

Australia Day, which is celebrated on January 26, marks the arrival of the first fleet of British ships in 1788. For many Australians, it's a day of celebrating the country's history and culture. However, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it's a day of mourning. Let me explain why.

Imagine your family has lived in a house for a long time, and you take care of it and love it. Then, one day, some other people come and tell you that it's no longer your house, and they start making all the decisions about it without asking you. You might feel sad, angry, and helpless about this, right?

Well, that's how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people feel about Australia Day. When the British arrived, they changed everything for the Aboriginal people. They took their land, their culture, and their ways of life. Even today, many Aboriginal people and their families still face unfair treatment and discrimination.

So, while many people celebrate Australia Day, it's important to remember that it's a painful reminder for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. They use this day to protest and raise awareness about the challenges they face. By learning about their feelings and history, we can show respect and work together towards healing and understanding.

It's like if someone took your favorite toy and broke it, and then expected you to be happy on the day it happened. You'd want them to understand your feelings, right? That's why it's important for everyone to listen to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and support them in making Australia a better place for all.