## Select 'Ōlelo No'eau of Kohala

Mary Kawena Pukui. Olelo Noeau: Hawaiian Proverbs and Poetical Sayings Bishop Museum Press. Kindle Edition.

# 211 'A'ohe u'i hele wale o Kohala. No youth of Kohala goes empty-handed.

Said in praise of people who do not go anywhere without a gift or a helping hand. The saying originated at Honomaka'u in Kohala. The young people of that locality, when on a journey, often went as far as Kapua before resting. Here, they made lei to adorn themselves and carry along with them. Another version is that no Kohala person goes unprepared for any emergency.

## 253 E akahele i ka mamo a I, o kolo mai ka mole uaua.

Beware the descendant of I, lest the tough roots crawl forth. A warning uttered by Palena, a chief of Kohala, who saw Kua'ana-a-I cruelly treated by the chiefs of Kona. Kua'ana later went to see the people of his mother, Ho'oleiali'i, in Hāna, and to help the chiefs of Hilo in fighting those of Kona.

## 875 He pā'ā kō kea no Kohala, e kole ai ka waha ke 'ai.

A resistant white sugar cane of Kohala that injures the mouth when eaten. A person that one does not tamper with. This was the retort of Pupukea, a Hawai'i chief, when the Maui chief Makakuikalani made fun of his small stature. Later used in praise of the warriors of Kohala, who were known for valor.

## 1125 Hū hewa i Kapua ka 'auwa'a pānānā 'ole.

*The fleet of canoes without a compass landed at Kapua by mistake.* Said of one who is off his course, mentally or otherwise. A saying from Kohala.

- 1171 I 'ike 'ia no o Kohala i ka pae kō, a o ka pae kō ia kole ai ka waha. One can recognize Kohala by her rows of sugar cane which can make the mouth raw when chewed.
  When one wanted to fight a Kohala warrior, he would have to be a very good warrior to succeed. Kohala men were vigorous, brave, and strong.
- **1256** Ipu lei Kohala na ka Moa'ekū. Kohala is like a wreath container for the Moa'e breeze. Kohala is a windy place.
- **1313** Kahilipulu Kohala na ka makani. *Kohala is swept, mulch and all, by the wind.* Kohala is a windy place.
- **1401** Kaiko'eke a ka hāuna 'ino. Brothers-in-law who smite severely. Hikapoloa, a Kohala chief, treated his brothers-in-law with severe cruelty and later was destroyed by them.
- **1455** Ka makani 'Āpa'apa'a o Kohala. *The 'Āpa'apa'a wind of Kohala.* Kohala was famed in song and story for the 'Āpa'apa'a wind of that district.

**1814** Kohala ihu hakahaka. *Kohala of the gaping nose*. Kohala is full of hills, and the people there are said to breathe hard from so much climbing.

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**1815** Kohala i ka unupa'a. Kohala of the solid stone. The people of Kohala were known for their firm attitudes.

**1884** Ku'i pē 'ia e ka 'Āpa'apa'a. Pounded flat by the 'Āpa'apa'a wind. Said of a sudden and terrible disaster, or of one who has taken a beating. The 'Āpa'apa'a is a wind of Kohala.

**1973** Le'i o Kohala i ka nuku na kānaka. *Covered is Kohala with men to the very point of land. A great population has Kohala*. Kauhiakama once traveled to Kohala to spy for his father, the ruling chief of Maui. While there, he did not see many people for they were all tending their farms in the upland. He returned home to report that there were hardly any men in Kohala. But when the invaders from Maui came they found a great number of men, all ready to defend their homeland.

**1988** Lele o Kohala me he lupe la. *Kohala soars as a kite.* An expression of admiration for Kohala, a district that has often been a leader in doing good works.

**2220** Na 'ilina wai 'ole o Kohala. *The waterless plains of Kohala, where water will not remain long.* After a downpour, the people look even in the hollows of rocks for the precious water.

**2276** Nani ka waiho a Kohala i ka la'i. *Beautiful lies Kohala in the calm.* An expression of admiration for Kohala, Hawai'i, or for a person with poise and charm—especially a native of that district.

**2292** Na pu'u haelelua, o Pili me Kalāhikiola. *The hills that go together—Pili and Kalāhikiola*. These two hills that stand together are often mentioned in chants and legends of Kohala.

**2365** 'Ohi hāpuku ka wahie o Kapa'au. Anything was gathered up as fuel at Kapa'au. Said of one who takes anything and everything. At one time Kohala suffered a drought and food became scarce. The women did their best to raise food at 'Āinakea while the men traveled far in search of some means of relieving the famine. In order to cook their meager, inferior crops, the women used whatever they found for fuel—dried sugar-cane leaves, grasses, potatoes, and so forth.

**2420** O ka li'ili'i pā'ā kōkea ia Kohala, e kole ai ko nuku. It is the little white sugar stalk of Kohala that makes your mouth raw. Said by Pupukea when Makakuikalani made fun of his small size. The fine, hair-like growth on stalks of sugar cane can cause irritation.

2533 'Ope'ope Kohala i ka makani. Kohala is buffeted by the wind.

**2811 'Uala ne'ene'e o Kohala.** *Ne'ene'e potato of Kohala.* A person who hangs around constantly. Ne'ene'e, a variety of sweet potato, also means "to move up closer."

**1692** Ke ha'i'ia ala ke ke'e o Mo'olau. *The defects of Mo'olau are being told*. Said of one who reveals the faults of others. Mo'olau was a lizard of Kohala who battled with Hi'iaka.