



# The University of Fiji

(An Entity of Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji)

## Meli Perseveres On

Ratu Meli Matanatoto has always been interested in using digital technologies to improve procedures in the corporate world. The 35-year-old is currently enrolled in The University of Fiji's Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration programme. In 2020, he obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law from UniFiji.

Matanatoto began his career as a teacher, having worked at Thomas Baker, Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School, Duavata Secondary School in the Udu District, All Saints Secondary School in Labasa, and briefly at Nabua Secondary School.

"I changed careers because the intellectual demands of my new job required me to seek knowledge and information to help me perform in my new professional environment. As a result, I enrolled in The University of Fiji's Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law and Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration," he said.

He stated that the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law programme covered the principles, institutions, and processes involved in interpreting the Constitution while performing duties as a Civil Servant in the Public Service, as well as human rights law, employment law, administrative law, and alternative dispute resolution.

"I've also been interested in Business Administration, particularly how to manage human resources, recruitment and budgeting. This prompted me to enroll in and complete a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration in 2021," he said.

Matanatoto is employed as a Senior Strategic Planning Officer at the Fiji Bureau of Statistics.

"Some of my responsibilities include developing, recommending, and monitoring the department's planning and policy processes. I also work with the Divisional managers to assess whether their Business Unit's contributions are in line with the Division's corporate goals as outlined in the Corporate Business Plan. This is in addition to contributing to the recruitment and selection process, training activities, workforce plan, and staff career development," he said.

Matanatoto strongly recommended the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law offered at the University of Fiji.

"It enabled me to be aware of the processes and projects that we can implement and support within our organisations, especially after obtaining a PGD in Public Law. My knowledge of Human Resources Management and techniques to be a competent human resource practitioner has grown as a result of my PGC in Business Administration," he added.

He stated that his family, particularly his wife, has been very supportive of his education throughout.

"I would not have been able to complete all of these units at the University of Fiji without the support of my family, particularly my wife, who has been supportive and a key cornerstone of my professional development," he said.

In the future, he intends to promote the idea of a need for a Civil Service College as part of the "Whole of Government Learning and Development" platforms.

"When a long-serving civil servant retires or resigns, a lot of expertise and information is lost, so having a forum where these experiences are communicated and discussed is important," he concluded.



Ratu Meli Matanatoto  
University of Fiji – MBA Student

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