

HAWAIIAN HEALTH TIMELINE AND EVENTS

< 100 AD First Polynesian settlers arrive probably from the Marquesas Islands. Pa'ao arrived from the south bringing the ali'i system [1200 AD].

1400 Interisland voyaging between Hawai'i and islands to the south ends at about the time of Moekeha and the settlement of his sons on Hawai'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i.

Hawai'i relatively free of disease, although certain infectious diseases were present.

1778 Venereal diseases gonorrhoea (ma'i hilo, paia) and syphilis (kaokao) and probably tuberculosis are introduced by Captain's Cook's sailors. Alcohol in the form of grog is first served to people of Kaua'i.

1804 Epidemic of ma'i oku'u, probably cholera, kills approx. 15,000 and thwarts Kamehameha's second attempt to conquer Kaua'i. Among the dead are two of Kamehameha's four major counselors: Ke'eaumoku (father of Ka'ahumanu) and Keawe-a-Heulu (ancestor of Kalākaua).

1818 "Catarrh and fevers" take 60 lives.

1819 Kamehameha's advisors engage Spaniard Francisco De Paula Marin as the personal physician to the king, but neither he nor the medical kahuna can save the king after a possible stroke at the approx. age of 69 at Kamakahonu, Kailua, Kona.

Overthrow of the kapu systems occurs 6 months after Kamehameha's death. Heiau are destroyed and kahuna officially lose their powers. Medical kahuna and kūpuna adjust to the new political, social and altered religious order.

1820 New England missionaries arrive with the first medical doctor, Thomas Holman, who gave care to the ali'i.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 150,000 (estimated)

1823 Ke'ōpūlani, highest born widow of Kamehameha I, dies at age 45 of chest abscess at Kaluaokaha, Lahaina.

1824 Kamehameha II, Liholiho, age 27, and his half-sister, Queen Kamāmalu, age 24, die of measles ('ulali'i) in London.

Kaumuali'i, ruling chief of Kaua'i, dies at age 44 (?) of poison (?) in Honolulu but is buried in Lahaina.

1824-26 "Epidemics of cough" kill thousands.

1827 Kalanimoku, Prime Minister, dies at age 59 of "drowsy" at Kailua, Kona, Hawai'i.

1828 Dr. Gerritt P. Judd, missionary physician, arrives in the 3rd Company. The mosquito is introduced at Lahaina.

1832 Whooping cough (kunu kalea) epidemic takes thousands of lives.

1836 First documented public health measure: Kuhina Nui Kīna'u orders the Honolulu harbor pilot to screen all foreign-arriving vessels for small pox.

Nahi'ena'ena, sister of Kauikeaouli, dies at age 21, 3 months after childbirth at Kahalekaulā, Honolulu.

1837 Hospital for American seamen was established in Waikīkī.

1838 Lahainaluna Press publishes Dr. Judd's *Anatomia*, first medical book printed in the Hawaiian language.

1839 The Quarantine Law is signed by Kamehameha III, Kauikeaouli, and the first Vital Statistics Act is passed.

Mumps (auwaupahāha) kills "great numbers" including Kīna'u at age 35, daughter of Kamehameha I, and mother of Kamehameha IV and V, and Victoria Kamāmalu.

1840 First case of leprosy (ma'i pake) is detected in a Hawaiian by Dr. Dwight Baldwin on Maui. Over the next 30 years, an estimated 4,000 Hawaiians die of leprosy.

First public bath house opens.

1841 A hospital for British seamen is established at Nu'uano and King Streets, Honolulu.

Kapi'olani, who defied Pele in 1824, dies six weeks after breast cancer surgery by Dr. Judd.

1845 Kekauloahi, Kuhina Nui and mother of Lunalilo, dies at age 51 after trauma at Pohukaina.

A hospital for French seamen is built in Honolulu.

The Capital of the Kingdom is moved from Lahaina, Maui to Honolulu, O'ahu.

1845-49 Epidemics in diarrhea (palahti), influenza, measles, and whooping cough kill over 10,000 people in the Kingdom.

Influenza is brought to Hawai'i by California gold miners.

1847 Dr. G. Watson and then Dr. Robert Wood open the earliest western medicine pharmacies in Honolulu.

1848 First piped water supply is developed. It runs from lo'i kalo mauka of Beretania Street to a tank at the foot of Nu'uano Avenue.

1849 French compel the Hawaiian Government to allow retail sales of French liquor.

1850 First Board of Health is appointed by Kamehameha III, two years after the first board of health is established in London and before anything comparable is established in the United States.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 82,035

1851 The first legislative appropriation in public health is made by the Hawaiian government: \$10,000 to prevent cholera. The funds are later used for small pox victims.

