

# SIBODA HENARI

poems on Independence

by

Gapi Iamo, Kundapen Talyaga, Polonhou Pokawin,  
Makeu Opa, Segg Putahu, Henginike Riyong, J. Simet



PAPUA POCKET POETS  
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**SIBODA HENARI**

# ITA EDA PEPE

## Gapi Iamo

Palaiga haira hereana atai  
Manu hegeregerena guba amo oroho hanaimu  
Hapemu odaveamu mai moalemu ida  
Lahara kahanamo laurabada kahana oheaulaomu  
Ina motumotu badahereana na oi hapemu henunai ootoamu  
O i toamu namona ese ai kudoumai ehatamonadiumu.

Niu Gini na gunika kahanai  
O i laurimu hapena henunai  
Bona Papua na davara kahanai  
O i idibamu hapena henunai  
Idia raruosi na eturidia namoherea  
Varona danu beauka hereamu  
Bema siboda baita henari bainema neganai.

Palaiga hairaina atai  
Manu hegeregerena oi ese atai oroholaiamu  
Kevaru hegeregerena oi ese tano idoinai ogorua ahu  
Nega namona emailaiamu iseda  
O i ese ai laloumai ome hatamonadia  
Dala tamonai.

Iseda ura na baine gini tutuka  
Siboda eda henari dinanai.

## OUR FLAG

Gapi Iamo

O beautiful flag in the air,  
Like the bird, you sail across the sky  
Flapping your wings cheerfully.  
You travel from west to east  
Keeping the biggest island under your wings.  
Your very image binds our hearts together.

New Guinea the northern half  
Lying under your left wing  
And Papua the southern half  
Lying under your right wing  
Are sewn well :  
The threads will be stronger  
When Independence comes.

O colourful flag in the air,  
Like the bird, you sail high.  
Like the rainbow, you've spanned the whole land  
Bringing good weather for us.  
You have united our two hearts  
Into one soul.

Our soul will stand firm  
In the day of Independence.

MEE WE E

Kundapen Talyaga

Yali — , Mosapi kaita lelyaliaka mende lelyali,  
Kalyo lee, soanimi kele napumu kalyo.

Mosapi kaita ao wae —

Lelyaliaka mende lelyali ae,

Mende lelyali ao wae —

Mende lelyalina kalyo lee,

Soanimi kele napumu kalyo —

Mosapi kaita ao wae.

Lelyaliaka mende lelyali ae,

Mende lelyali ao wae —,

Mende lelyalina kalyo lee,

Mee — soanimi kele napumu kalyo.

The message from the Moresby Valley remains  
inaudible.

We the Engas are waiting here to hear what  
the Moresby Valley is conveying to us.

The uncommunicated announcement is bothering  
us.

## THE PACIFIC WAY

Polonhou Pokawin

Gushing out at full speed  
We foll  
    over the calm sea  
The Pacific way.

At times tornadoes strike  
The sea swirls  
The waves rise  
The rivers twirl over the sea

Who am I to judge  
It is difficult to predict  
Things unexpected are happening  
The Pacific way

Some want leadership to come  
From the bottom  
Some say, from top

Many follow the crowd  
Like coconuts then toss about with the waves  
Others like dry leaves are blown away

In faith we trust  
That's our dream  
Which keep us standing, thriving  
Will it last?  
We will last  
The Pacific way



## MY BIRTH RIGHT

Polonhou Pokawin

Left alone  
Paddling the hard way  
Paddling my own way

Mother gone  
Father died  
Brothers struggle to survive  
Sisters marry as they please

Left alone  
Neglected once so badly  
I have to go it alone

Big brother refuses  
Small brother cares less  
Yet I am determined  
To go it alone  
Can I go my own way?  
Why can't I?  
Isn't it my birth right?

## MY ISLAND

Makeu Opa

In the midst of night  
when the moon shines brightly above  
and the sea glitters in its light below  
I wonder at your beauty.

As I stroll by the water's edge  
listening to the guitars playing  
I stop to ponder and declare;  
"Never will I wander away from your shores."

At the break of dawn  
when the moon goes down the dark horizon  
and the sun slowly climbs up o'er the blue  
I linger by your lagoons.

