

NOMINATION FOR TŪROA KINIWE ROYAL TO TE WHARE PŪKENGA, NATIONAL IWI CHAIRS' FORUM

Tūroa Kiniwe Royal was a Māori educationalist who dedicated his career to improving Māori educational achievement. He was also involved in innovating New Zealand education utilising aspects of Māori language and culture. He has been described as a 'pioneer Māori educationalist' and a 'giant in Māori education'¹.

In 2009, Massey University wrote the following about Tūroa:

...relatively few have sustained active leadership in the field for more than fifty years. As early as 1956...Mr. Royal was one...who argued that Maori language should be a curriculum subject for teacher trainees. He had by then already embarked on a career that would ultimately facilitate the transformation of New Zealand's approach to education. By identifying language, culture, and community voice as determinants of successful learning, he was instrumental in building a pathway for educational inclusion...

Tūroa taught at Tāmaki College and was an Inspector of Māori and Island Education. In 1975, he completed a masters dissertation in Australia which Dr Kathie Irwin stated 'should be required reading today for people opposed to the spread of te reo Māori.'

From 1978 to 1986, Tūroa was Principal of Wellington High School where he introduced bilingual and whānau-based schooling. From 1986 to 1996 he was Foundation Director of Whitireia Polytechnic, Porirua, and was later appointed Senior Lecturer in Māori Education at Victoria University. From 1981 to 2011, Tūroa was heavily involved in the establishment of Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa, Ōtaki, and he was also a founder of the World Indigenous Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC).

Tūroa was made a Companion of the Queen's Service Order in 2005 and in 2009 was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Literature by Massey University. In 2013, he was made a Companion to the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Tūroa Kiniwe Royal was born at Waimangō Point, Hauraki, in 1935. He passed away in late 2023 and returned to Waimangō to be interred in his ancestral urupā.

¹ For the sources of all quotes, see here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C5%ABroa_Royal

The National Iwi Chairs Forum recognises his significant contributions to the Nation in education, and in his advocacy for Māori in education and cultural development.

Tēnei ka tukuna atu ngā mihi ki a **Tūroa Kiniwe Royal**, he tangata kua roa nei e ngaki ana i te māra o te mātauranga kia taea e ngā Māori te whiwhi i ōna hua. I whai atu hoki kia uru te reo me ngā tikanga Māori ki roto i ngā kura o te motu hei āwhina i ō reira akonga ahakoa ko wai. E mea ana ētahi he toa a Tūroa nō te mātauranga, he tangata nui.

Nō te tau 2009, ka puta tēnei kupu a Te Kunenga-ki-Pūrehuroa:

He tokoiti ngā tāngata kua pau nei te rima tekau tau, neke atu, ki te kōkiri i ngā kaupapa o te mātauranga. Nō te tau 1956, ko Tūroa tētahi o te hunga e mea ana me ako ngā akonga o te whakaako tangata ki te reo Māori. I tērā wā, kua timata noa atu tāna whai kia whakawhānuitia ngā tikanga o te whakaako tangata ki te reo me ngā tikanga Māori. E mea ana ia, 'hei kai mā te katoa te mātauranga, kaua mā te tokoiti'. E mea ana hoki ia ko te reo, ko ngā tikanga, ko ngā wawata hoki o te iwi, he huarahi ēnei e whiwhi ai te tangata i te mātauranga.

I tū a Tūroa hei Kaiwhakaako i te Kāreti o Tāmaki, i tū hoki ia hei tangata tiro tiro i te noho a ngā Māori me ngā tāngata Pasifika i ngā kura. Nō te tau 1975, ka oti tāna tohu mahita i Ahitereiria, ā, i puta ai te kupu a Tākuta Kathie Irwin, 'ko te tangata ātete, whakahē i te tupu o te reo Māori, tirohia te pukapuka a Tūroa!'

Nō te tau 1978 ka tū a Tūroa hei Tumuaki i Wellington High School. Nāna te kaupapa o te whakaako reo-rua me te ako noho ā-whānau i kōkiri ki reira. Nō te tau 1986, ko ia te Tumuaki tuatahi i te Kura Matatini o Whitireia. Nō te tau 1981 ki te tau 2011, i tino uru ia ki ngā whakahaere whakatū i Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa, i Ōtaki, ā, ko ia hoki tētahi o te hunga nā rātou te World Indigenous Higher Education Consortium i whakatū.

Nō te tau 2005, ka whakawhiwhia a Tūroa ki te tohu o te Queen's Service Order, ā, nō te tau 2009, i whakawhiwhia hoki ia ki Te Tohu Kairangi Honore e Te Kunenga-ki-Pūrehuroa. Nō te tau 2013, ka whakawhiwhia a Tūroa ki te tohu o te Companion to the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Nō te tau 1935 a Tūroa i whānau ai ki Waimangō, i Hauraki, ā, nō te tau 2023 ka mate ia, ka tanumia hoki ki reira, ki te urupā o tōna whānau.