

# *World Conference of Ethnotherapies*

*October 8-10, 2004, Munich University, Germany*

## **Programme**

### **Dissolution, Being, Becoming**

The conference intends to establish an exchange between authentic, traditional healers, shamans, open-minded scientists and practitioners of contemporary therapies. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about numerous Ethnotherapies and to experience and investigate them in depth – a forward-looking experiment in theory and practice.

Many traditional healers, shamans and tribal elders have registered to present talks, perform rituals and healing ceremonies so that this symposium will probably demand great flexibility from all participants. Comparable with a ritual, like the dance of the dervishes, these three days will engage both body and senses.

Our indigenous guests, e.g. Old Lady White Thunder Bird Woman (Assiniboine-Cree, USA) Aida Kakosyan and David Khatchaturyan (Armenia) Odongo Ogembo (Kenya), Guo Shuyun (China) Tarun Prajapati (India) Grandfather Little Crow (Crow, USA), Hariramamurthi (India), Maile Ngema Lama & Parbati Rai (Nepal), altogether 46 representatives of the most varied cultural backgrounds from 15 different countries will converge here in Munich. It will be an exciting encounter, to which the representatives of these respective cultures will each bring an important message.

The representatives of the Native American tribes are embarking on a journey to meet us 'Whites' in order to transmit to us their laws and paths to health and healing and to avert the looming destruction of the earth. The Indian teachers will show us ways of overcoming the mechanistic, body-centred mode of thinking and lead us toward holistic health under spiritual guidance.

Our guests seek the connection, the synthesis between their traditional approaches to healing and our modern medicine. It is time to listen to these peoples and to learn from their messages. It is time for our science and economy to change perspective and to offer their services to the survival of native peoples instead of endangering the old cultures and destroying nature.

Scientists and therapists from the fields of medicine, psychotherapy and education are working towards the integration of intercultural knowledge in their professional practices, centres and clinics and towards a holistic treatment and methodology as they broaden their perspectives to perceive the human being as a whole. Only by means of an intense exchange, by experiencing other cultures and approaches to healing is it possible to develop an understanding and create a fruitful synthesis.

## ***Important Notice***

The participating healers and shamans are considered experienced experts and highly respected personalities in their respective cultures. Since our indigenous guests often think, take decisions and act in entirely different dimensions, we ask for your understanding and flexibility with regard to workshop structures and content. As a participant you are challenged to experience and accept respectfully what is offered. You may get involved with the processes or ask one of the ever-present assisting scientists and translators for further explanations. All workshops are limited in terms of space availability. The program is subject to change without notice. Professional colleagues will be present to translate English or Spanish speakers into German.

## **Subscription offer: until 15<sup>th</sup> September 2004 Ethnotherapies – dissolution, being, becoming**

The accompanying conference volume delineates a great arch, from birth to death, and to concepts of the spirit world in indigenous cosmologies. It explores the transformation process of the human self, altered states of consciousness and their role in traditional healing rituals or therapeutic treatments. It discusses methods of diagnosis among different cultures as well as the applications of therapeutic treatments and medicinal plants and substances throughout the world. The knowledge of many cultures, ethnicities and tribes is brought together regarding the specific laws of life and traditional holistic healing methodology.

Approximately 550 pages, German and English, numerous illustrations, more than 30 contributors, comprehensive index. The book will be available at the time of the conference. Subscription orders received prior to 15. September 2004 save € 19.90 on the full price.

## **Proceedings**

Morning sessions are dedicated to lectures on scientific approaches, cross-cultural projects and demonstrations of traditional healing methods.

The afternoon sessions provide opportunities to participate in workshops lead by traditional healers, shamans, Sufis and experts of various healing practices in order to deepen one's understanding and gain practical experience by partaking in rituals and ceremonies. Discussion and exchanges between participants and teachers offer opportunities for further exploration.

Participants may join teachers and workshop leaders for lunch in the foyer. Should you wish to join them, please make a note on the registration form and add the cost of the meals to your registration fee. Please note that this offer is not available to day ticket holders, but other options to obtain lunch nearby are available.

