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**Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics, Public Service, Peoples Charter for Change and Progress, Information, iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry and Lands and Mineral Resources**

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**SPEECH AT THE LAUTOKA DELANA PRIMARY SCHOOL JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

**Lautoka Primary Sch. Sat. 6th Sept.,m2014**

**LAUTOKA 1000 Hours**

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# School History The founder of Lautoka Fijian School was the late Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna.

The school was built in 1954 and was completed in 1956. The school was then opened by the Late Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, Roko Tui Ra, Roko Tui Nadroga and the Manager of CSR for the fact that the current Lautoka Delana Primary School is sitting on CSR land. The pioneer school was first situated at the big rain tree at Lautoka Mission

# Grounds in the early 1950’s.

The school was then moved to the CSR Top Line barracks and it was then known as the Delana Primary School 1 he school was administered then by the late Master Peni Dimuri from the Province Macuata. He was the Head Teacher of the school then and whenever the children were given corporal punishment, they would be sent to the place where the school is currently situated to uproot guava trees and sensitive grass which was the beginning of clearing of that piece of land, preparing it for the relocation of the school. The school was then relocated in 1954 to where it is today. From the name Delana Fijian School, it was changed to Lautoka 1-ijiam School in 1956. The school was recently renamed in 2007 ta I Lautoka Delana Primary School.

1. The school was built to cater for the indigenous Fijian Children whose parents worked as laborers with the (CSR) what is FSC today. These people lived in barrack houses which was known as ‘tow Line “near the wharf and "Top Line” beside the Nadovu Grounds and is now called the “Natokowaqa Area”, they were not allowed to get into Drasa European School which is now called “Drasa Avenue School.

# School’s Uniqueness

The only i-Taukei School in the vicinity of the city of Lautoka.

The School has sub leased part of its land to the Japanese Freebird Institute  
to date the school caters for the 14 Yasawa I Rara Fiji

The School’s 60” birthday is going to be celebrated on the 15th of August, 2014 and our Chief Guest will be the Rear Admiral, the Honorable Prime Minister, Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama It will be a day that students, teachers, Parents, old scholars and other stakeholders will get together to celebrate.

High lights:

Some important and notable Government Officials and Ministers who attended the school: the lute Prime Minister Dr. Timoci Bavadra, current Prime Minister Mr Bainimarama, Minister for Health: Dr.Jiko Luveni, Mrs Leba Qarase. Mr Radike Qereqeretabua,The Danceys, the Sikivous, the Goneyalis, the Tikoduaduas and the Bouwalus.

Other Old scholar’s hold positions on leadership in various department and private sectors.

LDPS/I5S as it was known as the leading i- Taukei School in Lautoka from the 50S to the 80s in terms of school roll and academic performance, size, I Taukei activities and extracurricular events.

Some prominent I — Taukei teachers led the school and went on to hold higher/bigger positions of responsibilities

LOPS is located sandwiched in one of the most prestigious and notorious areas of Lautoka City.

The Old Scholars assisted the school by way of approaching the PM’s office to renovate the school buildings, repair the fencing and carry our maintenance work mum November to February 2011-2022 for $180,000.

Challenges:

1. Attracting more ¡indigenous parents and student of the middle to high income brackets to attend the school.
2. Changing the mindset of the school community as to how they view the school amid the purpose of its existence— “restoring the school to its former glory/reputation
3. Improving academic performance/overall and be more academically oriented.
4. Getting the morning school buses operated by Pacific Transport to come in school before or by 8.00am consistently.