

ETHNOMED



MELUSINENSTR. 2 D-81671 MÜNCHEN, GERMANY TEL&FAX: +49-89-40 90 81 29 EMAIL: ETHNOMEDIZIN@WEB.DE WEBSITE: WWW.INSTITUT-ETHNOMED.DE



ETHNOMED
INSTITUT FÜR
ETHNOMEDIZIN
INSTITUTE FOR
ETHNOMEDICINE

Welt-
konferenz
der
ETHNO-
THERAPIEN

11.-13.
Oktober
2002
München

In Kooperation mit

- Shamanic Studies and Research Centre Nepal
- Uitoto-Kuna - Initiative - Kolumbien
- Freunde der Altai e.V. Mongolei
- Natura Naturans
- Indígena Mexico
- Institut für Altorientalische Musik- und Tanztherapie
- Meta Theater München e.V.
- Münchner Umwelt-Zentrum e.V.
- Ökologisches Bildungszentrum München

WORLD
CONFERENCE
OF
ETHNOMEDICINE

11. – 13. OCTOBER 2002

MUNICH
GERMANY

The aim of the conference is to facilitate an exchange between authentic traditional healing wisdom, open-minded scientific disciplines and modern therapy methods.

The morning sessions, which will take place at the University of Munich, are dedicated to lectures that focus on scientific approaches, cross-cultural projects and traditional healing methods in cross-cultural comparison. The afternoon sessions provide opportunities to expand your understanding of the knowledge presented by the traditional healers, shamans, Sufis and other experts and to gain practical experiences by partaking in rituals and ceremonies.

The participating healers and shamans come from Turkey, Nepal, India, Mexico and the Amazon and in their respective cultures are considered highly respected individuals. Since our indigenous guests often think, act and make decisions in entirely different dimensions, we ask for your understanding and flexibility regarding the workshop proceedings. A scientist will always be available for further explanations. If required, translators will be available to translate German or Spanish lecturers into English.

Guest speakers from the Universities of Australia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Israel, Africa, Indonesia, Mexico, Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland and Germany will lead the scientific debate.

Friday is dedicated to the introduction of various natural therapy systems and shamanic practices in relation to our western traditions, Herbal Medicine and Ethnopharmacology.

Saturday provides insights into the indigenous medical systems of Latin America and deals with comparable European concepts.

Sunday sheds light on specifically therapeutic aspects of music and music therapy and is devoted to Asia and its healing practices.

During the breaks you are invited to participate in discussions, exchange information and experiences or expand your knowledge by participating in the poster and video presentations. All workshops can be combined according to personal preferences since all the afternoon programs are structured as independent units. An 'early bird discount' of up to 60 Euros is available for early registration and a further 7 Euros discount is applied to advance orders of the Conference guide book. Early registration also ensures preferential treatment for workshop space allocation. Spaces for all workshops are limited. Our guest healers have repeatedly emphasized the importance of experiencing the essence between people within oneself and to comprehend that the healing of people, nature and the future is universal.

Films

The screening room provides an opportunity to view interesting research material. Already registered are films by the 'Gesellschaft für Naturheilkunde e.V.' about Philippine healers and material about healers from Russia and Papua New Guinea. If you have your own video material (VHS) about research projects or field study tours that you would like to show to an informed audience at the screening room, please bring them along and register them in advance at the conference office.

Indian Impressions - the Xingú

The artist Nathalie Salem presents a fascinating world between dream and reality in the rainforest. The focal point is the colourful body painting of the Xingú Indians from the Mato Grosso in Brazil.

Shamanic Plants From All Over The World

The specialist supplier 'Elixir' offers Ethnobotanical products from all over the world, though emphasizing on supplies from Central and South America, Africa and Central Europe. Their staff will be happy to offer detailed information regarding their products. Also, the Alchemists of 'Sensatonic' present their plant elixirs, which aim at making magical plant experiences accessible to a modern person. These plant based 'experiential nutrients' heighten sensual awareness and stimulate the joyful experience of life. The plant nursery Engler offers a sampling of healing

plants as well as corresponding incenses.

Posters

It is still possible to exhibit a poster to introduce your project, research, initiative or scientific presentation. Please register your poster by submitting a short biography and details of the subject matter of your poster.

