The Sacred Turtles of Kadavu

Learning Outcomes

- Learners will be able to enhance their understanding on cultural diversity.
- Learners will be able to observe the richness and variety of adventures and experiences that travelling has to offer.
- They will be able to narrate events from different perspectives.
- They will get to analyse rituals, highlighting their social and cultural significance in the present scenario.

About the Text

This chapter is adapted from a Fijian legend. It talks about the sacred sea turtles of Kadavu and the ritual performed by the maidens of Namuana village to bring them to the surface of the bay.



The legend goes back to the story of a mother and a daughter who were transformed into turtles by the sea gods to save them from the cruel warriors of the neighbouring village of Nabukelevu.



THE SACRED TURTLES
OF KADAVU

By DAVID BLAKELOCK

YOU MY OWN SON

By MICHAEL RYO

The legend says that the boat in which the women were captured drowned and they were able to escape. The villagers still worship them. The Namuana maidens chant prayers and the turtles rise to the surface of the ocean. Only the presence of the Nabukelevu fishermen hinders this miracle from happening.



The sufferings of the two women turned out to be a reminder for the whole world to fight against such injustice.

Click here to watch the video presentation