine after classes, so we had to seek other people's assistance in some cases. We had to give up producing history readers for Pohnpei, Pingelap, and Sapwuahfik this time due to local teachers' and assistants' busy schedule, although we hope to develop them in the near future to add the collection of the History Readers.

4.2. “Mwoakilloa History” Reader

To produce “Mwoakilloa History” Reader, we utilized detailed accounts on individual chiefs previously recorded from elders by Principal Investigator in 2002-2004. Those accounts are largely in a completed manuscript form in the Mwoakilloa language (Nagaoka and Hicks n.d.), so only some contextual information of those accounts based on a past anthropological work (Weckler 1949) were added. The accounts on recent chiefs were also obtained from knowledgeable elders. A section on the precontact chiefly system based on Weckler (1949) was also included in the reader. See Appendix B for the contents of the reader.

4.3. “Nukuoro History” Reader

To produce “Nukuoro History” Reader, we mainly used early anthropological works by Jeschke (1913) for legendary accounts and Kubary (1900) for introductory sections on the social structure and political system and the ancient religion, which were compared and supplemented with other past anthropological works (Carroll 1980, Eilers 1934, Fischer n.d., Gehring 2002). PasiRena's two videos on two chiefs were transcribed and used as sections. See Appendix C for the contents of the reader.

4.4. “Kapingamarangi History” Reader

To produce “Kapingamarangi History” Reader, we predominately used the most comprehensive work on Kapingamarangi history and culture conducted by Emory (1965), but also examined other anthropological works (Eilers 1934, Elbert 1948). See Appendix D for the contents of the reader.

5. Conclusion

This Pohnpei Studies history reader production project proved to be a very valuable effort. The main purpose of the project, producing the history readers, was achieved for three islands of the Pohnpei State, Mwoakilloa, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi. The history readers are vital learning resources for local students and their e-book versions are freely accessible online to other islanders in Pohnpei and overseas (Appendix E). Due to time constraints, the readers for Pohnpei, Pingelap, and

¹ In case of the Kapingamarangi Reader, a draft was prepared by Josh Levy and Principal Investigator.

Sapwuahfik were not produced. We hope those two readers will be completed in the near future. In addition, the reader for Pohnpeian *tiahk* (customs) is an important one to work on. Pohnpei State DoE staff and local teachers will be responsible for producing syllabus and teaching instructions, which will accompany those readers. The history readers can be utilized to develop history textbooks in the future, by adding some parts, especially of the post-contact history.

Due to the decline of traditional culture and growing outmigration in the region (i.e., outer islands to the main islands and U.S. territories), the task of Pohnpei Studies in cultural transmission will become more and more important. Recent Pohnpei State DoE's forward movement to establish Pohnpei Studies was a positive undertaking. To support this endeavor, other teaching resources (e.g., teachers' resource guide, chronological poster, historical photos, museum artifact images and PDF materials uploaded on Pohnpei State DoE's webpage) need to be developed to fully utilize various resources (e.g., past teaching materials summarized in Section 2). It is hopeful that this project will assist in local teachers' teaching indigenous histories, which had not been taught in schools in the past.

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Appendix A: Past Pohnpei Sate DoE's Teaching Materials

The past Pohnpei State DoE's teaching materials were scanned by Principal Investigator and their PDF versions were uploaded temporarily on the internet for public use. Those PDF files will be uploaded on the Pohnpei Sate DoE website in the future.

