

Monday, November 15, 1999

MY TESTIMONY IS ABOUT STOLEN LANDS...CROWN LANDS

My Name is Leah K. Pereira and I live on the most beautiful island in the world..Kauai the Garden island, for more than 50 years. My ancestors go back before the 1700's. In some of the Hawaii today History about the ancients and Kauai's Historical past, it mentions stories about my ancestors, the Island chiefs and Kings of old Hawaii. Historically the west part of the island of Kauai the Lands belonged to the ruling class and their families, when the lands were divided among the Kings and their chiefly families it was given out to them by grants. Today it is known as L.C.A Land commission awards. These lands were never transferred to other people or even paid for in fee. They were legally confiscated by the self appointed land surveyors and land recorders in the early 1900's. after the provisional government took over the Kings lands. what I am trying to say is this...we are still alive our blood of the ancient ruling chiefs are still here we have not died, although' our lands have disappeared . In a short period of time, from 1863 to 1930 vast amounts of property was accumulated to some of the large land owners today. And now they appear in court trying to claim Land titles by using the saying of procession is 90% of the law. Ancient people were not able to read or write the English language but what they did have was an amazing oral history of their families and happenings handed down through generations of time. I am living proof of my ancestors. I can no longer sit silent and watch the greedy get greedier . I have always believed in Democracy but today I much rather believe in Justice

Kamehameha IV was my Grt. Grand Father Kaiana's Nephew he granted us some property the name of the Grant was Kam IV to Kaia It was a very large grant but today all that is left is 1 acre of undivided land that my poor grandfather managed to hold on to legally. The land was given to our family in 1847 but not recorded until 1857 and then it was not registered until 1920 by then it was interpreted in English but much less than supposed. Hawaiians in the old days had only one name ..This identified the chief or King and their families . Kaia was our Grandparents' name, other who do not know our oral family history would not know that we are here and still living today. I am the 4th Grt. granddaughter to Kaiana once ruling Chief of Kauai, His first Cousin was Kaeo who was the father of King Kaumualii. My grt. grandfather 's youngest brother was Nahiolo and he fought against Kamehameha I at the battle of Nuuanu, on Oahu...well he left a young son ...his name was Kekuanaoa. Kam I raised him as his own son knowing that this boy was of royal birth and unblemished of common blood. He later married him to Kinou his daughter, thus one of his sons' was Kamehameha IV. my direct lineage.. I needed to explain my genealogy to you , so that you will be able to understand where I stand and why I feel that there has been an in justice done here today.

An example of this is there are Land developers that are building on properties that I know for a fact that has not transferred to them.. a Warranty Deed is a great deed. but a \$10.00 Warranty deed is something to really think about. who are they kidding?! I feel very sad that this is happening and yet they can write to the Federal government for

Moines to build this project and keep it respectable by making it a restriction - only Native Hawaiians can apply to this housing project, what is so sad is that it's not open to any other native Hawaiians but only a relative few. The woman involved is on the board of directors of this land development and most of her relatives was awarded this new home on our family land... which by the way was use to be part of the Ancient Fish Ponds of Waimea. They wouldn't know the history of the land because it was never given to them and the oral history was kept in our family. I also had to appear to the State Burial Council to protect our ancient Burial sites because the development was being built on our homeland and our families buried their loved ones close by, that being the cliffs next to their fishponds and homesite. I can be very thankful to our Grt Grand uncle Delbert Horner (German-California parents) He was one of the most honest man of his time. He was instrumental in saving some of our family land holdings. Although after his death many of his stocks disappeared. (someday I hope a young investigator will find out how it mysteriously disappeared, we have heard it through our oral history because it was in the 1940's and we know whom was involved , I just hope they catch the bad guys in the end.

Thankyou so very much for reading this , I will end here, there is so much more but God knows and hopefully he has chosen you and you will set things right.

Respectfully Yours,



Leah K. Pereira