

Attitude towards the Chinese

Name

Institution

Attitude towards the Chinese on the Gold Fields in the 1850s

There are myriads of reasons as to why the Chinese are feared and considered as threats. They were deemed as very terrifying during the period they were transporting the Australian gold to their home. When many Chinese went to Australia, they were not planning to stay long. Instead, they wanted to acquire a lot of wealth and go back to their home. According to Keesing (1971), majority of the Chinese were profit-oriented. Other Europeans had the same goals. Even so, the Chinese were more concerned with piling up the gold transporting it to their home country. They were selfish and exhibited they self-centered interests by disregarding

Cultural variations also constitute the reasons as to why the Chinese are feared and perceived negatively by other communities. For example, the issues of clear-cut cultural variation with the Europeans motivated the satisfactory conducts which was considered as a form of discrimination. The Taoist and Buddhist religious affiliations are considered treacherous forms of worship as the Europeans believe that the worship of idols is not rightful. They are also perceived negatively because they are deemed as the proponents of opium smoking and immoral forms of gambling. The fan tan to Victoria was characterized by alcohol abuse as well as ills associated with opium smoking.

In addition, there is friction between the Chinese and other communities such as the Europeans what arises from the differentiation in terms of the dressing codes, mannerism, and their body appearances. The fact that many Chinese, men and women, made their hair so it looked like pigtails, annoyed many people from other cultures. Since the world was dominated by European ideologies and way of living, many communities used the differences to claim the racial superiority over the Chinese. The major claims out forward by the Chinese as a way of

retaliating positively to their cultural discretions, they claim that there is a growing connection between the two cultures especially in the way of conduct and modes of dressing.

As affirmed by Lake and Reynolds (2008), the Chinese are feared and perceived negatively because of how their fight suppress the ability of women to secure employment as their male counterparts. During the struggle over gold in the Australian mines, the mining declarations and directives favored the Chinese. They were allowed to continue with their activities amid the pressure on other communities to leave the mines. The miners from other communities, especially the European communities, had left the mines while the Chinese were still mining a lot of gold and transporting it to China. When there were agricultural emergence and innovations in the towns that surrounded the mines, other communities were not accorded the same proportion of jobs as compared to the Chinese. They were also considered a threat when it came to women.

Annotated bibliography

Goodman, D. (1994). *Gold Seeking: Victoria and California in the 1850s*. Sydney: Allen and Unwin.

In his book, Goodman accounts for the courageous scuffle for the independence that would be later acquired in the gold mines. There are images and illustration of the struggle, especially the jolly miners with the spears among other illustrations. According to Goodman, the individuals at the mine were mainly concerned with the gold rush and the society that would eventual emerge as well. He also assert that the struggles and chaos that emerged were mainly caused by the self-centeredness of the people as they sought control over the mines. The book also states that it was only the economic

rationalist who joined the future of trusting political economy who would offer social stability in the midst of bewilderment of the self-centeredness of citizens. The text presents the history of how gold was spoken about by people. The book is also critical in detailing the cultural past of gold rushes through its assessment of the gold time implications and the social disruption stories narrated.

Keesing, N. (1971). *History of the Australian gold rushes: By those who were there*. Melbourne: O'Neill.

In Keesing's book, a perfect analogy of the writing that were authored during the gold rush period is given. The events that took place during the gold struggle are properly analyzed including the despair, conspiracies, and the dreams that were never achieved as well. The negative attitude towards the Chinese is also analyzed including the racial discrimination in the mining fields. Many texts that were written at the time are also incorporated in Keesing's book. For instance, the Bushranger text, which documents the various forms of strikes that were carried out, is also in the anthology. The strikes almost caused a revolution in the gold fields. The diary of the Lasseter is also included in the anthology subsequent to his death. They gave away the gold before they succumbed to the sandy blight that took a lot of lives during the time.

Lake, M., & Reynolds, H. (2008). *Drawing the global colour line: White men's countries and the question of racial equality*. Carlton, Vic: Melbourne University Pub.

In this book, the ideas, racial insights, and technologies cycles that occurred in the period are documented. The growth of the white race are discussed in the book. Such countries

that underwent transformation as reported in the book include Australia and South Africa. Besides, the people's liberties that facilitated the revolution movements and sovereignty of some countries are also discussed in the book. The sources used in the book include the texts that were written by the white supremacists which exposed the challenges that the Asian communities experienced in the mines in the hands of the European communities. The Japanese and the Chinese were major victims of the white supremacism in the mines. Moreover, the text documents the world political activities that were taking place in the period of the gold rush. The issues of human rights and in response to the negative perception of the Asian people are addressed in the book even though shallowly.

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