

MALAGASY SLAVE NAMES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

by

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The following lists of Malagasy slave names are presented as a contribution to seventeenth century Malagasy onomastics. They are, to my knowledge, the earliest extensive lists of Malagasy personal names. Filtered as they were through Dutch ears and seventeenth century Dutch orthography, many are perhaps today unrecognizable. Yet others are clearly and recognizably Malagasy. Many of these names ave descriptive terms, such as *Lahe Sara*, *Lahet sara*, *Lahit sara*, *Lahetsarae*, etc. (*lehilay tsara*, good man). As such they were presumably applied by the Dutch, or rather by their Malagasy interpreters, to their human purchases at the time of sale. They thus do not constitute original Malagasy names in many instances.

These lists derive from slaving voyages made to north-west Madagascar, specifically to Massailly and Maningaar, from the Cape of Good Hope by the Dutch East India Company (VOC) ships *Voorhout* (1676), *Soldaat* (1696) and *Peter & Paul* (1699)⁽¹⁾. They are by no means the entire body of such names extant, as similar lists survive from the *Voorhout* (1677) and later voyages, as well as from several enumerations of Company slaves at the Cape (1693, 1714, etc.) and in records of individual slave sales at the Cape kept in the Deeds Office⁽²⁾.

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- (1) Algemeen Rijksarchief, the Hague, *Kolonial Archief*
KA 3 989 f. 672-695 (*Voorhout*)
KA 4 014 f.1188-1203 (*Soldaat*)
KA 4 020 f.1116-1133 (*Peter & Paul*).

- (2) Records of these slave sales or «Transporten» have been recently published by A.J. Böeseker, *Slaves and Free Blacks at the Cape 1658-1700*, Cape Town, 1977, pp. 121-194.

It may be asked why the Company kept such lists in the first instance. It doubtless did not spring from any humane impulse or philosophical attitude, but was simply an administrative convenience, a way of keeping track of purchases, and also deaths, as the names of those who died were similarly recorded (though not reproduced here). Yet it is an insight into the awareness of the VOC slave traders that their human cargo was not simply an anonymous mass, but were individually identifiable by name.

It was the Company's practice (unlike that of the individual Cape slave-owner) not to rename its slaves, once they arrived at the Capè. That is, it did not give its newly arrived slaves names of Dutch or classical origin, though slave children born at the Cape would receive typically *slavish* names. In addition to their names, slaves were usually identified, in Dutch practice at the Cape, by their place of origin, e.g. *Laytsara van Madagascar*. The Company's conservatism in this regard was doubtless not due to any esthetic preference for the original names of these slaves. But any renaming would have confused the Company's bookkeeping, necessitating additional records, as well as carrying with it the implicit possibility of unauthorized substitutions of slaves⁽³⁾.

When we speak of slaves, it is easy to lose sight of their individuality in their anonymity. Too often they are lost under the label that describes their status. Yet every slave was a human individual with a face and a name. A *slave* is but a slave, an abstraction, but a slave with a name becomes a man, a woman, a child. Hence lists of slave names have an essential and peculiar interest, an actualizing power, that derives from their symbolic intersection with individual existence and social anonymity. As Jean Starobinski has written in another context, proper names are the *common denominators* between the inner (*être profond*) and the social being⁽⁴⁾.

(3) Armstrong (James C.), The slaves 1652-1795 in *The Shaping of South African Society, 1652-1820*, edited by Elphick (R.) and Gilione (H.) Cape Town, 1979, p. 84.

(4) Starobinski (J.), «Stendhal pseudonyme». *L'Œil vivant*, Paris 1961, p. 198 quoted in Ian Watt, *Conrad in the Nineteenth Century*, London, 1980, p. 41.

