



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

**Date:** 22 July 2016

**Name of Matter:** State -v- Ratu Epeli Niudamu & Others

**Name of Accused:** 1. Ratu Epeli Niudamu

2. Sailasa Wairoaroa Malani
3. Sereima Adidave Rokodi
4. Nanise Kasami Nagusuca
5. Waisea Duailima
6. Isikeli Waisega Kabakoro
7. Laisiasa Mocevakaca
8. Emosi Toga
9. Waisake Racaca
10. Samuela Ligabalavu
11. Mikaele Gonerara
12. Josefa Natau
13. Sulueti Lotu Waqalala
14. Ulaiyasi Rabua Tuivomo
15. Apolosi Qalilawa
16. Iisapeci Natau

**Charge:** One count each of sedition contrary to section 65 (2) (a) and one count each of inciting communal antagonism contrary to section 67 (1) (a) of the Crimes Decree 2009.

**Update**

The matter was called at the Lautoka High Court today (22.07.16) before Justice Aruna Aluthge.

All accused persons were present in court.

The sixteen accused persons in this matter are charged with sedition and inciting communal antagonism in relation to the alleged Ra sovereign Christian state matter.

The matter was called for Voir Dire particulars.

The court was informed that the State was ready to proceed with the trial, however, the Judge informed counsel that he will not be available in September to continue with the sedition trial.

The Defence was ordered to provide the State with better Voir Dire particulars for the accused persons.

The court rescheduled the Voir Dire and Trial for the matter to 6 February 2017.

The matter has been adjourned to 1 December 2016 for mention.

Bail has been extended to all accused persons.

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