Diverse Giving: A look at how different Cultures Give & Receive

‘Ko te hau tēnā o tō taonga’
Tāmati Ranapiri, Ōtaki, 1898

Māori Gift Exchange & Philanthropy:
Māori Philosophy of humanism & reciprocity

Philanthropy New Zealand 2017
“Innovate for Impact”
Oceania Room, Level 3
Te Papa Tongarewa: Museum of NZ
Poneke
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Mānuka Hēnare
Philanthropy & cosmological vision

- Philanthropy is rooted in a particular cosmological vision (John Grim, Yale University).
- Thus the centrality of religion is critical. Scholars of philanthropy aim to be conceptually clear on the fact that contemporary distinctions as private, as opposed to government or dynastic, monies are fairly recent.
Philanthropy: a means to realise culture & human values

- Philanthropy does not simply reflect a culture but the struggles and contexts in which a culture finds itself, & of struggles between cultures.
- Like many other arenas it becomes a location where cultural values & norms are contested.
- The behaviour of individuals who choose activities & organisations to which they give their money and their attention. These emphasise the important role of philanthropy as the means by which individuals realize their values.
 Nu Tireni (N Z) Values & Philosophy of gift exchange & philanthropy

- Shared values, ways of thinking
- Te Pahi (1806) receives a taonga (gift) from King George III & reciprocates with preferential trade with England
- Hongi Hika (1820) expectation of Pākehā in a Māori world – Whakamāoritia rātou: they be respectful of Māori, customs and values- reciprocal respect
- 1835 He Whakaputanga o Te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni – 1835 NZ Declaration of Independence
  - in exchange for recognition of NZ independence by King William IV – England given preferential trade by Māori leaders
New Zealand Values & Philosophy of gift exchange & philanthropy

• 1840 Tiriti o Waitangi
  – 540 Rangatira & Queen Victoria – an exercise in gift exchange

• Recognise distinctive histories & philosophies
• Māori gift exchange = philanthropy
• Constitutes a Philosophy of humanism & reciprocity
Māori Polynesian – Pākehā-Anglo Philanthropies
Risk of Talking past each other?

- English philanthropy is a product of Anglo-feudalism - Elizabethan Age – Victorian Age – deep tap root of Charitable Trust Act – **Problematic of Anglo-notion of charity** (class inspired – haves and have not's)
- No feudalism, no class systems of Polynesia
- It’s Pacific-Asia experiences of Māori that shapes current thinking and response
- Seek a ‘Kiwi’ philanthropy that recognises cultural roots – SE Asia-Polynesia-Māori & Anglo-Western
- Consider an ‘**Ambicultural approach**’ to philanthropy
Philosophy of Māoritanga

• Māoritanga = totality of a Māori way of life & values
• Consists of 4 well-beings
  • Spiritual wellbeing
  • Environmental wellbeing
  • Kinship wellbeing
  • Economic wellbeing
• Constitutes an Island SE Asia (Austronesian)-Polynesian- Māori understanding of philanthropy
Distinctive histories, life views, world views

- *Gift Exchange* an ancient idea & practise
- Aotearoa Māori is of SE Asia-Pacific-Polynesia-Aotearoa – ancient roots
- Albert Schweitzer – life view is a world view & a set of ethics
- Seek the ethics embedded in the world view
- *Philanthropy* not a new idea or practise
- Evidenced in the Māori encounter with three Kings & Queen of Great Britain & its settlers, 1805-2017
Asia-Polynesia-Māori Philosophy of Philanthropy

The **Spirit of your Gift**

“**Ko te hau tēnā o tō taonga**”

According to Tāmati Ranapiri (1895,1907)

“No, ko taua taonga i hōmai nei ki a au, ko te hau tēnā o tō taonga i hōmai rā ki a au i mua.”

*Now the valuable, which was given to me, is the life force of your gift given to me earlier.

The spirit power and the vital essence embodied in a person is transmitted to their gift or anything considered valuable (taonga).
Ko te *hau tēnā o tō taonga*
Philanthropy: Love of Humanity
Anglo-Western philosophy of philanthropy

- Etymology of philanthropy (n) roots in early Greek 460 BC & Latin - kindliness, humanity, benevolence, love to mankind (from gods, humans, or things
- French & English 1608, 1623, 1789
- Meaning of philanthropic (adj) action or agency, humanitarian act – first recorded in 1884
- *(Chambers Dictionary of Etymology 2000:786)*
The Responses & The promises

- The promises of
- King George III
- King William IV
- Queen Victoria & subsequent Crown agencies:
- Māori life & lifeway's would be guaranteed & enabled to develop
- 2014 Waitangi Tribunal found that Ngāpuhi did not cede sovereignty
Treaty Settlements

- Settlements $1 Billion = 1%-3 % total loss of 65 million acres & lost opportunities over time
- Royal Commission on Social Policy 1988 and the Waitangi Tribunal 1988 reported that all immigrants to NZ are the beneficiaries of the forced land sales & huge profits of the Crown
- Māori effectively funded the costs of the UK-NZ immigration schemes, paid for the building of infrastructures of NZ – highways, roads, harbours, airports, schools, health and welfare systems.
He Ara Hou Report - A framework for ethical – moral discussion on well-being


► 200,000 NZ children live in poverty (CPAG Report launched 12 Sept 2011, University of Auckland)

► 60,000 Māori Children under 14yrs live in poverty i.e. one third
  ► *(He Ara Hou: Investing in Māori & Pasifika Children Report, September 2011)*

► Systemic poverty on this scale will take 20 yrs to remove
THE CHILD-WHĀNAU-KĀINGA POVERTY AND INEQUALITY TRAIL 0-15 YEARS

A structure of inequality (cf. Piketty 2014)

Participation in the labour market and capability of earning income is severely restricted or impossible.
Humanism & reciprocity core virtues
Today’s Aotearoa- New Zealand philanthropy

• In the spirit of the gift, the taonga of life, philanthropy is reciprocity
• Māori communities & organisations need the support for humanitarian organisations and peoples
• Poverty among Māori children is at unacceptable levels, 60,000-80,000
• Labour market participation rates of Māori regions (Dec 2014) 33% non-participation rate (North Auckland 38%) Unemployment rate was 12.1%
• NZ suffers from the extremes of opulence and poverty – i.e. The Paradox of wealth creation
Māori Wealth Creation
2010-2013

NZ$

- Tribal Wealth 12.5 B
- Individual Wealth 23.4 B
- Māori self-employed 6.6 B
- Total NZ$42.5 B from $36 B, 2010

- However Tangata Wealth
  Opportunity cost NZ$20 B+
- Conservative estimates
- 598, 600 Māori (2013 Census), 15% pop.
- 1769 est. pop. 100,00 1896 – 42,113
- Māori are a sustainable, self-reliant community
Task of Philanthropy & Māori to 2040

• Address New Zealand’s structure of inequality:

• 1. Align economic & social strategies with *He Kai Aku Ringa Crown-Māori Economic Strategy to 2040*

• 2. Grow a Developing Economy of Reciprocity to a restored Developed Economy of Reciprocity
Kia ora tātou