

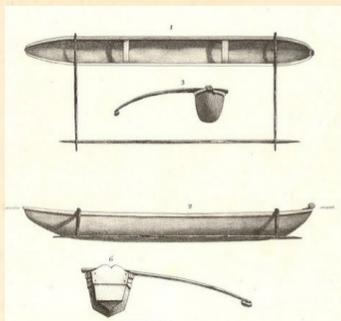
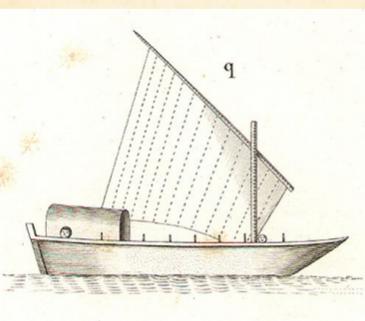


## HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE CEREMONY



**A HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE CEREMONY WAS HELD JANUARY 26 AT TERRY'S LOCAL COMFORT FOOD IN TUMON.** From left: **Edrienne Hernandez**, family member, Terry's Local Comfort Food; **Kotwal Singh**, owner, Singh's Cafe - Kabab Curry; **Anthony J.G. Tornito**, sole proprietor, Minahgong; **Shalyn Allen**, principal broker, Welcome Home Realty; **Nadja Rillamas**, realtor, Welcome Home Realty; **Allison Sollenberg**, realtor, Welcome Home Realty and **Bianca Cloud**, realtor, Welcome Home Realty, proudly display their newly signed Håfa Adai Pledge certificates.

## KAO UN TUNGO'? (Did you know?) Agad'na: Canoe Builders



### Impressive craftsmanship

**Sakman:** Detail illustration by A. Duperrey and Taunay from Freycinet's Voyage Autour de Monde, Paris, 1824. Courtesy of Guam Public Library System

**Leklek, Duding and Duduli:** An illustration of a small canoe from d'Urville's Voyage de la corvette L'Astrolabe, 1830. Courtesy of Guam Public Library System

The ancient Chamorros who were skilled at canoe building and navigation were called Agad'na. These canoes were vital to the survival of Chamorros because they facilitated transport and trade amongst islands and allowed them to fish beyond the reef. Ancient Chamorros had at least six types of canoes: sakman, leklek, duding, duduli, panga and galaide.

The **sakman** was the largest and most impressive, regularly measuring more than forty feet, some reportedly holding a hundred men, and ideal for long voyages and deep sea fishing. **Leklek, duding** and **duduli** were smaller vessels for shorter voyages. The **panga** is a duduli without a sail. The **galaide**, also without a sail, is also a small vessel. Both the panga and galaide were used within the reef. Canoe construction and navigation were considered men's tasks, and most likely specialized to a select few. The learning of these skills were either passed down from father to son, or a part of a young man's education in the guma'uritao or men's houses.

After a suitable tree was cut down, usually dokdok or breadfruit, a skilled carver would begin to shape the canoe using a higam or shell adze as well as fire. If the canoe was to be longer than eighteen feet, more than one tree trunk would be needed and one of the most difficult tasks was making sure that different sections of the hull would fit securely. These sections were lashed together and then sealed using plant fibers and tree sap. In addition, pieces such as the palu or mast, the outrigger, and the umulin or rudder would have to be carved and attached. The hulls would be colored in white, black, red or orange by using red dirt, afok or lime, coconut oil and soot, which both beautified them and offered protection from bad weather. Women were responsible for the construction of the layak or sail. They would weave together small sections of akgak or pandanus mats to form a huge triangle which would then be attached to the palu.

Ancient Chamorros, like other Micronesian islanders, used an impressive array of skills to navigate their magnificent vessels. Most important was the use of the rising and setting of stars to plot their course, but also vital were the abilities to discern differences in wave patterns, sea life, ocean color and cloud formations.

For more, Click to know! Guampedia:

[guampedia.com](http://www.guampedia.com) <http://www.guampedia.com/agadna-canoe-builders/>



## CHAGI CHAMORRO

*Dinanga' Sunidu  
Siha Giya Pasifiku*

**United voices  
of the Pacific**



**REGISTER  
NOW!**

**APRIL  
10**



From May 22 to June 4, Guam will host the Festival of Pacific Arts, a regional festival showcasing the diversity of arts and performances from 27 island nations and territories throughout the Pacific. The Festival of the Pacific Arts, or FestPac as it is known, is held every four years to celebrate and develop local art forms and to celebrate and share cultural heritage. It also provided a means of passing on traditional and cultural knowledge from one generation to the next. The first festival was held in Fiji in 1972, and this will be the first time Guam will host this prestigious event. All events are open and free for the public to enjoy.



