POLITICAL ORATORY AND CARTOONING
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   Jennifer Jackson
POLITICAL ORATORY AND CARTOONING

An Ethnography of Democratic Processes in Madagascar

Jennifer Jackson
Ho’any Anna.

Tsy tonga teto amin’ity toerana ity aho raha tsy nisy anao teo anilako, teo amin’ny fiainako, niara nizara ny rehetra tamiko. Madagasikara dia sady fonenako no fonenanao ary ity asa ity doa vokatry ny fiaraha miasatsika. Misaotra indrindra amin’ny fitiavanao, fanohananao ary amin’ny zavatra tsara rehetra nataonao amin’ny fiainako. Tsy ho adinoko mandrakizay ny zavatra niarahatsika nanorina ary ity boky dia anisan ny porofo manamarina izany.
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Malagasy uses the Latin alphabet. The alphabet consists of 21 letters: a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, v, y, z.

The orthography maps to English phonetics, except for some vowel pronunciation.

O is pronounced /u/.

The letters i and y both represent the /i/ sound (where y is used to end a word, joined as a compound noun, it is omitted and an ‘ is used).

The affricates /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ are written tr and dr, respectively, while /ts/ and /dz/ are written ts and j.

The letter h is often silent.

All other letters have essentially their IPA values.

Mp and occasionally nt may begin a word, but they are pronounced /p, t/.

Nouns beginning with v change to b, h to k in compound nouns.
Without a community of Malagasy friends, mentors, and associates, this project would not have been successful, or even possible. Throughout the seventeen years I have been traveling and working on and off in Madagascar, my understanding of the lifeways of this island has grown from a circle of people who have welcomed me into their homes, shared meals and amazing conversation with me, taught me the language, helped me out of trouble, nursed me back to health, directed and facilitated my academic and personal explorations, and adopted me as one of their own children. My heartfelt gratitude goes to all of these people who are a part of my memory, my mind, and my heart.

*Misaotra betsaka* to the cartoonists, speechwriters, musicians, ministers, actors, and journalists in Antananarivo who shared their thoughts, time, patience, and focus with me. Any acknowledgment I give you here amounts to only a small token of my appreciation for all that you have given to me, and all of the ways you have taught me to think, question, care, laugh, and let go. I respect and honor all that you do to build a stronger voice for Malagasy people.

I offer sincere thanks to my government hosts who facilitated my access to the president’s office as well as invitations to work with mayoral candidates across Imerina. Thank you for letting a stranger in for a backstage glimpse.

I thank the professors at the University of Tana and the Museum of Art and Archaeology, in particular Professor Bernardin Rasolo, and most of all, Elie Rajaonarison. Thank you to my patient language trainers at home, in the market, and at the Alliance Française. Also, I extend gracious thanks to my first friends and family: Patrice, Mama i’dRodrigue, the “neighbor-children,” the shopkeepers, and Mayor Jean-Claude, all of Sambava. And, lastly, to the steadfast and true, I extend a heartfelt Misaotra i’ Hanta, i’ Alice, ary i’ Rivo, the family who gave me a home away from home.
Thank you to Esther for her diligence and perseverance in providing this project with handwritten transcriptions of over 500 hours of audio and video. And to my translators, Elior, Fabrice, Johary, and Benja: I will always think of you with every idiom and proverb I stumble upon. Thank you for helping me translate the many *kabary* that confounded my Malagasy language skills but made your English skills shine.

No amount of gratitude expressed here to my academic committee – J. Joseph Errington, David Graeber, and Bernard Bate – could measure proportionate to their contributions and commitment to my work and progress as a scholar. Their patience and confidence in this process encouraged an organic development of my ideas and my strengths to explore, analyze, synthesize, and communicate. My mind and sense of the world have been shaped and enriched by these individuals, and I have this group and the department, in general, to thank for my continued energy to pursue and develop scholarship.

Without the commitment to scholarship that the Yale University community upholds, I could not have had the financial, intellectual, and creative freedom to pursue the initial and most critical stages of this book project as I did. *Lux et veritas*.

My sincere thanks go to fellow scholars and friends who supported my process and helped me shape the trajectory of this research and the writing of its outcomes. My thanks for the blessings from Maurice Bloch, Kamari Clarke, Frank Cody, Hal Conklin, Girish Daswani, Naisargi Dave, Alessandro Duranti, Andrew Gilbert, Candy Goodwin, Jane Hill, Joseph Hill, Paul Kroskrity, Michael Lambek, Pier Larson, Paul Manning, Janet McIntosh, Norma Mendoza-Denton, Amira Mittermeier, Andrea Muehlebach, Alejandro Paz, Jennifer Roth-Gordon, Elinor Ochs, James Scott, Rupert Stasch, Kirsten Stoebenau, Kathryn Woolard, and Eric Worby. Also, I thank my students at the University of Toronto and at UCLA, all of whom have played a great role in inspiring new ways of thinking about my work.

Thanks to my dear friend and colleague, Sarah Vogel, for the countless brainstorming sessions we inevitably found ourselves in over morning coffee, in the backyard with Kunya and Tavy, on East Rock, or closing down Sterling Memorial Library on a Friday. I hope I have touched the heart in your work as much as you have mine.

I wish to thank the School for International Training (SIT-Tana), its director and my family, Anna Prow, and her staff for their academic and personal support. This project could not have found any
direction and would have faltered many times without the love and care from Anna. In Madagascar, institutional affiliation was generously extended by the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Political Science at the University of Tana, and the Museum of Art and Archaeology.

Lastly, I thank my partner in crime, Ryan Christie. Not only might the references look perfect in this book because of her great attention to detail, but the writer knows her way because of the faith and confidence this person has inspired. I thank you for your willing ear, your tireless support, and the energy you bring to the process of writing the story of people’s lives.

Financial and academic support for the beginning stages of this research was provided by the Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fund (SSRC-IDRF) and post-dissertation workshop, the Yale University Center for International and Area Studies (YCIAS), the Yale University Program in Agrarian Studies, and the Yale University Department of Anthropology.

Financial and academic support for later stages of the book project was provided by the University of Toronto’s Department of Anthropology, and the University of California-Los Angeles Department of Anthropology. Financial support was provided by the Connaught Fund, the government of Canada’s generous Standard Research Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and start-up grants from the UCLA Dean’s Office, Division of Social Sciences. I thank, in particular, Maria DaMota for orienting me to the bureaucracy that is research funding and making research life far away so much easier.