



Edition **Vakoka Vakiteny**
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MADAGASCAR

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Vakoka Vakiteny...

...is a young and professional publishing company producing literature for children and youth in Malagasy language.

...is owned and run by a team of young Malagasy.

...contributes to growth and development in Madagascar - culturally and materially.

...promotes the joy of reading and develops the understanding for literature and art in a modern Malagasy environment.

Layout and content:
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Vakoka Vakiteny News

Dear friends of **Vakoka Vakiteny**.

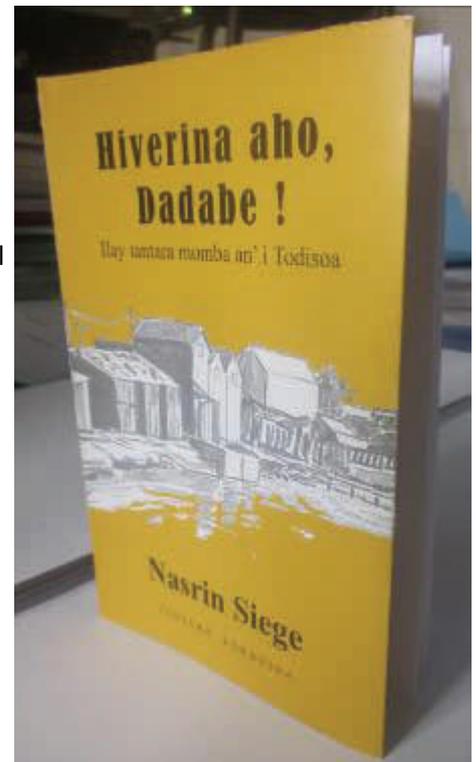
Another year is over and we are looking forward to a new year full of activities. The last half year was maybe somewhat less productive than we had wished for because of everything that had to be done when returning after one year abroad. However, we have managed to finish Todisoa ("Hiverina aho, Dadabe") and "Toliara and its Surroundings" is ready for printing. In addition we have continued the distribution of books and made good plans for the next half year in terms of development of new manuscripts.

We hereby want to thank all who have supported us during the last year, and we wish all our friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mparany Rakotondrainy
Manager of **Vakoka Vakiteny**

Visiting Todisoa at the Print House

We have now had the great pleasure to "visit" Todisoa at the print house in Antananarivo (Trano Printy FLM). The book is now in the middle of the printing process, and we could look at the first finished copies. The quality of the print and the cover is satisfying and we will be very proud when we can send the first copies to the author Nasrin Siege the first week of the new year!



Above: One finished copy
Left: Print of the cover

Exhibition "Vitrine de Vakinkanaratra 2012"

The annual exhibition "Vitrine de Vakinkanaratra" was held in Antsirabe in August this year. It is the second time that Vakoka Vakiteny has participated, and Vakoka Vakiteny is now a permanent member that is invited every year. This year's three days exhibition was particularly successful in terms of visitors, both in general and at the Vakoka Vakiteny stand in particular. In total there were over 600 visitors at the stand, and among them, 200 children sat down to read. The reading for children was also the main activity at the exhibition beside a limited sale of books.

One of the children who came to read was a nine years old boy. He was thrilled to find the book "Dangaligny sy Konaky" at the stand. He told us that he used to go to the catholic book shop in Antsirabe where some copies of this book are displayed and look at the cover. But he had never had the chance to take one single look into the book. Every time he saw the book he tried to figure out what was inside the book and he dreamed about which story might be hidden behind the cover. Now he finally go the chance to read the story, and he was more than satisfied.



Above:
Children at the stand. Mrs Hanta is reading aloud from "Rebila" for those who cannot read themselves.



Upper left:
Mrs Hanta is handing over a copy of "Fantaro ny Nosintsika" to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pierrot Rajaonavelo in hope of a future cooperation with the government concerning this book.

