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The indigenous population is an assemblage of Melanesian - the black people of the Western Pacific with links to Papuans and Australian Aborigines - Polynesian, the lighter skinned people of the eastern Pacific, and varying degrees in between

The ni-Vanuatu pride themselves on their musical instruments, of which the tamta - also called the slit-drum or slit-gong - is a fine example



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Vanuatu's fractured terrain has produced a kaleidoscope of cultures and more than 100 indigenous languages



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