MALAGASY SLAVES PURCHASED AT MAGELAGE AND MANINGAAR
IN 1676

by
THE VOORHOUT

Name	Price	Man	Young man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Renecallo	Rxd. 11				X		
Mangabeen	10				X		
Manata	9			X			
Mora	13,5		X				
Ingora	11					X	
Vollesoor (Vollasoua)	11					X	
Volandia	12				X		
Sona	12				X		
Callo	12				X		
Callomenke	11				X		
Leysoua (Lahesoua)	6,5			X			
Sakisa	11	X					
Thiteo	11	X					
Souatomba	9				X		
Voetiara Hombe	9				X		
Lahe Sara	13		X				
Callo	10					X	
Lambo Voela	13,5		X				
Kinsa	8			X			
Soua	14				X		
Lambaa (Lamboa)	13	X					
Calla Houva	12				X		
Ihandia	11				X		
Ihangie	10				X		
Imone	12,5				X		
Kinse Pernela	6						X
Lahet sara	14,5		X		X		
Lahit sara	13,5		X				
Isaka	11		X				
Isandie (Isaria ?)	11					X	
Ibara	15	X					
Iman hansa	15	X					
Evangasie (Evangatove)	15	—					
Iminanvoela	6						X
Calla hanfanga	6,5						X
Calla Marina	7,5						X

Name	Price	Man	Young man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Bought at Maningaer :							
Umbalingo	15	X					
Sua Sara	15					X	
Vola Soua	12					X	
Renemavove	10					X	
Somanompa	10,5					X	
Sarangova	10					X	
Saranvoelajra	10					X	
Wavavoetsy	10					X	
Pettasan	12					X	
Callovis	Rxd. 13					X	
Aranvirisena	13					X	
Ivola	13					X	
Tyn Macarean	12					X	
Solanguna	13					X	
Tavoy (Tovaiji)	12					X	
Volabe	13					X	
Ilaseij	14		X				
Malonge	14		X				
Semitambing(e)			X				
Bought at Magelage :							
Bitsila	15	X					
Leysara	14	X					
Imanga						X	
Iman Arack	15	X					
Lahijsiara (Laheijsara)	15	X					
Mafoto (Mafato)	15	X					
Fotsiana w/her child	14					X	
Folemetamba	14					X	
Rabbe	15	X					
Sarsiomila	15	X					
Semiadineila	15	X					
Ibokiaky	11,5		X				
Ihania Massa	10					X	
Foelymetomba	11				X		
Cala Marina	13				X		
Igoria	13				X		
Igoni fotsy	12				X		
Ingonis «(kint)»	2						
Sambo	14	X					
Tangenpo	8			X			

Name	Price	Man	Young Man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Foekeba	15	X					
Lambo	15	X					
Bevidi	15	X					
Hugesoua	15	X					
Kinsa	7,5			X			
Lacomba bombao	8			X			
Ifoulomgana	14				X	(X)	
Ingora	13,5				X	(X)	
Foelo Andiana	14				X	(X)	
Sovo foela	12					X	
Ifodia	13				X	(X)	
Foela Mosoudie	14				X	(X)	
Lahej kille	15	X					
Sara Tuvano	Rxd. 12	X					
Laheymara	15	X					
Kinsa grande	14	X					
Inamoisa + kint	14				X		
Benhaisa	15,5	X					
Irammomas	15,5	X					
Itay	11,5		X				
Sara massa	11,5					X	
Gahapoppa	16	X					
Champena	15,5	X					
Ifanl (i) andiana	15,5	X					
Lahemoza houva	15,5	X					
Lahitiara (Lahitsiara)	15,5	X					
Emahi Toevolla	15,5	X					
Emaro Cassa	15,5	X					
Abarata	15,5	X					
Volamitomba hoe(u)va	15,5				X		
Imoratova	12,5				X		
Ivolasova	12				X		
Lahekele	11			X			
Tonnamoj	14,5				X		
Mevo	15,5	X					
Meiytson	14				X		
Lalase Vasimba	6,5			X			
Ivao	11,5				X		
Mahajombo	15,5	X					
Innomasso	11				X		
Coltewou	4			X			
Lolomimba	15				X		

