

NĀ PALAPALA PA‘I HOU ‘IA / REPRINTS

“Nohea mai na Kanaka Hawaii.” 1873.

Nuhou: The Hawaiian News, October 14, 2–3

“Where Do Hawaiians Originate.” 1873.

Nuhou: The Hawaiian News, October 14, 2–3

*Na Lorenz Gonschor i ho‘olako mai
me ka unuhina ‘ōlelo Beretānia
a me nā kuhia ho‘ākāka*

*Contributed by Lorenz Gonschor
with an English translation
and explanatory notes*

‘ŌLELO HO‘OLAUNA / INTRODUCTION

Eia mai kekahi kolamu ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i i pa‘i ‘ia, me ka pūlima ‘ole, ma ka nūpepa *Nuhou: The Hawaiian News* ma ka MH 1873. Ma ia kolamu, noelo ihola ka mea kākau i ka nīnau e ho‘opa‘apa‘a nui ‘ia ana i ia au, ‘o ia ho‘i, “No hea mai nā kūpuna o ka lāhui Hawai‘i, o nā lāhui Polinesia like ‘ole ho‘i?” Wahi a ka mea kākau, ‘o ka pae ‘āina ‘o Malae nō paha ka ‘āina kupuna o ia mau lāhui, ma muli o ka like loa o kekahi mau hua‘ōlelo Hawai‘i a Malae ho‘i i ho‘ohālikelike ‘ia ma ua kolamu nei, he kanaiwa a ‘oi ka nui. Ma muli o ia pilina koko, wahi a ka mea kākau, he kūpono ke pili like ka lāhui Hawai‘i me ka lāhui Malae, i mea e ikaika a‘e ai ke kū‘oko‘a o ke aupuni Hawai‘i. ‘O kēia nō ka makamua o ka kolamu nūpepa ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i e kāko‘o ana ma hope o ka mana‘o e ho‘olōkahi a‘e ai nā lāhui ‘ōiwi o ka Pākīpika.

‘O *Nuhou* ka makamua o nā nūpepa e kū ana ma hope o ka mō‘ī ma ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i i ho‘oponopono ‘ia e Walter Murray “Kipikona” Gibson (1822–88), nāna nō paha i kākau i kēia kolamu. Ua komone‘e ‘o ia i Hawai‘i ma ka MH 1861 a ho‘okupa ‘ia ma 1866. Ma nā makahiki iwakālua ma hope mai, he mea ho‘olale nui ‘o Kipikona i ke kū‘oko‘a o ke aupuni Hawai‘i ma ke ‘ano he ‘ona nūpepa, a ma hope mai, ma ke ‘ano he mea politika. He kanaka kama‘āina i kekahi mau ‘ōlelo, a ‘a‘apo ‘o ia i ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i. Ua noho mua ‘o Kipikona ma Sumatera me Iawa, kahi āna i ho‘opa‘ahao ‘ia ai e ke aupuni Hōlani no ke kāko‘o ‘ana i nā ‘ōiwi kū‘ē i ke aupuni ho‘okolonaio. Ma

kona noho ‘ana ma ia ‘āina, ua ‘ike ‘o Kipikona i ka like ma ke kino, ma ka mo‘omeheu ho‘i o ka lāhui Hawai‘i me nā lāhui āna i ‘ike ai ma nā mokupuni o ‘Āsia Hikina Hema. Ma kāna ‘ike i nā ‘ōlelo Malae a me ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, ua pū‘iwa kona na‘au i ka like loa o nā hua‘ōlelo he nui ma nā ‘ōlelo ‘elua, a ua pololei kona mahu‘i ‘ana he mau ‘ōlelo kaikuahine lāua o ka ‘ohana ‘ōlelo ho‘okahi (‘o ‘Ausetonesia ka inoa i kēia au).

Ua ho‘ohuli ko Kipikona kāko‘o ‘ana ma hope o nā pilina ‘Ausetonesia i ka mana‘o o ka Mō‘ī Kalākaua ma kona kulekele no nā lāhui ‘ōiwi o ka Pākīpika. Ua hō‘ike me ke ohohia nā nūpepa a Kipikona, ma ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, ma ka ‘ōlelo Beretānia ho‘i, i ka huaka‘i a ka Mō‘ī Kalākaua i ka Maharajah o Johore i ka ‘āina i kapa ‘ia ‘o Malaia¹ i kēia au ma ka MH 1881.

