BIRTHInvestigator: TimociInterviewed: Reapi Sauleirogo.....Namoli, LauotkaULUTAGA: NA NONA SUCU EDUA NA GONE VOU.

- Edau dua na ka taleitaki kevaka edua namarama ka sa tiko bibi ena loma ni nonavale ni vakamau. Se dua beka na marama ka vakamautaki vakavinaka ka sa tiko vua na gone. Oqori edua nai tukutuku rogo vinaka veiratou na wekani tagane. Vaka talega kina na nona dau taqomaki koya na marama, ko koya na turaga na watina. Na nona maroroi koya na watina naturaga sa rui ka vinaka dina, baleta ni kena vakaraitaki oqori ni doka na watina ka rokova talega. Dina ga ni liuliu tiko ni vale natagane sa dodonu medau rokova talega nawatina.

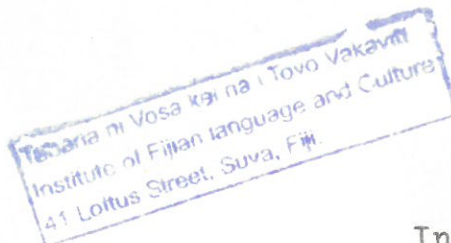
Koya gona ni qai tiko bibi edua na marama ena loma ni nonavale sa dau ka rekitaki dina. Sa na dodonu gonakina me tu vakatagane na tamani gone ni sa kila ni sa tiko bibi na watina. Edau sega talega ni dau veitalanoataki, ni rui dokai na nona sa tiko bibi na marama koya. Sa na qai tiko talega koya ka dau mai qaravi koya tiko, kevaka edua beka na gauna e tauvimate kina.

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- Eke edau lako mai koya na marama vuku me mai soli mena wai beka, se mai vakasilimi koya. Baleta ni marama kevaka edua na vula sa sega ni lakovi koya na nona mate vakamarama. Sa dodonu sara me kila tiko ni sai koya sara oqori nai vakatakilakila ni tiko bibi. Ia me qai waraka tale toka na vula ka tarava. Kevaka sa oti tale na vula koya ka sa sega ni lakova na kena mate vakamarama, sa dodonu me tukuna yani vua na turaga na watina ni sa tiko vua na gone. Ena gauna vata talega sa sa na lako mai kina marama vuku me mai vakasilimi koya.
- Edau kila beka vacava na marama vuku ni sa tiko bibi na marama koya ?
- Na marama vuku na lako ga mai ka tawana na beseni ena wai. Sa na qai tukuna vua na marama koya me dabe vakatusaga ena loma ni beseni koya. Sa naqai tara yani na yagona vakamarama na marama vuku. Kevaka e tara yani ka sa tasogo tu na nona sala ni wai kena i balebale ni sa tawa tiko. Ni natara ga mai oqori sa na tukuna sara yani ni sa tiko vua na gone. Gauna vata talega sa na tukuna sara ko yalewa vei tagane ni sa tiko vua na gone. Na marama oqo sa na tukuni vua me tiko sara ga e vale me kakua ni cakava edua na cakacaka bibi ka me kakua talega ni moce vata kei watina. Kevaka e lomani koya nawatina ia ena taqomaki koya.
- Na cava edau yaco ke bukete mai sala ?

- Ke bukete mai sala na marama koya erau na veitarogitaka ga kevinakata me maroroi na gone se sega. Baleta eso nacauravou era dau kani kidacalataka na ni sa tiko bibi na yalewa ka rau veiyacovi. Ia na tikina oqo e sega ni dau yaco e liu. Mevaka nira dau taqomaka sara na dui luvedra ko ira na qase e liu. Kevaka edua na ka vaya e yaco sa na rawa ga ni yaco kina naleqa. Kevaka gona e drotaki na yalewa sa rawa nitubu na vala se mai moku tale ko yalewa. Ni sa drotaki edua na yalewa kena gauna totolo duadua meratou lako yani natabni tagane meratou lai soro. Oqo eratou dau kauta yani edua na vuni gasau se malumu sara tuga na vuna e cake. Ni ratou sa yaco yani ki mata ni vale nei yalewa, eratou na dulaka mada yani ki vale na gasau koya. Kevaka sa tukuni mai meratou curu yani eratou sa na qai curu yani ki loma ni vale. Ni ratou curu yani ki vale oqori eratou sa qai lai vakacabora edua na kamunaga levu menodratou i soro. Mevaka ena gauna ni kua sa lewe levu era sa taurivaka tiko na tikina koya. Era sa dau mai bulubulu na wekai tagane veiratou nawekani yalewa, meratou kerea kina ni yalewa sa tiko mai veiratou karatou kerea tale tiko ga me nodratou ni na vakawati kei na nodratou tagane. Kevaka e malumu tu mai nayasana kadua ia e dodonu tu na veika kece. Nisa na oti koya era sa qaisuka tale yani na mai soro.

