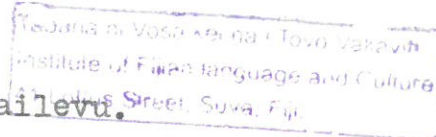


TOPIC: BIRTHInvestigator: Willie.D

A

Informant: Bole.....Tailevu.

When a woman is about to give birth, someone will get a woman who will help her deliver her baby. When she is informed that she is going to help deliver a bayby, she knows fully well what ^{she} is expected to bring and what to prepare. When the woman gives birth and every~~ty~~thing goes well that means, that evry~~ty~~thing was fine during her pregnancy and birth. But if she gives birth ~~that~~ and she finds it hard, she is given a native medicine to drink ~~that~~ so that it helps her to deliver her baby. If something happens and it proves to be a problem during delivery, this is called KUBE. The KUBE is the cleat~~ings~~, fragments of placenta remaining in the uterus or v~~a~~gina. This was suppose to ~~show~~ ^{Fall} out with the others. It always happens to women who are giving birth for the first time. So that when this part does not fall out, it is called the KUBE. It can proved to be very harmful to her and can create sickness for her. When the baby falls out, the umbilical cord is out. They use a long blade for cutting the umbilical cord and that is what they use in the olden days. If they can't fix~~nd~~ that special blade, they use a piece of sharp bamboo. The piece of bamboo, before it is used for cutting the umbilical ~~rec~~ord, it is cleaned, sharpened and kept in a clean place. So when the baby is born, they~~get~~ it and use it on the cutting of the cord. After they have cleaned eve-

- rything, they take the umbilical cord and the I TOKATOKA of the baby or the placenta, they bury it. As for the umbilical Cord on the baby, after cutting it, there is a special way of tying it. So, ~~after~~^{they} ~~xxxxxxx~~ tie it up. After tying the cord, the lady who did the delivery and some other ladies clean the baby. They bath the baby's whole body, they oil him and he is placed on the bed specially prepared for him. After the baby is cleaned up, they now ~~turn~~^{turn} the attention to the mother. The old lady who did the delivery decides what to do and she will take care of her. They ~~clean~~^{clean} the mother up, dressed her and she is escorted to where the baby is now resting but the milk is not given yet to the baby. When the cleaning both for the baby and the mother is over, then the father is informed of the birth of his child. The baby is not yet given a name and the father won't call him anything until the wife's ~~xxx~~ relatives has decided what name ~~xxx~~ should be given to the baby. It is their duty to get the name of the baby. The people and their relatives ^{always} ~~to~~ rejoice together when they know that ~~there~~ their friend or relative or family member has given birth. It always happens when the eldest child is born to a family. They always prepare a feast where everyone is welcome to come and eat and rejoice. The MAGITI ~~is~~ specially prepared for the naming of the baby is called the MAGITI NI YACA. When they hold this feast, it can go on all night long to the next day.

If the pregnant woman faces trouble while delivering her baby what ~~xxxx~~ medicine is given to her to help her deliver her baby?

- If the situation is trouble during delivery, a medicine is given to her to drink. This medicine is slimy but it helps in

- the travelling of the baby along the womb until it comes out. It helps assist the baby in delivery time, it also brings out the ~~the~~ blood collected up in the womb and everything that might ~~be~~ pollute the body and ~~the~~ cause sickness. This medicine serves its purposr well.
- Who stays during delivey?
- The ladies are allowed to come and stay during delivery but it is hidden from young girls. They are not allowed ot see it. When the pregantⁿ women knows that her time of giving birth is coming near, she is laid down face upwards. When she is laid ~~d~~ down, her legs are pushed upwards to rest oh both feet and the delievery-lady is there to watch everything. The woman will be breathing heavily and pushed to help the baby come out of her womb. When she do this, the mid-wife acts and does her job.
- How does the pregant woman knows that her time for delievery is near?
- It will begin with an aching pain at her shoulder. When the pain at ~~the~~^{her} shoulder starts, someone is sent out to get the delievery-lady or mid-wife. When the baby is born, his umbilical cord is cut long because the baby's lifem depends on that ~~is~~. When the umbilical cord is cut, the mid-wife is very careful ~~is~~ with it and she has really take care as to how she ties it. It is tied with a cotton thread. As for the cutting of the umbilical cord, the mid-wife uses bamboo. The mid-wife waits ~~2~~ for the bursting out of the water which is inside the womb. When ~~en~~ this burst out, it tells the mid-wife that the baby its on its way out. The reason why they have ~~it~~ to have along length of umbilical cord cut is that the baby is depending on it since

- the mother was supplying life to the baby through umbilical cord.
- Could you talk ~~xi~~ to me more about the ~~placenta~~ or the I TOKATOKA NI GONE?
- The TOKATOKA ~~NI~~ NI GONE or the placenta ~~is~~ what holds the ~~ba~~ bay in the mother's womb. When she gives birth, the placenta comes out with the baby. It is removed, wrapped nicely and it is taken away to be buried. The baby comes out first then it ~~i~~ is followed by the placenta or the I TOKATOKA NI GONE.
- Is the I TOKATOKA NI GONE or the placenta considered to be something important?
- The placenta is what protected the child when she was inside the mother's stomach. When it is taken away for burial, it is also taken with the umbilical cord and the two are buried together.
- Who will decide on what name shall they call the baby?
- When the baby is born and it is a baby boy, the news is send to his father. But if his father has got a ~~ba~~ bigger boy who's older than him, the message is also sent to him. The baby is born and it's a boy and it is known by all their relatives. If, let say, the man or the father of the baby already had ~~xi~~ two kinds from another woman, the naming of the baby is done by the mother's relatives. ~~THE~~ They will decide the name for the baby. The mother's father, the child's grandfather from his mother's side can name him. He will bring a TABUA ~~xi~~ to them and presented it to them and the name for the baby is announced by his grand-father. The ~~na~~ naming of the baby calls for a celebration and entertainment. It can go on for two days. These who name the baby prepares a MAGITI, other gifts and they will

