



**Nakabuta: Tikina Nokonoko,
Nadrogra Handicraft
Diversification Workshop**

October 18-22, 2004

Nakabuta village, Nadroga

*Report by Ms. Niqa Tuvuki
Senior Cultural Dev. Officer (DCH) &
Secretary, Fiji Arts Council*

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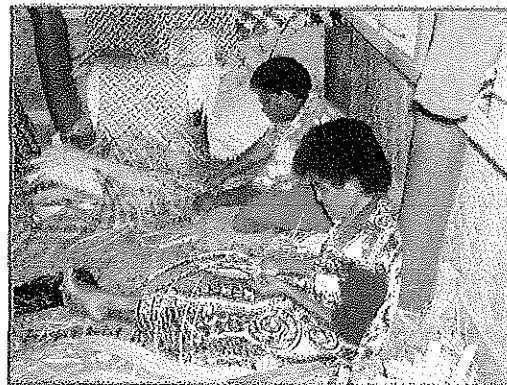
Attachments

- *Lists of Participants*
- *Final Statement of Accounts*
- *Workshop Pictures*

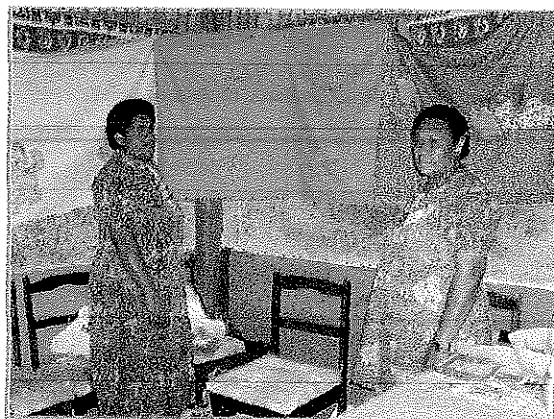
NAKABUTA HANDICRAFT DIVERSIFICATION WORKSHOP 18TH – 22ND OCTOBER, 2004

1.0 Introduction:

One of the objectives of the Fiji Arts Council is to encourage the development of intellectual capacity of grassroots in acquiring both traditional and contemporary art and craft skills. This is indeed an opportunity to promote creativity and create socio-cultural and economic openings for them.



Taking this into consideration, the Fiji Arts Council had requested funding from the existing Cultural Funding programs allocated in the Department of Culture & Heritage to assist the Council in organizing a craft development workshop that was held in the village of Nakabuta from 18th – 22nd October 2004.

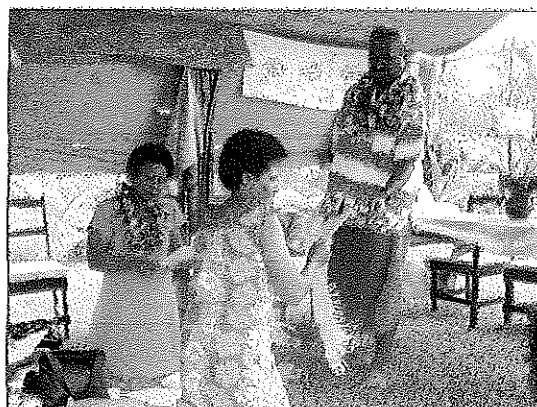


The request of the *Veilomani Women's Club* in the village of Nakabuta in Sigatoka was submitted and endorsed at the Nokonoko Tikina Meeting, held early this year, expressing the need to learn additional traditional and contemporary craft skills. Even though the mentioned tikina has the necessary knowledge and skills in pottery making, the workshop

was an opportunity to enhance their expertise further and teach new and creative designs which will enrich their society in a number of practical ways, strictly cultural ones, and commercial reasons that should most certainly be encouraged.

