Dedication

To my grandfather the late Tangaloa of Tokū a.k.a Fotu of Leimātu'a (Viliami Telefoni Lātū) and my parents Fotu of Leimātu'a (Sāmiu) and 'Atelaite Moimoi Lātū in deep appreciation and sincere admiration of/for their staunch belief in education as a whole way of life.

Declaration			
Except where otherwise indicated, this thesis is the results of my own work.			
Viliami Uasikē Lātū			

2006

Abstract

This thesis examines international migration and societal change that have taken place in the Kingdom of Tonga. It sets out to show the enormous complexity of the phenomenon, by examining various theories and factors relating to international migration, particularly as they relate to Tongan society. Its significance rests in the attempt to analyze migration in the light of the groundbreaking economic reforms introduced to the Kingdom by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV when he acceded to the throne in 1966. These reforms have gradually transformed Tonga's socio-political and economic landscape at all levels. Consequently, migration has resulted in half of the Kingdom's population moving to live abroad, most notably in New Zealand, Australia and the United States of America.

The study used a qualitative approach, which is mainly based on interviews with key informants and observations of different sectors of Tongan society through fieldwork conducted in Tonga and in the three main host countries New Zealand, Australia and the United States of America. I begin by reviewing the theoretical literature on international migration including its relation to the socio-political, economic and cultural changes taking place in Tongan society, and to the wider processes of globalization.

The major finding of this thesis is that international migration is undoubtedly the leading force of change in Tonga's socio-political and economic landscape today. The consequences have revolutionalized the form and content of key institutions in Tongan society such as the economy, the social structure, the political system and the church. The current political discontent represented by the recent push for political reforms is a clear indication of the pressures imposed by external forces of change on the political structure of Tonga with international migration being the key driving force.

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VUL

Glossary of Tongan Terms

anga fakatonga Tongan way of life or Tongan culture

'eiki chief

'eiki toputapu sacred ruler

fa'ahinga extended family

fahu institutionalized sister's/female's social

and economic interests in which the sister is of superior rank to that of the brother

fai'aho birthday celebration.

faifekau church minister

fa'iteliha'anga free to do whatever you like on the

expense of someone you are related to or

know well.

fakaafe church feast

faka'apa'apa respect

fakahāhā ivi showing off of economic capabilities

fakalakalaka development

fakamē children's Sunday

faka-sepitema women's day in the month of September

fakavahavaha'a competition

fala mat

falehanga place where women produce traditional

women goods [koloa]

fatongia obligation

fefine 'i fonua woman of the land

fekai savage

fe'ofo'ofani caring for each other

fesisiofakicompetitionfetokoni'akicooperationfiefiahappiness

fie pālangi pretending to be a foreigner

fiepoto pretending to be smart

fihu fine mats

fono village meeting/council

fonua country/land

fua kavenga committed to obligations

ha'a class or lineage; the largest socio-political

unit in Tonga -- a loose confederation of genealogically related chiefs and their

peoples.

ha'ame'avale commoners
hafekasi half-caste

hau temporary ruler

hopoate slaves

hou'eiki chiefly class

hounga'ia an expression of appreciation

kainanga-e-fonua eaters of the soil

kāinga people of a Tongan village or localities

headed by a ruling title chief

kalapuclubkauclasskau fakaangacritics

kau heuheu oppositions

kau tangata'eiki respectable word for older males.

kau toutai fishermen

kava ceremonial beverage made from kava

plant (piper methysticum)

kelekele soil

kilisimasi Christmas day

kolo village

koloa women traditional goods/ sometimes

refers to material goods in general or gift

kolotau fortress

kulupu group

kumi find/seek

kuo kehe 'eni ia kuonga time is strange

lakalaka traditional dance; lakalaka can be

described as sung group speeches with

choreographed movements.

lakanga position lotu religion

lotu fakamamata pretending to be religious

lukuluku contributing food for church feast

mafai power māfana warmness

makafetoli'aki a sense of working together in the

community; helping others while

expecting nothing in return.

mali wedding

mana supernatural power

manatu remembrance

matai Samoan version of the chiefly class

matakali Fijian "mataqali"; intermediary local

social unit

matāpulechief's spoke personmatāpule ma'utofi'achief with estatesminisitāgovernment ministermisinalechurch annual donation

mo'ui life/livelihood

mo'unga'i tangata politically and economically powerful

person

mulioverseasngatutapa clothngāuework

nima mālohi economically powerful

nōpele noble

nu'u place of origin

'ofa love

'ofa fonua nationalism

'otua god

pālangi European/foreigner

pālangi loi pretending to be a foreigner

pani pre-ordained

pepa paper (Residential Status)

pō le'o new year's eve

polopolo offering the best output from land to the

chiefs

po'opo'o'i government newspaper

pōpula slaves
pule authority
pule'anga government

pule'anga moe siasi kae mālohi ha fonua a Tongan slogan which advocates that

alliance of church and state makes a

nation strong ('two pillars').

