



Lotu mavae: Fetogi o te ma'uli fakalotu i 'Uvea mo Futuna

Lotu mavae: Religious identity and change in Wallis and Futuna

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Fakanounou

I te ma'uli fakakilisitiano o te tagata pe fafine 'uvea mo futuna e ma'uhiga ia vaega aeni e lua: ia te aga'ifenua pea mo tana tui. Ne'e māhāni mai foki ne'e lotu tahi pē te haha'i o 'Uvea mo Futuna ki te lotu katolika kae kua fetogi. Kamata mai te 'u ta'u 1980, ne'e kua liliu mai 'ihi kaiga 'uvea mo futuna mai Niu Kaletonia mo Falani mo ni lotu fo'ou. Pea e higoa'i te 'u maga'ilotu aeni ko te 'u "lotu mavae" he ko te 'u lotu e mole tapiki ki te tui katolika.

Ko te gaue fekumi aeni ne'e fakahoko i te 'u ta'u 2000-2001 i 'Uvea pea ne'e 'uluaki fakatu'u pepa i te 2002 i te tohi ne'e fa'ufa'u i Futuna ko te "Cahiers de Wallis et Futuna" pea toe fakatu'u pepa i te 2004 i te tohi ne'e fa'ufa'u i te Fale'ako ma'oluga o te Pasifika Saute (USP) i Fisi ko "Uvea".

E tuku atu i heni he fakanounou o te kakano o te gaue ne'e fakahoko pea ko koga tāfito e 3 e tou talanoa ānai ki ai:

- Te lotu āfea
- Te lotu katolika
- Te 'u lotu mavae.

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Abstract

In Wallis and Futuna, a territory considered peaceful and politically stable, daily life is organized around two focal points: custom and religion. The former, under the leadership of the *'aliki* (chiefs) is adapting, somewhat, to contemporary changes in locale mores. As for the *lotu*, the Catholic Church still occupies a predominant position but in the past few years it has had to compete with Christian or quasi-Christian movements, which altogether account for some 1 percent of the 15,000 inhabitants. This religious minority, ignored by the media and by officialdom, is nevertheless very much present in Wallisian and Futunan society.

Little information is available on the *lotu mavae*^a both in Wallis and Futuna and abroad, but everyone is now aware of their existence. Five movements stand out: the Evangelical Church, the Jehovah's Witnesses, the Pentecostal Evangelical Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Who are they exactly? What are their exact numbers? How do they conduct their different faith in a micro-society deeply steeped in Catholicism? This paper considers these questions.

^a *Lotu mavae* literally means "divergent religion" from the "official" church. In the original paperwa, the term was translated as "religious movement" as the word sect is pejorative. *Lotu mavae* refers to the faith, the religious group as well as the individual believer.

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Lotu āfea

Ko fakamatala fuli e tou ma'u i te 'aho nei o 'uhiga mo te lotu āfea ne'e tohi e te 'u pātele falani i tanātou tau fenua mai ki 'Uvea mo Futuna i te ta'u 1837. E mahino mai te tohi a pātele Henikele ko te "Talanoa ki 'Uvea nei" (fakatu'u pepa i te 1910) ne'e ko fa'ahiga 'atua e tolu ne'e tauhi ki ai te haha'i 'Uvea i te temi mu'a : ko te 'u 'atua tupua ne'e ko nātou ne'e nātou fakatupu te mālamanai, te 'u 'atua tanutanu ne'e ko ni laumālie o ni tagata ne'e fua kavega (hau pe 'aliki) i tonātou temi ma'uli pea ko tona tolu fa'ahiga leva ne'e ko te 'u 'atua muli ae ne'e nonofo i onātou fakafā'aga o hage ko ni vaka tafa'aga pe ko ni kumete.

E mahino mai te 'u fakamatala tu'u tohi a te fa'ahiga lotu katolika ne'e ko te 'u 'atua o te temi mu'a ne'e he'e ofa pea ne'e tu'ania nātou e te haha'i 'Uvea mo Futuna.

Mu'a atu te hake mai a te lotu katolika, ne'e faiga'i e 'ihi kau 'aliki toga ke nātou fakamafola i Uvea te lotu mavae a Lutelo ae ne'e kua kaugamālie ki ai te tafoki a te kaiga toga kae fakamulimuli pea ne'e tāmāte'i te kau folau toga o mavae fakatahi mo nātou te kaiga 'uvea ne'e kua tafoki ki te lotu aia.

