

THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

IN CANTONESE

我們來自南方天空下的每個角落，齊集在 2017 年全國制憲會議，發表這份發自內心的宣言：

我們土著及托勒斯島民，是首批擁有澳洲大陸及鄰近島嶼主權的部族，同時亦根據我們的法律及習俗據為所有。根據我們的文化推算，自創世以來，並根據自「遠古時代」的普通法以及超過六萬年前的科學，我們的祖先就已擁有這片土地。這種主權是一個精神上的概念：土地，或「大自然母親」，與土著及托勒斯島民之間，所存在的祖傳聯繫。原住民在這片土地上出生，並繼續保存這份聯繫，終有一天將必定重返大地與我們的祖先團聚。這種聯繫，是擁有土地甚至擁有更好的主權之基礎；從未被割讓或被消滅，亦從未與英國統治主權一同並存。有何理由會與此相違背？原住民擁有這片土地六萬年之久，難道這一種神聖與土地之間的連繫就在近二百年期間突然消失？我們深信，透過重要的憲制及結構性改革，此一古老的主權將能得以充份地在澳洲這個團結的國家中閃耀。按比例計算，我們是地球上被人關押最多的族群。我們並非一班天生的罪犯。但我們的孩子被迫與家人分開隔絕的速度卻與日俱增；這絕對並非因為我們不愛他們。同時，我們的青少年被拘留並遭受痛苦，涉及的人數亦駭人聽聞；他們本應是我們未來的希望。凡此種種危機的角度，清楚闡明我們所面對的結構性問題，就是對於我們無能為力的折磨。我們追求的，是憲法上的改革，為我們的族群賦予權力，令他們在自己的國家內得享應有的地位。當我們有能力掌控自己的命運，孩子就能健康成長；他們將能在兩個世界中行走，他們的文化將成為他們給予國家的一份禮物。我們要求在憲法中確立第一民族發聲的渠道。Makarrata 是我們這次會議的頂峰：在艱苦奮鬥後的相聚。它體現了我們與澳洲人建立公平及真誠關係的願景，並基於公義及自決的意念為我們的孩子創造一個更美好的未來。我們尋求成立一個 Makarrata 委員會，監督各政府及原住民制定協議以及講述歷史真相的過程。在 1967 年，我們被計算入澳洲人口之內；2017 年，我們希望我們的聲音能被聽見。我們離開我們的大本營，在此地大物博的國家開展旅程。我們亦邀請您在這個澳洲人的運動上，與我們一起共同邁步，創造一個更美好的未來。



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THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

IN ENGLISH

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are aliened from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is *the torment of our powerlessness*.

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.



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