Thanks

We express our deepest gratitude to all our partners for their active involvement, donations and support without which this conference would not have been possible. Avicenna Bookshop, Plant Nursery Engler, CoMed, One World House, Munich e.V., Eine Welt Team Versand, Esotera, Frankfurter Ring, Kurs-kontakte, Meta Theater, Munich e.V., Natur & Heilen, Die Öko-Kiste, Sensatonics, Die Weibliche Stimme, Visionen, the staff of the Anatomische Anstalt, and the many helpers and translators of Ethnomed.

Program Schedule

Friday 11 October, 2002

Session I	Chair: A.Reimers
7.30 - 8.00	Early Demonstration Shamanic Ritual From Nepal
8.00 - 8.25	From Shamanism To Modern Naturopathy, Holger Kalweit
8.25 - 8.50	Mongolian Shamanism, A. Schenk
8.50 - 9.15	The Doctrine Of Signatures - Origins Of Plant Recognition, M. Madejski
9.15 - 9.40	Counter Magical Herbs In European Folkmedicine, M. Amann

9.40 - 10.05	Ghost Daggers Of Western Medicine, <u>P.F. Ochsner</u>
10.05 - 10.30	Coffee Break, Poster Presentations, Video Presentation, Exhibition
Session II	Chair: <u>A. Schenk</u>
10:30 - 10.55	From Shamanic Plant to Murderous Drug, Ethnopharmacology of Nicotiana, <u>C. Ratsch</u>
10:55 - 11.20	Shamanic Art Around The World, <u>C. Müller-Ebeling</u>
11.20 - 11.45	Phytotherapy Among The Moug In Cuc Phuong, Vietnam, <u>H.L. Xuan</u>
11.45 - 12.10	Cardiovascular Effects Of The Betelnut, <u>M.N. Ghayur</u>
12.10 - 12.35	South African Medical Plants Used In Zulu Folk Medicine, <u>J.A.O. Ojewole</u>
12:35 - 14.00	Lunch Break (Poster Presentations, Film Sessions, Exhibition)
14 .00 - 18.00	<u>Workshops W 1 - W9</u>

Saturday 12 October, 2002

7:30 - 8.00	Early Demonstration: Aztec Drumming And Dancing
Session I	Chair: <u>K. Lussi</u>

8.00 - 8.25	Aztec Medicine <u>J. A. Kokopelli</u>
8.25 - 8.50	Rituals And Initiation Cycles Of The Amazonian Canela, <u>J. Mehringer</u>
8.50 - 9.15	Healing In The Condomblé, Bahia, Brazil, <u>C. Pantke</u>
9.15 - 9.40	Healing Rituals Among The Native People Of The Amazon And Modern Therapeutic Methods, <u>F. A. Ramirez</u>
9.40 - 10.05	'Susto' Soul-loss In Latin America, <u>C. Juen</u>
10.05 - 10.30	Coffee Break, Poster Presentations, Film Presentations, Exhibition,
Session II	Chair: <u>H. Kalweit</u>
10.30 - 10.55	Traditional Oriental Jews And The 'Evil Eye', <u>O. Greenberg</u>
10.55 - 11.20	Possession and Exorcism In The Alps, <u>K. Lussi</u>
11.20 - 11.45	O LE FOFO Medical Beliefs And Healing Practices Among The Healers Of Samoa, <u>C. Lehner</u>
11.45 - 12.10	Modern Science and indigenous knowledge of the Maasai, <u>I. Fouad</u>
12.10 - 12.35	Ayurveda: A Systematic, Scientific Approach, <u>C. Monsanto</u>
12.35 - 14.00	Lunch Break: Poster Presentations, Film Sessions, Exhibitions
14.00 - 18.00	<u>Workshops 1 - 10</u>

