A song using the imagery of the mythical great fleet, sung during World War Two to encourage all Maori to work co-operatively in the war effort, and revived during the urban migration of the 1960s. Later in the disruptive migration of 1960s, from farms to factories, from small close-knit rural communities to the vast state housing areas of Porirua and Otara, the song was modified to recall the myth of the voyage of the "Great Fleet," to enhance the idea of people from all the tribes being one unified culture, with the strength to withstand urban Pakeha pressures.
Pa Mai

Be strong! be patient!
Be strong! be patient!

Your voice of love reaches
the army base of New Zealand
(All you) tribes of New Zealand
Come hither, come hither.

Backup vocals: harmonize throughout.
C7/8   F/8
Kia kaha! Kia manawanui!
C7/8   F/4  C7/2 C+/2
Kia kaha! Kia manawanui!

This song originated in the Hastings, NZ, area and was composed
during the early part of World War II, as a song of encouragement to
all tribes to enlist the services of their sons for war.

Key: F  Tempo: 164 BPM

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Come hither, come hither.
Our tribe is calling to the people who have just set foot on this marae.

Bring with you the memories of all our dead and so many tears spilling forth nation-wide.

Look at our people working across the land spread out far and wide.

Shaking is the ground, quivering is the sea.

Oh, the love and the pain within me.

The ground shakes and quivers, yeah.

The ground shakes and quivers, yeah