

## Parekawakawa: He tohu o te mate

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**Abstract:** Ko te parekawakawa te tohu o te tangihanga, o te uhunga, o te mate, e kitea whānuitia ana i runga i ngā marae o Ngāti Maniapoto me ngētehi atu iwi. Heoi anō, e mōhio rānei ana tātou ki tōna takenga mai? Ki ngā take e mau ana ia ki te tangihanga i ngā wā o mua, i ngēnei rā hoki?

Koinei ngā tino whāinga o tēnei whakatewhatewha. He titiro ki ngā tikanga me ngā whakapono e pā ana ki te parekawakawa, tōna kawenga i te tangihanga, tae atu ki ngā rākau i whakamahia. Ko te ao atua, te ao wairua, me te ao kikokiko nei i āta rangahaua, kia whai māramatanga tēnei kaupapa, me te take e noho ana te parekawakawa hei tohu i te mate ki roto o Ngāti Maniapoto me ngētehi atu iwi o te motu.

**Abstract:** The parekawakawa is a notable symbol of mourning throughout the iwi of Aotearoa. The tikanga of bearing fragrant foliage at tangihanga continues today and remains strong, on the marae of Ngāti Maniapoto, among others. However, are we aware of its origins? Why was it worn at tangihanga in the past and why it is being continued today?

The aims of this study are to investigate this tikanga, by exploring both its current and earlier use. The applied, spiritual, mental and emotional functions, aspects and beliefs associated with parekawakawa are also examined to unearth the reasons it has become a symbol of death and mourning to Ngāti Maniapoto and other iwi.

**Key words:** parekawakawa; tangihanga; tauā; tikanga Māori

(Drury, 2006b)

*He aha te tohu mō te ringaringa?*

*He kawakawa!*

*E tuku ki raro kia hope*

*He horokia!*

*Ngā whakatau o te mate*

*Hui – e!*

*Hui rangiora e!*

*He aha te tohu mō te tipare?*

*He kawakawa!*

*Me tuku te hou kia tāewa*

*He horokia!*

*Ngā whakatau o te mate*

*Hui – e!*

*Hui rangiora e!*

(Andersen, 1934, p. 433)

### Kupu whakataki

Ko te kawakawa te tino tohu o te mate, ki ngā iwi puta noa i Aotearoa nei. Ko tēnei tikanga o te mau rau rākau ki te tangihanga, e kawea tonutia ana e Ngāti Maniapoto me ngētehi atu iwi.

E mahia whānuitia ana te haka pōwhiri, me ngā rau o te ringaringa, otirā, ka tīparea ngā rau ki ngā māhunga o ngā kuia, i te tangihanga, i te hura kōhatu, i te kawē mate, me te pōwhiri hoki i ngētehi wā. Ki whea atu, ki whea atu, e kitea ana ngā rau kākāriki i roto i ngā kawa, ngā tikanga, otirā, ngā whakahaere a tāua te Māori.

### **Te pūtake o tēnei rangahau**

Nōku e tamariki ana, i noho piri au ki tōku rūruhi, a Kanohingarō Te Kanawa, ā, ka whāia ia e au ki ngā tangihanga huhua o tōku iwi. Ki reira au e mātakitaki ana i ngōku rūruhi, koroheke, e whakatutuki ana i ngō rātou tikanga. Kāore anō au kia tae atu ki te tangihanga me te korenga o ngā rau rākau e whakarākei ana i ngā māhunga o ngōku kuia. He mea nui tērā ki a rātou. Ka tae atu te rongo o tētehi aituā ki tōku kuia, ka takatū māua ki te haere. Ka tukuna au kia tiki i ngētehi rau, hei parekawakawa mōna. Ka āta whiria, ka tīparea ki tōna māhunga, ā, ka noho ki reira mō te roanga o te tangihanga. Koia, kua ara mai tēnei kaupapa hei rangahau. He aha te hiranga o ngā rau rākau, o te kawakawa rānei, kua noho ia hei tohu o te mate? He aha tana mahi i te tangihanga? He tohu noa? He whakarākei noa? He aha kē rānei?

### **Ngā whāinga**

Ko te whāinga matua o tēnei rangahau, ko te whakatewhatewha i te takenga mai o tēnei tikanga, te mau parekawakawa, mā te āta mātai i ngā āhuatanga o te tangihanga. Ka āta tirohia te whakamahinga o ngā rau rākau ki te tūpāpaku, te kiri mate hoki, me ngā whakapono tawhito mō ngā rau rākau, e whātoro atu ana ki te ao wairua, te ao atua, tae noa mai ki te ao kikokiko me te taha hinengaro, wairua, ngākau rā anō o te tangata.

### **Ngā pātai**

Anei ngā pātai i āta rangahaua:

1. Ko te tikanga o te mau parekawakawa i te tangihanga, i takea mai i whea?
2. He aha tātou i mau ai i te parekawakawa?
3. He aha ngētehi o ngā momo otaota i whakamahia hei “parekawakawa” i ngā wā o mua, i tēnei rā hoki?
4. I te tangihanga, mā wai te parekawakawa e mau?

### **Te huarahi rangahau**

I āta rangahaua ngā rauemi e pā ana ki te tangihanga, te rongoā, ngā otaota kakara, ngā kākahu (arā, ngā momo pare me ngā pōtae), ngā kawa, me ngā whakapono tawhito o te Māori. Ko te katoa o ngaku rauemi, he mea tuhituhi, whakaahua, whakaata rānei. Arā, ko ngā tuhinga kua perehitia, ngā mōteatea, ngā whakataukī, ngā niupepa, ngā whakaahua, ngā rauemi o te ipurangi, me ngā whakaaturanga pouaka whakaata. Ko te katoa o ngēnei, i rangahaua ki te whare pukapuka o te Whare Wānanga o Waikato. Ko tētehi atu wāhanga ka puta mai i te tuhinga nei, ko ngāku kitenga ake, i ahau e tupu ake ana, o ngā tikanga i whakahaerengia ki runga i ngōku ake marae.

