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Glossary

aina	breathing, derived from *miaina* (to live)
akory aby	good day
akotry	paddy
alim-belona	living night
ambany	under, beneath, below, low, down
ambiroa	body double
ambony	above, over, high, higher in rank
andevo	slave(s) or being of slave descent
andriana	being of noble descent. In Betsileo society those who reincarnate into crocodiles.
andriananahary	creator and centre of the universe
asa maloto	dirty work
baribariana	barbarians
bozaka	long grass
efa	to complete
fady	forbidden, taboo
fakan'ambiroa	calling of the *ambiroa*
famadihana	to turn over the dead. Ceremony in which corpses in the tomb are rewrapped in *lamba*
fanafody gasy	Malagasy medicine, an euphemism for sorcery
fanahy	spirit that leaves the body after death and through the tomb it travels to Ambondrombe
fanany	snake
fandevenana	funeral
fanjakana gasy	Malagasy government
fanomezana poizina	actual poisoning
fasana	tomb
fati-dra	those undergoing the *vaki-ra* ritual
fianakaviana	Firstly, whole family group within the village. Secondly, the various households making up this group
fiaretantory	vigil
fiefana	completion of the funeral. Ritual to mark the end of the mourning period.
fihavanana	friendship, "family" solidarity
firaisana	administrative unit of the state
fito	seven
foko	maximal descent group (named regional descent group)
fokon-tany	formal village council
fomba gasy	Malagasy customs
fomba vazaha	foreign customs
fotsimbary	white rice
hasina	vital energy innate to life
havana	relatives, family or family member
hazomanga	charcoal from sacred wood
henatra	shame
hery	power or energy. Often seen as destructive.
hova	being of noble descent in Betsileo society. Betsileo *hova* do not reincarnate into crocodiles. Commoner descent in Merina society.
kabary	long elaborate Magalasy speeches

kapoaka	measure of maize, rice, beans etc. A tin of six centimetres wide and ten centimetres long
karazana	maximal descent group (named regional descent group)
lamba	cloth
lambamena	a dark red *lamba* used to dress a deceased
lova	heritage
lova voalohany	first heritage
mademoazely	miss
madio	clean or pure
mainty	black
maloto	dirty or impure
mampidi-doza	dangerous
mandoro	to burn
manempo	to melt
masina	holy
maty	dead, death
maty indroa	second death
mosavy	witchcraft
mpamosavy	witch
mpanao amponga	drum and flute band
mpiavy	migrant(s)
mpikarama	labourer(s)
ody	amulet(s)
olombelona	living people
olompotsy	commoner descent
olona hafa	other or different people, outsiders
olona madio	clean or pure person or people. Designation in Betsileo society for people who have 'proven' their free descent by pointing out their family tomb. They are considered to be of free descent.
olona mainty	black people
olona maloto	dirty or impure person or people. Designation in Betsileo society for people who cannot demonstrate their free descent by means of a family tomb. They are considered to be of slave descent
olona ratsy	bad people
ombiasy	traditional healer
omby vavy	cow
paraky	tobacco
ra	blood
rafeta	bog flat stone blocking the entrance of the tomb
Ratompokolahy	reference for male deceased after funeral
Ratompokovavy	reference for female deceased after funeral
ratsy	bad
ray aman-dreny	literally fathers and mothers, in the extreme Southern Highlands often used to refer to parents or just the male family leaders of a *tompon-tany* families
razana	ancestor(s), dead person or corpse
renibe	grandmother
resa-be	gossip
rongony	hemp plant
saotsa	blessing, thanks. Expression of gratitude to the ancestors
tanana	village(s)
tanana taloha	ancient village(s)

tandra bride price
tanin-drazana ancestral land
tantara a history, a tale, a legend, a fabulous narration
tavy slash-and-burn agriculture
tehina fanerekerenana hollow cylinder-shaped cane that has been sharpened by one clean diagonal cut. Particularly used during bull fights.
toaka gasy Malagasy spirit
toets'ambiroa ritual of separation
tolon'omby bull fight
tompon-tany master(s) of the land
trano house or box
tromba possession
tsaramaso kind of beans
tsodrano blowing of the water
tsy madio impure, not clean
tsy misy nothing
vaki-ra ritual blood bond
vaky cut, broken
vao new
vary rice
vary tsatsatra rice and meat meal eaten during *toets'ambiroa* ritual
vato fasana grave stone
vazaha foreigner
veloma goodbye
very lost
voanjo bory kind of beans
volafotsy silver coin
vorovorobava foam
vositra ox
zanakalahy son(s)
zanakavavy daughter(s)
zavatra things