

Building (on) a few dictionaries from Asia & the Pacific

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created bridges between SIL Toolbox's MDF structure, LMF, and various outputs including HTML and PDF. This talk will provide examples of our productions, currently in progress.

Some useful links:

bit.ly/LacitoMap

<https://lacito.hypotheses.org/language-map>

<http://himalco.huma-num.fr/dictionaries>

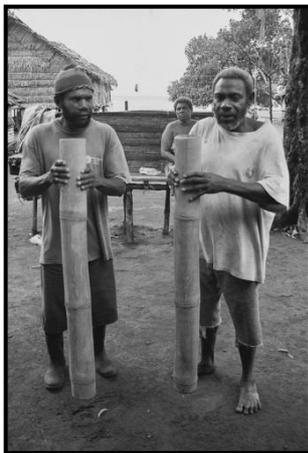
<http://alex.francois.free.fr/AF-Araki-dict.htm>

<http://bit.ly/AF-Mtp-Eng-01>

Excerpts from our dictionaries

Language: **Teanu** (Solomon Is)

~**woi okoro** [**•woi okoro**] PHRAS.VI. lit. "poke bamboos": pound heavy bamboos vertically and repeatedly onto the ground, to mark bass rhythms while singing. ▶ **Kape ba-woi okoro, bai-oburo ne mane.** *We shall pound the bamboos and sing songs, in the dancing area.* ♦ Bamboos are especially played that way



in a musical genre called **Buro bula okoro** 'Songs for bamboos'. A handful of musicians are lined up in the centre of the village area (**mane**); as they pound the bamboos, they sing songs, to the sound of which the dancers dance around them.

~**atui** [**•atui**] VT. (1) make effort upon <s.th.>, have a go at <s.th. difficult>. ▶ **Pe-ka p-atui botu 'none!** *Come and have a go at (lifting) my boat!*

(2) [**no object**] try hard. ▶ **I-atui i-atui: tae! i-tabo i-le.** *He tried on and on, with no success, and went back.*

(3) [**+ Subord. pe**] try unsuccessfully, hence fail, not manage to do s.th. ▶ **Ebele ene añã ini tae tamwase, ka ni-atui pe ni-aiu.** *My body has no strength, I can hardly get up.*

ua bale we Ginio [ua ^mbale we Ginio] N.

(1) lit. "Ginio's breadfruit": Ankle rattle tree.

Pangium edule. ♦ The fruit name refers to an unknown character Ginio.

(2) ankle rattles used in dancing. ▶ **Ua bale we Ginio, pipinoe ñei.** *We use ankle rattles to perform our dances.*



~**avo** [**•avo**] VI. (1) be hanging in the air.

▶ **Uña asodo dapa li-avo ne bongé.** *Bats hang in caves.*

♦ ~**la i-avo** PHRAS.VT. lit. "take s.th. it hangs": hang, hook <s.th.>. ▶ **Le-la i-avo korone nara i-sabu.** *We must hook (the bait) firmly for fear it might fall off.* ♦ Morph. The sequence ~**la i-avo** is sometimes contracted into a single verb ~**laiavo*** 'hang, hook+'.

(2) be located above. ▶ **Telau i-avo bosoiawo.** *The cupboard is located above the fire.*

(3) lit. "head is hanging": (head) feel dizzy. ▶ **Basa ene i-avo.** *(drinking kava) I'm feeling dizzy.*

Chewing areca nuts (~**kanu**)

Vanikoro is, with Tikopia, the world's easternmost place where the chewing of areca nuts is a traditional practice. People go in the forest to pick (~**ali**) areca nuts (**buioe**), and pinch (~**kidi**) betel leaves (**puluko**). The two elements are then mixed with lime (**awo**), and chewed together (~**kanu**) until feeling dizzy (see ~**avo**).

(4) (boat+) float, stay afloat (vs. sink). ▶ **To-ñaki ka i-avo ka i-tab' i-le.** *The ship remained afloat, and began its way back.*

- (5) (hence) be anchored somewhere. *Ant.*
~tavea 'drift'.

~vete [**fete*] vt. say.