### **Te tāhūhū kōrero**

E whā ngā kaupapa matua kua āta rangahaua, ka puta mai i te tuhinga nei. Ko te tuatahi e pā ana ki te takenga mai o tēnei tikanga te mau parekawakawa. Kei reira te whakapono o ngētehi, i ahu mai i te Karaitiana. He pērā i te nuinga o ngā tikanga o te ao kōhatu, i hurihia, i whakarerekēngia, i whakahanumingia ki ngā tikanga hou a te Pākehā. Heoi anō, ka tirohia ngētehi whakapono Karaitiana, kātahi, ka huri atu ki ngā kōrero o nehe a te Māori, o te kauae runga hoki mō te takenga mai o te parekawakawa. Ka wānangahia te tūranga o te kawakawa ki ngā tangihanga o nehe, kia whai mārama ki ngā take i mau ai te parekawakawa i aua wā. Arā, hei kakara mō te tūpāpaku, hei whakapakoko hoki mōna i a ia e tangihia ana, he aha atu, he aha atu. Ka tirohia te kawakawa hei rongoā, ka wānangahia hoki ngā whakapono i

whakamahi ai ia ki roto i ngā kawa, pēnei i te tohi, te pōwhiri, te hahunga me ngērā momo whakahaere. Ka matapakitia ngā momo otaota i whakamahia hei parekawakawa, ā, hei kaupapa whakamutunga, ka tirohia ngā tāngata mā rātou te parekawakawa e mau.

### **He aha te parekawakawa?**

Ko te “parekawakawa”, (te tauā, rānei), he momo pare ka whiria ki ngā rau rākau, ka whakanōhia ki te māhunga mēnā e haere ana te tangata ki te tangihanga. Ki tā Rerekura (2008), ko te “tauā” te ingoa ki ngā iwi o te Tai Tokerau, ā, ki tā ngā iwi o runga ake, ko te “parekawakawa”. Ki a Taranaki, e karangangia ana, ko te “maimai” (Te Reo o Taranaki Charitable Trust, 2008). Ki taku mōhio, ko ngā iwi o te Tai Tokerau, o Tainui, me Aotea ngā iwi e pūmau tonu ana ki tēnei tikanga.

Ki te whakawehewehengia tēnei kupu te “parekawakawa”, ko te pare, he momo whakarākei mō te māhunga, (pēnei i te tīpare), ā, ko te kawakawa, *Macropiper excelsum*, te rākau matua e whakamahingia ana (Rerekura, 2008). E mea ana a Wilcox, koia te rākau o te mate (TVNZ, 2006).

Ki roto i te Pātaka Kupu, ko te tautuhi mō te “tauā”, ko tēnei: “Ka mau i ngā kākahu mō te tangi, mō te uhunga, ka tangi mō te tangata kua mate” (Māori Language Commission, 2008, p. 883). Ā, ko te “kākahu tauā”: “He kākahu tangi e tohu ana i te mamae, i te pōuri, i te aroha ki tētahi kua mate” (Māori Language Commission, 2008, p. 883). Koinei katoa ngā āhuatanga o tēnei tohu te parekawakawa.

### **Te parekawakawa ki ngā tangihanga o Ngāti Maniapoto**

Kia mōhio ai te hunga kore mārāma ki tēnei tikanga, me whakatakoto atu au i ngā tikanga o te parekawakawa ki ngā tangihanga o Ngāti Maniapoto. Ko ngā kōrero e whai ake nei, ko ngāku kitenga i ahau i runga i ngā marae o Maniapoto i ngā tau (āhua tekau) kua pahure atu. Ehara i te mea, koinei te āhua o runga o ngētēhi atu marae, o iwi kē, engari, nāku anō ngēnei kitenga.

Kāore he tino take o te momo rākau e tīkina ana mō te pare i ngēnei rā, engari me kākariki, me pāpango te tae o ngā rau. Ko te whiro (willow), *Salix babylonica*, tētehi o ngā tino rākau e kitea ana i tēnei rā, ko ngā otaota rānei e tupu tata ana ki ngā marae.

Ko ngā wāhine me ngā rūruhi ngā kaikawe o te tauā, korekore rawa te tāne e mau ki runga i te māhunga. Me mau hoki ngā wāhine o te pae mate, e noho tahi ana me te tūpāpaku. Mēnā e puta atu ana ki waho, ki te wharekai, ki te whareiti rānei, e waihotia ana te pare ki mua i te tūpāpaku. Ko ngā kuia, me ngā wāhine ka whakaeke mai, ka mau i ngā pare, ā, ka whakatakotonga ki mua i te tūpāpaku i a rātou e hariru ana i te kiri mate. E tika ana mā ngā kaikaranga hoki te parekawakawa e mau.

I ngētēhi o ngā marae, ka kitea ngā rau rākau e tautau ana i ngā pātu, te mahau, ngā maihi me ngā amo o te whare.

I te rā o te nehu, i muri tata o te hikinga o te tūpāpaku me tana haringa ki te urupā, ka kohikohia katoatia ngā tauā me ngā rau rākau i te tūpāpaku, i te whare hoki, ā, ka haria ki te rua kōiwi. Tae rawa atu ki reira, ka rukea atu ngā rau me ngā tauā ki raro, ā, ka tāpuketia ki te taha o te tūpāpaku. Nā te tapu o te mate e whakarērea ana ngēnei ki te poho o Papatūānuku.

Nō reira, koinā tāku i kite ai, i aku haerenga ki ngā tangihanga o roto o Maniapoto. Koinā, ngā tikanga e whakaarohia ana, i ahau e rangahau ana i tēnei tohu, te parekawakawa. Heoi anō, ko ngā pitopito kōrero kua kohikohia, he hītori, he kawa, he tikanga, he kōrero nō ngā hau e whā o te motu, ehara nō mātou anahe.

## Te takenga mai o te parekawakawa

### **Nō te Karaitianatanga**

I taku pātaitanga ki tōku ake rūruhi mō tēnei kaupapa, ko tana urupare i pēnei ai. Ko te parekawakawa he whakamaumahara ki te pare tūmatakuru o Ihu Karaiti, i a ia i runga i te rīpeka. Nō reira, nā tāna whakamārama pēnei i ara ake ai he pātai anō. He tikanga tēnei i ahu mai i te whakapono Karaitiana? He tikanga tūturu Māori rānei?

He maha ngā whakapono hou kua uru mai ki roto i ngā whakahaere a te Māori i ngēnei rā. Tirohia ngētehi o ngā tikanga o te marae. Ko te koha, he moni i ngēnei rā. He kai, he tāonga rānei i ngā wā o mua. E rere ana ngā haki i runga i ngā marae, ā, kua whakarērea te pūtātara mō te pere. Ko ngā whakaaro, me ngā whakapono hoki, i whakahanumia. I ngēnei rā, he āhua uaua ki te whakawehe i ngā tikanga Māori me ngā whakapono o Tauīwi. Ko te wai (e whakamahia ana hei whakanoa i te tapu), i ahu mai i te ao kōhatu, i ahu mai rānei i te whakaaro Karaitiana, arā, te wai tapu (holy water)? He pērā anō mō te parekawakawa, he tohu Māori tūturu, i ahu mai rānei i ngā momo pare a te Pākehā, arā, “peace lilies and wreaths”? (Smith, 1976).