Name	Price	Man	Young Man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Ivoela tonandiana (ioevoela)	14				X		
Emoninge	15,5	X					
Ivoelanandiana	15				X		
Emarin	15				X		
Ecalehelle	15				X		
Calohel	15				X		
Havomaniva	16	X					
Itsiniavo	16	X					
Lahetsarae	16	X					
Isamanono	16	X					
Soua mariana	14,5				X		
Bought at Maningaer :							
Simanakava	Rxd14	X					
Sawanda Margala	9	X					
Nienge Simangana	13	X					
Inicallo	9				X		
Marefit	8,5				X		
Iballige	10						X
Marinamba	13	X					
Sendiwauva	7						X
Mieusieky	8,5	X					
Callohelle	4						X
Suza	9					X	
Wadifisana	11					X	
Reyne calo (Renicallo)	9			X			
Frangatihana velle	10,5					X	
Callogiddey	10					X	
Behendigh	4			X			
Callo	7						X
Kinsa	9			X			
Calle mitte	9					X	
Callobe	7					X	
Imansa	10	X					
Santogamo	10	X					
Imalango	10	X					
Antegamomij	10	X					
Rovano	15	X					
Gervani	10	X					
Lusa	5				X		
Diambo	10	X					
Saromando	10				X		

Name	Price	Man	Young Man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Suwe Marago	10				X		
Caldo	10				X		
Sarovolanda	11				X		
Renemavoye	9				X		
Ekinsa	6,5	X					
Calevoetje Calveoetj	10				X		
Marome	10	X					
Leyhil	10		X				
Olimberij	14,5	X					
Casane	14	X					
Avanins	14	X					
Rybonia	12	X					
Kinsa	8			X			
Manonbaha	14	X					
Lequele	8		X				
Calo	8						X
Calongetje	10				X		
Enekala	10				X		
Betick	14	X					
Lahonombe	8			X			
Jonahe	15				X		
Kalevoetje (Calofoetsi)	13				X		
Joable	14	X					
Marone	6					X	
Esemanhy Memboe	13		X				
Mahia	13		X				
Safihano	13,5				X		
Cottaraetsi	9,5			X			
Nimmaloha	9,5			X			
Tambirocq (k)	9,5			X			

Bought at Magelage :

Sona Handiana (Andiana)	15				X		
Friometeffa	15				X		
Imeits	11,5				X		
Iteola	15,5				X		
Somainte	15,5				X		
Ivoelakelle	14				X		
Lahetsara	14		X				
Sambolohe	14		X				
Ibe					X		
Wakehebbe	11,5				X		
Songinlahe	15	X					



Name	Price	Man	Young Man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Sommelahe	15	X					
Mangibo	14		X				
Opetakoe	15		X				
Itanamoij	12,5		X				
Manoosie	11,5		X				
Callo	15				X		
Agasoeva	12				X		
Nakisa	10				X		
Metet	3						X
Mahiese	16	X					
Immanigiera	16	X					
Iheffibola	10	X					
Maitsou + haar kintje	15				X		
Callamanandie	15				X		
Calle	12				X		
Eremoma	9,5				X		
Salomiana	14				X		
Ecalle	8						X
Lakinba	12				X		
Ewange (Ekewange)	5			X			
Maijpelea (Maypelva)	7				X		
Sambo	3		X				
Vesartariana	15,5				X		
Malefana	15				X		
Volanetomba	12				X		
Calehouva	14				X		
Itay	8,5			X			
Kintay	16,5				X		
Ivoelatangan	16				X		
Tharamassa	16,5		X				
Callawave	14				X		
Ikore	14				X		
Someijtsou ..eit	12,5				X		
Inahonda	10				X		
Callafaki	9				X		
Itimaninkabe	14		X				
Maevankita	14		X				
Ivoelanandia	14				X		
Bought at Maningaer :							
Soua	15				X		
Vavesy	15				X		
Merinsara	15				X		