Te lotu katolika

Ne'e hake te lotu katolika i Uvea i te ta'u 1837 pea tafoki te haha'i 'Uvea (1842) mo Futuna (1844). Ne'e liliu leva ia motu aeni e lua ko te tiosesi o Uvea mo Futuna i te ta'u 1966. Ka na'a lā te tu'u tu'a malohi a te 'u pelepitelō i te'u afifio a te hau ko Soane Patita Vaimu'a (1842) mo te hau ko Amelia Tokagahahau (1887) ke liliu 'Uvea mo Futuna ko ni motu e puipui e Falani, ne'e lagi feala ke fakalogo 'Uvea mo Futuna ki he tahi age pule'aga matāpule o hage ko Pilitania i Toga mo Fisi pe ko Siamani mo Amelika i Ha'amoā.

Ne'e liliu leva 'Uvea mo Futuna ko he faifaitaki'aga ma'uhiga ki te fa'ahiga tui mo tauhi o te lotu katolika ki te atu motu o te Pasifika, talu te maletile a Sagato Petelo Sanele i te ta'u 1841 pea iku ai mo te fakatu'u o te vikaliatu o Oseania Loto mo te seminalio i Lano Alofivai.

Ne'e gaue fakatahi te lotu mo te aga'ifenua pea mo te lesitā falani lolotoga te temi ae ne'e malu'i ai te 'u pule'aga hau o 'Uvea, o Alo pea mo Sigave (1887-1961) kae ne'e mamafa kehe age te lagiaki e te lotu ia te ma'uli o te kaiga 'uvea mo futuna. Ne'e tapu te fai folau vaka pea ne'e mamafa 'aupito te 'u lao mo te 'u tū'ā ne'e fakatu'u e te kau pātele o uhiga ia mo te ma'uli. Ne'e liliu te fenua ko he teokaliasia katolika i te temi aia mai tona 'alu'aga aeni ne'e nofo te pule mo mālohi taki pea mo te lotu fakatahi mo te faka'aliki. Logo lā te mālohi a te taki fakafenua pe ko te taki a 'ihi lēsita i 'ihi temi, ne'e ma'uhiga kehe age te lotu i te aga'ifenua mo te pule'aga falani o kaku ki te fakatu'u o te telituaie i te ta'u 1961.

E fakamo'oni e Falani i te vaega tolu o te tohi tālaga o te 1961 ia tana faka'apa'apa ki te 'aga'ifenua mo te lotu a te kaiga 'uvea mo futuna kehe pe ke mole fehagai ki te 'u lao o te lepupilika. Talu te 1969, ne'e tuku ai leva e te pule'aga falani te taki o te vaega ako mālalo ki te Tiosesi o 'Uvea mo Futuna i he tohi tālaga ke taupau mo malu'i e te lotu ia te'u faleako mālalo i 'Uvea mo Futuna.

I te'u ta'u 1950-1970, ne'e fakaavaava leva e te Tiosesi te kumi gaue a te kau tagata mālohi mo 'onātou u fāmili ki Niu Kaletonia mo Vila. I tātou tau fenua atu ki te'u fenua matāpule aeni, ne'e tauhi nātou e ihi pelepitelō 'uvea ne'e pule pālokia ai pea nātou fakatu'u ai mo ni kautahi (Tiasolo mo te Lesio o Malia) pea mo tokoni ki te laga o ni 'ēkelesia.

I te 1972, ne'e fakanoho ai Moseniolo Lolesio Fuahea ko te 'uluaki epikopo 'uvea aia o te tiosesi.

Ne'e haha'i te kau pātele mo taupo'ou 'uvea mo futuna ne'e 'olo o gaue mo fakamafola te evaselio i tu'a pule'aga.

Kei mamalu te lotu katolika i 'Uvea mo Futuna kae talu te 'u ta'u 1980 mo te kua fetogi o te ma'uli fakalotu i te fenua, aki te kua mafola o 'ihi kautahi lotu fo'ou mai Niu Kaletonia mo Falani.

Te 'u lotu mavae

I te kamata'aga, ne'e tahitahiga te talanoa'i o te 'u lotu mavae i 'Uvea mo Futuna, mai tona 'alu'aga ae ne'e kei tahi te tauhi ki te lotu katolika pea mālohi te alu'aga o te tauhi o te ma'uli fatogia i te nofo fakafenua. Ne'e tapu i te 'u ta'u 1980 te lau o te Tohi Tapu pea ne'e ko te 'u pelepitelō tahi pē ne'e feala ke fai akonaki.

