

The Maori universe was created by Rangi-Sky and Papa-Earth. In Hawaiian mythology, Wakea (or Atea) seems to be another name for Rangi (the Sky). Wakea is said to have had intercourse with Hina, and she brought forth the island of Molokai.

Rangi/Atea made the land and sea from the ipu (calabash) of Papa, his wife; the cover he threw up on high, and it became the heavens; of the juice he made the rain; of the seeds the sun, moon, and stars.

In Tahiti Taaroa (or Tangaroa) changes places with Atea in the old hymn: "Taaroa is the Root, the Rock; Taaroa is the Light."

### Hawaiki, the cradle-land

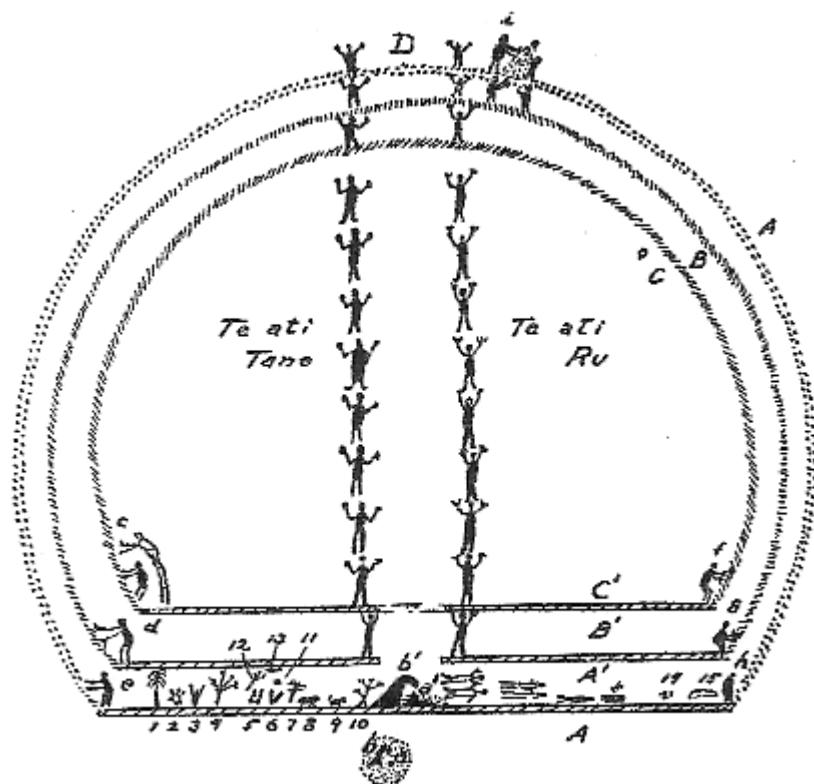
In the Polynesian mythology, the Maori people come from Hawaiki, (also called Hawaii or Savai), the cradle-land. The locality of Hawaiki has caused much discussion. The traditions vary in the different islands as to the way in which Hawaiki is regarded. Sometimes it is (as in New Zealand) an actual place and sometime a Spirit-land.

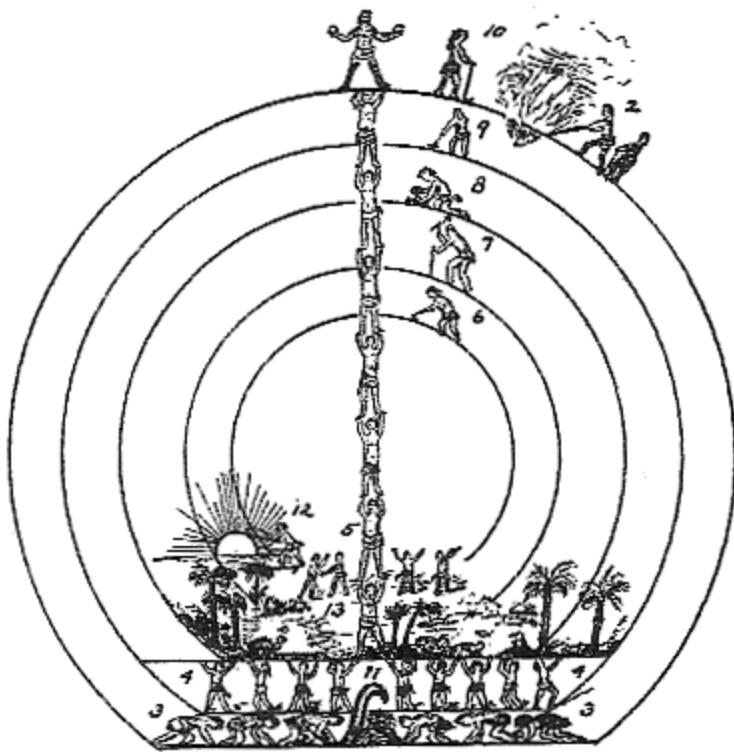
The Asiatic origin of the Polynesians has been considered probable by most eminent anthropologists. In support of this theory, the Native tradition tells distinctly that the sailing directions from Hawaiki for New Zealand were to steer for the "rising sun". On the other hand, another legend states that to those dwelling in New Zealand, Hawaiki was "where the red sun comes up". Throughout the South Sea Islands, the general notion is that Hawaiki is in the west. Most Polynesians believe that Hawaiki is also the spiritual world where souls go after death. As in most religions, this spiritual world is located partly in the sky and partly underneath the earth.

