



A History of Seychelles from its Origins to the Present Day

250 Year History Book: A History of Seychelles from its origins to the present day

In honour of the 250 years since the first settlement of the islands, the Seychelles Tourism Board has produced a history book describing the circumstances of that first settlement and the history of Seychelles since that time, up to the modern day.

Seychelles Tourism Board (STB) asked its consultant and local author, Glynn Burrigde, to act as coordinator/editor-in-chief of the project and he engaged a number of local authors to assist in compiling the book.

The aim of the book was to provide an episodic account of the 250-year history of Seychelles. This is divided into four sections: the period before settlement; the French period up to 1812; the British period up to 1976 and the modern period up to the present day. Typically, each of the main periods is divided into five chapters, each dealing with significant moments within that period of between 14 and 20 pages together with supporting documents, maps and images.

Renowned local artists Michael Adams and Frances Chang Him were asked to contribute a number of pencil sketches to illustrate each chapter and cast into relief a particular aspect of its history, all of which greatly enhance the publication. The cover of the book, which is particularly striking, was commissioned from Mrs. Alexandra Azais, a renowned artist and long-term resident of Seychelles.

The local authors who were asked to contribute chapters are: Glynn Burrigde, former minister Bernard Shamlaye, Philippe Michaud, Bernard Georges, William McAteer, Penda Choppy, Tony Mathiot, Richard Touboul and Marie France Watson. The authors completed their chapters by the end of October 2019 at which point the design of the book by Ms. Eileen Hoareau of the Seychelles Tourism Board commenced. The project was completed in November 2020.

This 420-page history book, which will appear in hardback with colour illustrations, is scheduled for delivery early in 2021.