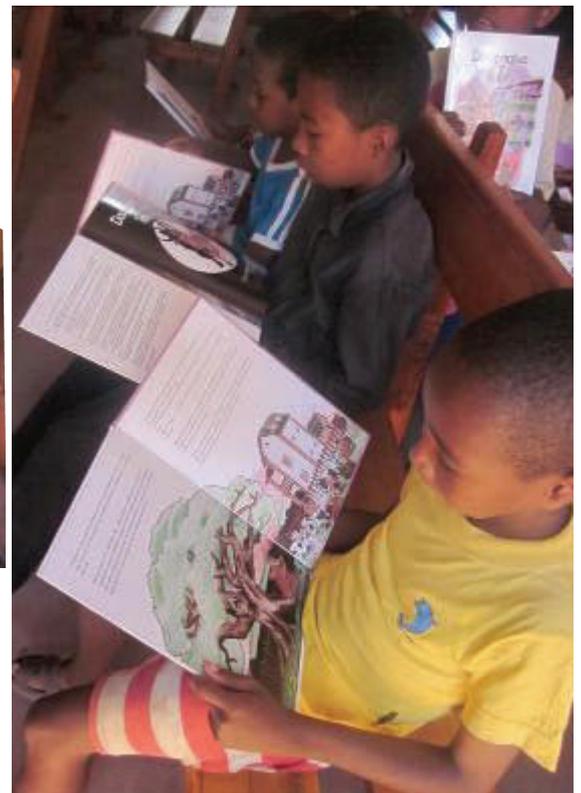


Lower left:
Students from different universities in Antsirabe came to learn more about Vakoka Vakiteny out of personal interest. They had participated in a training for authors and some of them were also writers themselves. We hope for cooperation with some of these young, eager students for future book projects.

Distribution of Books

The distribution of the geography book “Fantaro ny Nosintsika” and “Dadanaivo Tefy” to schools still continues. The last schools that got the former book was the school “Les Messange Bleues” in Antsirabe, and two other schools in the surrounding of Antsirabe have sent a demand for books. What makes the process of distribution somewhat long is that we need to be sure that the school, the students and parents really wish to receive books and are ready to use them. Otherwise we fear that the books would stay unused which would be very sad.

Distribution of “Dadanaivo Tefy” now continues in Toliara and the surrounding. We now cooperate with a church-led charity programme that is particularly targeted at children with difficult backgrounds. Hundreds of children receive both after school care and food from various centres in and outside Toliara city. The responsible for the programme told us that they only have the Bible as reading material, and that they really are in need for something more suitable for children. They were also very open for non-Christian books for the sake of joy of reading rather than education.



Pictures from the distribution of “Dadanaivo Tefy” at the children’s centre in Toliara city. Even if these children are less unfortunate than those living in the outskirts of the city, this is the first book they ever owned, and they were very happy to receive it!

Progress for the New Books

In last newsletter we presented different possibilities for new book projects:

- The work with the **Bara fairytales** has already started and one first workshop with children on the countryside is planned and was originally scheduled for December. We still hope to be able to finish this first workshop within this month, otherwise it will be done early in January. After this workshop there might be need for another writing workshop before the selection process for the fairytale can start. Then there will be done an illustration workshop with the children, and for this, all necessary materials have already been organised.
- We have now received the **manuscript for a book from Mr Nirry**, a Malagasy author. This manuscript contains eight different stories for children in primary school age. After reading and assessing these stories we have decided not to publish them as they are, but rather pick some of the stories that we find appropriate. We now have an appointment next week with another author who wishes to publish some stories as well, and if possible we think of putting together stories from different authors and publish them together.
- The book "**Toliara and its Surroundings**" written by Klaus-Christian Küspert is now finally ready for being printed. The selection of an appropriate print house took its time, and still there are somewhat complicated ongoing negotiations regarding the price, paper quality and other questions. From "Fantaro ny Nosintsika" we know that printing photographs is difficult and requires very good equipment and skills at the print house, and therefore we examined four print houses closely. If we agree on the printing conditions, 50 % of the sales price will go directly to Vakoka Vakiteny and our work with publishing new books for children and we therefore strongly encourage all friends of Vakoka Vakiteny to buy books as soon as they are released.

New Addresses

We remind that we now have a different email and postal address. However, we can still receive mail that accidently is sent to the old addresses.

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