putu funeral

sāpate ako students' Sunday

sāpate fa'e mothers' day sāpate tamai fathers' day

Siasi church $t\bar{a}$ time

" $t\bar{a}$ " " $v\bar{a}$ " time-space

ta'anga poetry/ lyrics or composition

tamai father

tauhi vaha 'a/tauhi vā maintaining a relationship base mutual

cooperation.

taliangi loyalty

tangata'i fonua man of the land

tangata ivilahi politically and economically powerful

man

tangata lahi politically and economically powerful

man

ta'ofi vāhenga second position to the vāhenga in the

lakalaka

tapu taboos tapuaki blessing

tu'a commoner

tu'i monarch/King

tu'ulelei well off tu'umalie rich

tu'utu'uni to give directions or command

tofi'a estate

tōkanga farming land

tokonaki food from the land

toutai fishing

tupu'anga place of birth uikelotu prayer week

'ulumotu'a head of the extended family

 $v\bar{a}$ space

vāhenga special position in the arrangement of the

lakalaka which reserve for a member of

the chiefly class

veitapui observing the restricted taboos between

sisters and brothers

Table of Contents

Abstract	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Glossary	vii
List of Abbreviations	xv
List of Illustrations	xvii
Chapter One Introduction 1.1 Aim of Study 1.2 Research Questions 1.3 Significance of Study 1.4 Structure of Thesis	1 1 1 5 8 10
Chapter Two Methodological and Theoretical Considerations 2.1 Theoretical Considerations 2.1.1 International Migration 2.1.2 Institutional Change under the Impact of Migration 2.2.3 Relationships and Conflicting Tendencies 2.2 Methodology 2.3 Research Challenges	14 14 14 14 19 21 23
Chapter Three History and Social Structure of Tonga 3.1 Tonga in Brief 3.2 Traditional Socio-Political Structures and Kinship System 3.2.1 Traditional Socio-Political Structures 3.2.2 Kinship System 3.3 Constitutional Development 3.4 Tonga's Christianization	38 38 42 42 47 50
Chapter Four International Migration in the Past and Present 4.1 International Migration in the Past 4.1.1 Ancient Tonga 4.1.2 Contacts with Europeans 4.1.2.1 Pre Missionary Period 4.1.2.2 Contact with Missionaries 4.1.2.3 Post-missionary era 4.2 Contemporary Migration 4.2.1 Tongans Overseas	64 64 64 73 73 75 78 84

Chapter Five	94
Economic Change	94
5.1 Remittances	94
5.2 Economic Effects of Remittances	107
5.3 Changing Economic Behavior	109
Chapter Six	115
Social and Cultural Change	115
6.1 Overview of Change in Tonga Society	115
6.1.1 Tonga's New Socio-Political Landscape Model	117
6.2 Socio-Cultural Change	119
6.2.1 Change in the Fa'ahinga and Fāmili Institutions	127
6.2.2 The New Rich	134
Chapter Seven	142
Political Change	142
7.1 Political Development	142
7.1.1 King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV's Reforms	145
7.1.2 The Emerging Political Landscape	148
7.1.3 Political Reforms and Change in Tonga	159
Chapter Eight	165
Change in Religion	165
8.1 Transformations in the Church	171
8.1.1 Church: A Facilitator of International Migration	174
8.1.2 Church and Remittances	179
8.1.3 Change within the Church: Structure and Members' Perceptions	187
8.2 Separation of Church and State	198
Chapter Nine	208
Conclusion	208
9.1 Major Findings	208
9.2 Trends in International Migration	214
9.3 Trends for Tonga	219
9.4 Concluding Remarks	227
Appendices	230
Appendix A. Indicators of Dependency	230
Appendix B. Research Questionnaire	235
Appendix C. Three periods of Tongan early or traditional history	241
Appendix D. Lakalaka by the Vava'u Group	
in Honor of His Majesty's 80 th Birthday 1998	242
Appendix E. Results for Tonga 2005-2007 Parliamentary Elections	245
Appendix F. HRH The Prime Minister's Address of the Nation regarding the new	
Political Reform	246
Appendix G. Summary of current Points Score in General skills/skill in independent	
category for New Zealand and Australia	247
Appendix H. Summary of Tongan Statistics in New Zealand According to 1996 Statistics	249

