

The Maoris in New Zealand

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The Article discusses the indigenous people in New Zealand, the Maoris. It highlights the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi between the colonizing Great Britain and Maori chieftains where the latter ceded governorship to the former in exchange for guaranteed rights to land, lakes, rivers, seas, forests, and mountains. It describes the settlement process under the Treaty as one where instead of returning private land to the Maoris, past wrongs are acknowledged through the financial redress and reconciliation. It concludes that the successful implementation of the settlement process will require not only political but also value changes within the members of the mainstream population.