Name	Price	Man	Young Man	Boy	Woman	Young Woman	Girl
Calonsy	15				X		
Merangboery	15				X		
Evove Ivove	15				X		
Callevo	15				X		
Marotastijeg	15	X					
Wollabe	15				X		
Coto	3			X			
Simangerij	6				X		
Sobe	12				X		
Magana	15				X		
Halle(a)hallinge	15				X		
Ratasale	12		X	(X)			
Cotilambo	12		X	(X)			
Evan Catsa	12		X	(X)			
Esambo	12		X				
Allowole	12		X				
Cotiana Limbowole	12		X				
Mehenka	12		X				
Ehalake Simille	15,5				X		
Isiaman	15		X				
Catavoetsy	14,5		X				
Baravan	14,5		X				
Salamahansa	8			X			
Elahe avonde	14		X				
Kelinpasse	14				X		
Everemasa	13				X		
Isandre	8						X
Roeverij	14	X					
Etoken Sihawana(n)	15	X					
Esamboloulov ...boulolou	15	X					
Kintsawou	10		X				
Ewekie (Iwekie)	13		X				
Ehalantavan	14,5	X					
Wollabe	14				X		
Etsahanige(n)	15				X		
Ekinsa	15	X					
Andemalasa	14,5	X					
Kilewosie	8						X
Ehavanpahita	13		X				

MALAGASY SLAVES PURCHASED AT MARINGANDO 1696/97

BY *SOLDAAT*

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Cottewolle		X			
Sabe			X		
Fatieme			X		
Andian Havanan		X			
Tsimehava		X			
Woelabe			X		
Calefohe			X		
Mahehina		X			
Calowarre			X		
Andeba			X		
Simerrivoho				X	
ITzak			X		
Mahazatia	Rxd. 25	X			
Cotewovw	20	X			
Maheti	25	X			
Tsimanangi	25	X			
Cotemenite	25	X			
Ran Mahieto	25	X			
Jamahurite	14	X			
Andia Manonge	25	X			
Andrine Saelaze	25	X			
Kindu Rinevau	1,25			X	
Tameannian	10 +		X		
Rinevau	« copper »		X		
Rehito	« copper »		X		
Salame			X		
Tobo	18		X		
Sofaninso	20		X		
Tsara Maningando	17		X		
Sumekoet		X			
Foremange		X			
Andian Sungowan	25	X			
Sunandingh	25	X			
Mahawita	22	X			
Mian Rewoela	25	X			
Mahafita	25	X			
Sagowani	25	X			
Sartemile	25	X			
Andia Nomba	25	X			
Voela	20		X		

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Rasoua	20		X		
Soa Tsimeavo	20		X		
Vaeseandian	18		X		
Mahuva	« copper »		X		
Suverandi	« copper »		X		
Samene	« copper »	X			
Pamak	« copper »	X			
Tsarosyne Mienbo	25	X			
Renaembe	25	X			
Imafama	25	X			
Magnahifofo	25	X			
Tovolahe	10	X			
Andrene Seha	25	X			
Miango	25	X			
Rewiele	20	X			
Sohalaze	—		X		
Tsomalaze	20		X		
Javrekolle	20		X		
Velou	14		X		
Salemine	25	X			
Sapovdie	25	X			
Voela	18	X			
Samhisaze	25	X			
Lahtoha	20	X			
Andia Havanom	25	X			
Masta	22	X			
Simanang	25	X			
Makotoeboe	14	X			
Mahalefit	25	X			
Imahovit	20	X			
Simehafa	25	X			
Teakolavi	20		X		
Vollemahazi	20		X		
Masse [mrae ?]	12		X		
Calo	15		X		
Efanso	12		X		
Voetsi	20		X		
Ikoto	18	X			
Salambo	25	X			
Lahekelle	25				
Ekotto	23	X			
Miawa Tsimanang	25	X			
Andia Vomba	25	X			

