Aloha,

I've given it quite a bit of time thinking and reflecting on what has been happening on our mauna, our Moku, and our home. Watching the news, social media and listening to what the people have to say. Emotions have been stirred, signs being made and messages being spread. Before deciding to write this post I asked myself, "what is the message I want to share?" I thought to myself that I would write about supporting and signing the petition, donating and all the other things many people before me have shared. But when I really thought about what has made a distinct impression on my heart through the chaos and roller coaster of emotions many have experienced within the past few days I knew my message would be different. So here is my message... Look at what TMT has done to us. Look beyond the arrest, beyond what is happening alone on the mauna. Look not just at our Hawaii but all of Hawaii, look at the love and the support, look at the ALOHA that has filled our islands. Look what this mauna has given us, it has given us more than just a beautiful view and a place to play in the snow. It has given us a reason to come together, children, parents and grandparents. Generations of people together as one both physically and spiritually. It has brought us strength and given us a reason to Ku (stand), stand for what is right and for what we believe in. Social media has become an avenue of sharing what is happening in our home to people beyond just Hawaii. That same ALOHA being shared throughout Hawaii is growing and touching the hearts of people beyond the Hawaiian Islands and the Hawaiian race. #WeareMaunaKea ... Such a powerful message that has spread to places as far as Italy, England and New York. Everyday I am blessed to wake up and walk out my front door to the sight of this beautiful mountain. Our family has grown beyond the walls of our homes into the arms of all the people this love has sewn. Many of these people who live beyond our shores have never heard or seen our Mauna but yet support and seek protection for it. For that I am very thankful, thankful for this ALOHA that has filled the hearts of our people, our islands and our Mauna Kea.

Again mahalo piha for your kokua.

Anianikū Chong