- (1) [+object NP or direct speech] tell, say, declare <s.th.>. ▷ **Pi' one i-vete tae.** *My grandfather never told me.* ▷ **Pon i-vete (i-ko) "Wako!"** *So he said "That's fine!"*
- (2) mention <s.o., s.th.>, talk about. ▷ **Na tepakola pe li-vete na?** *Is this the giant whom people keep talking about?* ▷ **Iote pe eo a-vete ponu, i-wene ne moe 'none.** *The one you were mentioning is in my home.* ▷ **Ka ni-mui pe ni-vete temotu aplaka.** *I forgot to mention the small islet.*

Some speech verbs [*~vete**]

~vete	say, mention
~vete piene	talk, speak
~mo	talk, speak
~atevo	tell s.th.
~viñi	tell s.o.
~wasi	show s.o.
~waivo	teach s.o.
~kilase	address s.o.
~ko ₂	say, think
~vodo	think

- (3) (word+) mean <s.th.>. ▷ **Vesepiene iune, i-vete ngatene tilu.** (*polysemy*) *It is the same word, but with two distinct meanings. [lit. it says two things]*
- (4) give away <s.o.>, denounce publicly. ▷ **U-vet' ene etapu!** *Don't give me away!*
- (5) (chief) call, convene <event, meeting+>. ▷ **Teliki iadapa i-vete ngapiene.** *The chief proclaimed the opening of the Festival.*

Erythras and calendars [*ebieve**]

Noma, ebieve nga calendar adapa. Pe ka mana dapa ka li-ovei li-ko ka li-ka ne to ebieve. – 'In the olden days, Erythrina flowers would serve as a kind of a calendar. When people would see its flowers had come out, they knew they were in the middle of the year.'

The annual flowering of this tree was traditionally a marker of the yam-planting season. This correlation accounts for the colexification between the two words, *ebieve*₁ 'Erythrina flower' and *ebieve*₂ 'year'.

ebieve₁ [*e^mbieve*] n. Indian coral tree. *Erythrina variegata*; *E. indica*. *Read*: Ross (2008:159, 257).

ebieve₂ [*e^mbieve*] n. yearly season, year. ▷ **ne to ebieve in the middle of the year** ▷ **ebieve 2005 in 2005** ▷ **ebieve iote k' awoiu ponu last year** ▷ **Ebieve iono tivi?** [*how many are your years?*] *How old are you?* ♦ *Etym.* This noun is metonymically named after the yearly flowering of the Erythrina flower (*ebieve*₁).

- ~mui [**mui*] vt. (1) (*comm*) [*static reading*] not know, be ignorant of <s.th.>; have no idea (if, ~ko₂). ▷ **Ia ni-mui, nga u-ium' u-viñ' ene!** *I didn't know, you should have told me!* ▷ **Ene ni-mui ni-ko kape n-ajau nganae kape wako.** *I don't know what to do.* *Ant.* ~ovei.
- (2) be unable (to do, **pe+Clause**). ▷ **I-mui pe i-mo.** *He cannot speak.*
- (3) [*dynamic reading*] forget, be unable to remember <s.th.>. ▷ **Dapa pie aipa ka vitoko kape le-mui piene aipa.** *Our grandchildren will soon forget our language.*
- (4) forget (to do, **pe+Clause**). ▷ **Ka ni-mui pe ni-vete.** *I forgot to say it.*
- (5) (*rare*) forget <object>, leave behind. ▷ **Ni-mui temamene 'none i-wene ne moe.** *I left behind my bag in the house!*

Language: **Mwotlap** (Vanuatu)

kakamoy n. (1) <Myth> Dwarf: a mythical, elf-like creature looking like small people, and living in community in the wild. ♦ A folk etymology links their name to *kaka moymoy*, lit. 'talk grumble', with reference to the gibberish supposedly spoken by these creatures.

Dwarves in the bush

[*Kakamoy**]

Ige kakamoy kēy togtog lē-mēt siso lē-lē, wa kēy et tagtaghiy te kēy. Kēy ququleg la-gayga a la-maltow. Yatkelgi kēy te-byiñ vēh n-et, yatkelgi tateh. Ba kēy et matmat te: kēy no-togtog lap ēwē qele anen.

'The *Kakamoy* live in the forest or in caves, and never wash. They like to swing on vines in the bush. They are sometimes kind to men, but not always. They are immortal, and eternal.'

- (2) (*rare*) dwarf, midget. ▷ **Kē na-kakamoy.** *He/She's a midget.*

[*cf. Kakamora* 'mythical creature (in *Makira*, Solomon Is)]