Tihei Mauri Ora!
Make things happen

Whakaaratia tāu e wawata ai koe ki tōna taumata tika
Pursue that to which you aspire to, to new heights

Dr Irihapeti Ramsden of Ngai Tahupotiki and Rangitāne is perhaps best known in Aotearoa and internationally for the development of cultural safety. Tired of the cliché of Māori as warriors, as a reference to the novel ‘Once were warriors’, she declared “Once were gardeners, once were astronomers, once were philosophers, once were lovers”. Irihapeti also stated that “There are three kinds of people; those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who never knew what hit them”. Irihapeti was a woman who lived life in the first category, by making things happen.

We could learn from the many examples that Irihapeti has shown throughout her life. By recognizing that we are capable of many things if we put our minds to it, such as a philosopher, an astronomer as our people did in their day. As you relax and enjoy in the Christmas spirit with whānau and loved ones, reflect on where your destiny is leading you. Not by sitting by and watching it happen in front of you, but by leading by example and taking your own destiny into your hands and making it happen. Kia pai tō wiki!

This is the last Tihei Mauri Ora for 2010. Tihei Mauri Ora will resume 9 March 2011.
Meri Kirihimete kia koutou, me ngā mihi mahana mō te tau hou.

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Rāhina, 6 o Hakihea 2010