Glossary

**buli**  Local administrator.

**galala**  Independent; used in this book to refer to independent farming.

**iTokatoka**  The next division after the *mataqali*. Each *mataqali* may have several *iTokatoka*.

**kerekere**  A request.

**lali**  Drum.

**lewe ni kabakaba**  Inhabitants of the ladder.

**lotu**  Church.

**mataqali**  Nayacakalou has described the *mataqali* as a ‘patrilineal social group’.

*1* Each village may have two or more *mataqali*. The *mataqali* is generally considered the primary division in the village. Tomlinson has described the *mataqali* as the subclan to the *yavusa*.


**roko**  District governor.

**sirdar**  Title commonly given to Indian foremen on sugar plantations.

**solevu**  Ceremonial exchange.

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tabua  Whale teeth, presented with a magimagi (cord made of coconut fibre) for ceremonies and presentations.

talanoa  Discussion, conversation.

talatala  Fijian ordained minister/s.

tikina  Indigenous Fijian administration is based on the koro, or village, headed by a Turaga ni Koro elected or appointed by the villagers. Several koro combine to form a tikina, two or more of which comprise a province.

vanua  In the most simplistic sense, vanua means ‘land’, but the term invokes a much broader reference to Fijian spiritual connections to land. The land is considered a source of mana, of power.4 Nayacakalou also describes the vanua as the largest political unit in Fiji.5

vakamisioneri  A payment system whereby villages would present payment to go towards mission activities and programs.

vakaturaga  According to chiefly protocols, with respect to chiefs.

vaka viti  In the ‘Fijian way’.6

yavusa  Anthropologist Matthew Tomlinson has described the term yavusa as similar to the term ‘clan’. A yavusa is made up of a conglomeration of kinship groups.7

5  R Nayacakalou, Leadership in Fiji, Oxford, University of the South Pacific in association with Oxford University Press, 1975, p. 36.
7  J Ryle, personal communication, 11 August 2014.