Sunday 13 October 2002

7:30 - 8.00	Healing Sounds Of The Sufis
Session I	Chair: <u>F. A. Ramirez</u>
8.00 - 8.25	Ancient Oriental Music Therapy, A Traditional Therapeutic Concept in Conflict Between Clinical Reality And Traditional Aspiration, <u>G.K. Tucek</u>
8.25 - 8.50	Music, Intoxication And Therapy, <u>J. Fachner</u>
8.50 - 9.15	Traditional Healing Practices In Tanzania And The Role Of Music Sessions, <u>J. Erdtsieck</u>
9.15 - 9.40	Voice, Trance And Kundalini, <u>D. Tietze</u>
9.40 - 10.05	Kathakali: Healing Aspects Of Temple Dances, Mudra, Help For Self-Organisation, <u>E. Illing</u>
10.05 - 10.30	Coffee Break: Poster Presentations, Film Sessions, Exhibition
10.30 - 10.55	Illness And Healing Among The Jat Sikh Of India, <u>B. Singh & J. Kaur</u>
10.55 - 11.20	Structure Of Shamanic Healing Rituals In Nepal. <u>A. Reimers</u>
11.20 - 11.45	Traditional Healing In India And Australia, <u>R. Sinha</u>
11.45 - 12.10	Traditional Healing Practices In Lao PDR., <u>D. Soejarto</u>
12.10 - 12.35	Manual Therapy And Healing Herbs In Indonesia, <u>H. Azwar Agoes</u>

12.35 - 14.00	Lunch Break: Post Presentations, Film Sessions, Exhibition
14.00 - 18.00	<u>Workshops 1 -10</u>

Workshops

- WS 1: The Way Of The Sufis Ancient Oriental Music And Art Therapy
- WS 2: Medicine Of The Aztecs
- WS 3: Doctrine Of Signatures - Encounters With Plant Beings
- WS 4: Ayurveda
- WS 5: Voice, Trance And Kundalini
- WS 6: Prophecy, Trance And Healing Rituals In Nepalese Shamanism
- WS 7: Shamanic Rituals And Medical Applications Among The Indigenous Peoples Of The Amazon
- WS 8: Rituals In Hindu Temples And The Healing Aspects Of The Temple Dance
- WS 9: The Pattern Of Life As Healing Ritual: Song And Dance Of The Canela
- WS 10: A Mongolian Shamanic Ceremony

WS 1

The Way Of The Sufis: Ancient Oriental Music And Art Therapy

G.K. Tucek, School for Ancient Oriental Music and Art Therapy, Austria & **Dr. Oruc Guvenc**, University Istanbul, "Many have said that life is drawn into the body with the help of music. But the truth is, life itself is Music" writes Hafiz, one of the most significant Persian poets and mystics about the significance of music. Ancient Oriental Music Therapy represents a well documented, empirically proven system, relevant in terms of practical therapy, prevention and rehabilitation. Its roots reach back to the time of musical healing rituals among Central Asian shamans. The workshop will focus on practical examples of active and receptive

methods of Ancient Oriental Music Therapy and will explore the roots of this form of therapy in the Shamanism and Sufism of Central Asia.

WS 2

Medicine Of The Aztecs

Nopaltzin, Kokopelli & Xolotl

Shamans, traditional dancers and drummers of the Aztecs, Mexico
The Aztecs, also known as Mexicas, were one of the most remarkable populations of pre-Columbian Mexico. In this workshop three representatives of this culture demonstrate the natural medicine practices of their people, which are still alive today. Especially important with regard to practical application are the rules for when and how to gather healing plants and substances and how to prepare and combine them. Accompanied by Aztec rhythms and the sounds of the medicine drum Journeys to other realms of consciousness are undertaken for the purpose of cleansing the energy body. Drums can be brought along. Rituals for cleansing the energy body or aura assume a special position for getting rid of negative influences that cause tiredness, melancholy or disease. According to Aztec philosophy such rituals cleanse cosmic energies, which are used to heal sickness, transmit prayers and offer thanks or seek answers to difficult questions.

- Day 1: Healing plants and their application
- Day 2: Medicine drum, rhythm and cosmic dances
- Day 3: Rituals and Aura cleansing,

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WS 3

Doctrine Of Signatures - Encounters With Plant Beings

M. Madejski, Natura Naturans

Since the beginning of time, shamans and healers all over the world have paid careful attention to the signatures of plants manifest in their form, colour, smell or taste. The healing knowledge of indigenous cultures is based on their knowledge of signatures. This workshop provides an insight into these original but complex means of identifying healing plants. The doctrine of signature, the knowledge concerning the sign language of nature, is based on educating the senses. Thus, the workshop focuses on establishing sensual contacts with plant beings and on

validating one's own perception.

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WS 4

Ayurveda

C. Monsanto, Intercultural Open University, Dept. Ayurveda Psychology, Netherlands

Ayurveda is a living philosophy (way of life) as well as a medical system, known as 'Ashtanga Ayurveda'. Both are closely connected to each other. The ayurvedic way of life is related to the eight ayurvedic principles and techniques. Ashtanga Ayurveda relates to the medical application of the eight branches of Ayurveda. An innovative new method, Ayurvedic psychology, offers a systematic scientific approach and facilitates integration into social and preventative medicine and the influence on the immune system (psychoneuroimmunology).

