



Te Ao Mārama

An Indigenous Worldview

Te Ahukaramū
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What is a **Worldview?**

A people's **deepest most firmly held beliefs** about life, existence, the world.

We are **unaware that we hold these views** and often struggle to describe them.



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A Worldview **lies deep within a culture**... matured over a long period of time.

Our multicultural, diverse world **forces us to assess our worldviews.**



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Worldview and Values



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A worldview is expressed through
the values a people hold.

... more often values are
expressed and reflected *in*
what people do, how they
actually behave.

“Do as I say, *not as I do...*”



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Worldview, Values and Behaviours



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Sometimes, the way a people behave **reflects what they really value**, their worldview.

Action taking is where the **'rubber hits the road'** in a worldview



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An Interpretation by Rev. Māori Marsden

*Cultures pattern perceptions of reality into conceptualisations of **what they perceive reality to be**; of what is to be regarded as actual, probable, possible or impossible. These conceptualisations form what is termed the ‘world view’ of a culture. The World view is the **central systematisation of conceptions of reality** to which members of its **culture assent** and from which stems their **value system**. The world view lies at the **very heart of the culture**, touching, interacting with and strongly influencing every aspect of the culture.*



Āronga-Kaupapa-Tikanga



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Āronga – our comprehension
of the world (our worldview)

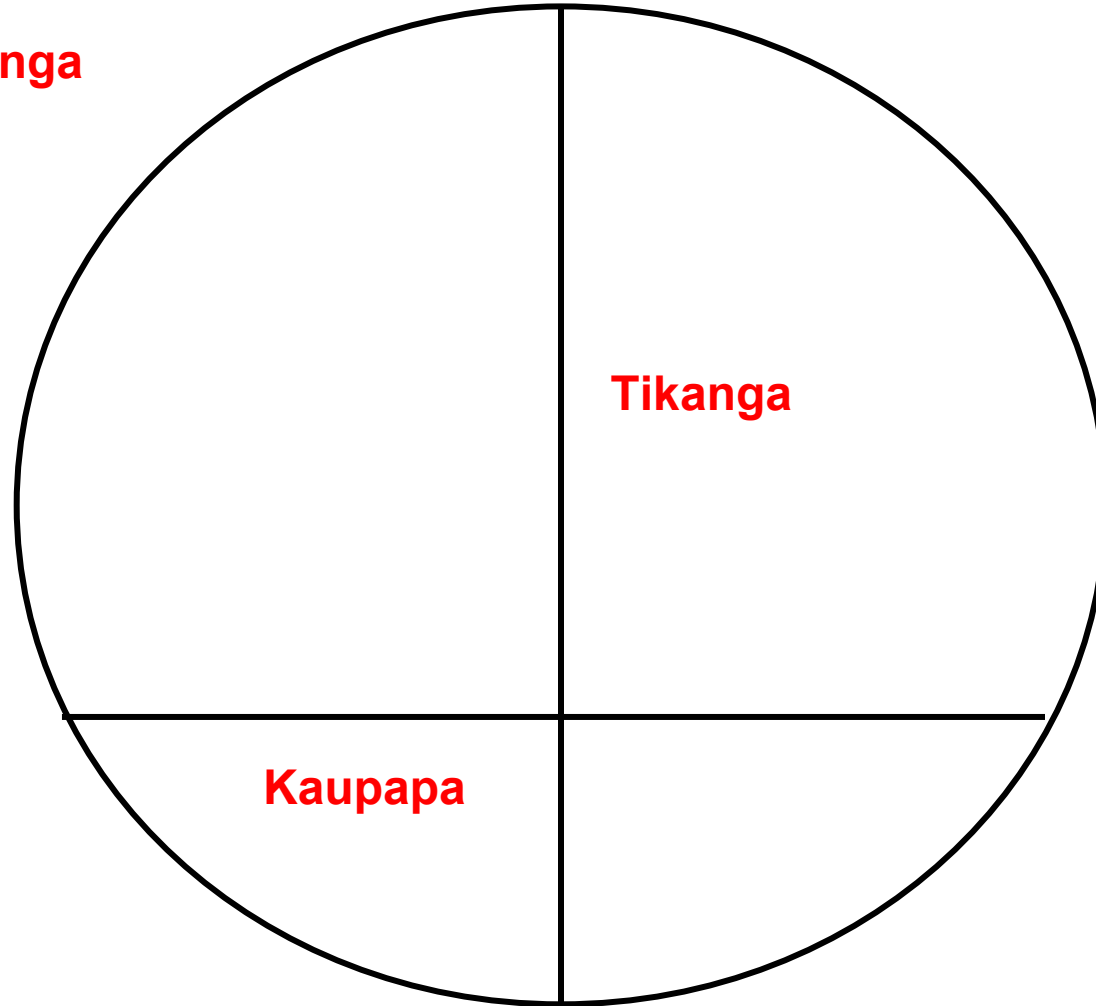
Kaupapa – first
principles, values

Tikanga – the things
we do, our behaviours



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Āronga



Tikanga

Kaupapa



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**Aspects of the
Te Ao Mārama
Worldview**

Iwi Creation Traditions

- Creation traditions are not about an historical creation of the world
- From darkness (Te Pō) to light (Te Ao)
- From nothing (Te Kore) to something (Āhua)



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Iwi Creation Traditions

- They are about perennial everyday processes and reality
- Growth of thought, energy, space, time, trees pregnancy and more



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Some Key Ideas

- All things come from the same source
- All things are related
- Life is about the birth of mana into the world



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