



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

**Date:** 27 February 2017

**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 67 (1) (a) of the Crimes Act 2009.

**Update**

This matter was called today (27.02.17) at the Lautoka High Court before Justice Aruna Aluthge.

All accused persons were present in court.

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

The State filed an amended information in court today.

The charge of inciting communal antagonism contrary to section 65 (2) (a) of the Crimes Act 2009 has been amended to sedition contrary to section 67 (1) (a) of the Crimes Act 2009.

The Defence sought time to consult their clients in relation to the amended information.

The matter has been adjourned to 16 March 2017 for plea and to fix a trial date.

Bail has been extended to all accused persons.

-END-