2.0 Aims and Objectives:

The aims and objectives of such workshops are to assist the participants in the following:



- Upgrading of knowledge and skills in art and craft by teaching them new creative designs
- Improve the current standard and forms of creative and artistic expressions and increase the range of handiwork development locally
- More job creations and poverty alleviation
- For greater Fijian participation in small and medium sized enterprise
- Enriching their society in preserving and promoting their natural resources
- Increase their sources of everyday sales
- An opportunity to link knowledge gained from the workshop to their eco- tourism infrastructure that is already in place
- Enhance and promote the development of "cultural learning" in social settings.

3.0 Official Opening:

We were fortunate to have the Tui Taba ni Vono, Ratu Jone Ulunisau as Chief Guest who resides in Naduri which is the Chiefly Village of the Tikina Nokonoko.

The participants were blessed by his presence since he had encouraged them to work together towards the betterment of their people.

4.0 Participants:

The 5 days workshop involved men, women and youths from the 7 villages encompassing the Tikina Nokonoko (ie: *villages of Nakabuta, Lawai, Qereqere, Naduri, Nakalavo, Tiliva Levu, and Vunatovau*) who were taught the skills of screen printing, tie and dye and basket weaving. There were other participants from nearby villages that were also fascinated by the aim of the workshop.

The 47 participants from the above mentioned villages had the opportunity to learn the skills from two local women who are renowned for their extensive knowledge in the different genres of art and craft that they specialize in.

5.0 Resource People:

The three resource people that taught participants include:

Finau Mara – a basket weaver.

Marica Lomasalato – screen printer. Marica was assisted by Joe Nailatikau, a self-employed screen printer.

The pair, who also run their own business in Suva, are two best practicing craftspeople in their various categories and have won numerous awards at the Fiji Arts Council National Art and Crafts Exhibitions.



6.0 Materials:

Materials used by the two resource persons encompass the following:

- Voivoi (somo, paogo, vulavula), magimagi, seashells, and coconut shells.
- Clear plastic, phone cards, strings and x-ray stencils.

7.0 Budget:

The Department of Culture & Heritage was able to allocate \$6,000.00 from the Cultural Grants to cater for all expenses incurred for the one week' workshop. All expenses details are highlighted in the Financial Statement attached to this report.

8.0 Official Closing:

The Fiji Arts Council had initially requested the Roko Tui Nadroga Navosa to officially close the workshop, but due to non confirmation of their attendance, Mrs Emele Naivalurua, who is also a Council Member and a former Civil Servant instrumental in the Development of the Government Handicraft of the Ministry of Commerce, was invited to officiate the closing.



However upon our arrival at Nakabuta, we were fortunate to have the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Office send an envoy on behalf of the Roko Tui.

Consequently we had to request both to be Chief Guest at the closing and delegate the task of making the closing remarks and presentation of certificates to either of them.

Mrs Naivalurua spoke on the increasing importance on women participation in the development of art and craft in Fiji.

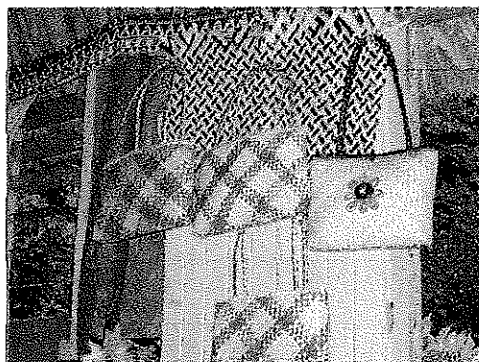
The Assistant Roko Navosa, Mr. Kameli Rakoko complimented Mrs, Naivalurua's closing remarks by formally presenting certificate of participation to the 47 participants.



9.0 Recommendations:

- Facilitation of an additional workshop to enhance pottery making skills in the villages concerned.
- Enhance and develop new methods of making pottery. This could also include the generating of creative designs.

- Upgrade and develop art and craft skills.
- Diversify source of incoming generating projects in Nakabuta since a market for their products is already in place. Other areas of art and craft could include meke performances, shell necklaces, masi making .etc. besides the normal routine of pottery making.
- Develop historical sites as areas of heritage importance which could balance current skills commercialized
- The villages could work with the Information Technology Section of Government to market their products on the internet. Orders can be made by both local and overseas buyers.
- Evaluation program to be facilitated after the workshop to gauge the extent of workshop. *Have the participants learnt a great deal from the latter? Or is it just for participation sakes?*
- Set-up of an art and craft committee within the tikina to assist FAC in making proper decisions to enhance and develop art and craft in the area and finding possible outlets elsewhere.