‘O kēia ka makamua o ke kolamu ma ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i e ho‘olale ana i ka mana‘o kāko‘o ma hope o ia mana‘o ho‘olōkahi i nā lāhui ‘Ausetonesia. Malia paha ‘o kēia kekahi ‘ōlelo ho‘olauna, kekahi mana‘o punahele o Kipikona i pa‘i ‘ia ma nā ‘ano like ‘ole ma nā pukana ma hope mai nō ho‘i, me nā unuhina mo‘o kolamu o nā mo‘olelo a ka‘ao o ka lāhui Malae a me kona mo‘olelo pono‘ī iā ia e noho ana ma ko Malae pae ‘āina.

In an unsigned 1873 article in the newspaper *Nuhou: The Hawaiian News*, the author presents a scholarly analysis of the then hotly debated question of where the ancestors of Hawaiians and other Polynesians originated. Arguing that the Malay Archipelago was their ancestral homeland, based on a comparison of more than ninety words in Hawaiian and Malay, the author advocates for closer ties between Hawai‘i and the islands of the Malay Archipelago in order to strengthen Hawai‘i’s independence.

Nuhou was the first in a series of Hawaiian loyalist papers edited by Walter Murray Gibson (1822–88), likely the author of this article. Gibson had come to Hawai‘i in 1861 and was naturalised as a Hawaiian subject in 1866. During the following two decades, Gibson became one of the foremost advocates for the independence of the Hawaiian Kingdom, first as a newspaperman, later as a politician. A polyglot who quickly picked up the Hawaiian language, Gibson had previously spent some time in Sumatra and Java, where he was imprisoned by the Dutch colonial authorities for attempting to aid native anti-colonial resistance. Due to this previous experience, Gibson recognised physical and cultural similarities between the Hawaiians and the people he had encountered in insular Southeast Asia. As a speaker of both Malay and Hawaiian, Gibson was also struck by the many cognate words between the two languages and correctly concluded that they must be part of the same linguistic family (now known as Austronesian).

Gibson’s advocacy of pan-Austronesian political connections in turn influenced the later Hawaiian pan-Pacific policy under King Kalākaua, whose visit to the Maharajah of Johor in today’s Malaysia in 1881 was enthusiastically reported and commented on in Gibson’s Hawaiian- and English-language newspapers.²

The article is the first published presentation of such Pan-Austronesian sentiment in the Hawaiian language. It may have been intended as an introduction to the topic, which Gibson articulated in multiple forms throughout the newspaper in this and later issues, including serialised Hawaiian translations of Malay epics³ and stories of his own experiences in the Malay Archipelago.⁴

NOHEA MAI NA KANAKA HAWAII

O na kupuna mua o keia lahui noloko mai no lakou o na pae aina nui o Malae. O na kanaka o Tahita [sic] me ko Nu Zilani, ma ia wahi hookahi mai no. Ua kapaia ke kanaka he *taata* ma Tahiti, a ma Malae hoi, ua kapaia *tamata*. Ke hoike nei makou malalo iho nei he haneri mau hua olelo Hawaii a hoohalike aku ia mau hua olelo me kekahi mau hua olelo o Malae; a e ikeia auanei ko lakou ano like loa, a e maopoopo⁵ [sic] no hoi he mau hoahanau ko laila poe no Hawaii nei. O lakou ko oukou mau kupuna, a ua ane like no ko lakou helehelena me ko oukou; a he poe mamo oukou na lakou.

I na e hiki kekahi kanaka Hawaii ma Iawa (Java) a komo oia i kolaila mau aahu e like me lakou e noho ala ma ko lakou aina; aole oia e hoomaopoopoia [sic] he malihini; a ina hoi e hiki mai ana i Hawaii nei kekahi mau kanaka Iawa, a wahine Iawa paha a komo i na aahu e like me kakou, e kohu like no ka nanaina me he Hawaii ala. E ano e iki ana no ka lakou olelo, no ka mea, ua hookaawaleia lakou mai ka nohona o na aina Polunesia no na haneri makahiki he nui.

