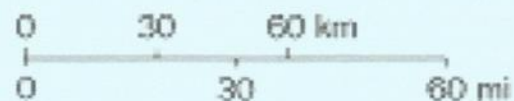


The Comoros

Martin Bennett





Mozambique Channel



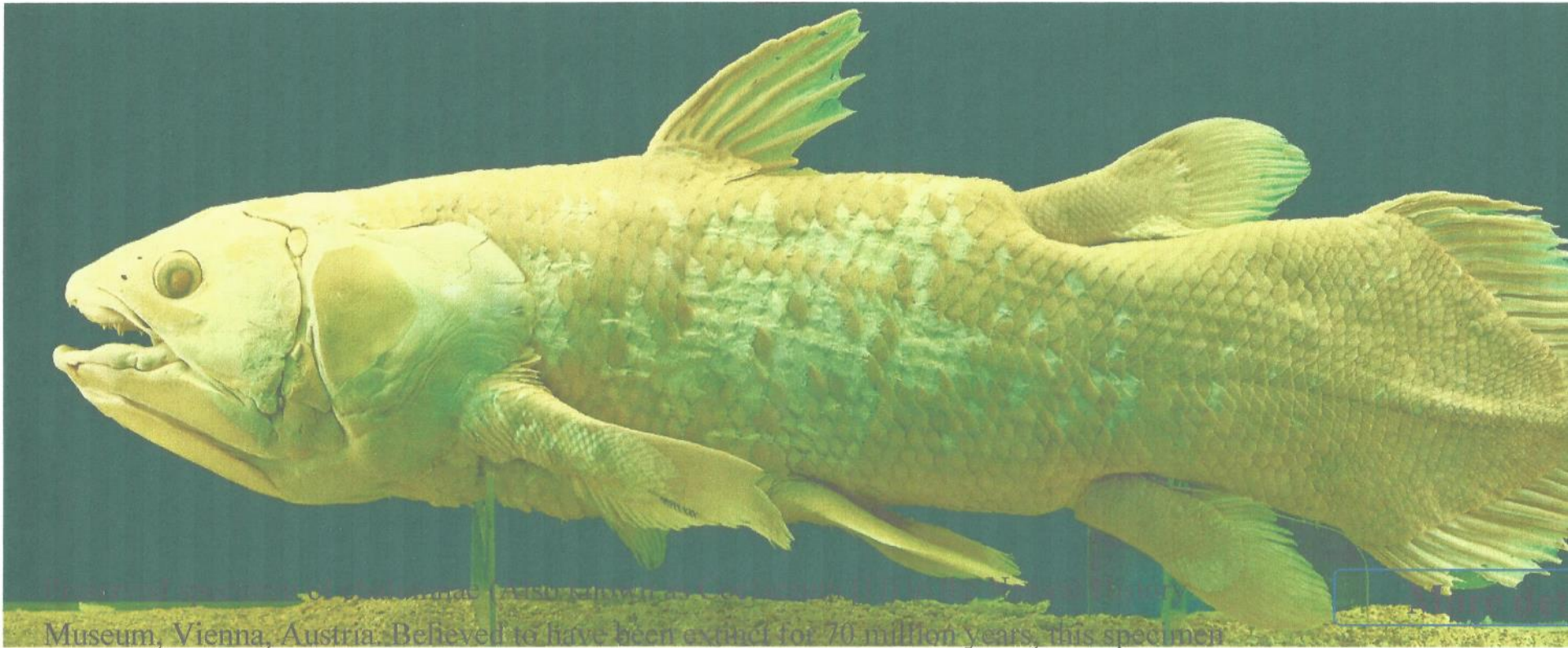
Administered by FRANCE,
claimed by COMOROS.



Ylang



Coelacanth



Museum, Vienna, Austria. Believed to have been extinct for 70 million years, this specimen

A short History

- 600 First traces of Human occupation
- 900 First traces of Indonesian traders
- 1200 Arab traders and slaves arrive
- 1505 1st Portuguese ship
- 1500s Many Portuguese visits
- 1600s British (EIC), French and Dutch visit
Pirates on Mayotte, slave trade starts
- 1750s Slave trade to feed French sugar plantations
- 1790 to 1816 Major slave raids by Madagascans
- 1843 French occupy Mayotte to get harbour
- 1848 British appoint William Sunley to Anjouan
- 1869 Suez Canal opens
- 1850 -1914

Mayotte

Sugar plantations run by creoles, all failed by 1890

Moheli

Ruled by Ramanataka (1832-41), then a Zanzibari prince till 1860, then Madagascans again. French planter Lambert gets huge concession. 1886 French declare protectorate to deny Germans, 1912 full annexation

Anjouan

1848 Sunley sets up sugar Factory

1889 Sacked as consul for using slave labour

Local Sultan Abdullah tries sugar, fails, goes bankrupt, bailed out by French who establish protectorate.

1914 Anjouan annexed as part of Madagascar

Grand Comore

12 sultanates frequently fighting each other

1883 Said Ali dominates, gives concession to Humblot

Rivals threaten to bring in Germans. 1890 Ali flees, brought back on French warship 1893 Ali accused of plotting to murder Humblot, flees again. French declare Humblot Resident. Sacked 1896. 1914 Ali cleared of murder charge, abdicates.

Grand Comore annexed as part of Madagascar