



FOOD HABITS

Investigator: Willie. D

Interviewee: Josai Buakula.....Nadroga, Navosa

ULUTAGA: NAI VEI TOVO ENA GAUNA MAKAWA.

- Edua na tamata edau kana tamata ia qai dua na tamata edau kania na gata. Kevaka edua na tamata e solia mai na kena gata ena solia yani ko koya na ibe me kena i sau. Ni gata sa bau dua na ka, na kena yaloka sa bau dua na ka. Ni sa dau caka na gata edau boi vinaka. Kania nagata koya ka oti erau dau kania vaka veiwatini. Ni sa oti oqo sa qao boro kece ga na nona i teitei, na nonamata ni vale sa boro kece ga. Sa qai dua na kai Idia e bolebole me rau yadua na drau. Ni qai kana yani na kai Idia sa weli na gusuna, ia na kena turaga koya e otiva na kena boro. Mevaka na matana edau waqa mai oti sa qai soli mai va na draudrau me nona.
- Edau caka beka vaka cava na gataoqo qai lau kana ?
- Edau saqa sara ga yani ia na lewena e vaka sara ga leweni ika. Ni sa butaga mai koya sa rawa sara ni laukana.
- Vaka cava beka na kena i coi ?
- Na kena i coi na drauni jaina, na kena lai tobo mai na gata sa dau tu na kau era dau tu kina na gata. Oqo na gata lelevu sara ga ka dau tobo mai veikau.
- Cava beka na vuna ka dau tuberi kina na kena tabua ?

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- Ni gata ni sa vakarau mai kani nagata edau cakava me nona vakavinavinaka kina na vanua.
- Mevaka ni ko talanoataka tiko mevaka na tamata dau kana boro, cava beka na namu nanuma e kea ?
- Na nona kana boro koya na turagakoya e vaka tu me kena kakana dina sara ga ko koya. Kevaka e sega na boro ia ena sega ni kana na turaga koya .
- Rawa ni talanoataka mada na kana tamata ?
- Mevaka ni tukaqu edau kana tamata, ni sa dau caka na vala era na saga sara toka me mate na tamata koya. Kevaka ni sa lai caka na vala sa ka ga edau caka me vakamate na tamata. Na tamata oqori sa qai dau mai vavi me laukana. Ena gauna oqo sa dau turu tu kina na kena wai ka sa drodro tale ga kina na kena dra. Ia na veika oqori era sega ni rerevaka na tamata. Ni sa mate ga na tamata sa na laukana sara yani.
- E vaka cava beka ni sa dua na tikini na yago ni tamata edau maroroi tu se sa bia laivi sara ga yani ?
- Ni sa laukana na tamata na kena sui sa dau viritaki tani yani, ia na kena qavokavoka ni tamata sa dau bini tu. Na kena sui edau biu yani ena dua na vanua me bini tu kina. Na veika kece oqori era dau cakava tiko na qase ena gauna e liu.  
Ena dua na siga keitou vakavitacini keitou qai curuma yani edua na qara. Ia e mamaca vinaka tu ga na qara oqo

- keitou sa qai lai dabe toka kina. Keitou waqara sara na neitou cina ka keitou mai dabe toka yani. Ia na loma ni qara oq e vaka sara toka na yago varivari ni gata.
- Rawa ni ko talanoataka mada mevaka edua na i solisoli ka soli vei iko ?
- Ni'u tiko ena dua na siga eratou sa lako yani e lewe va na tamata. Eratou sulu belati tucoko tu yani. Eratou gole cake sara ga yani kina na noqu i davodavo. Edua e duri tu mai tuba, e curu yani karau yadua na koma ka dua e gole cake sara yani ki cake vei au. Sa qai dua e dulaka yani vei au edua na buli Kula. Au sa mani duri cake sara mai ka sa tukuni sara vei au meu taura na ligana i mawi. Sa qai tukuni vei au ni noqu kalaugataka e tiko e yasana i matau. Sa mani lai soli vei au na ka oqo. Qai dua na gauna keirau lako yani kina kei na luvequ au sa via'kana tavako sara. Au qai tara yani na noqu taga sa tu mai kina na tini na pauni. Na veika kece oqori edau yacovi au baleta gona na ka sa mai xa soli vei au. Na vanua cava ga au lako kina edau yacovi au na ka oqo. Koya gona ni sa yaco tiko na ka oqo sa vaka me'u dau rere tale kina. E qai dua na gauna au lako tiko yani ki Suva kau lai wavoki tiko kina ena makete. Au qairaica yani ni sa davo koto e tolusagavuluka lima na pauni. Na veika kece oqori edau yacovi au tiko ena kena sa soli kinavoi au na ka koya.

