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PROTOCOL - Installation of the chief
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TOPIC: THE INSTALLMENT OF THE CHIEF IN THE OLDEN DAYS AS TAMUSUE.

- Can we talk about the preparation of the installment of the

chief at Tamusue.

- Thank you very much in here I have seen it in my eyes how they
always prepare the ceremony for the installment of the chief.
As we all know that the proper tribe to install one chief

they are still here in Tamusue. They are the people of Namosan
from Namoli in the clan called Tamusue. About many years back
I see one installment of the chief happen here. But for the

installment of the chief they always go to the special Bure
and inside the Bure there is a very special stone, in which
they have to tell the name of the person they have discuss

to be their new chief. And this Bure is at Namoli and so it
got the stone inside the bure. Also for this people of Namoli
they can give the title to anyone to be their new chief.

The Bure where the stone is called the Bete ni sau, because
this stone will say yes if he agreed with the views of the
leader of each tribe. Also when they go to this place from

then on they will have to ask the stone if he could give one

- name of the person so that they give him the title to be their chief. First of all these leader of each tribe will get together and discuss which person they should give him the title. When they reach the place then they will have to stan outside then one of them have to go and knock on the rock and mention to the rock the name of the person they have discussed. If the rock does not give any sign then it meant to them he is not agreed to the name of the person they gave. But and so they have to think of another man's name. They will go back and talk about it and try and think of another name. After that then come back and knock on the stone and tell him the name of the person if still he does not give any sign then it means that he still does not agree with that name. So in here they have to find another name of the person, but still the rock does not give any sign at all and it still means that he still does agree. From doing these it is very big job because it means that they have to find the right person then the rock can agree to them. Even the these people have told of so many names and still the rock does not agree then it means the answer is still no. And takes a long time in order to get the right person, then after awhile then the rock will talk and tell them the name of the person which they have to give him the title to be their chief. That same time one of the old man living in his own land is called Timalavu and he lived at Natavada. He got his own Bete ni sau, also he always go there just to relax a little bit. He can come to Tamusue sometimes just to visit the village because he is

- too old. So far then the rock told the leader of each tribe that they have to go and give the title to Timalavu, and also when you look to the beach then you can see the Mast of your village. So that means that they have to give the title to Timalavu, because it is being told by the rock. So from then on they have to pass the message to the people of Nadala, and also to the people of Tamusue so that they know who is going to be their new chief. Some of them they lived far away at Lau but still they have to come and see the installment of their new chief. So all these people come and stayed at Suetolu the name of the place where they built the church building. So when Timalavu reach Tamusue then he went straight to one of the oldest settlement in there is called the Rogoua. And so he rest there because it was not a very good weather for him to go back to his island. So the people of Tamusue they get together then brought their things with them like tabua an so on in order to be used for the installment of the chief. So from then they went and give the ceremony of the installment of the chief to Timalavu, in which they always bring the Mast to be placed around the neck of the new chief and also they will place one like cross belt and it is meant only for the chief. So from then on wherever they go they know who is their chief in which he should lead them at anything. He is called the Ratu the Tut of Yasawa, and also it means that if there is any village occasion happen then the people of Tamusue have to take the lead or to give instructions.

- So these tribe the Jamusue tribe they have to give the title to anyone they prescribe to be their new chief and it also depends of the good willings of the rock which is in the Bure.

- I think that everything you have said will be very much

appreciated about the installment of the chief, can you tell me about the Bete ni sau or the 'rock' which they have to tell the name of the person they have agreed ?

- As for the special 'rock' it is meant only for the foretell of their chief, and it have its own house and no one can go in there. If there is no ceremony happen only about the installment of the chief then this Bure will be closed at all times.

- I heard that you mention that you talk to the rock, that you tell him the name of the person who you have chosen to be your new chief, does the rock answer back or ?

- As in the olden days we all know that our ancestors when

they want something they just talk like we are talking to some one. As for this particular rock it is being known by

these people that it always talk. So they went there and they tell the rock the name of the person they have discussed, then the rock would not give any sign at all. So from then the

people have to find another person's name. Then if the person's name does not give anything to the rock then it will give no

sign at all. But when the rock realise that those people does not think of any other names then the rock will give the name

of the person to be their new chief.

- I really like your information, I heard that you mentioned that you have to prepare something for the installment of the chief, can you tell me more about it ?

- Thank you, for the installment of the new chief there is a very special thing that they have to prepare. For the people who are going to give the title of the chief will have to bring them whales tooth and the mast and they will place the mast across the chest of the man who is going to be their new chief.

And that is all.

T H E E N D