- Day 1: Ayurvedic concepts
- Day 2: Systematic scientific approach of Ayurveda
- Day 3: Science of psychosomatic and behavioural therapy,

[Top](#)

WS 5:

Voice, Trance And Kundalini

D. Tietze, Indologist, Psychotherapist, Tübingen

Dhrupad is considered the oldest classic musical style of Northern India originating in Krishna Worship, (Mathura and Vrindavan, 13th century). Its roots lie in vedic chanting (ca. 2000 B.C.) Later it developed into Dhrupad court music and integrated not only Islamic but also secular themes. At the beginning of each exercise the notes of the chosen scale are introduced and their relationship to the base note identified. Monosyllabic sounds based on mantras are intoned thus creating vibrations in the resonating spaces of the human body, (e.g. head, throat, chest, belly, abdomen). With the power of breath the life giving kundalini power can cleanse the energy centres (charkas). In this workshop we are working on developing an open and solid voice accompanied by a Tambura (a cordless long necked lyre). Due to an exactly resonating tuning and a special neck made of horn or ivory the sound of the strings merge into a gently droning tapestry, dazzling with overtones, leading to deep relaxation.

WS6

Prophecy, Trance And Healing Rituals In Nepalese Shamanism

Mohan Rai, Maile Lama & Indra Gurung, Nepal & A. Reimers Münster.

An unbroken healing tradition exists in the mountains of Nepal, at the core of which lies the work with altered states of consciousness and healing rituals. During the healing sessions the shamans enter a trance in order to connect to the cosmic forces and to re-establish the disturbed order. In this workshop three remarkable representatives of this tradition will present their worldview and healing practices. The focus will be on shamanic journeys and healing rituals, whose structure and significance will be explained by the shamans. They will talk about shamanic training, cosmology and the symbolism of the shamanic tools. Traditional understanding, scientific explanations as well as problems arising from therapeutic transfer will be discussed.

WS 7

Shamanic Rituals And Medical Applications Among The Indigenous Peoples Of The Amazon

F.A. Ramirez, Doctor, Ethnodoctor, Bogota, Columbia

Deep in the rainforest of the South American Amazon mythologies, ancestral energies, shamanic rituals and the healing traditions of shamans have been an integral part of daily life since the beginning of time. Sacred and healing shamanic plants will be discussed and all participants will partake in the preparation of various potions. Elements of shamanic diagnostic methods and the implementation of rituals will be elucidated. Universal natural elements and ways of applying these within modern society will be crystallized.

WS 8

Rituals In Hindu Temples And The Healing Aspects Of The

Temple Dance

Kathakali temple dancers from Kerala, southern India & Einhart Illing

Kathakali today is regarded as a form of art often compared to ballet, mystery plays or pantomime. However, it is none of these. Elements of Kathakali can be traced to rituals, which took place in Hindu temples during the 2nd century A.D. emerging even then as continuations of still older rituals. Their origin lies in the Ramayana, an ancient sacred Hindu epic, in the ritual dances of shamans, in the Shanghakali tradition of the Brahmans, in dance dramas of the Krishnanattam. The only paraphernalia is an oil lamp, which is lit for the purpose of calling upon the gods. In their pure form these rituals are designed to plead for blessings, facilitate communication with higher beings, and thus these rituals have the power to touch the observer in mysterious ways. This workshop demonstrates dances and rituals with the Kathakali dancers and Mudras and exercises will be practiced. The point is to let go of the attempt to consciously comprehend and instead to open up and allow the rituals to act upon one's soul.

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WS 9

The Pattern Of Life As Healing Ritual: Song And Dance Of The Canela

Francisco, the oldest with a dancer of his tribe & Jakob Mehringer

For the Canela, a hunter and gatherer tribe that lives on the edge of the Amazon, all of life resembles a collective healing ritual. Their matrilinear, egalitarian culture possesses a deeply spiritual dimension, which permeates all aspects of life. Consciousness is transformed with long periods of seclusion in darkness lasting weeks and months, with fasting and with psychoactive substances. Thus it becomes possible to live with the cosmic powers, to create harmonic relationships with one another and with the environment. The spatial structure of the village as a microcosm, the temporal structure of the almost daily rituals as well as the ceremonial dances and the chanting reflect this inner unity. In order to preserve their traditional land rights and to protect themselves against the assaults of settlers they are dependent on the support of world publicity.

