I (49)

The pair being were anti. Aumana was the son of Tabakea and Nakaun was his natural brother. Aumana's companions were Tabankitei, Naka Teunani and Teirini Karuma.

In those days, the sky and earth were one

and six kings only existed — Kina, Kika, Karum, Riki, Bakamanikum and Tabakea who was the father of Aumana and Nakaun. Kina offered to raise the sky and Aumana took it on his shoulders as high as the top of the coconut palm. Tabakea was satisfied with this for the time being, but when he got Riki to lift it to its proper place.

Aumana looked around and exclaimed to his father, 'How dark it is! There's no light at all', whereupon Tabakea ordered Bakamanikum to light the earth. Bakamanikum agreed. 'Come here! Take my right eye and polish it well with promisome stone so that it may shine on the earth and in the sky. That eye became the Sun, his left eye became the Moon and his tears turned into the stars. When his work was done, Bakamanikum was still remembered as an anti by the Fijian people.

The war-revered anti in the Fijian were Tabankitei, Teirini Karuma, Naka Teunani, Aumana, and Naka who were born in the sky and were lord of the gods of the human dead.
Nothing more is known about the origins of these anti who were able to foresee his future.

The souls of the dead used to go to Naka in the sky. If he liked you, you were allowed to stay and were well looked after. If he did not like you, he would push your eyes with a pointed stick. Neil Kava used to wait with Naka.
for runners who came to live in the sky.

Our forefathers used to regard the world as being divided into northern and southern parts; and here was frequent warfare between Tarawa in the north and Samoa in the south. The northerners used to assemble their forces on Nonou and Tabasara. Their weapons were long, strong spears and the southerners, who had similar weapons, gathered their forces in Talkena and the Ellis. The words used for

2. The weapons were again and long which still grow plentifully in Kiritara. Battles were fought with throwing spears and by hand to hand combat.

In a great battle, which lasted several days, Tanara, son of Tabasara, led the north and Tangara, the celebrated chief, and king of Samoa, led the south. The north triumphed and the defeated southerners were considering what they should do next

when a man suddenly appeared among them;

'What are you discussing?' he asked.

Tangara replied, 'We're thinking about the great war in which we were defeated with the loss of many men.'

'Come,' said the stranger, 'but we prepare to fight again with the forces we have left and, if they will follow my orders, I will lead them.'

'You may take command,' Tangara agreed.

The battle was fought and the victorious

southerners asked the stranger who he was and where he came from.

'My name is Navea,' he replied, 'Tarawa is my home. Tabasara is my father and my brother was the leader of the northern forces which defeated you. I did not let him know of my regard for you and I forbid you ever to tell anyone about this.'

Navea then went back to Tarawa and
met Tafaha, who asked, 'My son, where have you been?' Nanau looked at him, 'Why, I've been nowhere,' he said. 'I've not left this place.'

Among his brothers, joined Nanau and spoke:

'Relief, he has been defeated by the 

A thrill. Their forces were led by a man 

who was very black, short and a skilful 

fighter. When we engaged, he threw his 

sword at me and it knocked my helmet 

from my head and my shield from my 

hand. I was forced to retreat for fear 

of my life, so accomplished a spearman 

was he.'

Tafaha did not guess that his opponent 

had been Nanau, his brother. But Tafaha, 

was there he knew.

Notes:

1. Kina, a di-venter shell-fish, unidentified.
2. Kika, a large octopus, Sea devil octopus.
4. Roki, the anemone species found on the reef 
   (marine) but not so in the dictionaries.
5. Rakamanikai, giant ray.
6. Tafahai, Dipniscis in the sea-turtle.

3. Ngari, Pemphigus aculea
4. Togo, Microzone

The two words/phrases used in the Gilbertese text

Bara n'foni, helmet of spiky skin of the 

turtle fish (eidem).

Aki-kirena, hit a big scoop net which I have 

read as a kind of arm's shield,