I ngā tuhinga a Beaglehole, ko tētehi o ngā kuia i kōrero ki a ia, i whakamārama i te parekawakawa hei tohu i te pare tūmatakuru o Ihu Karaiti. Heoi anō, ki tā Beaglehole, he tauira tērā o te whakahanumitanga o ngā whakapono hou, ki ngā tikanga tawhito o ngā tūpuna (1945). Kei ngā tuhinga a Barlow hoki te whakaaro, ko te tauā a te Māori, te tohu ariki o te Karaiti (1991).

Mēnā nō te Karaitianatanga te whakaaro o te tauā, kāore rānei, i tere te iwi Māori ki te whakamahi i ngā mea hou i haria mai nei e te Pākehā. Ko ngā rākau me ngā otaota, kāore i rerekē.

Ko te whiro, *Salix babylonica*, e kaha whakamahia ana hei parekawakawa i ngēnei rā, ahakoa, ehara i te rākau māori. He tohu tawhito te whiro, ki te Pākehā, o te pōuri me te uhunga. I te mea, ko tōna ingoa “babylonica” i ahu mai i ngā tangi a ngā Hūrai i Babylonia, arā, i noho rātou ki te tangi ki raro i ngā rākau whiro (Riley, 1994). Nō konei te take e whakamahi ana tātou i te whiro hei parekawakawa i tēnei rā?

It's all round my hat  
I wear a green willow,  
All round my hat  
For a twelvemonth and a day.  
If anyone should ask you  
The reason why I wear it,  
You may tell them that my true love  
Has just gone away.  
(Notus, 1894, p. 5)

He mea tuhi tēnei rotarota ki tētehi Niupepa i te kitenga o ngā parekawakawa a te Māori. Nō reira, ko te āhua nei, he parekawakawa anō tā te Pākehā, i mau mō te uhunga, ā, ko te whiro anō te otaota i whakamahia e rātou.

Kei reira te whakaaro, tērā pea, he tikanga hou tēnei te mau parekawakawa, arā, i ahu mai i te Pākehā. Engari nāku te whakapae, nō tuawhakarere, nō te ao Māori kē. Ko ngētehi o ngā whakamārama e whai ake nei, e ruku atu ana ki te kauae runga, te kauae raro me ngā tohu hoki o te taiao.

### **Nō te ao atua**

Kei a Rerekura o Ngāpuhi tana whakamārama mō te pūtaka o te mau parekawakawa. E toro atu ana ki te whakapono tūturu o te Māori, arā, he kōrero mō Tāne.

While Tāne was adorning the heavenly chest of his father, Ranginui, he placed a wreath of leaves upon the head of a planet and named it *Pareārau*. This star is commonly known as Saturn. *Pare ā rau* refers to the rings of Saturn and is properly translated to describe a ‘wreath of leaves’ placed on the head. The mysteries of the wānanga reveal that Tāne did this as an eternal reminder to his offspring of his compassion for mankind. The ancient phrase *Pareārau i te pō* alludes to the rising of Saturn at dusk. Pareārau symbolises the grief and sorrow of Tāne for the dead and the transition of the human spirit into a star. (Rerekura, 2008, p. 9)

E tautokona ana tēnei whakaaro e Julian Wilcox, i a ia e kōrero ana i te tangihanga o te arikinui Te Ātairangikāhu. Ki tāna, ko te parekawakawa he tohu o ngā ringi o Pareārau, ā, ko te whetū tērā o te mate me te uhunga (TVNZ, 2006).

E rangona ana te kīanga “ko Pareārau i te pō” i roto i ngā poroporoaki, me ngā whaikōrero i ngā tangihanga. Ko te pare tērā i utaina ki runga ki a Pareārau, he aroha nō Tāne mō te hunga kua whetūrangitia. Ki tō Ngāpuhi whakapono, nō konei kē te whakaaro me mau tauā tātou te tangata.

Nō whakapata anō tēnei whakamahuki mō Tāne rāua ko Hinenuitepō. I mua atu, ka mōhiotia a Hinenuitepō ko Hinetītama, ā, ko ia te tamāhine a Tāne. Ka pakeke haere, ā, ka moea ia e tōna ake matua. Nā tōna whakamā, i pūrere atu ia ki te pō, ki te ao wairua. Ka hangaia e ia tētehi pare, ki ngā rau rākau, ā, ka whakanōhia ki tōna māhunga, ki te huna i tōna kanohi i te whakamā, me te matapōuri. Ka hurihia tōna ingoa ki a Hinenuitepō (Rerekura, 2008).

Nō reira, ahakoa ka kīia e ngētehi he tikanga hou tēnei te mau parekawakawa. Kei reira anō ngā kōrero tuku iho a kui mā, a koro mā, mō te pūtaketanga mai o te tauā, nō roto i ō tātou ake whakapono.

### **Nō Hawaiki**

Tērā pea, ko ngā taketakenga o te parekawakawa i tīmata noa mai i te ira tangata tonu, nō ngā mātua tūpuna i haere mai nei i te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa. He maha ngā tikanga Māori e āhua ōrite ana ki ngērā o ngō tātou whanaunga o ngā moutere, ko te reo hoki he āhua rite tonu.

Ko te pare ki a mātou, e karangangia ana e ngā iwi o Hāmoa ko te “pale”, ā, he ōrite ki ngā tāngata o Hawai‘i hoki. Ki Tahiti, ko te “parae” he momo pare e mau ana te pouaru i ngā tangihanga o reira (Tregear, 1891). Tērā pea, ko te parae o Tahiti he āhua ōrite te whakaaro ki ō tātou nei parekawakawa.

Ko te whakarākei matua o ngā iwi o te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, ko ngā pare puāwai, me ngā pare rau kakara. Kei reira tonu rātou e mau ana i ngā “lei” me aua momo mea. Ki tā Buck, i ngā wā o mua, i Rarotonga, i whiria ngā rau hei pare mō te māhunga kia ārai i ngā hīhī o te rā, i a rātou e mahi ana i ngā māra. Ā, ko ngētehi atu pare, he whakarākei noa i te māhunga, he kakara hoki mō te tinana (Buck, 1927).

E ai ki ngā kōrero tuku iho o Tainui rāua ko Te Arawa, i te taenga mai o aua waka ki uta i Whangaparāoa, ka kitea ngā pohutukawa, me ngā rātā, e tupu ana i te ākau. Ka pōhēhē ngā tāngata o runga o ngā waka, he maha ngā kura o tēnei motu (he momo pare tērā mō te ariki, he hurumanu whero), ā, ka whakarērea ngā kura tūturu o Hawaiki ki te wai (Orbell, 1995). Nā te ruarua o ngā puāwai ātaahua o tēnei motu, ka aro atu rātou ki ngētehi atu rau kakara, ngā mea kākariki pēnei i te kawakawa, *Macropiper excelsum*, hei pare. I roto i ngā tau, kua noho tērā hei tohu o te mate (Buck, 1950).

