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TOPIC: PROTOCOL ON INSTALLATION OF A NEW CHIEF Investigator: Torika

INTERVIEWED: Ratu Josaia... Nabena, Matailobau, Naitasiri.

SUBJECT: INSTALLMENT OF A NEW CHIEF.

- Before a chief is installed a meeting is called for everyone to discuss on the one who is to be installed. When the members of the Mataqali has approved, only than will that man be installed chief. He is to be a chief for a particular mataqali. When everyone had agreed to this man to climb up as their next chief the meeting will be closed and one or two of the old man in the mataqali will go up this man's house to inform him of the result of the meeting that is the mataqali has agreed that he is to be their next chief.

The decided day for the installment has come and the Vunivalu traditionally will escort the chief also tradionally dressed with masi, arm bands and amikle bands to the meeting house in the village where other chiefs and men of the village waits. The clan Turaga-Sau-Ni-Vanua will take part in everything for the installation of the new chief, they install the new chief.

Yaqona vaka-Turaga is prepared in this meeting house and the

chief to be installed drinks the first cup. The Vunivalu RABE after the chief has drank the first cup. One of the Sau-Turaga will be the bowl bearer.

Before the installation takes place the Roko-Tui Yasawa is also informed of the event that is to take place. When the Sau Turaga takes up the cup, he'll present it to the Roko Tui Yasana and the Roko Tui Yasana takes the cup and takes it up to the chief that is installed.

- Anyone can be installed chief or...?
- The chief eldest son will inherit his fathers position. If it is not him a chief of another mataqali can be chosen chief. Before the installment takes place, chiefs from all Mataqali will meet to discuss on the matter when they have all approved to the installment.

Members of each mataqali will not have a say they will only listen. The leaders only of each mataqali will decide on the matter. When everyone had approved to the chiefs son to take his fathers position than a representative from the chiefs meeting house will go up to the man's residence to inform him of the result off the meeting.

Villagers will be also informed of the result of the meeting and they will start to preapre for the coming event.

- How about if some chiefs don't agree?
- The installation will not take place if somw of the chief

don't agree with that motion.

Until everyone has come to the position to approve of the man's installment only then will the chief be installed and the village inform.

- Who prepares the magiti-VAKA-TURAGA?
- After the chief had drank the first bowl of yaqona and the VUNIVALU RABE'S than a magiti known as the WASE-NI-YAQONA VAKATURAGA is presented to the installed chief.
- Is the required chief to say a speech before drinking the first cup?
- He will give a short speech thanking those who had chosen him chief and he will also say that he now stands ready to bear the responsibility of a chief.
- Who are present in the Bure where the installment will take place. No women is seen here. The clan Bati will guard the chief from his home to the meeting House and will stay on guard through the ceremony.
- Is there any prepared goods that will be presented to the chief from the villagers?
- Village ladies will prepare mats, masi, vakabati, gatu etc. for the chiefs dabedabe this is the only goods that is given to the chief. After the chiefs installment he will be taken up to the former chiefs house. The new chief will stuff in and start to bear the responsibilities of a chief. Villagers will listen to him and when he wants something carried out

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he will inform his MATANIVANUA who will in turn inform the villagers.

- How about if some goes against the chief's wishes?
- In the olden days there was no such things?
- Is there anymore that you would like to say?
- I believe that is all :

Thank you so much.