

**NO MAN IS AN ISLAND**  
**LYCÉE DON BOSCO**  
**TAHITI - FRENCH POLYNESIA**

## **NoMI Glossary**

### **Leading thread: From Diversity to Unity - Discovering *Te Mana***

The leading thread of our mobility will be the discovery of Te Mana and how, from the diversity that characterises us, we can reach the unity of the elements that all mankind shares.

#### **1. NATURE**

Tahiti has got the most beautiful seas in the world. Nature is one of the most important elements of Polynesian culture and Te Mana helps us to feel in deep contact with nature, suggesting to us also the best ways and means to protect and preserve it.

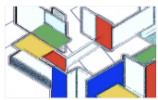
#### **2. FLOWERS**

Within the greater natural environment, flowers have great significance for the Polynesian population. They help us get even more in touch with all the natural elements and are a symbol of beauty and acceptance of others. It is no coincidence that when we receive a guest, we give him/her a necklace of flowers made by the hands of a Polynesian person.

#### **3. SMILING**

Te Mana is expressed not only in nature but also in the more everyday aspects of Polynesian life.

The smile with which we address people can make a difference in a person's day and makes concrete and visible the spirit of Te Mana that surrounds us all.



#### 4. DANCES

Te Mana is also expressed in traditional Polynesian dances. All people know how to dance and express through dance the deep feelings they cultivate in their hearts.

They are also a way of perpetuating the traditions of our ancestors and remaining faithful to our culture.

#### 5. TATTOOS

Tattoos are part of our culture, we write a piece of our history on our skin, they are not only an element of beauty, but they also signify the passage from childhood to adulthood.

They are therefore a sign of beauty but also of spirituality, in which Te Mana can play an important part.

#### 6. MARAE & TIKI

One of the most important places where Te Mana can be fully manifested is the *Marae*, the sacred temple where we worship our ancestors and where the *Tiki*, the protectors, watch over them and over us.

It is also a place where you can remember the history of our people, the warriors who defended them and made them great, the religious spirit that pervades every Polynesian.