

35. KARANGATIA RĀ

SIR APIRANA NGATA,
ADAPTATION BY TUINI NGAWAI



Karangatia rā	<i>Call out</i>
Karangatia rā	<i>Call out</i>
Pōwhiritia rā	<i>And welcome</i>
Ngā iwi o te motu	<i>The people of the land</i>
Ngā mano tini	<i>The multitudes</i>
Haere mai	<i>Welcome</i>
He hui aroha	<i>To a hui of compassion</i>
Mō koutou e ngā iwi	<i>For you the people</i>
Ngau nei te aroha	<i>Compassion and pain</i>
Me te mamae	<i>Are deeply felt</i>
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Nāu rā, e Api	<i>It was you, Api</i>
Nāu rā, e Koro	<i>It was you, Sir</i>
Wero ki taku uma	<i>Who aroused within me</i>
Titi rawa i te manawa	<i>And pierced my heart</i>
Oho ana te mauri	<i>Awoke my very self</i>
Auē rā	<i>Auē rā</i>
Taonga tuku iho	<i>The treasures handed down</i>
Nā ngā tūpuna	<i>By the ancestors</i>
Ngau nei te aroha	<i>Compassion and pain</i>
Me te mamae	<i>Are deeply felt</i>

This waiata was originally composed by Sir Apirana Ngata. This particular version is an adaptation by Tuini Ngawai. It was written for the special occasion to welcome visitors to the marae at Ruatōria for the commemoration service for Te Moananui a Kiwa Ngarimu, who was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

The second verse honours Sir Apirana Ngata, who was responsible for getting the government of the day to recruit Māori for the war effort in the Second World War. Ask students if they have heard of these people before and what they know about them.

This song provides an opportunity to talk to students about awards, honours, and heroes. Discuss their ideas about what makes a hero. Read the Choices Heroes, 2008, which is a selection of stories about heroes. Discuss awards for bravery, such as the Victoria Cross, and a recent recipient such as Corporal Bill Henry “Willie” Apiata.

Add welcoming words to the ngā kupu hou chart.

Review the tikanga/uara chart and note another meaning for the word “aroha” – compassion.

The song sheets for all waiata and haka are at the back of this book.