Ano, he iini nui ko makou e ike oukou me ka hoomaopoopo [sic] pono no ko oukou mau kupuna o ka hanauna hookahi. Aia he mau miliona he lehulehu wale o lakou ma Malae (Malaysia) a he poe kanaka kekahi o lakou malalo o ka hooponopo [sic] ana o na ano aupuni o Europa; a o kekahi poe hoi, he Moi no ko lakou e like me ka Moi o Akina (Achina) e hoala kaua mai la me ka mana aupuni o Holani (Holland.)

I ke au o ka noho Alii ana o Kamehameha V., ua hoopuka ae kekahi luna aupuni nui mai Akina ae a makou i halawai pu ai ma Wasinetona “e mareia na ’lii o na pae aina Hawaii me na alii o Malae.” Ina e ulia wale mai ka hookoia e like me ia, alaila e hookahua paa loa ia ke Kuokoa o Hawaii nei; a e loa no hoi na manao lana o ke ola o ka lahui, nokamea e holo mai no na kanaka oia lahui like me Hawaii nei, a hoonuiia ka ulu ana o na keiki Hawaii.

<i>Olelo Hawaii.</i>	<i>Olelo Malae.</i>
Ahi,	Ahu—Api,
Auwe,	Awo,
Ae,	Ae,
Akua—Atua,	Patua—Matua,
Alii,	Srii,
Ala,	Lala,
Akahi,	Ka-i
Ake,	Hate,
Alelo,	Lela,
Akolu—Tolu,	Tolu,
Awalu—Waru,	Waru,
Eleele,	Elan,
Elua,	Lua—Dua,
Eha,	Aha—Ha,
Elima,	Lima,
Eono,	Onomo,
Ehiku—Hitu,	Hitu,
Eiwa,	Seiwa,

Ino,	Ilo,
Inu,	Inum,
Ia,	Ian,
Ihu,	Iru,
Ili,	Uliti,
Ono,	Enna,
Uku,	Utu,
Ua,	Uan,
Ulaula,	Ululi,
Uhi,	Uhi,
Hanu,	Hantu,
Hulahula,	Ulanulan,
Hulu,	Huru,
Hua,	Hua,
Hale,	Bale,
Honua,	Fenua,
Hatu,	Datu,
Hotu,	Bitu,
Hala,	Hala,
Ko,	Tuo,
Koto,	Kute,
Keiki,	Tetiki,
Ku,	Kuku,
Kukae,	Kae—Tae,
Kalo,	Kalo,
Kanaka,	Tamata,
Kane,	Iane,
Kia,	Tia—Tiang,
Koolau,	Kalaut,
Kuha,	Fuha,
Kai,	Kahi—Chai,
Kapu,	Tapa,
Kuli,	Turi,
Kuu,	Kou,
Lima,	Lima,
La,	Lau,
Lauoho,	Uwoho,
Liilii,	Diidii,
Lau,	Dau,
La,	Lea,
La, [pea]	Lar,
Lani,	Langhi,
Lele,	Lali,
Mahina,	Hiano,
Maia,	Ma,
Manu,	Manu,

Mai,	Oimai,
Make,	Mate,
Maka,	Mata,
Makani,	Dani,
Matua,	Patua,
Maikai,	Maisi,
Mauka,	Mudika,
Mele,	Mele,
Mimi,	Mimi,
Mana,	Maha,
Molia,	Mulian,
Niu,	Niu—Noi,
Nuka,	Nus-a,
Pana,	Pana,
Puka,	Buka,
Pii,	Piki,
Paatiki,	Makitihiy,
Poo,	Poe,
Pahi,	Pahigy,
Po,	Potu,
Pono-i,	Poonya,
Puaa,	Puaka,
Pohatu,	Bahatu,
Waa,	Waa—Waka,
Wela,	Pela,
Wai,	Wai,
Wai-u,	Su-wai,
Waha,	Woah,
Wahine,	Fefine.

O keia lalani hua olelo a makou e olelo nei he mau hua olelo Malae e hoomaopopoia no aole lakou noloko mai o ka olelo Malae wale no, aka, mai loko mai o na olelo o ka mokupuni o Iawa, o Kelebe, (Celebes) o Moluka, (Moluccas) ame na mokupuni e ae i kapaia ma ka inoa, ka Pae Aina Malae.