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WS 10

A Mongolian Shamanic Ceremony

H. Kalweit, Psychotherapist & **A. Schenk**, Ethnologist, Mongolia

Since the beginning of time Mongolia has been the classic country of shamanism. Even today there is still a part of that mythological time tangible in the presence, which helps the shamans to live and to survive in the far reaches of nature. To contend with little, to exist within the stream of nature, release, this is what constitutes the deeper meaning of life there. We want to build a bridge, to travel from there to here within the wilderness of the soul: From the shamanic traditions of the prairie to the modern rituals of Europe and within ourselves.

For further information and booking details contact

Ethnomed - Institute für Ethnomedicine e.V.

Melusinenstr.2

D-81671 München

Germany

email: [Ethnomedicine](mailto:Ethnomedicine@ethnomed.de)

or visit: [Institute for Ethnomedicine](http://www.ethnomed.de) on the web

Telephone & Fax: +49 8940908129

WORKSHOP LEADERS & LECTURERS

Dr. Max Amann, Munich

Chemist and Naturopath. Runs his own consultancy and teaches workshops on holistic healing practices such as Phytomedicine, Astromedicine and Homeopathy. Founder of the working party 'Natura Naturans' – Traditional Occidental Medicine

Dr. H. Azwar Agoes, Indonesia

DAFK, SpFK, Director of the Center for the Development and Application of Traditional Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Sriwijaya University, Palembang, Indonesia

Dr. Jessica Erdsieck, Netherlands

Institute for Development Research, Amsterdam (InDRA). She lived and studied with traditional healers in Tanzania. A considerable aspect of healing rituals is the communication with spirits through music sessions. Her research material will be presented at the conference.

Dr. Jörg Fachner Dipl. Päd. Witten/Herdecke

Research fellow at the faculty for qualitative medical research and the Institute for Music-therapy at the University of Witten/Herdecke. Focus on youth culture, popular music studies, consciousness research, improvisation, music-physiology, music psychology, Cannabis as medicine for hearing impaired, psychiatry, Neuroimaging. Promotion on Cannabis and music perception.

Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Fouad , Bayreuth

University of Bayreuth, department of regional geography of Africa. Studies concerning Indigenous Knowledge. Focus: Sudan, Tanzania, Egypt. Research among the Maasai of Tanzania and the nomadic peoples of western Sudan. Interested in questions regarding changing land uses and its effects on biodiversity. Also, human and veterinary medicine.

Dr. M .Nabeel Ghayur, B.Pharm. M.Phil., PhD. cand., Pakistan

Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Aga Khan University. Naturopathic and Pharmaceutical research for 3 years and BA of Pharmacy. Specialized subjects are the isolation and evaluation of plant substances with muscarine receptor activity.

Dr. Ofra Greenberg, Israel

Western Galilee Academic College, Kfar Verdim. Lecturer in Social Anthropology with specialization in Medical Anthropology at the Western

Galilee Academic College. Research into folk-medicine and alternative medicine. Presently researches healing practices for kidney diseases among various ethnic groups of Israel.

Dr. Oruc Güvenc, Turkey

University of Istanbul, Philosophy and Clinical Psychology. Leading advocate for the resurgence of the traditional music therapy of Turkish peoples, of Central Asian folk music of and of Turkish Sufi music. Instigator of the international Music Festival 'Friedensbrücke' – Bridge of Peace

WS1

Indradhoj Gurung, Nepal

Presently lives mostly in Kathmandu, Nepal, where he works, among other places, as a renown shaman at the University hospital. He has been called to shamanism since his youth, but also completed training as a Lama. He is about 39 years of age and of Garung descent. He accompanied his father during shamanic healing sessions since the early days of his childhood and eventually took over his healing tradition. Today he performs both healing rituals and buddhistic ceremonies in his village.

WS6

Dr. med. Einhard Illing, Krefeld

Neurologist and Psychotherapist . Manages hiw own consultancy. Experienced in Gestalt-therapy, Psychodrama, Bodytherapy (sensory awareness, bioenergetics, breaththerapy,) Hatha-Yoga, Qui Gong. Works with hypnotherapy in the Milton Ericson tradition, giving special consideration to psychophysical reactions during visualization, selfhypnosis, mental training.