Bibliography	250
Interviews and Personal Conversations	272
Online Sources	278

List of Abbreviations

ADB: Asian Development Bank

AIDAB: Australian International Development Assistance Bureau

APEC: Asia-Pacific Economic Community

BA: Bachelor of Arts

BYU: Brigham Young University

CFTC: Commonwealth Fund for Technical Assistance

COT: Church of Tonga

CPIS: Center for Pacific Islands Studies

EEC: European Economic Community

EEZ: Exclusive Economic Zone

EIB: European Investment Bank

EU: European Union

FAO: Food Agriculture Organization

FCT: Free Church of Tonga

FFA: Forum Fisheries Agency

FWC: Free Wesleyan Church

GDP: Gross Domestic Products

IDA: International Development Agency

IFAD: International Fund for Agriculture Development

ILO: International Labor Organization

IMF: International Monetary Fund

LDS: Latter Day Saints (Mormon Church)

LLB: Bachelor of Law

LMS: London Missionaries Society

MIRAB: Migration Remittances Aid and Bureaucracy

MLCI: Ministry of Labor Commerce and Industries

MOE: Ministry of Education

MOH: Ministry of Health

NRBT: National Reserve Bank of Tonga

PDM: Pro-Democracy Movement

PDP: Peoples' Democratic Party

PIPA: Pacific Islanders Producers' Association

PMO: Prime Minister's Office

PSA: Public Service Association

RCC: Roman Catholic Church

SPARTECA: South Pacific and Regional Technical and Economic Co-operation

Agreement

SPC: South Pacific Commission

SPEC: South Pacific Bureau of Economic Co-operation

SPF: South Pacific Forum

SPGC: South Pacific Geo-science Commission

SPMDP: South Pacific Maritime Development Programme

SPREP: South Pacific Regional Environmental Programmed

THRDM: Tonga Human Rights and Democracy Movement

TNCC: Tonga National Council of Churches

TTC: Tonga Traditions Committee

TVB: Tonga Visitor's Bureau

UN: United Nations

UNDP: United Nations Development Program

UNESCO: United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFPA: United Nations Family Planning Association

UNICEF: United Nations International Education Foundation

UNEP: United Nations Environment Program

USP: University of the South Pacific

WHO: World Health Organization

WTO: World Trade Organization

WTO: World Telecommunications Organization

List of Illustrations

MAPS

		Page Numbers
Map 1 Loc	ation of Tonga in Oceania	12
Map 2 King	gdom of Tonga	13
	FIGURES	
Figure 3.1	Traditional Socio-Political Pyramid 1	43
Figure 3.2	Traditional Socio-Political Pyramid 2	46
Figure 3.3	Post-Constitution Socio-Political Pyramid	55
Figure 4.1	Tonga Population in New Zealand 1991-2000	92
Figure 6.1	Tonga New Social Landscape Model	118
Figure 6.2	Fonua Life Cycle	123
Figure 6.3	Modern Socio-Political Pyramid	138
Figure 8.1	Transitional Model 1	169
Figure 8.2	Transitional Model 2	170
Figure 8.3	Number of Tongans and Part-Tongan in the five major Christian Churches in Tonga	173
Figure 8.4	Traditional Hierarchy of Religious Institution in Tonga	189
Figure 8.5	Local Church Structure	190
Figure 8.6	Modern Socio-Political Structures of Church	191
Figure 8.7	Transitional Model 3	200
	TABLES	
Table 4.1	Tonga: Population 1986 to 2000	88
Table 4.2	Pacific Islanders in the United States 1980-2000	89
Table 4.3 P	Pacific Islanders in Australia 1999	90
Table 4.4 T Year 2002-0	Cotal Arrivals of Tongans to Australia for the Financial	91
Table 4.5 P Stay, 2002-0	Permanent Departures of Tongans in Australia by Length of	91

Table 4.6 Total Departures of Tongans from Australia by Category for the Financial Year 2002-03	91
Table 4.7 New Zealand Census Counts by Island Population Estimate 2001	92
Table 5.1 Imports of Consumption Goods for 2000-2003	95
Table 5.2 Balance of Payments Current Transfers Account 2001-2002	96
Table 5.3 Balance of Payments Current Transfers Account 2002-2003	99
Table 5.4 Average annual Total Income per household, by main source and Island division 2001	100
Table 5.5 Total Annual Income per capita by main source, and by Island division 2001	104
Table 5.6 Balance of Payment Summary 2002-2003	105
Table 8.1 Tonga's Population by Religion 1986 & 1996	172
Table 8.2 Total Amount Received from FWC <i>Misinale</i> : 1996 - 2003	186