WHERE ARE THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE FROM

The original ancestors of this race are indeed from within the large archipelagos of Malaysia. The people of Tahiti and of New Zealand all come from that one place. Human beings [*kānaka*] are called *ta'ata* in Tahiti, and in Malay they are called *tamata*. Below we show a hundred Hawaiian words, and those words are compared with words of Malay; and their close similarities will be seen, and hence it will be understood that the people from there are cousins of Hawai'i nei. They are your ancestors—their features are indeed somewhat similar to yours—and you are their descendants.

If a Hawaiian person should go to Java and put on the clothing of those who are living in their country, he would not be taken for a foreigner; and if in turn Javanese

men or Javanese women should come here to Hawai'i and put on clothes like ours, they will be in their general appearance much like Hawaiians. Their language will be a little strange because they have been separated from the way of life of the lands of Polynesia for many centuries.

Now, we have a strong desire that you know, and indeed well understand, your ancestors of the same lineage. There are millions alone of them in Malaysia, and some of them are people under the rule of the various states of Europe; and some of them have their own Monarch, like the Sultan of Achina [Aceh] who is now waging war against the government of Holland.⁶

During the reign of Kamehameha V, a high diplomat from Achina [Aceh], with whom we conferred in Washington,⁷ declared that "the chiefs of the Hawaiian Islands should be married to the chiefs of Malaysia." If suddenly it were to be carried out like that, then the Independence of Hawai'i nei would become firmly established; and there would also be hopes for the survival of the race, because people from that race so similar to that of Hawai'i nei would come, and then the number of Hawaiian children would increase.

<i>Hawaiian Language</i>		<i>Malay Language</i> ⁸
ahi	[fire] ⁹	ahu, api
auwē	[alas]	awo
‘ae	[yes, approve]	ae
akua, atua	[god]	patua, matua
ali‘i	[chief, noble]	srii
ala	[path]	lala
‘akahi	[one]	ka-i
ake	[liver]	hate
alelo	[tongue]	lela
‘akolu, tolu	[three]	tolu
‘awalu, waru	[eight]	waru
‘ele‘ele	[black, dark]	elan
‘elua	[two]	lua, dua
‘ehā	[four]	aha, ha
‘elima	[five]	lima
‘eono	[six]	onomo
‘ehiku, hitu	[seven]	hitu
‘eiwa	[nine]	seiwa
‘ino	[bad]	ilo
inu	[drink]	inum
i‘a	[fish]	ian
ihu	[nose]	iru
‘ili	[skin]	uliti
‘ono	[sweet, delicious]	enna
‘uku	[louse]	utu
ua	[rain]	uan
‘ula‘ula	[reddish]	ululi
uhi	[yam]	uhi

hanu	[breath]	hantu
hulahula	[dance]	ulanulan
hulu	[feather]	huru
hua	[fruit]	hua
hale	[house]	bale
honua	[land, earth]	fenua
hatu	[lord]	datu
hōtū	[star]	bitu
hala	[pandanus]	hala
kō	[sugarcane]	tuo
koto	[blood]	kute
keiki	[child]	tetiki
kū	[stand]	kuku
kūkae	[excrement]	kae, tae
kalo	[kalo/taro, a tuber]	kalo
kanaka	[human]	tamata
kāne	[man]	iane
kia	[mast]	tia, tiang
Ko‘olau	[windward]	Kalaut
kuha	[saliva, spit]	fuha
kai	[ocean]	kahi, chai
kapu	[sacred, forbidden]	tapa
kuli	[knee]	turi
ku‘u	[release]	kou
lima	[hand]	lima
lā	[sun, day]	lau
lauoho	[hair]	uwoho
li‘ili‘i	[small]	diidii
lau	[leaf]	dau
lā	[sun, day]	lea
lā [pe‘a]	[sail]	lar
lani	[sky]	langhi
lele	[fly]	lali
mahina	[moon]	hiano
mai‘a	[banana]	ma
manu	[bird]	manu
ma‘i	[sick]	oimai
make	[die, death]	mate
maka	[eye]	mata
makani	[wind]	dani
matua	[parent]	patua
maika‘i	[good]	maisi
ma uka	[mountain side]	mudika
mele	[song]	mele
mimi	[urine]	mimi
mana	[power]	maha

