

THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART IN HMONG

Peb tau koom lub rooj sab laj National Constitutional Covention rau xyoo 2017, thiab tau tuaj ntawm txhua qhov chaw ntawm sab qab ntiaj teb tuaj tsim cov ncauj lug tawm hauv peb nruab siab los:

Peb cov neeg Abiriginal thiab Torres Strait Islander yog thawj haiv ntawm ntau haiv uas tau tswj hwm daim av Australia thiab tej pov txwv nyob ze nws thiab yeej aws tej chaw no ua peb tug raws peb tej cai thiab kev cai dab qhuas. Peb tej poj koob yawm koob uas yog tus tsim peb tej kab lis kev cai puag thaum ub rau ib lub caij twg. Thiab raws li tej kev tshawb fawb tau qhia ces yog lub sij hawm ntev tshaj 60,000 xyoo dhau los lawm. Yog li thiaj yogi b cov kev tswj hwm uas cuam tshuam txog tej ntsuj li peb tej poj koob yawm koob cov kev sib cuag mus los nrog lub ntuj daim av thiab tus tswv uas ntseeg tias yog lub hauv paus chivkeeb uas yug peb cov neeg Aboriginal thiab Torres Strait Islander tawm los, peb yeej nyob thiab sib cuag mus los nrog rau tej chaw no, thiab yeej muaj ib hnub uas peb yuav rov qab mus cuag peb poj yawm mus nrog lawv nyob ua ke. Txoj kev sib cuag no thiaj li yog lub hauv paus ntawm cov kev ua tswv av thiab ua tus tswj hwm. Vim rau qhov tej hais no yeej tsis tau muab tso tseg los yog ploj mus li cas thiab tseem koom los tswj hwm lub teb chaws no nrog niam vaj ntxwv. Tab sis yog vim li cas ho muaj cov kev pauv hloov tshiab lawm? Tej keeb cag neeg yeej yog tswv teb chaws no los tau 60,000 xyoo tab sis ua li cas lub sij hawm li 200 xyoo xwb cia li tu ncuu txoj kev ua tswv av txoj kev sib cuag nrog tej toj roob hauv pes hav zoov hav tsuag thiab tus tswv thiab cia li ploj hauv ntiaj teb tej keeb kwm lawm? Peb ntseeg tias yog muaj cov kev hloov tej txhooj cai tswj haiv kom los lees paub txog peb thiab hloov kho cov kev tswj hwm tshiab ces yeej yuav pab kom cov kev tswj hwm qub zoo tuaj ntxiv thiab yuav muaj peev xwm los qhia txog Australia cov kev ua ib haiv tau zoo dua. Tab sis peb tseem yog cov uas raug kaw tsev laj cuj coob tshaj plaws hauv ntiaj teb no thiab. Peb yeej ib txwm tsis yog tej neeg ua txhaum cai dab tsi. Tsis yog tias peb tsis hlub peb tej me nyuam tab sis peb tej me nyuam tseem raug tshem ntawm lawv tsev neeg mus nyob nrog tej neeg lawv tsis paub coob kawg nkaus yam tsis tau pom muaj dua los li. Peb tej hluas los cias lis ras ua tej neeg tag kev cia siab vim lawv raug kaws tsev laj cuj uas raug quab yuam coob heev thiab. Tsim nyog lawv yuav yog peb txoj kev cia siab rau yav pem suab. Tej teeb meem phom sij tau muaj no thiaj tau qhia txog tias yog tim peb tej kev tswj hwm lawm. Tej no tseem yogi b cov kev tsim txom raug rau peb vim ua rau peb yog cov neeg tsis muaj fwj chim dab tsi lawm. Yog li peb thiaj xav kho dua tej txhooj cai tswj haiv tshiab kom txhawb nqa peb cov neeg los sawv tau rau qhov chaw uas peb muaj cai ntawm peb lub teb chaws. Thaum peb muaj fwj chim los tswj peb lub neej ces peb tej tub kis thiaj li yuav vam meej. Lawv yog cov yuav los tswj 2 lub ntuj thiab lawv tej kab kis kev cai yog ib cov khoom plig rau lawv lub teb chaws. Peb thiaj nqua hu kom yuav tsum los txhim khom peb cov keeb cag neeg muaj suab sawv cev rau hauv tej txhooj cai tswj haiv. Makarrata thiaj yogi b qho chaw tseem ceeb tshaj plaws rau peb tej dej num: vim yogi b cov kev peb tuaj sib sau ua ke tom qab peb nyiaj ntxeem dhau tej kev txom nyem. Ces thiaj yog ib cov kev txhawb siab kom peb tau txais kev ncaj ncees thiab tsim kom tau kev sib raug zoo nrog tej neeg ntawm teb chaws Australia thiab kom tsim tau lub neej pem suab zoo rau peb tej me nyuam raws li txoj kev ncaj ncees thiab peb txoj kev muaj cai los txhim kho peb lub neej. Yog li peb thiaj yuav tsum tsim kom tau pawg rooj saib xyuas Makarrata Commission los ua tus saib xyuas tej txheej txheem tsim kom muaj kev pom zoo ntawm lub teb chaws no xwb, xyoo 2017 ces thiaj yog xyoo uas peb los xyuas kom tsoom fwv lees paub peb thiab cia peb muaj cai tawm suab. Peb thiaj tau ncaim thaj chaw peb tau mus sib ntsib thiab tau rov qab mus rau peb tej teb chaws ntau qhov chaw thoob plaws peb lub teb chaws uas loj heev no. Peb thiaj xav caw nej kom koom tes nrog peb ua ke kom thiaj hloov tau lub neej tshiab zoo dua rau neeg Australia.



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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 alienated 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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