

The Uluru Hand Back

The book, 'The Uluru Hand Back' was published on the 26th of October 2014 which was the 29th anniversary of the actual Uluru hand back. This event is very significant in the Australian history and its hand back is celebrated by all Australians even today. The importance of this event is shown in the book 'The Uluru Hand Back' and today I will be talking about it and stating its opinions towards the event.



The book talks about the situation before the hand back being unfair towards the indigenous Australians and how their rights were taken away from them just for money through tourism. Although Ayers rock (as Europeans know it) is now handed back, Aboriginals struggled a lot before that. No one has the right to take away something owned by someone else but the Northern Territory Government did this exact thing. So, is this fair? This interesting topic is the subject of the book, 'The Uluru Hand Back'.

One of the basic reason the book suggests is, that Uluru was taken as a tourist attraction when it is very spirituous towards the Torres Strait Islanders. These people did not like European tourists climbing Uluru. The Aboriginals thought it was alright for the Europeans to walk around the rock, but not climb it for spirituous reasons. Everyone has their own religion and has the right to believe in it. These beliefs should be supported and respected by others. This is one of the major points in this book.

This book also talks about there being an Aboriginal reserve around Uluru and Kata Tjuta where all the Aboriginals were kept, when Uluru and Kata Tjuta were declared as tourist attractions. "Some of the senior Anunga officers still talk about being 'herded' into this reserve."- (Quote from the first reference in the bibliography below) Is this good? Aboriginals own the land and have every right to go wherever they want unless they harm anything. These little needs were taken away from the Aboriginals by the Northern Territory Government.

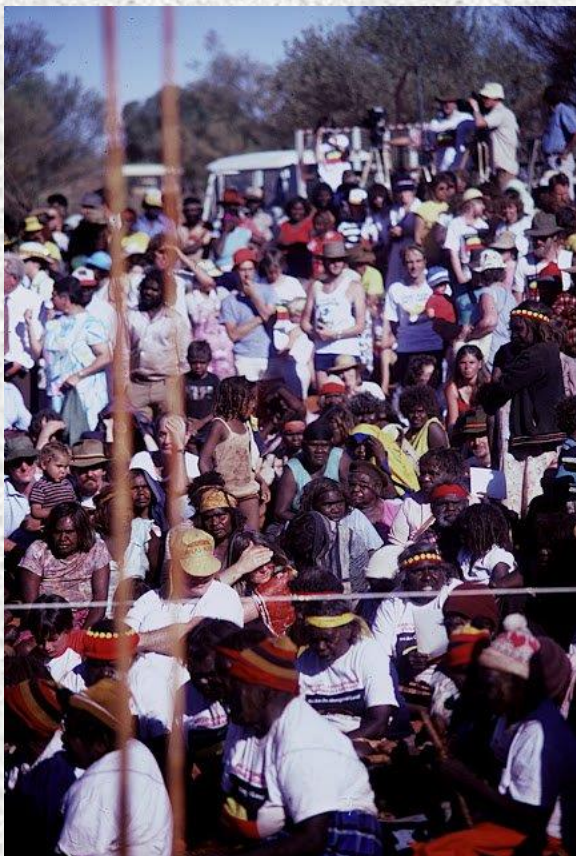
Finally, on the 26th of October 1895 Uluru was handed back to the Aboriginals by Governor general Sir Ninian Stephen which meant that now the Aboriginals had rights over their spirituous rock. This is how the book ends with a happy ending for the



Aboriginals but also talks about the anger that roared through the Northern Territory Government. This is a true story stating what really happened to the Aboriginals and their struggles through the situation. It also then says that the rock was not fully handed back but was given on lease for the next 99 years. The lease is a very long period but the book poses a question to all audiences, "What will the Aboriginals do once the lease is over will it ever get extended or will the Aboriginals have to

start a new struggle?"

The indigenous Australians did go through a lot of struggle but in the end got what they wanted. The book is full of adventure, torture, struggle and freedom which deserve to be read at least once by everyone. The good thing is that it also teaches history through enjoyment.



Bibliography

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