Nō reira, ko te whakaaro mō tēnei mea te pare, i ahu mai i ngā tūpuna i haere mai nei i Poronīhia. Heoi anō, i te taenga mai ki konei, i whakamahi rātou i ngā rau kakara o tēnei whēnua hei pare.

### **He tohu nō te taiao**

Ki tā ngētehi, i ahu mai te parekawakawa i ngā tohu o te taiao. Ko tētehi o ngā maunga o Ngāpuhi, a Te Ramaroa, he tohu mate mō te iwi. Mēnā ka tau mai he kapua ki runga i a ia, mēnā he pare te āhua, he tohu aituā tērā. Ko tētehi o ngā whakataukī o reira e kī ana, “kua pakaru te wai ki runga Te Ramaroa” (Rerekura, 2008, p.10). E kōrero ana tēnei mō taua kapua, ā, ko te hekenga o te ua, he tohu aroha anō mō rātou kua wehe atu ki te pō (Rerekura, 2008).

Ko te puapua tauā o Hinenuitepō, he tohu anō ki te iwi o Ngāpuhi. E kīia ana ko te parekawakawa tērā o Hinenuitepō, e pīataata ana i te rangi (Rerekura, 2008). Ko Tahu-nui-a-rangi te ingoa ki iwi kē, arā, te *Aurora Australis* (Best, 1924). Ka mate ana te tangata ka whakangaro atu tōna wairua ki roto i te puapua tauā o Hinenuitepō, arā, ka whetūrangitia.

Ko Taranaki tētehi maunga anō e tohu ana i te mate, ki ngā iwi o reira. He pērā anō te tohu i tā Te Ramaroa. Mēnā ka tatū tētehi kapua whēuri ki runga i a Taranaki, he aituā. E kīia ana ko tōna parekawakawa tērā, he tohu aroha mō ana tamariki i ngā wā o te tangihanga (Cowan, 1929).

Nō reira mō ngā iwi o te Tai Tokerau me Taranaki, (ngētehi o ngā iwi e pūmau tonu ana ki tēnei tikanga), he tohu te pare kapua nō te taiao, arā, he aituā, he tangata kua hinga. Nō konei pea te whakaaro o te parekawakawa. Ko te taitara o tēnei rangahau e whakatinana ana i ngēnei tohu aituā katoa. Arā, he tohu mate nō te ao atua, no te ao wairua, nō te ao kikokiko hoki.

### **He aha tātou i mau ai i te parekawakawa?**

I puta tēnei whakamārama mō te tauā, ki roto i tētehi niupepa, i te tau 1907.

Europeans are apt to look upon many Maori [sic] customs as peculiar, but they are frequently very poetic in their significance. As an instance the Taranaki Herald quotes the mourning wreath of green. This was originally composed of the foliage of two shrubs, one of which is very bitter and the other a species retaining its greenness for a considerable time after being cut from a tree. The former is supposed to signify the bitterness of parting and the other that the memory of the departed is evergreen. (“Don’t cough all night” 1907, p. 3)

Kāore e tino mōhiotia ana nō whea ngēnei kōrero, he kitenga nā te Pākehā, he whakamārama rānei nā te Māori. Engari he whakapono tō tētehi mō te take e mau ana i ngā rau rākau ki te tangihanga. Heoi anō, he maha tonu ngā whakamārama kē.

### **He kakara**

Mai i aku rangahau, ko tētehi o ngā ariā matua i puta mai, mō te whakamahinga o te kawakawa ki ngā tangihanga, ko tōna kakara. Kua kitea, i ngā moutere, i mau ngā wāhine i ngā momo puāwai kakara, kei haunga te tinana. Ko ngā tūpuna Māori i whai i ngā otaota kakara o Aotearoa. Ko te kōpuru, *Lophocolea semiteres*, te heketara, *Olearia rani*, me te koareare (raukawa), *Pseudopanax edgerleyi*, ngētehi (Best, 1907). Ā, ki tā Tregear, ko te taramea, *Aciphylla colensoi*, te moki, *Doodia mollis*, te ake rautangi, *Dodonoea viscosa*, me te kāretu, *Hierochloe redolens*, ngētehi atu i mau ia rā (1904).

I ngā wā o mua, ka mate ana te tangata, ka tangihia tōna tinana. (E whia rangi te roa o tēnei tangihanga, kotahi wiki, neke atu rānei). Kātahi ka whakatakotonga ia ki runga i tētehi atamira, ka whakairingia rānei ki tētehi rākau kia pirau haere te katoa o te kiko (Oppenheim,

1973). Mēnā he pēnei te āhua o te tangihanga o mua, kāore e kore, ka haunga te tūpāpaku me te wāhi i takoto ai ia. Koinei te take i whakamahia te kawakawa, ki te whakakore i taua kehakeha rā.

Ka noho te pouaru me te whānau pani ki te taha o te tūpāpaku mo te roanga o te tangihanga i ngā wā o mua. Kāore i whakaaengia kia wehe atu rātou mō te kai mō te aha rānei. I ngēnei rā hoki, korekore rawa te tūpāpaku e whakarērea. Nō reira, mēnā i pēnei te noho a te pouaru me te whānau pani, ka mau rātou i te kawakawa ki runga i te māhunga, kei haunga hoki rātou.

I ngēnei rā, e kitea ana ngā rau i runga i te tūpāpaku, i runga i ngā māhunga o te kiri mate, e iri ana i runga i ngā pātu, ngā poupou, te mahau rānei o te whare. I whakairi pēneitia ai ngā kawakawa i roto i ngā whare i ngā wā o mua, hei kakara (Orbell, 1992). Ā, koinā hoki tāna mahi i te tangihanga, he whakakakara ake i te tūpāpaku, te kiri mate, tae atu ki te whare.

### ***Whakaritenga o te tūpāpaku mō te tangihanga***

Atu i te kakara, i whakamahia ngā rau o te kawakawa, mō te whakapakokotanga o te tūpāpaku. Kua kitea tēnei āhua, i roto i ngā whakahaerenga tangihanga a Te Rū Koriri Wharehoka, o Parihaka, i te tau 2007. I mua i tōna matenga, ka whakaritea e ia tōna ake tangihanga, kia hoki atu ki ngā tikanga tawhito mō te hunga mate, me te nehu tangata. Ka mahia e tōna whānau tōna tinana, ā, kāore i haria ki ngā tangata whakarite tūpāpaku. Ko te kawakawa i whakawhārikingia hei takotoranga mōna, ā, ka tākaia, ka tāpia te kawakawa ki te katoa o tōna kiri, mai i ōna waewae, tae atu ki tōna kakī, ā, ka whiria he parekawakawa mō tōna māhunga. I pēneitia kei tere haunga, kei tere pirau tōna tinana. E toru rā te roanga o tōna tangihanga, ā, kāre he haunga i puta i a ia (TVNZ, 2007). Nā tōna tangihanga, kua kite mai tātou he aha te mahi a te kawakawa ki ngā tangihanga o mua, arā, ka tākaia te tūpāpaku ki te kawakawa kei haunga, kei pirau.