1852 First private hospital is opened by Dr. S. Porter Ford in Nu'uano.

1853-54 First smallpox (ma'i pu'uli'i'i'i) epidemic from California takes estimated 7,000 lives.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 70,000

1854 Smallpox vaccination is made compulsory; vaccine imported from London and New Zealand. Kamehameha III, age 42, dies after convulsions and delirium at Ho'ihō'ike'ea, Honolulu.

1856 The Hawai'i Medical Society is chartered. The first flush toilet is installed in the former 'Iolani palace.

1859 Queen's Hospital, founded by Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma, initially opens in a King Street dispensary. Later, it moves to a new building with 124 beds on Punchbowl Street and offers free care to "indigent, sick and disabled" Hawaiians. The hospital is financed by a hospital tax levied against Hawai'i residents. Dr. William Hillebrand from Berlin is the first director of the hospital.

Medical licensure is required by the Kingdom.

1860 Measles and whooping cough epidemics occur. Prostitutes are required to register; of 512 who register, 207 have venereal disease and receive free medical care at Queen's Hospital.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 66,900

1861 A second smallpox epidemic causes 282 deaths.

1862 Albert Edward Kauikeaouli Leiopapa a Kamehameha, the young prince and son of Kamehameha IV and Emma, dies at age 4 of "brain fever." The cause of death has more recently been diagnosed as a condition arising from acute appendicitis with rupture and peritonitis volvulus of the small intestine; or intussusception.

1863 Kamehameha IV, Alexander Liholiho, dies at age 29 of asthma.

1865 First receiving hospital for Hansen's disease patients opens at Kalihiwai and adopts new segregation policy. The Hawaiian Government begins to issue licenses for the practices of lā'au lapa'au and lomilomi.

1866 Princess Victoria Kamāmalu, sister of King, age 27, dies. First insane institution opens in Pālama at School and Liliha Streets. First Hansen's disease patients sent to Kalawao, Molokai; about 3,000 patients are sent during the next 18 years.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 57,125

1868 During the reign of Kamehameha V, a separate Hawaiian Board of Health established; licenses Kahuna Lapa'au. Kekuanāoa, father of Kamehameha IV and V, age 75, dies from stroke.

1870 A scarlet fever (*piwa 'ula'ula*) epidemic occurs on Maui.

Dr. Judd establishes the first school of western medicine. It is authorized by the Board of Education and is provided with \$4,000 legislative appropriation.

1872 Ten young Hawaiians graduate from Dr. Judd's school of medicine and are licensed to

practice in the kingdom. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Judd dies and Mr. Judd has a stroke. School closes. Kamehameha V, age 42, dies of "buttock abscess, dropsy & asphyxia."

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 49,000

1873 Garbage collection & street cleaning begin in Honolulu. A 3rd small pox epidemic takes 11 lives.

1874 Father Damien starts his services at Kalawao with Hansen's disease patients. King Lunalilo, age 42, dies of "pulmonary consumption" (tuberculosis); his will provides for a home for elderly, infirm and destitute Hawaiians.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 46,400

1877 Prince Leleiohōkū, brother of King Kalākaua & heir to throne, age 22, dies of rheumatic fever (?).

1878 The Board of Health first collects refuse.

1879 First artesian well drilled by James Campbell in Honolulu.

1880 Walter M. Gibson publishes book, *Sanitary Instructions for Hawaiians*.

1882 Fourth smallpox epidemic introduced from China takes 282 lives. Inspection and licensing of dairies begin in Honolulu.

1883 Princess Ruth Ke'elikōlani, age 57, dies of heart failure in Kona.

1884 Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, age 52, dies of breast cancer.

1885 Queen Emma, age 49, dies of stroke.

1886 First plantation hospital established at Makaweli, Kaua'i.

1887 Princess Miriam Likelike, sister of King, age 36, dies of "exhaustion" following a miscarriage.

The Bayonet Constitution reduces voting rights of Hawaiians and powers of the King.

1888 A whooping cough epidemic takes 104 lives in Honolulu.

1889 Father Damien, age 49, dies in Kalawao of Hansen's disease.

1890 A diphtheria epidemic takes 104 lives in Honolulu. Kapi'olani Maternity Home is opened by Ho'ōla Lāhui Society in a 5-bedroom cottage at Beretania & Makiki Streets.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 34,400

1891 King David Kalākaua, age 54, dies of Bright's disease (kidney failure, at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. John Dominis Holt, Prince Consort to Queen Lili'uokalani, age 60, dies of rheumatoid arthritis in Honolulu.

