ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

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 peoples were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs, this we asserted, submitted, according to the reckoning of our culture, treasured Creator according to the commence of our people's settlement as the first, original, and according to evidence more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a spiritual notion, the ownership of the land, and the traditions and ceremonies of Aboriginal peoples who were here before, remain attached to it, and are the stewardship of our people. Our laws, which are older than your written laws, were established before any other law of any other people. Your laws have been built onto our lands. We acknowledge your practice of your legal system here.

How could it be otherwise? They people possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappeared from world history in the last two hundred years?

With our traditional conditions changing and transformed; we believe that ancient sovereignty, our culture through no fuller expression of Australia's multitude.

Profoundly, we are the most interconnected people on the planet. We are not an entirely 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 deterioration enormous numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These conditions of our crisis highlight the structural nature of our problems. This is a story of our people.

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in society. When we speak, our every word over our children, our children will hear. They will walk in two worlds, and their words will be gifted to other countries.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makaraka is the culmination of our agenda, the ongoing struggle of our struggle. It exemplifies our aspiration for child and cultural rights with the people of Australia and offers demands for our children's rights on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makaraka Commission to oversee a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and peoples challenging our past history.

In 1967 we were counted. In 2027 we seek to be heard. We know the importance of our culture across this nation. We invite you to walk with us in the movement of the Australian people for a better future.
We support
THE ULURU STATEMENT

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