

# MA-URI® INSTITUTE

## NEWSLETTER - 1

### REFLECTIONS CONC. CHRISTMAS 2010

**KIA ORA,**

**Waiotira 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2010**

Sitting here at the computer looking towards the horizon and letting my fingers dance upon the keyboard to their own confident rhythm, I reflect upon the meaning of this Christmas of 2010. This Christmas is *different* from any we have experienced before and celebrated till now!

What we are witnessing this very Christmas is the celebration of 3 powerful events joining together to build a powerful triangle of purpose and intent beyond our immediate comprehension: **The solstice - the total lunar eclipse - and the birth of Christ!** These 3 events seem to create a triangle of powerful forces that allow us to SEE beyond our inner darkness and shed light into the World as it faces its darkest times. In the Northern Hemisphere you experienced the darkest night of winter be blessed by the brightest of lights shining from the full moon, *te Ao Marama*, as it stepped out from the shadows and let its light illuminate the Earth again - now with new clarity and greater strength, it seemed.

Seen from the Southern Hemisphere, what we witnessed here was the gradual falling away of a dark veil - a veil that was hiding the full Moon at the very time it rose to greet us on the NZ night sky of Dec. 22nd. From 8 pm to 11 pm that evening the Moon seemed to simply lift itself out of the darkness and within a few hours presented itself to us again in all its renewed brightness and complete fullness. Magnificent, indeed, to watch!

It was magical to dance the 'Kotuku dance' up on the hill of Waiotira and to look straight at the fully covered roundness of the Moon. The dance brought attention to the spots of darkness that have been lurking within, unresolved issues left unattended or simply ignored and concerns about the future. Slowly but surely, the full moon rose above the shadows created by the Earth and in the growing light came the assurance that so can *WE* rise above our doubts and fears - the Moon showed how SIMPLE and EASY it can be!! The Moon showed how inevitable this pull towards the light is and how we are all destined to shed *our* light into the World no matter how much darkness it throws at us!! It made me think of the evening prayer I presented to the Moon when it reached its fullness in September during the E-2 training:

*Dear God,*

*At this moment of sacredness and prayer*

*When the fading daylight gives way to the approaching darkness,*

*Let us welcome the night and give our tribute to the Moon:*

*Dear God,*

*I showed my brightest and darkest sides to the world -*

*Only the MOON acknowledged their truths.*

*We have moments of fulfillment and years of yearning -*

*Only the MOON understands the rhythm*

*Of such waxing and waning.*

*Dear Marama, I sing to you gladly and dance to your rhythms*

*Knowing that we both move to the same inner Calling -*

*The one that connects us with God.*

*May the fullness of the Moon in its state of perfection*

*Be matched by the fullness of Life Force that adds glow to our reflection*

*As we project our light into the World!*

*'Pomarie' c: May the Peace of the Night*

*and the Light of the Moon, Te Ao Marama, be with us all tonight.*

*Kia Ora!*

What the Moon made me realise this night was that we all have this inner urge to move beyond that which casts shadows upon our lives. We share this urge to claim back what really matters: Our Love of God, our Hope for Humanity and our Trust in Life. In a brief yet endless moment of togetherness it seemed that we - the Moon and I - both made the inevitable choice of claiming back our brightness and let it shine now with new clarity and a purpose that next day was empowered by the warmth and radiance of the Sun. The temperatures that day reached a high of 32 degrees c.!!

Adding now the celebration of Christmas to these 2 events, i.e. the solstice and total lunar eclipse, let me share the following reflections: One focus we have at Christmas time each year is to plant a Pohutukawa tree - those of you who have been to NZ will remember it as the tree that is covered in a multitude of red flowers filled with the sweetest nectar at this very time of the year. We plant a new tree here at Waiotira each year as a token of our love and a gift to Papatuanuku, our Mother Earth. It is our present to Her at the very time when so many trees are being cut down elsewhere, leaving Her body exposed to the wind and severe coldness of Winter. ....

Hmmmm..... 'Gift' – 'PRESENT' - the presents of Christmas! Something calls me to look deeper into this concept of 'presents' and the gifts we exchange during the festive season of Christmas. What immediately comes to my mind is a postcard I sat looking at when we booked our flight tickets to NZ last year. It had this text written on it:

*'Yesterday is History,  
Tomorrow is a Mystery,  
Today is a Gift - that's why we call it the PRESENT!'*

Kia Ora to the simplicity of such great wisdom!! Kia Ora to the English language and the fascinating layers of meaning held within its words!

So, my next thought was that the greatest *present* that is gifted to us during this solstice and lunar eclipse is the return of the LIGHT - and isn't that exactly what the birth of Christ/Jeshua represents to us today at this present moment now like it did 2000 years ago? Jeshua was and continues to BE the *present/gift*, the Light brought or born into the world at its darkest time to redeem the world and remind us to be the love and the light that we are. *Christ* is the present - Christmas *is* the present and every gift we exchange with each other during this time symbolise and remind us of God's greatest gift to us all. Through the solstice and lunar eclipse the Moon, the Sun and the Earth have shown the way out of the darkness, how to step out from the shadows and into the light to fulfil our purpose. With the celebration of Christ as the '*Truth, the Way and the Light*' a deepening of understanding unfolds, namely that to fulfil our purpose in life means to shine our light brightly and project our love gently yet powerfully into the world as our present/gift to Mankind and the Earth. THAT thought opens my Sacred Heart, brings tears to my eyes and an eagerness to my mind!

YESSSS, let us make a difference to the world we live in by sharing our gifts of light and love with those around us. We can do so in powerful yet gentle ways by means of MA-URI, through its gifts of touch and dance and through its gifts of prayer and principles. We can do so by lighting a candle as a symbolic act of igniting the sacred fires within our hearts to warm and illuminate the world within and around us. These are some of the ways in which we celebrate the teachings of the Ancient Ones, honour the Spirit of MA-URI and rejoice in the Love that Jeshua manifests within each one of us and within the 4 Worlds of our Reality! *Kia Ora!*

May this '**Kia Ora**' remind us of its layers of meaning:

**Kia** means *to be* and **ora** means *wellness*. *Ora* is made up of **o** meaning *of* and **ra** meaning *primeval light and sound*. **Ora** is very similar to *aura*. So when we greet you with a '*Kia Ora*' it means we are recognising your heritage of light – this sometimes expressed by Maori orators as, '*Greetings to you, dear Radiant Being of Light.*'

In Maori language each word holds a story. Each story relates deeply to our human origins from light and our immense potential as light beings and human beings.

It is with great love and radiant smiles that we send you our blessings together with happy Christmas greetings from this special place we call *home* here in New Zealand!

Arohanui,

Katja Fox, MA-URI Institute.