### The first inhabitants of Polynesia

It is a debated point as to the question of the Polynesian islands having been inhabited at the time of the arrival of the Maori. Legend speaks of a race in prior occupation, and says that they were called "Toi" or Upoko-toea; that they lived on fern-root, fish, and birds, but had no knowledge of the kumara (sweet potato). The Maori are the one who brought the kumara from Hawaiki.

A very curious legend states that Maui left Kui in charge of the land when he (Maui) had dragged it up from the ocean depths, and the race of Kui dwelt in the land. Then came a people from across the sea, the Tutu-mai-ao, who assumed superior knowledge, and began to kill; but soon afterwards they began to intermarry with the former inhabitants, until the race of Kui disappeared, and Kui herself went down under the ground to live. Then the Tutu-mai-ao were dominant, until another race came across the sea, called the Turehu, and attacked the inhabitants in the same way as the Kui people had been attacked, intermarried in the same way, and then assumed the rule. Then came other descendants of Maui, the ancestral Maori, who acted like their predecessors, till the Turehu became extinct, and became patupaearehe (fairies). And the Maori have dwelt on "The Fish of Maui" for forty-six generations (about 1.000 years).





### Kui, Tutu-mai-ao, Turehu and Maori

This island, Ao-tea-roa (long white cloud), was fished up by Maui, and when seen it was land. Hence it was called the Fish of Maui.

Maui left **Kui** (short of food) in charge of the land, and from Kui are descended the tribe called Nga-ti-kui, who are a numerous people on the Fish of Maui."

When the people of Maui had lived many years on the Fish of Maui, a people voyaged from the other side of the ocean who were called **Tutu-mai-ao** (procure the clouds), and came to the Fish of Maui, and so soon as they landed began to kill and assume a superior knowledge over the resident people, and intermarried with them, and eventually the people of Kui were annihilated, and Kui himself went down and lived beneath the surface of the earth, and the power over and the authority on the Fish of Maui were assumed by the Tutu-mai-ao.

But, again, a people called **Turehu** (sleepy, fairy-like people) came from the other side of the ocean, and landed on the Fish of Maui, and attacked the Tutu-mai-ao in the same way as they had dealt with Kui, and intermarried with the Tutu-mai-ao, and soon took the sole power and rule over the land, and Tutumai- ao became exterminated.

And, again, there came a people who were descendants of the Maui line of ancestors, to seek for the land of Maui, who were called **Maori** (ma-ori, by the breeze), and when they had lived ten generations on the land they acted in the same way to Turehu as Turehu had done to Tutu-maiao, and Turehu became extinct, and Maori have occupied this land, the Fish of Maui, for forty-six generations.

Now, O people! consider Kui, Tutu-mai-ao, and Turehu. These have all disappeared, and not one is here to whom we can bid welcome.

Now Tutu-mai-ao has become an indistinct being, which, when looked at for some time, disappears. And Turehu is now represented by the Patu-pai-a-rehe (wild men), who go on the mountain, where their language, when heard, is taken for that of man, but which is only the voice of the Turehu spirits, who are now no more, but have been exterminated, and what they knew and their history have been lost.