

**IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL**

**WAI 949  
WAI 686**

**IN THE MATTER** of the Treaty of Waitangi Act  
1975

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of the Hauraki Inquiry Claims  
District

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** a claim by Taka o Te Rangi Taka  
for himself and on behalf the Wi  
Taka whanau of Ngati Koheriki  
and such others of Ngati Koheriki  
who may elect to join in this  
application

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**BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF TAKA O TE RANGI TAKA**

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Counsel: JAR Johnston/P T Johnston

**I, TAKA O TE RANGI TAKA** of Te Kauwhata, retired, swear:

**Introduction**

- 1 \_\_\_\_ I was born on 21 April 1934 at the family homestead at Waikarakia, Maramarua.
  
2. \_\_\_\_ I am the oldest surviving child of Hone Taka and Kawhi Morena and the grandson of Wi Taka and Rahera Te Whare. I am the great grandson of Hori Taka. I am Ngati Koheriki.
  
3. \_\_\_\_ I have brought this claim on behalf of the descendents of my grandfather Wi Taka, of Ngati Koheriki and any other Ngati Koheriki who may wish to be included in the claim.
  
- 4, \_\_\_\_ I would like to thank the Tribunal for giving Ngati Koheriki the opportunity to be heard and for appointing Dr Bryan Gilling to complete a report on our history.
  
5. WHILE I am most grateful to the Tribunal for appointing Dr Bryan Gilling to complete the report, it saddens me to think that but for the work of a pakeha historian, our Ngati Koheriki history could have been lost. It makes me whakama to think that we have had to rely on the work of pakeha historians to piece together Ngati Koheriki history.
  
6. \_\_\_\_ I hope that this claim will bring out the truth about Ngati Koheriki, who we are, and what happened to us. It is important that the truth be told and that things are put right. In particular I hope that the lands of Ngati Koheriki at East Wairoa can be returned to Ngati Koheriki for the use and enjoyment of all Ngati Koheriki.

7. I want to ensure that my mokopuna do not have to experience the shame of not knowing their Ngati Koheriki history.
  
8. I support the evidence of other Ngati Koheriki especially our claims coordinator and my nephew Joe Johnson.

Kia Ora.

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Taka O Te Rangi Taka

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Date