

Rakaihautu

by Tiana Alesana

Mihi

E ngā mana, e ngā reo,
e ngā kārangataha maha, tēnā koutou
Ko Tutumapou te maunga
Ko Te Hoiere te awa
Ko Kurahaupo te waka
Ko Ngāti Kuia te iwi
Ko Tiana Alesana tōkū ingoa

Karakia

Manawa mai te mauri nuku
Manawa mai te mauri rangi
Ko te mauri kei au, he mauri tipua
Ka pakaru mai te po
Tau mai te mauri
Haumi e, hui e, taiki e

Embrace the life force of the earth
Embrace the life force of the sky
The life force I have gathered is powerful
And shatters all darkness
Come great life force, join it, gather it,
it is done!

Pronunciation

A - like "ah"
E - like "eh"
I - like the e in "yeehaaa"
O - like the o in "oar"
U - like "ew"
R - slight roll
Wh - like "f"

Uruao

Uruao is the waka of Rākaihautu. Rākaihautu is the common ancestor of the three-original iwi of Te Waipounamu: The South Island who are Ngāi Tūmatakōkiri, Waitaha, Ngāti Māmoē and who have created other many iwi in Te Waipounamu including:

- Ngāti Kuia
- Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō
- Ngāti Tahu

Rākaihautu and the Uruao waka initially arrived in Nelson with Rākaihautu and his son Rokohouia.

The Story of Rakaihautu

Rākaihautu is attributed to the discovery and creation of many different areas and significant places in Te Waipounamu - the South Island. He arrived in Nelson upon his waka Uruao, with his son Rokohouia. Rākaihautu was a renown discoverer and traversed the seas from Hawaiki to Aotearoa due to overcrowding.

With them they brought a mystical "Kō" - traditional digging stick/tool named Tūwhakarōia. This Kō was used to carve out the different lakes/waterways of Te Waipounamu.

Rākaihautu is also attributed for naming Te Riuwaka (known commonly as Riwaka) and bringing Huriawa - underwater tipua: demi god, that protects the sub-terranean water ways, and who now resides in Waikoropupu Springs.

Pātere: Ko Uruao

Ko Uruao

Te waka tapu te waka tipua ā Rākaihautu rāua ko tana tama ā Rokohouia

Ka tau noa ki Whangaroa

Ka kite i te tini, i te mano tāngata i reira

Haere ana rāua ki te rapu kāinga katahi ka tau noa ki Whakatū

Ki Te Tau Ihu o te Waka o Āoraki i te Waipounamu e

Nā Rokohouia i toro te takutai, nā Rākaihautu i mau i a Tūwhakaroria te kō whakamiharo e, kēria, kēria!

Ko Rotoroa, ko Rotoiti, Ko Hokokura, Whakamatau o Turoto

Ka heke whakateraro i raro i ngā maunga teitei

Rere ana a Tuwhakaroria

Ko Takapo, ko Pukaki, Ohau me Hawea, ko Wanaka

Whakatipu waimaori, Whakatipu waitai, Te Matau te tipua e

Te Anau, Rotoua, haere tonu ia ki Te Ara a Kewa

Ka huri ki te raki kēria a Rotonui ā Whatu

Waihora, Kaikarae, Waihao

Tūtaki i a Rokohouia i reira whakawhiti rāua i Ngā Pākihi Whakatekata ā Waitaha

Karia te roto Waihora – Te Kete Ika a Rākaihautu

Me te roto Wairewa, i reira ka noho a Rākaihautu

Piki ake kake ake ka poua tana kō a Tūwhakarōria

I te puke Tuhirangi e

Nga tohu o ōna tapuwae i kaakahutia ki runga i te mata o te whenua ko ngā Puna Karikari a Rakaihautu e!

Whakamārama – Translation

1. Uruāo – ancestral canoe of the Waitaha people and its kaihautū Rākaihautū.
2. Rākaihautū – tīpuna of the Waitaha people renown for digging up many beautiful lakes in Te Waipounamu.
3. Rokohouia – son of Rākaihautū.
4. Whangaroa – Northland harbour where Rākaihautū first landed and discovered there were many occupants, so they travelled south.
5. Whakatū / Nelson – the first place that Uruao landed in the South Island
6. Te Tau Ihu o te Waka o Āoraki / The Top of the South Island.
7. Te Waipounamu / Southern Island of New Zealand.
8. Tuwhakaroria – the digging stick that Rākaihautū used to dig the lakes.
9. Rotoroa – source of the Gowan River, lake situated in the Nelson Lakes region.
10. Rotoiti - known by many ancient travellers as a safe haven when traversing Te Waipounamu and another important mahinga kai.
11. Takapo – lake Tekapo is situated within a cluster of three lakes in the centre of the South Island.
12. Pūkaki – lake Pūkaki is the largest lake of the three clustered lakes.
13. Ōhau – lake Ōhau situated within a cluster of three lakes in the centre of the South island.
14. Hāwea – lake situated in the Otago region.
15. Wānaka – beautiful lake renowned for its recreation.

16. Whakatipu – lake located in Queenstown, home of the taniwha and kaitiaki Te Matau.
17. Te Matau – kaitiaki of lake Whakatipu, whō lives in in the water and is the reason for the ebbs and flows of the lake.
18. Te Ana Au – Te Ānau, lake located in the southwestern corner of the South Island, known for its swirling currents.
19. Rotoua – known now as lake Manapōuri, the second deepest lake in New Zealand.
20. Te Ara a Kewa – Foveaux Straight, body of water that separates Stewart Island tō the mainland.
21. Te Rotonui a-whatu – known now as lake Tuakitoto
22. Waihora – lake that locals nw call Waihola
23. Waihao = a watercourse in the Canterbury region
24. Ngā pākihi Whakatekateka a Waitaha – Canterbury Plains
25. Waihora /lake Ellesmere – located in the Canterbury region.
26. Te Kete Ika a Rākaihautū – Lake Waihora was known as the fishing basket of Rākaihautū.
27. Wairewa / Lake Forsyth
28. Tuhirangi – the final resting place of Rākaihautū. Tuhirangi is the digging stick Tuwhakaroria and was turned into a mountain.
29. Ngā Puna Karikari a Rākaihautū – the name for all of the lakes that Rākaihautū dug.

This waiata tells the story of Rākaihautū and his travels around Te Waipounamu, digging up the many beautiful lakes from Te Tau Ihu o te Waka down to Murihiku. This waiata was originally taught tō Te Whatukura club by whānau of the composers.

Composition Title: Rākaihautū

Musical Score Composed By: Original by Hone Nuku-Tarawhiti / Adapted by Tom Alesana

Lyrics Composed By: Original by Robyn McLaren / Adapted by Tom Alesana

Date Item Composed: Original 1991 / Adapted December 2014

Teaching and Learning

Why do we want to share this story with you?

To teach you a purakau from our region - Te Taihū o te Waka that you can share with your students/schools/community and incorporate into your teaching.

Rakaihautu was a leader, a pioneer, someone who went into uncharted territory and discovered new areas. He is also a common ancestor for the original iwi of the South Island and it's his whakapapa that binds many people and places together.

Task

Create small working groups. Gather in groups with teachers of students at a similar age/stage of learning OR gather together with other teachers who have similar areas of expertise - eg all the play based learning teachers gather together.

Brainstorm ideas of ways that you could use this in your teaching and learning programmes.

HINT: In term 2 at our wānanga week we will need to bring along examples of student learning so make sure you make the most of this planning time!!!!

Share back and reflection

Put your posters up in the foyer on your way out, spend some time looking at other people's ideas!