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- Edua tale beka na ka ko via tukuna baleta na veika kedaru veitalanmataka tiko oqori ?
- Ni ko ira na gauna e liu era se dau vakayagataka sara ga na dui kaukauwa e dui tu veira. Mevaka talega ni ko ira na noda qase eliu era se veivolekati sara kei na Kalou. Ni vaka tiko mera ligadra na Kalou ko ira na bula tu e liu, ni dua ga na ka era tukuna sa yaco dina sara ka mana. Koya gona eda rawa kina ni tukuna ni ko ira na noda qase era dau qarava na Kalou. Sai kena levu beka ni talanoa au rawa ni rawata yani ena mataka ni kua koya sa vaka saka kina na kena levu.  
Sa vinaka sara vakalevu.

S A O T I

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- In the oldens days the people always eat human flesh. There is also some people who eat snake. And this young man always eat the snake, if somebody give him the snake he will have to give the mats, tabua to thank the person who gave him the snake. As we all know that the eggs of the snake is plenty. So for this young man he have to eat the snake nevermine there is some other kind of food he wont like it. When the snake is being cooked it smell nice and he always eat it with his wife. Nearby there lived a Indian man and this Indian man liked leaves like taro leaves or bele. So then one day the Indian man told the young man that he wants to chanllenge himself that who is going to eat the most leaves. These leaves are just planted just around the compound of the young man. So this Indian came to the young mans house so they have one basin each. And from there they started to eat the leaves. When the Indian man started to eat the leaves the water started to comes out of his mouth. Then theyoung man told the Inidian man if can not eat some more leaves then he will eat him..During the time the young man was eating

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- his face was red just like the face of the snake. After he finished the leaves then the money was given to him as a reward from the Indian man.
- Can you tell me how the snake is prepared ?
- You just have to bring the snake then you have to cook it like you are cooking the fish. When you know it is cooked then you have to prepare it then you can eat it. So you just have to bring the snake and cook it in the pot.
- Is there anything else you have to eat it with the snake ?
- In here you have to bring the banana leaves then you have to cook it with the snake. Also for the snake they always lived at the place where are plenty of leaves. And this snake are very big one.
- Why do the young man have to present a tabua to the person who brought the snake ?
- It is mainly because that the person who brought the snake have to give something as a gift from the young man who is eating the snake. And these is his gift to the man and to the village. Because what he is doing is just like something that is given to him from God he do believe and so he have to do and follow the role of the village. Because the people respect him of what he is doing that he is eating the snake instead of the human flesh.
- Can you tell me how does this person manage to eat all the leaves which was planted on the plantation ?

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- For this person who always eat the leaves like the taro leaves, that this thing is given to him as a gift from God. If the young man is there then the food is being prepared and there is no leaves like the taro leaves then ~~he~~ this person won't eat anything. If only the leaves is there and then he can eat.
  - Can you tell me about the people who always eat human flesh ?
  - As I have known form my grandfather that he alwasy eat the human flesh, which they just have to bring the man and hang on one post then they have to light one fire. Then they cook it just like that, from there we can see that the water of the body and the blood is flowing down. When somebody wnat's to eat he can just only come and cut one piece then eat it.
  - Do the people have to keep any part of the human body ?
  - When the people eat ~~the~~ the human flesh they just only have to throw away the bone and skull have to put in one place that they can keep it. So this is what they always do with human body in the olden days. They only keep the skull in one place and they do not worship it.
- One day I went with my brothers to go and get some body in the bush. And when we reached one place then we saw one big cave so we through the cave until we reached the end. Then we light our lantern then ~~we~~ we sat down.

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- The only thing I saw is that the inside part of the cave is just like the skin of the snake. So we just rest for awhile then we came back to the village.
- Can you tell me how you got the gift which was give to you ?
- One day I was just liying down on my bed and when I looked to the door then I saw four young man they came to towards me. So I was just liying down to see them. Then I saw one of them was just have to stnd outside like the guard then the other twon just came inside then they stand at each corner. Then the fourth one came up to me on my bed. So when this person came to me he did not say anything the only thing he did is that he just give me one nice sea-shell in which we call it the Buli. And so I was given this buli as a gift from the person who brought it to me. But by the time he gave the buli then I reached it with my left hand then the person said that my luck in on my right hand, but anyway I will have the good luck in future. So after that then they went back and so I was just luying in bed thinking of what I had received. After a while I put my hand into my pocket then I feel that I have touch something which just like the notes. But that time we were using the shillings and pounds. So when I took out of my pocket then I realise that it was the really money. Then one time I have to come to Suva from there I always get the money. All these things alwasly happen to me.

T H E                      E N D