1. Readers of *Tiahk*

- "Teacher's Guide Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 8": <https://goo.gl/qmD5aR>
- "Teacher's Guide Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 7": <https://goo.gl/3o9jvM>
- "Teacher Resource Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 8": <https://goo.gl/Jx3KHp>
- "Teacher Resource Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 7": <https://goo.gl/7LXaC6>
- "Student Booklet Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage," Level 6": <https://goo.gl/hH2wdb>
- "Student Booklet Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 8": <https://goo.gl/NcBNC6>
- "Student Booklet Preservation of Ponapean Culture and Heritage, Level 7": <https://goo.gl/4Dw2US>
- "Ponape Cultural Heritage Program, For Elementary 1-8": <https://goo.gl/NXDjKp>
- "Pohnpeian culture textbook 1": <https://goo.gl/Ur6Xiy>
- "Pohnpeian culture textbook 2": <https://goo.gl/RTQ9dT>

2. Story Books

- "Pohnpei Ni Mwehin Kawa, Old Ponape": <https://goo.gl/wiAoaM>
- "Koasoai en Pohnpei Kei": <https://goo.gl/8uHNDy>
- "Koasoai en Pohnpei Keilahn Aio": <https://goo.gl/kp1b52>
- "Wadawad en Pohnpei": <https://goo.gl/dHvaLJ>
- "Koasoai en Mahs kei": <https://goo.gl/GPUhBg>

3. Story Booklets (Pohnpei)

- "Nan Madol en Madol en Ihmw": <https://goo.gl/n6TBcP>
- "Poadoapoad en Isokelekel": <https://goo.gl/g3wUR9>
- "Tepin Wiadahn Poako": <https://goo.gl/gTxBCn>
- "Soused Silimen": <https://goo.gl/cfdyzw>
- "Mwahnendolenne oh Kodon": <https://goo.gl/YW8hom>
- "Lipwensaip ih Lidereni": <https://goo.gl/f9HxFK>
- "Likartikitik": <https://goo.gl/RSz9sw>
- "Koasoai pen Peneinei Ieu": <https://goo.gl/D6gRHG>
- "Dahk Emen oh Karahs Emen Weir": <https://goo.gl/4aiw9L>
- "Koasoai pen Alimoang": <https://goo.gl/ZvKBA5>
- "Koasoai pen Taimwahn": <https://goo.gl/KbyNE3>

4. Story Booklets (Outerislands)

- “Daewaedaewin Loakaeiah Pingilap”: <https://goo.gl/4b3uxp>
- “Limanarleng”: <https://goo.gl/2PkEC8>
- “Talanga O Nukuoro”: <https://goo.gl/Ge974n>
- “Beba Kai O Nukuoro”: <https://goo.gl/XQvMeY>
- “Poadoapoad en Nukuoro”: <https://goo.gl/gGglwC>
- “Utamatua”: <https://goo.gl/jH8f63>

5. Others

- “The Rebellion on Ponape”: <https://goo.gl/dwNwK8>
- “Pingelap”: <https://goo.gl/yjmGmP>

Appendix B: The Table of Contents of “Mwoakilloa History” Reader

The following is the Table of Contents of the “Mwoakilloa History” Reader. The original is in local Mwoakilloa language.

- 1 The Origin of the Mwoakilloa People
 - 1.1 First Wave into the Pacific
 - 1.2 Second Wave into the Pacific
- 2 The Chiefly System
- 3 The Origin Story
- 4 The Accounts of Chiefs
 - 4.1 Nahmwarki Lakaidak
 - 4.2 Nahmwarki Lajahpwoa
 - 4.3 Nahmwarki Woajeidipw
 - 4.4 Nahmwarki Lajammoahj
 - 4.5 Nahmwarki Sinipwoa
 - 4.6 Nahmwarki Wahdakwa
 - 4.7 Nahmwarki Lalawa
 - 4.8 Nahmwarki Nohjua
 - 4.9 Nahmwarki Lemjorij
 - 4.10 Nahmwarki Ehperiam
 - 4.11 Nahmwarki Mahk
 - 4.12 Nahmwarki Jakaraiaj
 - 4.13 Nahmwarki Aijak
 - 4.14 Nahmwarki Pisa
 - 4.15 Nahmwarki Poahl
 - 4.16 Nahmwarki Jowel
 - 4.17 Nahmwarki Oahkes
 - 4.18 Nahmwarki Sahn Johnson

Appendix C: The Table of Contents of “Nukuoro History” Reader

The following is the Table of Contents of the “Nukuoro History” Reader. The original is in local Nukuoroan language.

