

## Tuuhoe

I collected two *Tuuhoe* and cannot find a recording. The *tuuhoe* are the songs sung by Sikaiana navigators on their long distance voyages (*holau*). There are legends and clear historical records of Sikaiana people voyaging for long distances, especially to Ontong Java in the northwest and Santa Cruz in the southeast. De Quiros in 1606 met a Sikaiana person in 1606 named Luka and took the man with him to Peru.

For a discussion of Sikaiana voyaging, both in past and present see,

William W. Donner, "From Outrigger to Jet: Three Centuries of Polynesian Voyaging."  
In Richard Feinberg, editor, *Seafaring in the Contemporary Pacific Islands*, pp 144-158. University of Northern Illinois Press.

## Tuuhoe a Kaitekita

I don't remember when this was collected. But on the notes it is corrected by another handwriting, most likely Reuben Tenai or John Kilatu. It is a *tuuhoe*, a song that is song as part of long distance voyaging (*holau*). The song describes Kaitekita's sailing. His boat is taken by the currents, he calls to his spirits. In the three verses he describes different places that he has reached. (My typed transcription has the name Kaitekita, but I have in my mind that it should be Kaetekita.)

E ni hauhau nei toku vaka e tahea  
    Nau e totoka ki toku vaka tele tipa mai  
E ni hauhau nei a Temoni e opea  
    Nau e totoka e ki toku vaka tele tipa mai

### REFRAIN

E Oku kalemata e ki toku vaka  
    Nau e totoka ki.....  
E Oku kalemata ma hetuu te lani  
    Nau e totoka ki.....  
E Taniatu nau ki toku aitu  
    Nau e totoka ki.....  
E Taniatu nau Hine Taulani  
    Nau e totoka...

### Verses

E Lepotia nau tai o he henua  
    Nau e totoka...  
E Ukohia nau tai o Mala  
    Nau e totoka...

### Repeat Refrain

E Lepotia nai tai Nukulonu  
    Nau e totoka...  
E Ukohia nau o Hiti

### Repeat Refrain

Lepotia nau tai Pipileni  
    Nau e totoka...  
Ukohia nau tai Honohono (Santa Cruz?)  
    Nau e totoka...

Translation notes

*Tahea* current

*Opea* brought to a place by the sea

*Lepotia* (surrounded)

*Ukotia* (surrounded)

*Temoni* (spirit name?)

*Hine Taulani* (spirit name)

## Tuuhoē a Semalu

I don't have any notes about when this was taken or from whom. Again my guess would be John Kilatu or Reuben Tenai. There are some corrections in my notes. The original transcriptions are *koulu* which I have transcribed as *ko ulu* ("enter"), the original transcription in my notes, *haimate* (have death?) seems more likely to be *hai ma te* ("have/make with the").

Semalu is a famous person in Sikaiana legends. The legends describe an invasion by people from "Tona" (Tonga? more likely "south") led by a man named Vaeoma. After initial friendship, Vaeoma and his crew fought with the Sikaiana people and slaughtered many. As a result, many genealogies have a break about 12-14 generations before my residence in the 1980s. Vaeoma took a Sikaiana person, Semalu, and sailed on to Taumako, where Semalu warned the inhabitants of Vaeoma's destruction of the Sikaiana people. The people of Taumako killed Vaeoma and his crew.

E ni hano nau nei a ki te holau  
E Koulu atu toku vaka nei ko he ulu ee

E ni hano nau nei mu ate holau  
Ko ulu atu toku vaka nei ko he ulu ee

Refrain

Ka e tani la i toku apulu te ika o te moana nei  
Ka e tani la I toku kakau tei ka o te moana nei

Ka toku vaka nei hai ma te uua e ko ulu atu toku vaka ko he ulu ee  
Ka toku vaka nei ulu te matani e ko ulu atu toku vaka nei ko he ulu

Refrain

Ka toku vaka nei hai ma te tahe e ko ulu atu toku vaka nei ko he ulu ee  
Ka toku vaka nei ulu te peau e ko ulu atu toku vaka ko he ulu ee

Refrain

Semalu is singing to his voyage (holau)

The term *ulu* occurs frequently. It normally means "enter"