1893 Queen Lili'uokalani yields under protest to the United States after U.S. troops are landed to support local haole insurrectionists. The Provisional Government of Hawaii is proclaimed.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 40,000

FOREIGN POPULATION – 50,000

1894 The Republic of Hawaii is proclaimed.

1895 Cholera introduced via ship from Yokohama, Japan causes 64 deaths.

Sam Nowlein, Robert W. Wilcox and Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole lead Royalists, who are almost all Hawaiian, in an effort to restore the Queen. They fail.

1897 Food inspection begins by the Food Commissioner. The Chinese Hospital opens in Pālama.

1898 The United States Congress annexes Hawai'i through the Newlands Resolution.

1899 Bubonic plague – 61 deaths in Honolulu. Downtown Chinatown, Honolulu, is destroyed by a fire started to control plague-carrying rodents. First sewers are laid in Honolulu. Princess Ka'iulani, age 24, dies of "inflammatory rheumatism" at 'Āinahau, Waikiki.

1900 Tuberculosis is made a reportable disease. Kuakini is founded as Japanese Hospital on Kuakini St.

HAWAIIAN POPULATION – 28,800

The Organic Act passed by U.S. Congress. Robert W. Wilcox is elected Hawai'i's first delegate to Congress.

1901 Le'ahi Hospital us founded as a private "home for the Incurables" (mainly tuberculosis) after the closing of Victoria Hospital in Kaka'ako. In 1902, a new building with four wards opens in Ka'imuki.

1907 Tripler Army Hospital opens at Fort Shafter.

1909 Queen's Hospital amends its charter to eliminate free medical care for indigent Hawaiians, and the formerly government-owned hospital is privatized. Kauikeolani Children's Hospital opened on Kuakini St. near Nu'uano Ave.

1910 Anti-tuberculosis Bureau is established by Board of Health.

1911 A case of yellow fever is diagnosed in Honolulu. Major fumigation & sanitation efforts begin to eliminate mosquito hazards.

1917 Queen Lili'uokalani, age 79, dies of stroke at Washington Place.

1919 Territorial Legislature established a Hawaiian Medicine Board to license Lā'au lapa'au practitioner.

1921 The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act is passed by Congress.

1938 Resident Hawaiians are recognized as having certain fishing rights under federal law in Kalapana area through the Kalapana Extension Act.

1959 Hawaii is proclaimed a state by U.S. Congress

1965 Hawaiian Medicine Board is abolished. Lā'au lapa'au practitioners are no longer licensed. Lomilomi practitioners are licensed under the Board of Massage.

1974 Hawaiians are included in federal Native American legislation. ALU LIKE receives grant support to conduct a needs assessment of the Hawaiian community.

1976 ALU LIKE completes Needs Assessment of the Hawaiian community, the first such assessment undertaken, the foundation for federal initiatives.

1985 E Ola Mau Health Needs Assessment, the first comprehensive health assessment of Hawaiians in Hawaii, is completed and becomes basis for federal legislation.

1986 Congressional study of Hawaiian health confirms severity of Hawaiian health issues.

1988 Native Hawaiian Health Care Act (Public Law 100-579) is passed by Congress. Papa Ola Lōkahi is established.

1992 Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 102-396) reauthorized by Congress. The Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems and the Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program are identified.

1996-1998 E Ola Mau study is updated. Hawaiian health problems are still severe but some improvement in morbidity rates noted.

1998 Native Hawaiian Health & Wellness Summit is held, setting the agenda for the next 10 years in Hawaiian health.

Act 162 passes State Legislature charging Papa Ola Lōkahi with licensing traditional Hawaiian healing practitioners; gathering of kupuna practitioners in Kailua-Kona.

'Ahaui o nā Kauka, Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians, is formed.

1999 Kahuna Statement is issued, forwarded to Legislature.

2001 Legislature recognizes Kahuna Statement, passes Act 304 revising POL's mandate to "recognize" traditional Hawaiian healers.

2005 Paoakalani Declaration is issued for the protection of Hawaiian intellectual property rights and traditional knowledge.

2007 I Ola Lāhui formed by Hawaiian psychologists.

2009 Father Damien is canonized calling international attention to Kalaupapa, Molokai.

2010 Patient Protect & Affordable Care Act is passed by U.S. Congress, which includes reauthorization of Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act for 10 years.

Original timeline compiled by Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell, 1998. Updated by Papa Ola Lokahi, 2016.