E ai ki a Cruise rāua ko Polack (as cited in Oppenheim, 1973), i te whakaritenga o te tūpāpaku mō te tangihanga i ngā wā o mua, ka whakapaipai katoatia tōna tinana. Ko te māhunga i whakarākeingia ki ngā raukura manu me ngā momo rau kakara. Ka hinuhinua te makawe, kia tau tōna āhua i a ia e tangihia ana. I ngētehi wā, ka whiria he parekawakawa hoki mōna.

Koinei pea e noho tonu ana te kawakawa hei tohu mate, hei tohu o te tangihanga i ngēnei rā. I te mea i whakaritea te tūpāpaku ki ngā rau kawakawa i ngā wā o mua.

### ***He rongoā***

He rākau nui te kawakawa ki ngā mahi a te tohunga. He tino rongoā ia, he whakaora i ngā mate huhua o te tinana. Ko ngā iwi taketake katoa o te ao, i whakamahi i ngā rau, i ngā rākau, i ngā momo otaota hei whakaora mate. Heoi anō, kāore e tino mōhioitia ana mēnā he tūturu te rongoā, he whakapono rānei ki te tohunga nāna te rongoā i whoatu, me ngā karakia i tākina e ia (Clarke, 2007).

Ko tētehi o ngā tikanga tangihanga o mua ko te haehae. Ka whakamahia e ngā wāhine he tūhua, ki te haehae i te te kiri, kia rere te toto. He whakaatu aroha tērā ki te tūpāpaku (Best, 1906). Tērā pea i mau ngā wāhine rā i te kawakawa ki te whakamahu i aua haehaenga. Ko te tā moko tētehi tauira anō o te whakamahinga o ngā rau rākau hei whakamahu i ngā haenga o te uhi (Te Awēkotuku, 2007).

Heoi anō, ehara te kawakawa i te rongoā noa iho, he whakaoranga wairua kē te mahi a tēnei otaota i ngētehi atu wā.

I ngā wā o mua, mēnā e mate ana tētehi tangata, ka haere ia ki te tohunga. Ka haria te tūroro ki tētehi puna wai, manga rānei, ā, ka mahi te tohunga i āna mahi me ngā rau rākau ki tōna ringa. Ka tākina ngā karakia kia pana atu i te atua e whakararu ana i te tūroro. Ka kīia tēnei

kawa, ko te 'parepare' (Goldie, 1998). Mā te wai, ngā rau rākau me ngā karakia a te tohunga te tūroro e whakaora anō.

Healing values of Māori remedies are difficult to access because it is not always clear whether the laying on of leaves was thought to have a direct curative effect, or whether it was to provide an ara atua, a path of escape for the demon trapped within the sick body. (Cranwell as cited in Clarke, 2007, p. 278)

Nō reira, ko te kawakawa me ngētehi atu otaota i whakaora i te tinana, i te hinengaro, i te wairua hoki. Mēnā he pēnei te kaha o te whakaoranga o te kawakawa, koinei i mau ai ia ki ngā tangihanga, kia hiki i te mamae o te mate, e pēhi ana i te wairua, te hinengaro, me te ngākau hoki o te tangata.

### ***Te whakamahinga o ngā rau rākau ki ngā kawa***

E kitea ana te whakamahinga o ngā rau rākau i roto i ngā kawa katoa a te Māori. Ko te parepare tētehi kua matapaki kētia, ko te tohi tamaiti, te kawa whare, te tohi tauā anō ngētehi. Waihoki, e kitea whānuitia ana ngā rau rākau ki te tangihanga, ki te pōwhiri, ki te kawae mate, ki te hura kōhatu, ki whea atu rānei. Tēnā, he aha te mahi o ngā rau ki ngēnei momo kawa?

E ai ki ngā rangahau a Smith, ko ngā rau rākau (me te wai) e whakamahia ana ki ngā momo tohi pēnei, hei takawaenga mō te tapu me te noa. Koinei te take e kitea ana te maha o ngā kawakawa, o ngā rau rākau i te tangihanga. Mō te tohi, kotahi noa te peka a te tohunga, engari, mō te tangihanga e iri ana ngā rau ki ngā pātū o te whare, kei runga i ngā māhunga o te kiri mate, kei runga hoki i te tūpāpaku, nā te tino tapu o tēnei momo hui (Smith, 1976).

Ko tana tauira, ko te pōwhiri. I mua i te whakaekenga o ngā manuwhiri, ka kīia he waewae tapu rātou. Mā ngā rau rākau (o te haka pōwhiri) me te wai (te hūpē me te roimata) rātou e whakanoa, kia noho tangata whenua.

Nō reira, he pēnei te mahi a te parekawakawa mō te whānau pani me te pouaru. I a rātou e pani ana, he tapu nui kei runga i a rātou. Ka kīia ko "te kākahu taratara o te mate", ko te "parekawakawa" rānei kei runga i a rātou i taua wā. Ki tā Best, ka kīia kei roto rātou i te whare pōtae, (te whare tauā rānei). Ehara tēnei i te whare tūturu engari he kupu whakarite e whakaatu ana i tō rātou panitanga. "*Ka tae pea ki te tau e whare taua [sic] ana te pouaru*" (Best, 1906, p. 179), arā, kotahi tau, e noho pani ana. Nō reira, he tohu te parekawakawa mō te wā e noho pani ana te pouaru, ā, ka hīkina te tohu o te parekawakawa (ehara i te parekawakawa tūturu nei), kua whakawhiti mai ia i te tapu ki te noa. Ka pahure ana te tau, kua wātea ia ki te mārena anō.

*Whare Potae* [sic].—This was a mourning-house, and took its name from that of the ancient mourning head-dress. It was sometimes called the *whare taua* [sic]. When a chief of distinction died his widow and children would remain for some time within the *whare potae* [sic], eating food during the night time only, never during the day. When the period of mourning was over a human sacrifice was made, to take the *tapu* off the *whare potae* [sic] and its occupants... The mourners are accompanied to a stream-side by the *tohunga*, or priest, where the *tapu* is taken off their heads or mourning head-dresses... (Best, 1897, p. 38)

Nō reira, ko ngā rau rākau o te parekawakawa he takawaenga mō te tapu me te noa. Arā, i te wā e pani ana te pouaru, he tino tapu kei runga i a ia, ka tae ki te wā, ka hīkina te parekawakawa me te tapu. Ka wātea ia, ka noa.

