National Anthem of Samoa

(Original lyric)

Samoan Lyrics

Samoa, tula'i ma sisi ia lau fu'a, lou pale lea;

Samoa, tula'i ma sisi ia lau fu'a, lou pale lea;

Va'ai i na fetu o lo'o ua agiagia ai;

Le fa'ailoga lea **o Iesu na maliu ai mo Samoa** (o samoa ua mafai – malō

Tautai)

Oi! Samoa e, u'u mau lau pule ia fa'avavau.

'Aua e te fefe, **e le toe avea lou pale** (o le Atua lo ta fa'avae)

O lo ta sa'olotoga,

Samoa, tula'i, ia agiagia lau

Fu'a lou pale lea.

English Translation

The Banner of Freedom

Samoa, Arise and raise your banner that is your crown !

Behold the stars on the waving banner!

A sign that Samoa is able of age (well sailed o captain)

Oh ! Samoa, hold fast

Your freedom for ever !

Be not be afraid; never again your crown taken (On God is founded);

Our treasured precious liberty.

Samoa, Arise! Wave

Your banner! Your crown !

Written and composed by: Sauni Iiga Kuresa

Samoa Tula'i, The Banner of Freedom. *O Le Fu'a o Le Sa'olotoga o Samoa* was reportedly written some time after 1 June 1948 by Sauni Iiga

Kuresa after the flag was shown in preparation for Independence. It was chosen as the national anthem for the 1962 ceremony of independence, after a nation-wide competition. *Samoa Tula'i* and *Lo'u Nu'ue* were the two finalists in which *Samoa Tula'i* was chosen. Lo'u Nu'ue was composed by Siuila Pouesa, daughter of the Solomona family whilst Sauni Iiga Kuresa was the son of Pastor Iiga Kuresa (who wrote several hymns including *Lo ta Nu'u Moni*). Iiga Kuresa's brother Sio Kuresa was politically active and the song may have connotations to the poetics of Samoa's independence movement *The Mau*. Since its debut in 1962 some of the lines of the song have been changed, stressing Christian imagery and divine protection, when and where this occurred is a mystery; though it might have originated with the Samoan Teachers College who produced many recordings of Samoan songs from the late 1960's onwards. Popular renditions of the song have continued this edition. The original line is included in the transcript.