- Ocei edau lai vakacabora na i soro koya ?
- E rawa ni lai vakacabora sara ga ko iratou na tamana na cauravou koya. Ni sa oti ga koya sa rawa nirau qai vakamau sara yani koi rai na veiwatini. Ia naveika taucoko oqori ena vakatau tiko mai veiratou na tabani tagane. Sa na lai caka sara na nodrau soqo ni vakamau vata na kena magiti. Ni sa oti ga koya sa narawa sara veiyalewa me tiko enanona loma ni vale. Koi rau ga dui tinadrau erau sa qaiveitarogi toka se gauna cava me vakayacori kina nanodrau Tevutevu.
- Na cava na Tevutevu ?
- Na Tevutevu oqo na kena tevu na nodrau i davodavo na veiwatini vou, ni oqori sa nodrau iyau saraga. Ni veika taucoko e vakarantaki veirau sa nodrau sara ga. Na ibe ena kena levu ga e rawa na kumi vata nai yaya cava ga era rawata mai. Sa dui vakatau sara toka ga vua na ka e ra rawata. Sega ni dua me vakasausaurataki kina.
- Edau okati tu beka me soqo ni cava na soqo ni vakamau ?
- Na soqo ni vakamau edau okati tu me soqo dokai ka soqo talega niveirokorokovi ni laurai talega kina na noda i tovo vakaviti kei na kena vakayagataki. Sa kena levu beka ga koya.



BIRTH

Investigator: Timoci

Informant: Reapi Sauleirogo .....Namoli, Lautoka.

TOPIC: THE NEW BORN BABY IN THE OLDEN DAYS.

- It is very delighted to learned that a lady have got pregnant in the place of her marriage. That means after the wedding, or a woman got married then she became pregnant. This is one of the good news the people always want to hear, and specially from the boys relatives. When the woman is pregnant then the husband have to really take care of her, if he wants the baby. This also shows that the husband care for the wife and also the respect he gave towards his wife. Because it is the habit in the olden days that they have to respect each other in order to have a good family. Even though the leader of the family is the husband but still he have to respect his wife.
- So from the time the wife get pregnant the husband have to give so much care for his wife because this is what they want in their family. So then the husband have to plant so many dalo and yams and he have to prepare himself. Also the people does not talk about the pregnant woman otherwise something will happen to her. Also at this time then they will have to call one of their relatives to come and do the housework because the pregnant lady does not have to do so much.

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- In here they have to ask the lady who knows about the delivery of the baby, or who knows the thing which should be done to the pregnant lady, she will come and give some medicine to the lady so that she can get some help from it. She will also bathe the pregnant lady and tell her what to do. When you feel pregnant that means that you have not receive your monthly period again. So from then on you must know that your are pregnant, because that is one of the sign that you don't receive your monthly period. But still she have to wait until the next month just to make sure, when she did not get it then she will have to tell her husband. Also the same time the lady in charge then she will have to come and bathe the pregnant woman again.
  - Can you tell how does the lady knows that the woman is preganant ?
  - The lady will just come and bring the basin and fill it with water then she will have to call the woman to come and sit upright on the basin. Then the lady will have to touch her womb, when she touch it then she knows that it is close then she know that the womanis pregnant, which it was suppose to be open. Also the same time she will then confirm the husband that his wife have got the baby.
- She will also say that thw woman does not have to do any kind of hard work. She will have to take a good care of her if she wantsthe baby, and so for the husbadn also if he wants to have one child then they should help each other that he will to take care fo the wife. Also she will have to tell her that she is not suppose to sleep again with the husband because she have got the baby with he

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- Can you tell me what happen if the woman get pregnant from outside ?
- If the woman get pregnant from outside then they will have to ask the boy if he wants the baby or not. Because some boys they do not want to have the baby. Also some boys they just go with the girl just for fun, then they get shock when the girl told them that they are pregnant. But this thing I am telling you now does not occur in the olden days. Because the parents in the olden days do really take a good care for their daughters. They do not allow them to go anywhere without their permission, they just have to stay inside the house and do their work there. If something occurred then it means a problem that may be there will be fight or an argument. If one boy get away with another girl the sooner the better his relative have to go and take the whale's tooth with them in order to beg the parents of the girl to forgive them. In here in this village they will have to take the soft branch of the reeds plus the main branch. When they reach the house then they will stand outside for awhile, then they will have to raise the reeds into the house. So when they heard the voice said come in then they can go inside the house. So when they enter the house they will have to present the whale's tooth, in order to ask for forgiveness. As we can see it today that most of the people are using this method, that they can take the girl anywhere they want. In which it does not occur in the olden days.

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- This is called the BULUBULU, that the boy's relative have collect some fijian items like whale's tooth in order to ask the girls relatives to forgive them. And so from there they will have to ask the father of the girl if she could allow his daughter to be married to their son.

If the father agrees then it is okay, if the father does not agree then it means a great problem. So after that then they can go back to their place.

- Can you tell me who does present the whale's tooth as the SORO?

- In here even the father can present the whale's tooth to the father of the girl there is nothing bad about that. Then the father of the girl have to receive it and say yes to the decision they have made. After that then everything about the marriage then the boys relatives will have to prepare.

Also they have to prepare the magiti for the wedding and many other things.

- Can you explain to me about the TEVUTEVU ?

- This TEVUTEVU means that after the wedding then the boys mother have to lay down the big mats and masi and kumi for the bedding and after that then the mother of the boy will have to lay down her mats also for her daughters bedding.

In here any amount of mats they want to give to the new couple and we can only see that no one wants to have little, that just like competing with each other but they have to same amount.

- What do the people always said about the wedding ceremony?

- They say that this ceremony show the respect we have towards each other.

T H E E N D