### ***He whakapono atu anō mō te kawakawa***

Kei te moana o Raukawa ngētehi toka tino tapu rawa, ko Ngā Whatu Kaiponu te ingoa. I ngā wā o mua, mēnā e pahure ana ngā iwi, i runga i ō rātou waka, ka hangaia he kōpare o ngā rau kawakawa, hei huna i ō rātou karu i te motu tino tapu nei (McKinnon, 1997). Nō reira, he



whakapono anō tō te Māori mō te kawakawa, arā, he rākau parepare i te tapu. Koinei hoki te take i whakamahia ki te tangihanga.

He pēnei ngā whakaaro o Schwimmer. “A visit to a *tangi* involves entering, of one's own free volition, into a human group tainted and threatened by the contagion of death. As a charm against this maleficent influence, visitors wear a wreath of leaves...” (Schwimmer, 1965, para. 21). Nō reira, e mea ana tēnei ko te take e mau ana i te parekawakawa, he mea parepare atu i te mākutu.

E ai ki a Best, i tētehi hahunga i te Tai Rāwhiti i mau ngā kaihahu i ngā pare ki te māhunga. Ka kīia ngēnei ko te “parepare” (Best, 1924). Nō reira, e whakatinanatia ana aua whakaaro a Schwimmer, e mea ana ko te tauā he ārai, he parepare ki te tapu o te mate, ki te mākutu, ki te aha rānei. Koinei hoki pea tētehi o ngā take i whakaingoatia ko te “pare”, arā he mea parepare atu i te tapu me te mākutu.

He karakia hoki, e karangangia ana ko te “parepare”, he ōrite te mahi ki tā te parepare māhunga. Ki tā Williams, he “defensive charm” (2000). Nō reira, mā te karakia, mā ngā rau rākau, tēnei mea te tapu e whakahaere, e whakanoa rānei.

Heoi anō, he āhua rerekē anō ngā whakamārama a Barlow. Ki tāna ko te take e mau ana te wahine i te parekawakawa kia kite atu, kia hono atu ia ki te ao wairua. “E mea ana ngā tūpuna, e kore te kanohi māori e kite i ngā mea wairua kia tare rānō ngā parekawakawa... kātahi anō ka kite ngā tūpuna i ngā wairua o ō rātou whānau, whanaunga kua mate atu” (Barlow, 1991, p. 88). Koinei hoki te take e mau ana ngā kaikaranga i te tauā, i te mea, mā te karanga, ka whakaarangia te hunga wairua. Mā te mau i te kawakawa ki te māhunga, ka taea e rātou te kite atu te ao wairua. E kīia ana ko ngā rau kākariki e mau ana ki te ringaringa i te pōwhiri, ka whakaatu ki te wairua, te ara me whai rātou ki te pō (Barlow, 1991).

Ahakoia he aha te tohu o te kawakawa, i noho ai ia hei tohu o te mate, e kīia ana e Clarke, i tēnei rā tonu e whakapono ana te Māori he rākau nui te kawakawa, he mana nui tōna, he tapu. “Even today, older Maori [sic] fear to sleep under or near its leaves because of its perceived powerful influences” (Clarke, 2007, p. 313).

### **He ariā atua**

Ki tā ngā whakatewhatewha a Smith (1975) mō ngā rau rākau i roto i te pōwhiri (me te tangihanga), he tohu, he ariā o te atua a Tāne me āna mahi. Ko ia te atua o te ngahere, ā, he hononga anō tōna ki te mate.

Ko te hononga a Tāne ki tēnei mea te mate, arā, mā Hinenuitepō. Ko ia te matua, me te hoa tāne o Hine. Ko Tāne hoki te matua o te pīrairaka, te manu i katakata, i a Māui e urutomo atu ana ki roto i a Hinenuitepō. Waihoki, i ngā tangihanga e whakatauritehia ana te hunga mate ki ngā tōtara kua hinga i tōna wao tapu (Smith, 1976).

Hei taunaki ngēnei kōrero mō ngērā a Rerekura (2008), e mea ana, ko te parekawakawa tuatahi, he pare i tūparea e Tāne ki runga i te whetū a Pareārau. Nō reira, ko Tāne tērā e whakaatungia ana i a tātou e mau ana i ngā rau ki te ringaringa, me te tauā ki te māhunga.

He whakaaro atu anō tō Smith mō ngā rau rākau e whakamahingia ana i roto i te pōwhiri. He tohu o te rangimārie me te rongomau (Smith, 1976). He pērā ngā whakaaro a Matenga-Kohu hoki mō te parekawakawa, ka kīia he ariā o Rongo (2006). Engari kāore ia e āta whakamārama ake i te take i pērā ai tana kī. Heoi anō, e mea ana a Best, ko ngā rau rākau he tohu rongomau ki ngā iwi puta noa i te ao. Kāore e tino mōhiotia ana mēnā i whakamahi te Māori i ngā rau rākau i runga i taua whakaaro (Best, 1977).

Nō reira, he maha ngā whakaaro kua puta mai mō te take e mau ana tātou i te parekawakawa. Arā, nā te kakara, nā te rongoā, he mea parepare i te tapu, he ariā atua, he tohu rongomau,

otirā he tohu mate. I a tātou e noho ana ki te ao hurihuri nei, kua mimiti ngēnei whakapono o whakapata mō ngā rākau pēnei i te kawakawa. Nā te huringa o ngā tikanga uhunga ki ngērā o te Pākehā, kua wareware i a tātou ngā tino hua, ngā tino tikanga me ngā whakapono o te mau rau rākau ki te tangihanga.

### **Ngā momo otaota o te parekawakawa**

Kua kitea he mea nui te kawakawa ki te Māori, engari ko tēnei rākau anahe te mea i tohu i te mate?

Ki tā Buck (1950), i te taenga mai o ngā tūpuna ki kōnei, i whakamahia e rātou te kawakawa hei tohu mate. Engari, ki tā Barlow (1991), nā tētehi kaumātua te kī, ko te whiro te rākau tika hei tauā, i te mea e tūohu nei ngōna manga ki raro, anō nei e pōuri ana, pērā i te whānau pani. Kāore a Barlow e tino whakaae ana ki tērā, i te mea, ehara te whiro i te rākau taketake o Aotearoa nei. Ahakoa tērā, e tino kitea ana te whiro hei tauā i ngā tangihanga o te kāinga, ā, ko ngā rīpoata a tō Kīngi Tāwhiao tangihanga, i kīia ko te whiro te rākau matua i mau te iwi (Kirkwood, 2000). Arā noa atu ngā tangihanga i kitea ai te whiro hei tauā (Cowan, 1930). I ngēnei rā, ko ngā otaota e tupu tata ana ki ngā marae ngā mea e tīkina ana. Kua whai wāhi mai te maha o ngā rākau Pākehā ki roto i ō tātou tikanga hoki, arā, ko te ‘macrocarpa’, ‘palm fronds’, me ngā ‘lily leaves’ ngētehi (Salmond, 1975).

