

# The Story of The Cloak of Tia



The Great Cloak of Tia

Ngāti Tūwharetoa traces its origins from the early explorers Ngatoroirangi and Tia. They both came to Aotearoa aboard the Te Arawa canoe. The canoe landed at two places: The river of the God and Maketū. It is from there that Tia began his journey to the belly of the great fish of Māui in the Central North Island.

There are many stories associated with the arrival of Tia in this district - from Aratiatia and Atiamuri, to the many significant sites that Tia visited around the lake. Handed down from Grandfather to Grandchild each story differs whether they are from sub-tribes or from the district's communities. Each however accords respect to the precious treasures Lake Taupō and the surrounding landscapes. One of these stories refers to a name now commonly applied to our great lake – Lake Taupō.

Tia travelled south along the eastern shores near Hātepe and noticed a formation of rock that drew his attention. In looking closely he thought it resembled the heavy cloak or 'taupo' draped over his shoulders. Such was the likeness that he hung it on a nearby post and in doing so applied the name

'The Great cloak of Tia.'

Te Taupo nui ā Tia

Ko Ngāti Tūwharetoa tētehi o ngā iwi whakaheke ā Ngatoroirangi rāua ko Tia. Ko rāua tahi I tae ki Aotearoa nei ki runga i te waka o Te Arawa. I tau te waka ki ngā waahi e rua: ki Te Awa o te Atua me Maketū. I reira ka timata ā Tia i tana haerenga ki Te puku o te ika ā Māui.

He maha ngā kōrero e hāngai ana ki te haerenga mai o Tia ki tēneki rohe, arā, ki Aratiatia, ki Atiamuri, ā, ki ngā waahi tapu kei ngā pāpāringa o te moana. Ko ēneki ngā tūmomo kōrero e tuku iho e te koroua ki tōna mokopuna. Hei ahakoa he rerekēhanga tō te iwi ki te hāpori, e whakanuitia e ngā kōrero katoa i ngā tino taonga me ngā whenua

katoa o tēneki rohe. Ko tētehi o aua kōrero e pā ana ki te ingoa ka rongohia  
īnaianei mo Taupō moana.

I haere ā Tia ki te tonga o te moana. Ki te taha rāwhiti i tae atu e ia ki tētehi waahi tata  
ki Hätepe. I aro ake e ia ki ngā kōhatu e āhua rite ki te taupo ki runga i āna pokohiwi. Ka  
waihotia te kākahu ki runga pou. Nā reira ka rauikatia te ingoa

‘Te Taupo nui ā Tia.’