



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

**Date:** 24 September 2015

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

**Names of Accused Persons:**

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. Ilisapeci 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:**

Matter was called at the Lautoka High Court yesterday (23.09.15) for Voir Dire grounds.

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 Defence informed the Court that their Voir Dire grounds are in relation to section 13 of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji (Rights of Arrested and Detained Persons). The State informed the Court that the rights put forth to the accused were sufficient to fulfil Section 13 of the Constitution.

After discussing other Voir Dire grounds matters, the Court then set a Voir Dire trial date for next month (15-16 October 2015).

**-Ends-**