WS8

C. Juen, Mag. MA, Austria

Clinical psychologist and body therapist. Transcultural psychology in

California, Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, CA. Specializes in intercultural approaches to healing and treatment of post-traumatic stress-syndrome. Currently works at a psychosomatic clinic for young women mostly suffering from the traumatic effects of sexual abuse.

H. Kalweit, Dipl. Psych.

Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Ethnologist, shamanism researcher with focus on Hawaii, Tibet and Mexico. He devotes special attention to cosmogenic traditions, birth of mankind, world catastrophes and cultural development. He is developing a new form of therapy, 'nature therapy', based on shamanism, and a 'darkness therapy', based on the Tibetan darkness retreat.

WS10

Jatinder Kaur, Ph.D, India

Research assistant of Prof. Bhupinder Singh, Dept. of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Punjab University. Research studies in medical anthropology. She is presently researching magic and religion in rural Punjab as her postgraduate work.

Kokopelli, Mexico

Anthropologist and traditional Aztec dancer

WS2

Dr. Christian Lehner, ORR. Austria

Study of Medicine, Ethnology and Psychology at the University of Vienna, works as a medical professional. Ethnomedical studies in Indonesia, China, Thailand and Oceania. For the last six years he has undertaken regular research journeys to West Samoa to study the language and medical practices of the indigenous population. Since 1996 board member of the Institute for Ethnomedicine at the Sir Karl Popper Society.

K. Lussi, Switzerland

Scientific staff member at the historical museum, Lucern and curator of the Josef Zihlmann donation. Lecturer at scientific conventions, author and exhibition organizer. His research focuses on folk customs and folk medicine in the alps. Editor of the series 'Volksfrömmigkeit und Brauchtum'.

M. Madejski, Munich

Naturopath and lecturer for Natura Naturans – traditional Occidental Medicine. Author of 'Alchemilla', published by Goldmann, 2000 and 'Paracelsusmedizin', published by AT Verlag 2001.

WS3

Dr. Jacob Mehringer

Lives and works as an Ethnologist among the Canela, researching their language and culture and supporting their projects. Several of his films about the Canela have been broadcasted on television.

WS9

Chandrasekhar Monsanto, M. Sc., PhD. cand. Netherlands

Intercultural Open University (IOU) as Master of Science in Ayurveda psychology. Specialization in Ayurvedic Maanasa Shaastra based on the eight branches of Ayurveda. Integration of psychology (Mano Vijnaanam), medical psychology (Mano Rog), psycho-neuro immunology, (Marma chikitsa), social and preventative medicine (Swasthra chikitsa) and systemic sciences (Siddhah Paddhati)

WS4

Claudia Müller Ebeling, Dr. Phil., Hamburg

Ethnologist and art historian. Among her specializations are visionary art, demonization of nature in the history of art, Thanka paintings and shamanism. She has authored several books and publications, e.g. 'Schamanische Wissenschaften', 'Hexenmedizin', 'Schamanismus und Tantra in Nepal' among others.

Maile Ngema Lama, Nepal

She was called to the shamanic work at the age of 8 by the ancestral shamans of the Nepalese mountains and was initiated into their traditions. She grew up in a Tamang village, which linguistically belongs to the Tibetan language family. She was trained in the traditions of her village and began to practice at the age of 11. She is about 50 years of age, is of Tamang descent and presently lives in Kathmandu as a well respected shaman.

WS6

Nopaltzin, Mexico

Medicineman and shaman of the Aztecs. Founder of the organization 'Instituto para la Difusion de la Cultura Azteca'.

WS2

Patrizia F. Ochsner, Dipl. Pharm. Switzerland

Manages her own pharmacy in Schönbühl near Bern. Emphasis on consultation for patients, naturopaths and medical professionals regarding the integration of naturopathic principles into regular practices of conventional medicine and the preparation of the necessary medicines.

Prof. John. A. O. Ojewole, Bpharm. (Hons.); M ScP.; (Clin. Pharm.); PhD (Pharmacology), South Africa

Professor and director of the Department of Pharmacology, scientist at the Pharmacology Institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Durban-Westville, present research subjects: traditional medicine, ethnomedicine, ethnopharmacology, natural healing products.