Ko te 'u lotu mavae ae kua mafola i 'Uvea mo Futuna ne'e au mai fuli pe e 'ihi kaiga 'uvea pe futuna ne'e ma'uli i Niu Kaletonia mo Falani i te 'u ta'u 1980-90.

Ko te 'u kautahi lotu aia ko te 'Ēkelesia o te Evaselio i Ono i Futuna pea muli ki ai te kau Fakamo'oni o Sehova i 'Uvea, te 'Ēkelesia o te Penikosite, te 'Ēkelesia Molomone mo te 'Ēkelesia o te 'Aho Fitu.

E mole ilo'i papau te kaugamālie o te kaiga kua kau i te 'u lotu mavae aeni kae e lau ki te toko 200 ape i te ta'u 2001.

Ko te 'u maga'i lotu aeni e kau ki ai te kaiga kua fakafisi ki te lotu katolika pea mo ana to'oto'oga. 'Uhi ko te kua fio o te lotu katolika mo te aga'ifenua, ne'e fakatū'ā ihi o nātou i te kamata'aga. Pea fakamulimuli pea sītu'a te kaiga lotu mavae ki te ma'uli fakafenua o te kolo, o te pālokia mo te fenua. Mole kei fatogia te tokolahi o te'u kautahi aia he mole kei alu tahi te akonaki a te'u kautahi lotu fo'ou aeni mo he ma'uli fakafenua e tu'u tahi mo te lotu katolika.

Ko he koga fo'ou i te ma'uli a te haha'i 'uvea mo futuna kae ko he koga kua māhani ki ai te kaiga o te 'u motu e 'ovi mai: Ha'amoā, Fisi, Tuvalu, Toga, Niuē he lahi ai te 'u maga'i lotu kehekehe pea toe malohi ai mo te aga'ifenua.

I te temi nei, kua fetogi te ma'uli fakalotu mo fakafenua i 'Uvea mo Futuna kae tāfito i 'Uvea. Kua situ'a ihi kaiga ki te aga'ifenua o mulimuli ki te lotu kua nātou ma'uli ai.

E feala ape he fakatauhōa o te aga'ifenua mo takita lotu mavae pe he'e lotu? E toe fakatahi ape te kaiga o hoko atu te fatogia mo te ma'uli fakafenua, logo lā te kua lotu kehekehe? E hoko mai ape he 'aho kua feala ke to'o kehe ai te lotu katolika mai te kakano o te 'uhiga 'uvea mo futuna?

Ko ni fehu'i ma'uhiga e tonu ke fakasiosio mo talanoa ki ai te kaiga 'uvea mo futuna, ke tu'u ma'u ai pe te tokalelei pea ke tou liliu ki he ma'uli fakatahi mo fetokoni'aki.

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O 'uhiga mo kita (Bio)

Ko F. Asi Talatini e ko he fānau 'uvea e tamai Ālele mo fa'e Ha'afuasia pea ne'e ako i te fale'ako ma'oluga o te 'u lea mo aga'ifenua o te potu hahake (INALCO) i Palesi i Falani. Ne'e ina ma'u ai tana pepa faka'osi ta'u 3 i te vaega ako o te 'u aga fakafenua i te 1999 pea mo tana pepa faka'osi ta'u 5 i te vaega ako o te hitolia o te Pasifika i te 2002 i te fale'ako ma'oluga o Palesi 7. Ne'e ina teuteu'i mo toe ma'u tana pepa faka'osi ta'u 5 i te vaega ako o te fe'ave'aki logo i te fale'ako ma'oluga o Palesi 2 i te 2001. Ne'e gaue i te pilo fakafoga o 'Uvea mo Futuna i Palesi mai te ta'u 2001 ki te 2003 o gaue tāfito i te potu o te fe'ave'aki logo mo te 'u aga fakafenua. Kei lolotoga gaue nei F. Asi Talatini i te potu o te fe'ave'aki logo i tu'a pule'aga pea kei tokoni pe ki ni gaue e fakahoko i te lea faka'uvea.

Bio

F. Asi Talatini is an 'Uvean with paternal roots in Ālele village and maternal roots in Ha'afuasia village. He studied at the INALCO in Paris, France, where he obtained a B.A. in Humanities in 1999. He completed a M.A. in Pacific History at the Paris VII University in 2002 and also obtained a M.A.S in Communications and Multimedia at the Paris II University in 2001. He worked as a communications and cultural officer at the Delegation of 'Uvea and Futuna Islands in Paris between 2001 and 2003. F. Asi Talatini continues to work in the communications field overseas and is still involved in cultural projects related to the 'Uvean language.