- 1 The Origin of the Nukuoro People
 - 1.1 First Wave into the Pacific
 - 1.2 Second Wave into the Pacific
- 2 Social Structure and Political System
 - 2.1 Clans
 - 2.2 Sacred Chiefs
 - 2.3 Secular Chiefs
 - 2.4 Ancient Religion
- 3 Historical Accounts
 - 3.1 The Most Original Myth
 - 3.2 The Origin of the Islandz
 - 3.3 Wawe’s Arrival in Nukuoro
 - 3.4 Discord between Wawe and His Eldest Son Weiteuruaki
 - 3.5 New Arrivals, News of Weiteuruaki
 - 3.6 Wawe’s Revenge and His End
 - 3.7 Canoe’s Arrival from Hiti
 - 3.8 Canoes’ Arrival from Hiti
 - 3.9 30 Canoes from Kiribati
 - 3.10 Large Canoe from Kiribati
 - 3.11 Large Canoe from the Marshalls
 - 3.12 Large Canoe from Onotoa
 - 3.13 Canoe from Yap
 - 3.14 Canoe from Sonsorol
 - 3.15 Large Ship’s Arrival
 - 3.16 Canoe from Namoluk
 - 3.17 Large Canoe from the Marshalls
 - 3.18 Vessels from Noto and Makin
 - 3.19 Story of Chief Kandesesi
 - 3.20 Story of Chief Leka

Appendix D: The Table of Contents of “Kapingamarangi History” Reader

The following is the Table of Contents of the “Kapingamarangi History” Reader. The original is in local Kapingamarangi language.

- 1 The Origin of the Kapingamarangi People
 - 1.1 First Wave into the Pacific
 - 1.2 Second Wave into the Pacific
- 2 The Legend of Utamatua
- 3 The Sacred Chiefs and Secular Chiefs
 - 3.1 Classes
 - 3.2 The Position of Sacred Chiefs
 - 3.3 The Position of Secular Chiefs
- 4 The Succession of Sacred Chiefs
- 5 Stories of Sacred Chiefs
 - 5.1 Hahui and Heweiki
 - 5.2 Hoira’s Unseated Inatua
 - 5.3 Meteitep Tries to Become *Ariki*
 - 5.4 The *Ariki* from Takau to Taharangi
- 6 The Succession of Secular Chiefs
- 7 Ancient Religion
- 8 Pre-European Contacts with Other Islanders
 - 8.1 Arrival of a Man Named Tongohiti
 - 8.2 Castaways from “Wareai” around 1800
 - 8.3 Arrival of a Couple from Kiribati
 - 8.4 The Marshallese Castaways around 1870
- 9 Historical Periods
 - 9.1 Early Recorded Contacts with Euro-Americans
 - 9.2 The First Ships
 - 9.3 The Spanish Period: to 1899
 - 9.4 The German Period: 1899-1914
 - 9.5 The Japanese Period: 1914-1945
 - 9.6 The Early American Period

Appendix E: The Downloadable Links for E-Book Versions of the History Readers

“Mwoakilloa History” Reader

PDF: <https://bit.ly/3svcWTz>

EPUB: <https://bit.ly/3syYN7H>

Kindle: <https://bit.ly/33YQjww>

“Nukuoro History” Reader

PDF: <https://bit.ly/3FwQ8WY>

EPUB: <https://bit.ly/3EtaDT9>

Kindle: <https://bit.ly/30WCQUG>

“Kapingamarangi History” Reader

PDF: <https://bit.ly/3Fo9Fed>

EPUB: <https://bit.ly/3HcWprn>

Kindle: <https://bit.ly/3yZZKr5>