



THE SHAKA MOVEMENT

SUSTAINABLE HAWAIIAN AGRICULTURE FOR THE KEIKI AND THE 'AINA



Protecting Our Keiki and 'Aina

Lei'ohu Ryder is one of the Shaka Movement's Five Citizens who sponsored the Maui GMO Moratorium Initiative. Lei'ohu is a spiritual leader, visionary, healer, singer/songwriter, and educator on Maui. She is an emissary of aloha and an advocate for the indigenous soul in all people, blind to the labels (*race, creed, nationality, ideology, etc.*) that can separate us from experiencing the true nature of our selves and others. She sees herself as a human being evolving and expressing her true divine nature. Here is her statement.



I am a native Hawaiian, born and raised in Hawaii. I am the caretaker of a

sacred site called Kukuipuka Heiau, which means the "Doorway to the Light." As caretaker, I serve the foundation of aloha. The kuleana (responsibility) of aloha guides every aspect of being in service to all life, including plant, mineral, soil, water, human, and animal. As a cultural practitioner, I offer blessings, pule (prayers), mediation, consultations, celebrations, and ceremonies for our island and global community. I am one voice in a long line of many generations. I do not speak on behalf of every Hawaiian, but I carry my family's legacy with me.

I grew up as a native Hawaiian practitioner, and I live this way

because future generations depend on us practicing our kuleana of aloha. Hawaiian practices support taking only what is necessary to sustain, heal, and nurture life, including the life and health of all organisms, animals, plants, and minerals of the land and sea.



I recognize that all life is intertwined. I have seen the firsthand impacts of GMO operations

on the concept of Aloha 'Aina, as well as the damage that it is doing to native Hawaiians and our connection to the 'Aina.

As a native Hawaiian practitioner, I have to justify my very existence as a native from the universal expression of this land. It is a travesty and detriment the longer we do not act on the moratorium

on GMO operations and practices and conduct the appropriate studies regarding these practices.

The Monsanto Company farms are located right below my home.

I have family members living in Kihei who are affected with asthma, skin reactions, and allergic reactions because they live downwind of the fields. I notice the effect of the chemicals on the land and the sea. The toxic chemicals enter the ocean following heavy rains, and



the fierce ma'a'a winds blows dust chemicals or the chemicals that are being applied, and it travels in whichever direction the wind is blowing, including to homes, schools, resorts, marshlands, lands, ocean, streams, and sanctuaries. The

chemicals are drenched in the land, soil, and all life forms.



In Kihei, I have seen how our honu, (turtle) have been physically affected by the

pesticides. I have seen how the organisms that grows in our oceans; streambeds and river mouths have been poisoned, such as the limu, hihiwai, and o'opu. These are life forms that can be found nowhere else in the world except the once pristine environment of Hawaii.

This philosophy of Aloha 'Aina is rooted in every part of us. Aloha 'Aina is the Hawaiian perspective of many indigenous peoples. The roots of this philosophy are that, what we do to the land, we do to ourselves. Very simply, we are the earth and the earth is us.

The Shaka Movement is committed to protecting, preserving and improving the Public Trust Resources for current and future generations. It aims to empower and protect farmers, their children and the people around these farms.

The Shaka Movement is a non-profit tax-exempt organization

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To educate yourself and others visit: MauiGMOMoratoriumNews.org