10.0 Conclusion:

The Nakabuta Workshop was another successful community workshop centering on the need to utilize our natural and cultural resources for sustainable economic gain. The participants sincerely appreciated the workshop as it gave them the opportunity to use those new skills acquired in screen printing and basket weaving to supplement the income generated from sale of pottery. The diversification from pottery to other types of art forms will indeed help the women and youths of the Tikina of Nokonoko to improve on their sources of income and to become more self-sufficient..

Ms. Niqa Tuvuki
Acting Senior Cultural
Development Officer
27th October, 2004



NAKABUTA BASKET WEAVING & SCREEN PRINTING WORKSHOP

18TH – 22ND OCTOBER 2004

PARTICIPANTS

NAKABUTA VILLAGE

1. MEREWAI WAQANIBAU
2. ALITI KUNASAU
3. IVAMERE NAIVOLI
4. KOINI TAGIYAWA
5. CAMARI NASIKI
6. ELENOA COKOIBUSA
7. MAIRINI MIKAI
8. SERUWAIA NAKAILAGI
9. SAINIVALATI NAWAWABALAVU
10. MERE KADAVU
11. WAME VUETI
12. ISIRELI TUTOGA
13. MARIKA RADREKUSA
14. KELERA BULOOU
15. KELERA DANIA
16. VANI KEDRALEVU

NACOCOLEVU

17. MEREONI TAWAKE
18. ADI VITI TOGA COVECENA

TUBAIRATA

19. NUNIA NAKIYOYO

NADURI VILLAGE

20. MAKELESI NALASI
21. RIGIETA KUNAVALE
22. ADI ALESI TALATOKA
23. TORIKA AMUNA

NAYAWA VILLAGE

24. WAKESA LEKA

TAGAQE VILLAGE

25. ESETA LEBA

LAWAI VILLAGE

26. VIVITA SENIVONO
27. ULAMILA RABITU
28. METELITA DRODROLAGI
29. ALENA KATONITABUA
30. VANI NAWASA
31. JO WILLY ACIRI
32. ASINATE LALA
33. MEREIA NAIKADRA
34. IVAMERE TINAIKABA
35. VENIANA DEVU
36. VENIANA RABUKA
37. MITIELI RABITU
38. TENNESSE TUIMEREKE
39. SETAREKI VETUKU
40. SAKEASI RABITU
41. URAIA MASIKULA
42. ALANIETA TONAWAI
43. MERE TAKAYAWA
44. KELENI DOMO
45. MEREONI LUVUHILA
46. MAKELESI NAWASA
47. LAVENIA RANADI

LASELASE VILLAGE

48. ASINATE MURI WAQA

TURORS: BASKET WEAVING

SCREEN PRINTING

- FINAU MARA

**- MARICA LOMASALATO
JOSUA NAILATIKAU**

NAKABUTA BASKET WEAVING & SCREEN PRINTING WORKSHOIP
NAKABUTA VILLAGE, NADROGA

18th – 22nd October, 2004

FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Fees for Resource Persons	-	\$1,200.00
Basket Weaving Materials	-	342.40
Screen Printing Materials	-	843.25
Food for Participants	-	1,200.00
Stationeries	-	128.25
Telephone Recharge Cards	-	33.00
Yaqona	-	64.00
Overtime & Meal Allowance	-	708.00
Transport Cost:-	-	521.50
Office Taxi runs	67.40	
Fuel – Dept Vehicle	214.10	
Opening & Closing of Workshop	240.00	
Transport Cost for Participants	-	116.00
Closing of Workshop	-	96.00
Printing of Certificates	-	100.00

		\$5,352.40

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NAKABUTA WORKSHOP