I roto i ngā tau he maha tonu ngā momo rākau, ngā momo otaota i mau ai hei parekawakawa. Ko ngā rīpoata o ngā pepa, ko ngā kairangahau o ngā rākau Māori i whakaputa i i ngēnei ingoa e whai ake nei.

Ko te pōhue, *Calystegia sepium*, te pikiarero, *Clematis forsteri*, (“Patuones funeral”, 1872), te waewaekoukou, *Lycopodium volubile*, (Cowan, 1930), te ngaio, *Myoporum laetum*, (“The Weeping”, 1911), te kāpuka, *Griselinia littoralis*, te tarata, *Pittosporum eugenoides*, (“The Late Hon. H. K. Taiaroa”, 1905), te petipeti, *Blechnum discolor*, (Temara, 2007), te rangiora, te whārangi rānei, *Brachyglottis repanda*, te puawānanga, *Clematis paniculata*, (Clarke, 2007), te pūriri, *Vitex lucens*, te raurenga, *Trichomanes reinforme*, (Orbell, 1996) me te koromiko, *Hebe stricta*, (Couran, 1902).

### **He aha i tīpakongia ai ngēnei otaota hei pare, hei tohu uhunga?**

Kua wānanga kētia tētehi o ngā take i mau ai te parekawakawa ki te tangihanga, arā, nā tōna kakara. Kāore e kore, koinei hoki te take i mau te nuinga o ngā rākau i rārangitia ake ki runga rā. Ko te pōhue, te pikiarero, te poānanga, ngētehi i mōhiotia mō te kakara. Ko ngā rau o te tarata hoki, mēnā ka whawhakina, ka puta mai he kakara pērā i te remana (Riley, 1994). Engari he whakapono atu anō tō te Māori ki ngētehi o ngā otaota rā.

Ko te rangiora, *Brachyglottis repanda*, e kīia ana e Riley (1994), he kākahu mō te wairua o te tūpāpaku i tana haerenga ki Te Reinga tae atu ki te ao wairua. Nō reira, i tīparea ki te māhunga hoki hei maumahara ki tēnei whakapono.

I ngā wā o mua, ko te pūriri, *Brachyglottis repanda*, tētehi o ngā rākau i nehua ai ngā tūpāpaku ki roto (Orbell, 1996). Nō reira he pānga tō tēnei rākau ki te mate hoki.

Mai i ngēnei rauemi, ko te puawānanga, *Clematis paniculata*, tētehi o ngā tino otaota mō te pare i ngā tau o mua. Ki tā Best, i ngā rā o nehe, ka hunaiā ngā kōiwi o te tangata ki roto i ngā ana, ā, i whakatōngia he rākau ki te tomokanga, kei kitea, kei rokohina e tangata kē. Ko te poānanga, *Clematis hookeriana*, (he whanaunga ki te puawānanga, *Clematis paniculata*) tētehi o ngā rākau nei (Best, 1926). Koinei pea i mau ai i te poānanga me te puawānanga hei tohu uhunga i aua rā.

Ko te mapou, *Myrsine australis*, te rangiora, *Brachyglottis repanda*, te koromiko, *Hebe stricta*, te karamu, *Coprosma robusta*, me te kawakawa ngētehi o ngā rākau i whakamahia i

roto i ngā kawa (Orbell, 1996). Ko te pōhue tētehi i whakamahia hei parepare atu i te māku. Mēnā i mākutura tētehi e te hoakakari, ka kainga ngā paiaka, ka tākina hoki ngā karakia kia pana atu i te māku (Riley, 1994). Ko te tarata anō tētehi i whakamahia ki ngā kawa a te tohunga. He rākau hiki i te tapu o ngā tauira o te wharekura (Riley, 1994). Nō reira, ko ngēnei rākau ngā mea i hiki, i kawē rānei i te tapu. Nā te tino tapu o te tangihanga, i whakamahia ai hei tauā hoki.

Hāunga ngā rākau noa, i tāpiringia he mea anō ki ngēnei pare. Ki tā Heuer (1972), ko ngā rau o te māhoe, *Melicytus ramiflorus*, o te kawakawa me te parapara, *Pseudopanax arboreus*, i whiria, ā, i aropiringia ngā hukahuka rimurimu, ngā hūmaeko o te manu, hei tohu mate mō te rangatira. Ko ngā huruhuru o te kurī, i mau ki te makawe hei tohu mate i ngētehi wā (Tregear, 1904).

Nō reira, he huhua ngā tamariki a Tāne i whakamahia. Engari, ko te kawakawa te mea rongonui. Heoi anō, i ngēnei rā, ka kitea ngā otaota katoa, ahakoa ehara i te rākau māori. Ko te mea nui i ngēnei rā, he kākāriki, he pāpango te tae.

### **Mā wai te parekawakawa e mau i te tangihanga?**

Ki runga i ngā marae o Ngāti Maniapoto, kāore anō au kia kite i te tāne e mau ana i te parekawakawa, ko ngā wahine anahe. (I te nuinga o te wā, ko ngā rūruhi). Ki tā Barlow (1991), ko te wahine te puna roimata, koinei te take ka noho ia ki te taha o te tūpāpaku tangi ai.

I te nuinga o te wā, ka mau ngā kaikaranga i te parekawakawa hoki. E ai ki a Rerekura, ko te kaikaranga te āhua, te ariā, o Hinenuitepō. Ka mau ia i te tauā, me ngā rau ki ngā ringaringa, e pōwhiri ana i te wairua o te tūpāpaku ki te ao wairua, ki te pō (Rerekura, 2008). Nō reira e kīia ana ko te wahine te whare tangata, me te ūkaipō. Ko ia hoki te whare o aituā, te ariā o Hinenuitepō.

Heoi anō, ki te Tai Tokerau ko ngā tāngata katoa e mau ana i te tauā, tāne mai, wahine mai, kaumātua mai, tamariki mai. Engari, ki iwi kē atu mō ngā ariki anahe te tauā (Rerekura, 2008).

