



Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi

Mai i te Hikakā ki te Pāpāho

He pāpā ngākaunui ki ana tamariki e rima ana he kaha ki te Manaaki me te whakarato i tana whānau, ko CJ Lenati tēnā e tū whakahihī ana ki te kawē i tōnā taha Tonga me tōnā taha Māori. I whānau mai ia ki Whanganui-a-tara i te tau 1977 ana i pakeke mai ki Parnell, ki roto o Tāmaki Makaurau me ōna mātua i atawhai i a ia ana pai noa iho ki a ia te kōrero mō tana hīkoi, ngā piki me ngā heke.

I ako a CJ ki te noho haupapa, ki te whakamārohirohi, me te āhua mananui o te whānau mai i te kōhungahunga. Ka hoki ana mahara ka whakawhetai mo ngā wāhi pērā i ngā pēke kai kei reira hei āwhina i ngā tāngata e noho kore ana.

“E whakapono ana au na te āhua o taku whakatipua mai, i noho reri ai au ki te haere hei akonga ukiuki me te noho reri hoki mō ngā wero i mua i au.

“I uaua te whiriwhiri i taku mahi hamanga, haepapa whānau, ana kaore hoki i māmā te ako, ana i haere au ki te pēke kai neke atu i te kotahi ngā wā kia ora ai mātau – engari kaore au e kī i marara taku wairua i ērā āhuatanga.

“Tino ngākau māhaki ērā wā, engari ka whakamoemiti tonu ahau. Ka whakamoemiti mo ngā wāhi pēnei e āwhina nei i ngā whānau e nonoke tonu nei.”

I ngākau nui a CJ mo te hunga pāpāho ana i whakawhiwhia ia ki tana Tohu New Zealand Diploma in Radio Broadcasting (Level 5) mai i Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. Kei te mahi ia ināianei hei pūkenga oro me te kaiwāwāhi matua mō te Reo Irirangi o Wātea

“Kua matakite kē e au ki te mahi mā tētahi o ngā teihana nui, engari i whai kē au i tētahi ara noa atu e whai tikanga ana. Kuhu tonu mai au ki konei ka mōhio au koi nei tāku i whakangungu ai.

“Pēnei i a Awanuiārangi nei, he ngākau aroha to tēnei wāhi mō te tāngata. Kaore koe i te nama i kōnei; he tangata koe, ana ka manaakihia koe pēnei tonu he whānau koe.

“He maha ngā whakaari e mahia ana e au, ana kei te āwhina au ki te whakawhanake i ngā waitara hou, tae atu ki *Te Pō Waiata*, he waitara hei hiki i te wairua o ngā tāngata e whakarongo mai ana mō te roanga o te pō.”

Kaore tana whakataunga ki te haere ki te ako mo tana mātauranga ngaio noa iho; ki te whakaatu kē ki ana tamariki he pēhea te āhua o te hiringa.

“I taku whakapōtaetanga i tēnei tau, i te hiahia noa iho au kia kite mai aku tamāhine ka tāea e to rātau pāpā ki te eke ki te taumata angitū ahakoa he aha te mahi i whakaritea e ia. I te hiahia au kia noho ko au hei tauira tuatahi mā aku tamariki.

“He mea nui ki āhau, ki te kite atu i aku tamariki e menemene mai ana i taku whiwhitanga i taku tohu pōkairua.”

Kei te akiaki a CJ i ētahi tāngata o ngā moutere ki te whai i te mātauranga mā roto i Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi.

“I ētahi wā ka pōhēhē tātau ko te mātauranga mā ētahi momo tāngata noa iho, engari mā ngā tangata e hiahia ana ki te whakapakari i ā rātau, ina ra, ko ngā tāngata o ngā moutere ētahi.

“Kei te hiahia te Wānanga ki te whakawhanaunga me koe me te āwhina atu kia tutuki i ā koe o moemoea. Ae, he tika he uaua, engari i muri mai o ngā mahi uaua, ka whiwhi koe i ngā hua.”

CJ Lenati – New Zealand Diploma in Radio Broadcasting (Level 5)

Te Atiawa – Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Haveluloto – Tonga