**TOKELAU**  
**Indigenous Peoples:** Tokelauan, in the Polynesian family

**Official Languages:** Tokelauan, Samoan, English and Tuvaluan

**Political Status:** Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Zealand

**Largest City:** Fakaofu

**Population:** 1,411 (2011 est)

**Greeting:** Mālō ni or Tālofa

<http://www.guampedia.com/pop-cultures-tokelau/>



**INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA**  
**Indigenous Peoples:** Samoans

**Official Languages:** Samoan and English

**Political Status:** Independent Nation

**Capital:** Apia

**Population:** 194,320 (2014 est.)

**Greeting:** Talofa

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**NEW CALEDONIA/  
NOUVELLE CALÉDONIE**  
**Indigenous Peoples:** Kanak

**Official Languages:** French; regional languages: Drehu, Nengone, Paici, Aijie, Xaracuu and 35 other native languages

**Political Status:** Special Collectivity (Self-governing territory of France)

**Capital:** Noumea

**Population:** 268,767 (2014 est.)

**Greeting:** Bonjour

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## LIVING THE HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE Service with Håfa Adai is our business



Guahan Insurance's team from left: Brent Butler, Yuka Oguma, Shyla Santiago, Erica Gumataotao, Lorna Malbog, Dee Camacho, Naidene Rios and Kyoko Nakanishi.

Guahan Insurance Services, Inc.'s (GIS) main focus and approach every day is to provide the highest level of service. It is important that we emphasize the Håfa Adai Spirit as we welcome our customers and make them feel right at home. Our licensed insurance associates will help individuals, families and businesses with customizable coverage that fits their needs and offer savings on combined packages.

Insurance transactions are unique and unlike any other line of business, because the product you purchase is an intangible item. Unlike trying on clothes or test-driving a vehicle, insurance is difficult to sample. It is important that we effectively communicate and build customer confidence during this transaction. Our insurance associates can help you map out the best coverage and thoroughly explain the sometimes intricate policy wordings.

One of the best things about living on this island is the warm welcome we feel at fiestas or gatherings, and with such a small population, we tend to know everyone. At GIS, we embrace this local connectivity and make our customers feel akin to our team of professionals. You will be greeted "Håfa Adai" as you enter our office, just as you would be if you were stopping by a friend's fiesta or another locally owned business. We are making a commitment and taking the extra effort to make a difference in the survival of the Chamorro culture as we help to perpetuate the Håfa Adai Spirit!

## GUAMPEDIA: Master carver of ifit Robert Phillip Taitano



Tun Robert Taitano Storyboard  
Photo by Nathalie Pereda/Guampedia.com



Tun Taitano's Ayuyu on Latte and Guam Seal  
Photo by Nathalie Pereda/Guampedia.com

Robert Phillip Taitano is an established woodcarver who specializes in crafting art works, furniture and other decorative pieces from local hardwood. A recognized Master Carver by the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA), Taitano has produced pieces for numerous dignitaries, including Guam governors, senators of the Guam Legislature, United States Congressional delegates, island judges, and even the former US President William "Bill" Clinton.

After World War II, the Taitano family moved to the northern village of Yigo, where Taitano today continues his craft, working in "The Ifit Shop" adjacent to his home. He also has a shop with the same name located in the Chamorro Village in Hagåtña. Taitano is a carpenter by trade and a skilled craftsman. Taitano honed his skills in the construction trade until eventually opening his own business, Taitano Construction Company, in the late 1960s. The company lasted for eight years, but stiff competition with larger companies eventually led to the small operation's closure. Taitano began carving in his family's Yigo home. Taitano is most well known for his use of the ifit (ifit, Intsia bijuga) tree. Taitano uses modern tools to prepare woodwork either without embellishments, or containing storyboard-like depictions of island legends, such as Sirena and the Two Lovers, or engravings of the Guam seal and other island motifs. One piece in particular depicts a seaside view of Hagåtña Bay with a coconut tree in the foreground beside a river flowing into the ocean. A traditional canoe (sakman) floats in the water, while the cliffs of Puntan Dos Amantes (Two Lovers Point) rise into the sky in the background.

On April 29, 2011, Taitano, along with three others - Tun Jack Lujan, Master Blacksmith; Maria Yatar McDonald, Master Tattoo Artist; and Phillip Sablan, Master Weaver - were formally recognized in a ceremony as Master Folk Artists by CAHA.

[guampedia.com](http://www.guampedia.com)

For more, Click to know! Guampedia:  
<http://www.guampedia.com/robert-taitano/>

## 2016 FestPac participants quick facts



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## We'd like to feature your story in the next newsletter!

Please submit Living the Håfa Adai Pledge features and photos to [hafaadai@visitguam.com](mailto:hafaadai@visitguam.com)

The Håfa Adai Pledge seeks to continually promote Guam's unique culture by sharing the Håfa Adai Spirit and making Guam a great place to live, work, and visit!



Take the Håfa Adai Pledge today! For more information, call 646-5278 or email [HåfaAdai@visitguam.org](mailto:HåfaAdai@visitguam.org).



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