Nō roto o Tainui, ko te tikanga mā te wahine anahe te parekawakawa, engari i te tangihanga o te Arikinui, Te Ātairangikāhu, ko ngā tāne o runga i ngā waka tauā, i te mau i tētehi momo pare ki te māhunga. Ko ngā tāne hoki, i kawē i a ia ki te rua kōiwi. I te tangihanga o tōna pāpā a Korokī, i roto i ngā whakaahua, he pērā te kitenga. Kāore e tino mōhiotia ana he aha i pērā ai, i te mea ko te nuinga o ngā tangihanga o Tainui, ko te parekawakawa e kawē ana e te wahine anahe.

Nō reira, ki te nuinga o ngā iwi, mā ngā wahine anahe te parekawakawa (i te nuinga o te wā ko ngā kuia, me ngā wāhine o te kiri mate). Engari, ki iwi kē, pērā i te Tai Tokerau, mō ngā tāngata katoa.

### **Kōrero whakakapi**

E kitea ana te hiranga o tēnei rākau te kawakawa ki ngā tūpuna o nehe, tē taea ngōna āhutanga katoa, te wānanga, ki te tuhinga nei. Kāore e kore, he maha noa atu ngā kōrero mō te tangihanga, mō te kawakawa, mō te tauā, kāore i āta matapakitia i ngā kupu nei. Heoi anō, ko ngā kōrero i tuhia, i whakawhānui ake i tāku ake tirohanga ki tēnei tikanga, ā, he mīharo hoki nōku ki ngā tūpuna nā rātou ngēnei kawa, ngēnei kōrero, ngēnei tikanga.

Mā te mātai i te parekawakawa me ngōna āhuatanga, ka kitea e tātou i tino mātau te Māori ki tōna ao. I mōhio ia ko ēwhea ngā rākau whakaora, ko ēwhea ngā rākau kakara, ko ēwhea ngā rākau tapu, ko ēwhea ngā rākau hei whakamahinga mā te tohunga. Ko ngā painga o te

kawakawa, me ngētehi atu rau he whakaoranga tinana, he whakaoranga wairua, he whakaoranga hinengaro hoki. Koinei i mau ai ki te māhunga i te tangihanga.

Kāore e kore, i wepua ngā tikanga Māori e tikanga kē, i te taunga mai o Tauīwi. Ko ngētehi i mate rawa atu. Ko te hōhonu o ngā whakapono ki te kawakawa, ki ngōna painga, ki ngōna mana, ki ngōna tapu, i āhua mimiti. I ngēnei rā, ko te nuinga o tātou e kite ana, e mau rānei ana i te parekawakawa, kāore e tino mōhio ana ki ngā take e mau ana ia ki te tangihanga, hāunga he tohu mate. Pērā i te nuinga o ngō tātou tikanga, he mea tohutohu e ngā kaumātua, me whai. Ko te manako, mā te mōhio, mā te mārāma ki te pūtaketanga mai o te parekawakawa, me ngā take e mau ana ia, ka ora tonu, ka pūmau tōna kawenga i runga i ngō tātou marae.

Ahakoia te whakapae nō te Karaitianatanga te parekawakawa, he nui anō ngā kōrero tuaukiuki a te Māori e kī ana, i taketake mai nō roto o ō tātou ake whakapono, nō ō tātou ake atua, a Tāne, a Hinenuitepō. He pērā i te nuinga o ngā tikanga a te Māori, he mea hari mai nei, i te ūnga mai o ngā waka ki tēnei motu. Nō reira, he pērā i ō tātou whanaunga o ngā moutere, i whakapaipai ngā tūpuna i ō rātou tinana ki ngā otaota. Ka tae mai ki konei, ka waia haere rātou ki tō rātou ao hou, ka whakamahia ngā rākau o tēnei motu hei whakapaipai, hei kakara. Kei te taiao anō ngā tohu, i whakamahia e te Māori hei tohu aituā, e kīia ana he ariā, o tēnei mea te parekawakawa, i runga i ngā maunga pērā i a Te Ramaroa, i a Taranaki hoki.

Nā te āhua o te tangihanga o mua, i mau ai rātou i te parekawakawa, kei kehakeha te tūpākapku, me te takiwā, i takoto ai ia. Ka tākaia te tūpāpaku ki ngēnei momo rau hoki kei haunga, kei tere pirau i a ia e tangihia ana. He kakara anō hoki ngā rau nei, mō te kiri mate, kei a rātou te mahi nui ki te tauawhi i te tūpāpaku mō te roanga o te tangihanga.

I whakapono hoki te Māori o nehe, he mana anō tō te kawakawa, arā, he mea parepare atu i te tapu me te mākutu. I te mea, ko te mate te mea tapu rawa atu o te ao Māori, koinei e kitea ana te maha o ngā rau i ngā tangihanga, he mea whakanoa, he mea hiki i te tapu, pērā i ngā tohi me ngā kawa o nehe.

I tirohia ngētehi o ngā rau rākau i whakamahia hei tohu uhunga. He rongonui te kawakawa hei tohu mate, engari he maha kē atu ngā rākau i whakamahia, mō ō rātou ake take. Heoi anō, nā te māngere pea, nā te kore mōhio pea, nā te kore whakapono ki te tapu pea, kua tahuri atu tātou ki ngā rākau noa, me ngā rākau a te Pākehā hei tauā. I te mea hoki, i ngēnei rā, e toru rā noa iho te tangihanga, ā, ka whakaritea te tūpāpaku ki raro i ngā tikanga o te Pākehā, kāore ia e tere pirau, e tere haunga. Kāore he tino take o te mau i ngā rau kakara.

Kei ngā iwi o te motu e tohutohu ana mā wai te parekawakawa e mau. Ki runga i ngā marae o Ngāti Maniapoto, mā te wahine anahe, i te mea ko ia te puna roimata, ko ia te mea e noho ana ki te taha o te tūpāpaku. Ki rohe kē, pērā i te Tai Tokerau, e taea ana e te tāne, e ngā tamariki hoki. Nō reira, mā ngā tikanga o tēnā marae, o tēnā marae o te motu te tangata e tohutohu.

Ko tēnei tikanga o te mau parekawakawa e ora tonu ana i runga i ngā marae o Ngāti Maniapoto. Ko te manako, ka ora tonu mō ake tonu rā. Kāore e tino mōhioia ana he aha e kawea tonutia ana te tauā, te parekawakawa rānei ki roto i ngā iwi torutoru noa iho nei, he rangahau atu anō tērā. Heoi anō, mā ngā rangahau pēnei, e kitea ana te hiranga o te parekawakawa i ngā wā o mua, ngā take e whāia tonutia ana, me te hua o te mau pare i ngā rangi kei te heke mai.

*He aha te tohu o te ringaringa?*

*He kawakawa!*

*He aha te tohu o te tūpare?*

*He kawakawa!*

*Ngā whakatau o te mate!*

*Hei hā*

*Hī...*

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