

VI.

Kiha-wahine.

This was a lizard woman who was worshipped and belonged to a family of chiefs. She was a real woman said the ancients and was deified by the same chiefs to be their goddess and called an aumakua of chiefs.

Kiha means a tickling nose. The chiefs kept this lizard in their house of worship with keepers to worship it, and offerings, tapas and so forth. The kapu of the tickling nose was punishable by death. Its kapus are two numerous to tell. Here is one kapu of Kiha-wahine's. When the Makahiki festival came (during the last days) the long god, the short god, the alaea smeared god,

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the Kahoalii, the boxing god, the god of sports and all other gods went about. Kiha-wahine God was taken by canoe with all her adornments, skirts and everything else that is suitable to be worn by women. The canoe paddlers sat still while the prayer was chanted and during the prayer, the kapu of the goddess was imposed at once as though it were a visible god. Then the crier cried the kapu proclamation aloud in this manner, "Kapu! Kapu! The kapu of Kiha-wahine is imposed! Kapu'. Do not move! Prostrate yourselves!"

If there was a canoe on the sea at that time, the canoeemen had to lie down at once or be killed by the keeper of the goddess. When the goddess had passed then they sat up and sailed elsewhere. If they did not do so they were killed.

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