

Makawalu_808 7 days ago

Key stakeholders missing in this debate are the descendants of those buried at Mauna'ala, most notably the *heirs and successors* of King Kamehameha III. These *living members* should have a significant, if not the ultimate, say in determining final curatorship. Currently, they are neither being consulted nor considered in this process. To debate which agency should serve as kahu perpetuates the false notion that the State has a legitimate claim over Mauna'ala. Whether it's the DLNR or the OHA, state involvement in the care of our Mō'i and this sacred place is inappropriate, especially given the history of the taking of Crown Lands and their subsequent mismanagement under the guise of public trusteeship.

This situation highlights a deeper hypocrisy: feigning concern for the ali'i when it suits certain agendas, while ignoring the rightful ownership and inheritance rights of their descendants. Moreover, the focus has shifted to the *rights* of lineal caregivers rather than those they are meant to serve. It's crucial to acknowledge the living royal heirs and ensure that the management of Mauna'ala honors the legacy of their kupuna and upholds the sanctity of this sacred site.