

Tihei Mauri Ora!

Kia tau te rangimārie – May peace be with you

He tangata kōrero whenua!

A peacemaker



Sir Archie John Te Atawhai Taiaroa (1937-2010), of Te Āti Haunui-ā-Pāpārangī and Ngāti Tūwharetoa, was hugely influential in Māoridom. Born at Tawata on the Whanganui River, his early career saw him serve as a Māori welfare officer, and also as a councillor and deputy mayor in local government. He led Whanganui iwi negotiations with the Crown over the Whanganui River and lands, and was appointed to the board of Te Ohu Kaimoana in 1993, and remained there until his death. He became recognised as a peacemaker during the debates over the Māori commercial fisheries settlement, and encouraged the recognition of freshwater rights for iwi. He was a co-convenor of Māori Congress, a trusted advisor to Te Arikinui Te Atairangikaahu, and was a negotiator and peacemaker between the Crown and wider Māoridom on issues affecting all New Zealand.

How do we encourage peacemaking, in these troubled and uncertain times? We have to start within ourselves. Peace of mind is a state of tranquility and inner calmness, a sense of freedom from worries and fear. Simple things, such as not taking everything too personally, and forgiving others – can bring about a state of inner peace. If we can harness inner peace, then this will ultimately lead to peace around us, from which our relationships with whānau, friends and colleagues can benefit. Take the time to reflect on yourself, your inner peace, and the peace and aroha you can offer others. Kia pai tō wiki!



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