

Glossary

GLOSSARY OF SĀMOAN WORDS [A-F]

afioga	a polite term by which an <i>alii</i> is acknowledged and greeted
aga'ifanua	traditions particular to a village or place
aganu'u	traditions recognised generally throughout Samoa
āiga	family
aitu	ghosts/spirits
alii	chiefs
alii ma (and) faipule	matai of the village council
alofa	love
ao	head titles of traditional Samoan districts
ata	pictures
auālima	married and unmarried village women/girls
'aumaga	polite word for untitled men
ava	kava
fa'alavelave	traditional occasions (such as wedding, funeral, matai title conferring ceremony, church building dedication, and so forth)
fa'aaloalo	polite
fa'afeagaiga	polite word for village pastor
fa'alupega	honorifics, ceremonial greetings
fa'amasei'au	defloration ceremony
fa'amatai	matai system
fa'asāmoa	Samoa way (or Samoan culture)
fa'atamāli'i	chiefly qualities, traditional presentation of gifts(sua)
fa'atonu	head elder pastor in a matāgaluega of the Congregational Christian Church
fa'aulufalega	dedication of a building
fafine lāiti	wives of untitled men
faife'au	pastor
faife'au toe'ina	elder pastor in the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa
faletua ma tausī	wives of <i>alii</i> and <i>tulafale</i> respectively
feagaiga	brother/sister relationship
felagolagoma'i	cooperate
fesoasoani	catechist, to help
fono	council, meeting
fono a le 'autoe'ina	council of elders of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa
fono tele	annual conference of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa

GLOSSARY OF SĀMOAN WORDS [K-S]

komiti tūmamā	women's health-related committee(s)
komiti tūmau	standing committee
koneferenisi	annual conference of the Methodist Church of Samoa
Loto Taumafai	literally, trying soul/heart, but it is the name given to the School of the Blind
malaga	custom of visitation
mālosi	literally strength, but it is also the collective name given to the untitled men of a village
manaia	beautiful, nice; son of a chief
matāgālua	a division of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa
matai	chief, who could either be an <i>ali'i</i> or <i>tulafale</i>
matai fa'avae	principle or founding <i>matai</i> title
mātini	various kinds of foods that were placed near the beaches to await the arrival of the gods
mātutua	elders, senior members
nafa	responsibilities
noni/nonu	a plant that produces the noni (or <i>nonu</i>) juice
ola	life, alive, survive
ola fa'asoa	life of sharing
oloa	product of male labour
oloa gaosi	traditional goods
pālagi (or papālagi)	white person; European
pīsupo	corn beef
pule	authority
pūlega	regime, governance, division of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa
pūlega a ali'i ma faipule	collective authority of village chiefs
pule ma tumua	traditional power centres in Savai'i and Upolu Islands respectively
pulenu'u	village mayor
sa'o	principle <i>matai</i> title of a family
saofa'i	<i>matai</i> title conferring ceremony
saofa'iga	social organisation
siapo	tapa cloth
sī'i	traditional presentation of gifts
sinofi	synods

GLOSSARY OF SĀMOAN WORDS [S-V]

si'osi'omaga	surrounding
siva	dance
susuga	general honorific given to any person; sometimes it is used as a special acknowledgement given to certain <i>matai</i> titles and/or certain persons
ta'aloga ma faiva	traditional games and recreational activities
ta'amu	elephant taro
tafa'ifā	one who holds the four high ranking titles of Samoa which are Tamasoāli'i, Gatoa'itele, Tui Ā'ana and Tui Ātua
tagata	person, human being
tālā	Samoa currency
tamāo'āiga	economy
tamāli'i (or ali'i)	chief
tama fafine	female line
tama tane	male line
tapua'iga	worship
taulāitu	spirit medium
taulele'a	untitled men
taupou	belle
tausa'afia	popular, admirable
tausi matua	caring for elders
tautua	service
tetea	albino
toa	brave
tōfā ma le fa'autaga	opinion (or counsel) of <i>ali'i</i> and <i>tulafale</i> respectively
tulafale	orator
tupu	king
tusigā igoa	registration of names when donating money for a particular project
umusaga	dedication of a new building
va ma faiā	relationships and genealogical connections
vaivai	defeated party, weak
vailolo	green coconut