In the evening I retire to my kunai-hut  
with firm conviction in my mind  
"I'll give you my life  
I will give you my time  
I will be with you  
with your golden sands  
forever."

## SOLIDARITY

Makeu Opa

As you struggle  
in your paradise  
I make my thoughts  
bear with you  
for I stand in solidarity  
with you in your cause  
knowing deep in me  
that I'm part of that struggle.

O, Bro; don't count me out  
'cause I stand beside you  
in thoughts and desires  
I know that your actions will shape  
the destiny of our people  
It's only a beginning  
I salute you for this start.

## WANPELA BILONG YUMI OLOGETA

Segg Putahu

Mi laikim tripela,  
wanpela bilong mi .  
wanpela bilong meri bilong mi .  
Na wanpela bilong pikinini bilong mi .

NOGAT!

Wanpela bilong yumi ologeta .

Mi laikim tripela,  
Wanpela bilong Papua,  
Wanpela bilong Bouganvil;  
Na wanpela bilong Niugini .

NOGAT!

Wanpela bilong yumi ologeta .

Wanpela dei bai kam,  
Wanpela pipol bai kam;  
Wanpela kantri bai kam;  
Wanpela bilong yumi ologeta .

NOGAT!

Wanem sais bai yu kisim?

Sais bilong mi tu?

Sais bilong meri bilong mi tu?

Sais bilong pikinini bilong mi tu?

Sais bilong Papua tu?

Sais bilong Bouganvil tu?

Sais bilong Niugini tu?

Sais bilong wanem?

Em ino "underpants."

Wanpela bilong yumi ologeta

Wanpela tasol bilong yumi PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ORAIT!

Mi laikim WANPELA

Wanpela bilong mi

Wanpela bilong meri bilong mi

Na wanpela bilong pikinini bilong mi.

EM I STRET!

Mi laikim WANPELA

Wanpela bilong Papua

Wanpela bilong Bouganvil

Na wanpela bilong Niugini

YES!

Wanpela bilong yumi ologeta

Wanpela bilong yumi PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

## COME UNDER MY WINGS

Henginike Riyong

Men of tomorrow,  
The rebuilders of the villages,  
From my short stomach you came out,  
with my short hands you were fed.  
The blood that fell  
The umbilical cords that were cut  
— All were under my care.

Men of tomorrow,  
Men of the future,  
You are after pants that are not yours,  
You are after meat that belongs to others.  
Pigs are your possessions,  
Shells are your wealth.  
The ancestors of your fathers  
The spirits of your ancestors  
Are watching you.

Let them watch,  
Let them watch.

Now leave them alone, leave them alone,  
I cry from my deep sorrowful heart,  
I cry unto you —

Come and hide under my wings,  
Come and sit under the shades of my trees.  
The very soil you were born in  
The village you were brought up in  
— Are all crying for you.

When you come back  
Don't be surprised.  
My sons and daughters,  
We will all be under one ruler.  
The bushes and the thorns  
The green leaves, the soft grass  
Will be with us.  
O, men of tomorrow  
O, the rebuilders of my villages  
Come under my wings.

## RA TUBUNA WARKURAI

Jacob Simet

I wautula Kakariku,  
Aumana kau dia tangi,  
Aumana pap dia tangi,  
Wakilong na winawana na tabaran,  
Na tinalil uro ra pui.  
Ra kau i tangi boko,  
Ra nana kakaruk i torok,  
Ma tara natuna dia wiok :  
Ra tangul na lar i pupua,  
Aro ra bakuta na taubar  
Toia laka pana nunure,  
Ba ra malana iwut?

I wawatur na bakut,  
I korong na marum ta,  
Ma i tur wotwot,  
Da ra tubuan i wanganga.  
Ra wuwu i mut,  
Da ra babang na minat.  
Ra kakakaura na pap,  
I marine ra umana natuna.  
Ta ra pakana i bakit,  
Ra umana kamai,  
Dia pukai ra walian.  
Toia pana nunure,  
Ba ra bata na bura?