- present these things to the baby's father and ~~his~~ his relatives.
- What happens if another MATAQALI wants to name the baby, how is it done?
- If a MATAQALI wants to name the ~~the~~ baby, when the baby is born, they have to prepare the MAGITI for the baby and the gifts plus the bed for the baby and the mother. The names of babies sometimes have a meaning or signifies ~~the~~ something important on an ~~event~~ event.
- What is done to the new mother after one week?
- When the days have reached four nights, a MAGITI is prepared for them. When the woman had already given birth, a special oil is used to oil the mother. This is ^{to} prevent any sickness from the mother and the baby. The food for the mother is prepared by the lady who attends to her ~~hand~~ needs. A lady is specially chosen to cook for the mother.
- Is there any TABOO she has to ~~follow~~ follow during pregnancy?
- When a woman becomes pregⁿant there is a TABOO that she has to ~~follow~~ follow. When a woman is pregⁿant she is not allowed to carry anything heavy or to reach out for something ~~above~~ above her. She is not allowed to ~~eat~~ eat any left-overs from the previous day. She has to obey these TABOO.
- Why is she allowed to pull at the string or rope suspended in front of her during delievery time?
- Some pregⁿant mothers, they are weak and when it comes to delivery time, they have to pull at the rope because when they do this, it gives them an extra strength and so helps the baby to come out more ~~a~~ easily. The rope also serves the purpose of holding the mother still so that she doesn't move around or to be a problem.
But if the mother gives birth to a baby but she is already dead

- that shows that the woman didn't take care of herself during her pregnancy period. If she knows that she has followed the ~~tabu~~ TABU, took good care of her, then she will have an easy delivery. From what I know when a woman is about to give birth, a basin ~~is~~ slimy water is put in front of her. This helps her in delivering her baby. When a young woman is ~~pregnant~~ pregnant, life and death is in her hands and she'll have to bear that in mind. Let's say that she doesn't take care of herself and go out most of the time to enjoy herself, a ~~medic~~ medicine is given to her to drink. The old ladies know of many medicines that helps in child-birth and ^{during} pregnancy.

- You said that young women are not~~a~~ allowed to be present during child-birth. Could you explain why?

- The reason why young women are not allowed to witness deliverance or a child-birth is that they ~~do not~~ should not see what is done to the mother and everything else besides. They ~~do not~~ say it might frighten~~s~~ them and decide not to have babies. Only the ~~old~~ old ~~ladies~~ ladies are allowed to be present during delivery. The birth of a child is a very important occasion because when a child is born, it is now the mother's duty to decide what to do, whether to take care of the baby or to leave him to suffer and die. When a baby is born and all is well everyone rejoice in that. The labour pains of ~~pregn~~ pregnancy is one of the most unbearable pain a ~~woman~~ woman suffers the whole of her life-time. It can't be compared with any other pain suffered during any sickness.

- When a young woman is ready to give birth, the husband will be waiting to know what the results like. He feels very uneasy until hears the baby's voice and then he'll know that everything is now

- over for him, all the long time of waiting. He also knows that his wife is well.

To show his happiness because of the survival of both the mother and the baby, he runs up to see his wife and his baby and kiss them both.

- What is done to a pregnant woman who is ready to give ~~his~~ birth but the mid-wife is ~~xx~~ somewhere far away?

- They don't wait for the mid-wife. When the time comes for delivery, they will carry it out. When this happens, someone who knows something about the child-birth will do it and helps the mother deliver her baby.

- I heard that some pregnant women gives birth while travelling along the road or anywhere else?

- A pregnant woman cannot bear her pain long and keep off delivering her baby. When the time comes for ~~x~~ her to deliver her baby, it ~~does~~ doesn't matter where she is or what's she doing, she lies down to deliver her baby. As for ladies who hide their pragnancy, when this happens to them, they often bury their baby when it is born. Those women who do this sort of thing, the result is that they suffer very badly. They become weak and lose weight very badly.

The sickness that can kill a mother who has just given birth is called KUBE- the cleavings, fragments of placenta remaining in the uterus or vagina. This happens when the baby is born but that part of the uterus does not fall out. It is at this moment that trouble begins.

- Could you explain the unborn child lying dead in the ~~x~~ mother's womb?

- Today, we have women who give birth to dead babies. This happens when during child birth there is plenty of water coming out of the mother's womb and this could drown the baby. If the umbilical cord is too long this could ~~st~~ also kill the baby. ~~It serves~~ There is only one placenta of the baby when the baby is born, it comes out together with the baby. It serves as a protection layer. The baby comes out first and then the mid-wife will try to remove the ~~placenta~~ placenta. When the placenta falls out, it happens after the baby is born and then the mid-wife massages the mother's womb slowly. This helps the placenta to come out ~~quickly~~ easily. When the placenta falls out, and the baby is able to breath by itself, then the umbilical cord is then cut. The rest of the umbilical cord and the placenta is taken away to be burried. The burial of the placenta and the umbilical cord is followed by a MAGITI prepared especially for that ^{to} mark ^{the} occasion. This is prepared by ~~a~~ the girl's relatives and then present it to the husband's family.

Thank you.

THE END