Dr. Christiane Pantke, phil., Berlin

Ethnologist and professor of religious studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. Field research on the subject of Afro-Brasilian Culture, Religion and Society in Bahia, Brazil; research into the development of spiritistic religions.

Dr. Christian Rättsch, phil. Hamburg

Ethnopharmacologist and professor of Ancient American studies. He lived with the Lakandon Indians in the Mexican rain forest for almost three years and has since then journeyed to many places in the inner and outer world. He has made his decades of research publicly available through his many publications, e.g. 'Indianische Heilkräuter', 'Rituale des Heilens', 'Die Steine der Schamanen' and especially the 'Encyclopädie der psychoaktiven Pflanzen'.

Mohan Rai, Nepal

Director at the Shamanic Studies and Research Center in Kathmandu, Nepal. Mohan Rai is a central figure in the shamanic culture of the Himalaya, 68 years of age, he grew up in the border region between Nepal and Bhutan and belongs to the Mongolian Rai and Kirati people. His father was a famous Kirati shaman. Mohan Rai speaks 16 languages.

WS6

Dr. med. Fabio Alberto Ramirez, Columbia

Doctor at his own clinic near Bogota, Columbia. He combines modern medicine with the rituals of Amazonian yagé-shamanism. He is a pupil of the renowned shaman Isayas Mavisoy of Inka descent from whom he received his training in leading rituals. After studying ethnopharmacology in sacred ceremonies with shamanic masters of the Huitotos, he began to integrate archaic rituals and into the modern therapies of conventional medicine.

WS7

Dr. med. Andreas Reimers, Münster

Neurologist and Psychotherapist with his own consultancy. Research focus: altered states of consciousness in meditation, mysticism and shamanism. Research journeys to India and Nepal. Cooperation with the University of Münster. Chairman of the AGEM – Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ethnomedizin e.V.

WS6

Dr. Phil. Amelie Schenk, Mongolia

Ethnologist with a focus on tribal healing traditions. She has lived among North American Indians, and later lived and lectured in India, at the Benares Hindu University, with research travels in the Himalayas. Her present focus is Mongolia. Her main concern is to support the transmission of indigenous knowledge and technology. She is the founder of 'Freunde der Altai e.V.' (Friends of the Altai e.V.) and has established an East-West Centre in Mongolia, where she currently lives.

WS10

Prof. Bhupinder Singh, India

Professor at the department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Punjabi University, Patiala (Punjab) India. He has published books and scientific works on sociology and religion, Sikhism and Gandhian research.

Dr. Rajiv K. Sinha

Griffith University, visiting research fellow, BSc. (hons) MSc PhD, School of Environmental Engineering, Nathan Campus, Brisbane Queensland, Australia

Djaj Djendoel Soejarto, PhD., USA

Professor of Pharmacognosy and Biology at the College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois, Chicago, Director of the Traditional Medicine Research Centre, Ministry of Health in Laos.

Dierk Tietze, Dipl. Psych. Tübingen

Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Clinical Hypnosis (M.E.G.); Study of PPsychology and Indiology, spent several month of study in India (Musical Academy, Bhopal), langterm board member of the 'Deutsch-Indische Kulturgesellschaft e.V.' Tübingen, Works in educational research, psychiatry, family consultation, music therapy, cancer therapy and addiction therapy. Current focus: context dependent effects of consciousness altering plants e.g. Yagé.

WS5

Gerhard Kadir Tucek, Austria

Director of the Institute for Ethnomusictherapy, Austria. Study of Theology and Psychology at the University of Vienna, applied Anthropology in Klagenfurt and Vienna and the Oriental music therapy by PD. Dr. Oruc Güvenc, Istanbul. 1997 conceptualization and execution of an interdepartmental pilot project, a course in ancient oriental music therapy. Colaborative partners: Academy of Music, Munich and Marmara University, Istanbul

WS1

Xoltotl, Mexico

Anthropologist and Aztec drummer, member of the Nopaltzin clan

WS2

Dr. Le Hi Xuan, Vietnam

Scientist and researcher at the Intitute of Biotechnology, National Center for Natural Sciences and Technology of Vietnam. For over 20 years she has been researching the biotechnology of healing plants. Her present reseach focus is on production of biomass of healing plants in the Cuc Phuong national Park, Ninh Binh province, Vietnam