mōlia	[sacrifice]	mulian
niu	[coconut]	niu, noi
nuka	[large, plump]	nus-a
pana	[snap, beat]	pana
puka	[hole]	buka
pi'i	[climb]	piki
pa'atikī	[difficult]	makitihy
po'o	[head]	poe
pahi	[knife]	pahigy
pō	[night]	potu
ponoī	[own]	poonya
pua'a	[pig]	puaka
pōhatu	[rock]	bahatu
wa'a	[canoe]	waa, waka
wela	[hot]	pela
wai	[water]	wai
waiū	[milk]	su-wai
waha	[mouth]	woah
wahine	[woman]	fefine

These columns of words that we are speaking about are Malay words that are understood to exist not only in the Malay language, but also in the languages of the islands of Java, of Celebes and the Moluccas, and of the other islands that have been named the Malay Archipelago.

NOTES

1. According to Mary Kawena Pukui and Samuel Elbert (*Hawaiian Dictionary*, Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1986), *Malay* (as a cultural and linguistic reference) can be translated as both “Malae” and “Malaia” in Hawaiian. Additionally, *Malaia* can mean “Malaysia” (the nation-state of today, founded in 1963). Since Gibson uses *Malae* to refer to Malay, that translation has been maintained in the introduction, whereas *Malaysia* is being translated as “Malaia.”

2. See “Mai ke Alii Ka Moi Mai,” *Ka Elele Poakolu*, July 13, 1881, 4; untitled article, *The Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, July 16, 1881, 2.

3. See W. M. Kipikona, “Ke Kaao o Lakamana. Ke Koa Nui o ka Poe Malae!” *Ka Nuhou Hawaii*, November 4, 1873–April 28, 1874, later republished in English as “Laksamana: The Great Hero of the Malays: A Romance” in *The Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, April 29, 1882–May 12, 1883.

4. See “Saipa (Sayeepe), ke Kaikamahine Kaula o ka Mokupuni Sumatera,” *Ka Nuhou Hawaii*, November 4, 1873–January 6, 1874.

5. This spelling of maopopo, as well as that of its derivative *ho'omaopopo* as *hoomaopopo*, is found frequently in the Hawaiian-language newspapers. These were all corrected to (*hoo*)*maopopo* in the April 7, 1874, reprint of this article in *Ka Nuhou Hawaii*.

6. From 1873 to 1904, the Netherlands fought a protracted colonial war to subjugate the sultanate of Aceh at the northwestern tip of the Island of Sumatra against fierce Acehnese resistance. See Anthony Reid, *The Contest for North Sumatra: Atjeh, the Netherlands and Brit-*

ain, 1858–1898 (London and Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press and University of Malaya Press, 1969).

7. Circumstantial evidence indicates that the Acehnese envoy in question was Celso Cesare Moreno (1831–1901), an Italian adventurer and activist of political convictions very similar to Gibson’s. In the mid-1860s Moreno had been commissioned by the sultan of Aceh to tour Europe and the US to make an alliance with another Western power in order to fend off Dutch encroachment. While Moreno was in Washington, DC, in 1868 to 1869, Gibson was transiting through the US capital on a diplomatic world tour to recruit Malay immigrants to the Hawaiian Kingdom. See Rudolph J. Vecoli and Francesco Durante, *Oh capitano! La vita favolosa di Celso Cesare Moreno in quattro continenti, 1831–1901* (Venezia: Marsilia Editori, 2014), 59–88, and Jacob Adler and Robert M. Kamins, *The Fantastic Life of Walter Murray Gibson: Hawai‘i’s Minister of Everything* (Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 1986), 82–84.

8. While some words in the right column are indeed Malay words, some others are from other Polynesian languages rather than from Malay. Given the long time since his stay in the Malay archipelago and his likely more intensive exposure to other Polynesian languages than to Malay while living in Hawai‘i, Gibson might have gotten some of them mixed up.

9. English glosses of the Hawaiian words have been supplied by the translator of this article and inserted in square brackets.