Ra tubuna warkurai go i wut,  
Kana bakut,  
Kana guria,  
Kana tagul na lar,  
Kana kinadik na kapbala,  
Kana tinangi na kau,  
Kana kakariku,  
Kana mavoko,  
Go kari.

Toia na da ToKarvuvu,  
Pi na turbat;  
Ra pinot na malana,  
Ra bata itar bura,  
Ra kinadik na kinakawa,  
Ra wuwuai na kaia,  
Ma ra kalivuvur i tar tut.  
Wakir laka ba ToKabinana,  
Na waninar ure ningene,  
Na pait ra pal na bakbakit,  
Na waninara ure ra kuramana,  
Na wilau kan ra matana iap,  
Ma na paran kan ra kalivuvur?

Data da ToKabinana,  
Ma data waninara,  
Ure ra kini  
Ta ra tubuna warkurai  
Go i pot,  
Ma pata magit na tur bat ia.

## INDEPENDENCE

Jacob Símet

It is the third crow :  
The lark begins to cry,  
The dogs are howling,  
Heralding the spirits of darkness,  
Returning to their niches,  
The lark is still crying.  
The hen begins to cluck,  
    and her chicks begin to chirp.  
The morning star is appearing  
Far in the southern sky.  
Which man does not know  
That the morning is here?

The clouds are gathering,  
Turning black as the night.  
Remaining still,  
Like the tubuan demanding payment.  
The air is quiet,  
Like the cosmos of the grave,  
The mother dog is busy,  
Moving her pups,  
From open to shelter.  
The seagulls are flying ashore  
Which man does not know  
That the rain is going to fall?

Independence is here,  
It's clouds,  
Tremors,  
Morning star,  
Contractions,  
Lark crying,  
Mist,  
And crow  
Is here.

Which man will be ToKarvuvu,  
to stop the inevitable —  
The coming of morning,  
The falling of a fallen rain,  
Bearing from a contracting womb,  
The eruption of an erupting volcano,  
And the destruction of a blowing storm?

Is it not that ToKabinana,  
Prepared for tomorrow,  
Built shelter,  
Prepared for the new born child.  
Fled from a crater,  
And hides from the storm.  
Be like ToKabinana,  
And prepare for the life,  
Within independence,  
Which is here,  
And nothing can stop it.

## SIBODA HENARI

Gapi Iamo

Siboda henari na ekokokokomu oi emu iduarai  
Egu tanobada taudia, hahinedia bona turagu iboumuiai  
Iduara na bakehoa oi emu abihidi key na amo  
Siboda henari na iniseniai .

Siboda henari na iniseniai  
Ia na iseda  
Aita haria ita iboudai padadai  
Dia gavamani ese mo sibodia bapusea  
Siboda henari na iseda.

Siboda henari na iseda  
Bema ia anina na moale bona kiri neganai  
Ita na baita moale bona dirava baita imodaia.

Bema ia ese helalo bona lalohisihisi bainemalilai neganai  
Ita na do baita gini tutuka.

Bema ia ese badu bainemalilai neganai  
Ita na do baita gini tutuka.

Bema ia anina na gorere neganai  
Ita na dounu baita gini tutuka.

Bema ia ese gau asianina ta bainemalilaia neganai  
Ita na dounu baita gini tutuka.

Siboda henari na ekokokokomu iseda iduarai  
Iseda mauri key na na egiroamu  
Iduara na aitakehoa  
Iseda tano na iseda hanua korikori ai bainela.

## SIBODA HENARI

Gapi Iamo

Siboda Henari is knocking on your door  
My countrymen, women and all wantoks  
Open the door with the key of your birthright  
Siboda Henari is here.

Siboda Henari is here  
The prize is ours  
Let's share it among us  
Don't let Gavamani bag it alone  
Siboda Henari is ours.

Siboda Henari is ours  
If it means happiness  
We will rejoice and thank Dirava.

If it brings sadness and sorrows  
We will stand firm.

If it brings frustration  
We will stand firm.

If it means sickness  
We will stand firm.

If it brings emptiness  
We will stand firm.

Siboda Henari is knocking on our door  
Turning the key of our birthright  
Let us open the door  
Our land will become our own home.