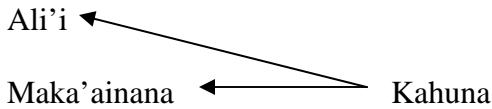


## Class System

1. There were three classes in the old Hawaiian system:



Kaua

2. The ali'i (chiefs) were high in rank and their genealogies were transmitted orally through chants.

a. Ali'i of the highest rank – mo'i, ali'i nui, ali'i 'ai moku and their top advisors were those who were in direct linkage with the gods and who had the most control over governing of the people.

b. Ali'i of secondary rank served as:

ilamuku – police officers

kuhina nui – ministers of state

konohiki – supervisors of land

c. Konohiki had many responsibilities:

1) Supervised the distribution of land, planting, harvesting, water rights, the building of irrigation ditches.

2) Served as tax collector

3) Was in charge of fishing along the shore and offshore

3. The Kahuna

a. There were two orders of temple priests. These kahuna came from the ali'i class.

1) Kahuna Pule o Ku were the highest ranking temple priests. Their job was arduous and required many years of apprenticeship.

2) Kahuna Pule o Lono were of lower rank and so the ritual was less stringent.

b. The work of these temple priests required long prayers and chants that had to be recited without error.

- c. they had to be precise in their dress, food, colors, kapu, decorations, etc.
- d. Only the more gifted boys were chosen to become kahuna pule.
- e. There were other kahuna besides kahuna pule. These were experts in healing, carving, building, fishing, and doctoring. These kahuna came from the maka'ainana class.

#### 4. Maka'ainana

- a. The common people were called maka'ainana.
- b. They worked the land and were the farmers, fishers, housebuilders, canoemakers, etc.
- c. They could live on the land as long as they were loyal to the ali'i. They were free to leave the land and settle elsewhere if they pleased. They were tenants on the land but not serfs.

#### 5. Kaua

- a. These outcasts who were considered defiled people.
- b. Some historians hypothesize that they might have been the aborigines who were already settled here when the later immigrants from the southern islands arrived.
- c. They were used as human sacrifices. They could never refuse when asked.
- d. Commoners and ali'i were forbidden to associate with or marry kaua.