



Dr Turoa Royal

The Transformation of Māori Education: From Invisibility To Self-management

For over 100 years since the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi the Māori people were subjected to an education system that was formulated in Britain. The aim was to assimilate Māori as soon as possible to the habits of an English person. However, over the years a number of influences caused the Government to change their assimilative policies into a more inclusive environment. Within this lecture I hope to comment on such questions as: How was it that Māori resisted the full impact of colonial assertiveness? How is it that Māori wish to maintain a different social identity (and persist in doing so) from their Pākehā counterparts? How is it that Māori wish to continue to express their indigeneity when economic and political rewards are likely to be found in non-indigenous hands? How is it that despite 100 years of colonization, Māori continue to maintain a high level of eloquence, in whaikōrero, tauparapara, whakatauki and waiata not only on the marae but on public platforms?

Dr Turoa Royal is of Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Maru (Hauraki) and Ngāti Hine/Ngā Puhi descent. He has been a secondary school teacher, a school inspector, a secondary school principal, a Polytechnic Chief Executive and is currently the Chairperson for Te Wānanga o Raukawa. He has an Honorary Doctor of Literature, two Masters Degrees (one from Australia), a teacher's certificate and has been awarded the Queen's Service Order (DSO) for his services to education.