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Mafoudie	25	X			
Fenaombe	25	X			
Woela	20		X		
Farna	20		X		
Sangale	18		X		
Mehaderaze	20		X		
Wohange	20		X		
Mahatokin	25	X			
Andian Boeloeloe	25	X			
Ramaro	25	X			
Fangame	25	X			
Iracq	25	X			
Simange Mehova	25	X			
Maro Nohohosoa	25				
Mahita	25				
Ealitsihavo	24				
Imaheetse	25				
Mangorandia	14			X	
Tsentemehenga	20		X		
Rama Hamuge	20		X		
Sehingoa	20		X		
Bar Tjani	20		X		
Asoa	20		X		
Ingore	13		X		
Lamboekelle	25	X			
Tsalemiene	25	X			
Laha Tsara	25	X			
Andian Tsavoran	25	X			
Mahatokkia	25	X			
Arrianpeontanian	25	X			
Fytandian	25	X			
Palemiere	25	X			
Tsehia	15	X			
Voelemanang	18		X		
Andia nombane	25	X			
Tsimefollok (?)	25	X			
Andia Nombane	22,5	X			
Maharia	22	X			
« Soldaat » born en route				X	

Total delivered

78/43

MALAGASY SLAVES PURCHASED BY THE *PETER & PAUL*, 1699

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Simahahwakoets		X			
Ombandian		X			
Saloeme		X			
Cleafokke ?		X			
Andr Masohoren ?		X			
Andr Kwonaay ?		X			
Maharere Foeti			X		
Hosania			X		
Emamoi			X		
Jetseroesso		X			
Ihadi or Haso [«queen» of Tsimanata]			X		
Simiadiso		X			
Sikivie		X			
Simandangou		X			
Imahiestsi		X			
Mahafotara		X			
Rafitoe		X			
Anrian Nitoevian		X			
Anrian Simadiva		X			
Mahatowelle		X			
Simang Anria Cassa		X			
Tserekaho		X			
Mahietsandian		X			
Raainiendre		X			
Ombanne Corra			X		
Isaffa			X		
Lahitsara		X			
Jetsilesta		X			
Manompandian		X			
Siawonge		X			
Reirambo		X			
Walisaho		X			
Tsirinaeke		X			
Mafalle		X			
A. Nodiferan		X			
Schoitse		X			
Iharo Mangoenorg		X			
Miandrewolle		X			
Reinevouroy			X		
Simango Hawoong		X			

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Henmeri Kosakke		X			
Reenevouw			X		
Woella			X		
From the Arabs for cash :					
Sambo	Rxd. 25	X			
Oelemahere	25	X			
Mahoetsjaerae	25	X			
Mafataha	25	X			
A. Naso	25	X			
Fangemaars	25	X			
A. Nihotian	25	X			
A. Mahere	25	X			
A. Mahat ehi	25	X			
Faraatsi	25	X			
Bizahan	25	X			
Mafakke	25	X			
Simandangou	25	X			
Meitsnongombe	25	X			
Feheresa	25	X			
Tambohimarare	25	X			
Siaso de Zak	25	X			
And. Sjare	25	X			
Fahawande	25	X			
Mahietsandian	25	X			
And Rombako Messua	25	X			
And. Jessantan.	25	X			
Heere	25	X			
Faraadje	25	X			
Saligien	25	X			
And. Nihantani	25	X			
And. Nohazohorai	25	X			
Sange keke	25	X			
And. Nombake Messina	25	X			
Eerte Nimielo	25	X			
Silanosse	25	X			
Lahivouw	25	X			
Ilanco	25	X			
Mafakke	25	X			
Sambo	25	X			
Serdro	25	X			
Salemien	25	X			
Bettatta	25	X			
Lahimasse	25	X			

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Sampiala	25	X			
Lamboesafe	25	X			
And. Saffi	25	X			
Siasodesak	25	X			
Andian Filafan	Goods	X			
Ihava	Goods	X			
And. Nombandian	Goods	X			
Sulenuni	Goods	X			
Sitate	Goods	X			
Sada	20		X		
Wollesifoi	20		X		
Ingore Meitso	20		X		
Sitara	20		X		
Angorarasi	20		X		
Ampiasse	20		X		
Reivoe	20		X		
Waliquambe	20		X		
Afoa	20		X		
Raveloelong	20		X		
Caramansa	20		X		
Ingore	20		X		
Rahenna	20		X		
Jangale	20		X		
Bersani	20		X		
Ivao	20		X		
Woela (potter)	25		X		
Ivelo (potter)	25		X		
Sarombees	25	X			
Miadihomine (?)	25	X			
Faugahi	25	X			
Sisakae	25	X			
And. Massi	25	X			
'T Sara hatove	25	X			
Asohorai	25	X			
Simiadiva	25	X			
Idonga	25	X			
Teugo	25	X			
Amme Annasi (potter)	25		X		
Rafoetsi (potter)	25		X		
Lehilave	25	X			
Daendahe	25	X			
And. Massoando	25	X			
Tsaatse	25	X			

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
And. Mas	25	X			
Samunimanva	25	X			
Assoa	20		X		
Rasimang Pangenet	20		X		
Sahedi	20		X		
Safe T'sarrandian	20		X		
From Sjakkelave :					
And. Manansara		X			
Lahietsara		X			
Soanto		X			
Mafotaha		X			
ITaTingietsara		X			
Maffetaha		X			
Itaade		X			
Kifafa		X			
Salame			X		
Betehese	25	X			
Olesimora	25	X			
Behies	25	X			
Jongore	20		X		
Tyse Napano	25	X			
Sunetoha	25	X			
Simithohan	25	X			
Mahalefits	25	X			
Raomba	25	X			
Jetsehaho	25	X			
Tsihawange	25	X			
Ira kandia	25	X			
Simadera	20		X		
Ingore alias Tangoor Anrayko	20		X		
Tsare Moelie					
Javimasso					
And. Nampinga					
Vele Simore					
HaleSinsave	25	X			
Salemien	25	X			
Sarsiwai	25	X			
Isesuo	25	X			
Barisimi	25	X			
Imahande	25	X			
Riafoenie	20		X		
Isoa	20		X		
Mafotaha (from the «King»	25	X			

Name	Price	Man	Woman	Boy	Girl
Sara Bidi	25	X			
Reize	25	X			
Jetsemoediat	25	X			
Amboemange	25	X			
Beronien	25	X			
Beetsimoren	25	X			
Lamboeseet	25	X			
Lautian	20		X		
Sangirange	25	X			
Miandrewoele	25	X			
Imansoveloe	25	X			
Ijankange	25	X			
Selaits	25	X			
Tompo Manniganso (potter)	25		X		
Sibenong Caffa					
Tambiling					
Isarise					
Mahotoboe					
Itoesa Noewine (potter)	25		X		
Iwoela Mitombo	20		X		
Andian Nombitea (from « King »)	25	X			
Jantenga	25	X			
Tellewait	25	X			
Ivélo	20		X		
From Arabs :					
Manangasi	25	X			
And. Atsimae	25	X			
Lahimafoto	25	X			
Ivasaho					
Sisarease					
Died :					
Sitate		X			
Siafodezak		X			
Fahawande		X			
And. Quoney		X			
Mafathaha		X			
Simandangane		X			
Rafoeti			X		
And. Nombiten					
Ihava			X		
Woela					
Mahalefits					
Feheresa					
Beromien					
Simandera					

[Total deaths, 14]