We are looking forward to a rewarding weekend with you,  
Your ETHNOMED Team

## **Presentations At The World Conference Of Ethnotherapies**

### ***Friday 8 October 2004      Dissolution And The Other Dimension***

**7:30am – 12:35pm Early Presentations:**

**MitlanteCutli: Ceremony for the Dead in Mexico**  
Nopaltzin & Kokopelli, Aztecs

**Love and Death Beyond Time –  
Darkness Therapy and the Vision of the Inner Light**  
H. Kalweit

**The Time of Death and the Dimension Beyond Life**  
Grandfather LittleCrow

**Genius and Mania –  
Or what we can Learn from the Ancients about Relating to the Spirits of the Dead**  
R. Kozljanic

**Iga N'Ajuju: Igbo Rites of Passage**  
P. Iroegbu

**Iboga Initiation Ceremony in Gabon as an Induced Near-Death Experience**  
U.Maas, S. Strubelt

**The Significance of Human Transience in Rural Punjab**  
B. Singh

**Death in Lucerne - Death and Caring for the Dead at the Foot of the Pilatus**  
K. Lussi

**Plants for Eternity  
Symbolism and Signatures of Healing Plants in the Occidental Cult of the Dead**  
M. Madejesky

**Shamanic Plants in Art Throughout the World**  
C.Müller-Ebeling

**Holy Intoxication – Magical Plants in Mexico**  
R. Nebel

**Sound and Trance from a Scientific Perspective**  
J. Fachner

**Paths to Healing – Practical Concepts for the Integration of Religious and Shamanic Traditions**  
G. Zimmermann

**Experiences with the Practical Integration of Shamanic Healing Methods and Hypnotherapeutic Perspectives**  
A.Reimers

**12:35pm – 14:00pm              Lunch Break And Exhibition**  
**14:00pm – 18:00pm              Workshops: WS 1 – W 20**

**Saturday 9 October 2004**

**Being And Transformation**

**7:30am – 12: 35pm**

**Early presentations:**

**Shamanic Rituals from Nepal**

Mohan Rai, Parbati Rai, Maile Ngema Lama

**Healing Rituals in Nepalese Shamanism**

Mohan Rai

**Living Shamanism: Shamanic Healing in China**

Guo Shuyun

**The Yellow Emperor and Chinese Medicine**

K. Röder

**81 Birches and a Nest Full of Eggs:**

**Reincarnation in Shamanic Initiation of Mongolia**

E.J. Neuman Fridman

**Shamanism Among Nomadic Tribes of Mongolia**

A.Schenk, Jostoichüü

**Psychosomatics in Traditional Tibetan Medicine**

**Ancient Healing Wisdom Among Himalayan Healer Monks**

I.Hobert

**Spiritual Healing in India: Sanjivini Healing Methods at Sai Baba Ashrams**

Nayanika Jayaram

**An Indian System of Ethnomedicine “Siddha”**

G. Hariramamurthi

**Subduing Ondundu Spirits: Wombinda, a Hakavona Healer from Namibia**

D.P.Crandall

**Traditional Healing in the Cameroon**

D.D. Feh

**Medicine from Myths: Nyamgondho Wuod Ombare**

J. Odongo Ogembo

**The Basis of esoteric Science and its Significance with regard to Energy Healing of Physical Ailments**

D. Khatchaturyan A Kakosyan

**The Word of Duga, Chibcha and the Uitoto Master Don Oscar Roman in the Shamanic Practices of the Indigenous People of Columbia**

E.A.Ramirez

**Little Worm without Skin and Bone:**

**Shamanically orientated healing methods of indigenous northern European origin**

W.D. Storl

**12:35pm - 14:00pm**

**Lunch Break And Exhibitions**

**14:00pm – 18:00pm**

**Workshops WS 1 – WS 20**

***Sunday 9 October 2004    Becoming, Growing, Creating***

**7:30 am – 12:35pm            Early presentations**

**Native American Healing Chants for the Survival of Mankind and Mother Earth**  
L.L.Lewis, Assiniboine

**From the Physiological Basis of Birth to Visions of a Society Without Violence and Destructiveness**  
M.Odent

**Female Secrets of the Spiritual Realms and Healing Paths**  
C.Lightfoot Chiefstick, Old Lady White Thunder Bird Woman

**The Healing of Mankind and Mother Earth**  
**Message from a tribal Elder of the Assiniboine and one of the last Keepers of the healing rituals and sacred songs**  
L.L.Lewis

**Childbirth and Traditional Healing Substances Among Yogi Tribes of India's Tha-Desert**  
T.Prajapati, B.B.L. Sharma, N.Prajapati

**Dance into Life**  
Vyjayanthi Kashi

**Plant Magic for Childbirth - Traditional Significance and Contemporary Uses of 'Mother' Herbs for Motherhood and Childbed**  
M. Madejski

**Sufi Perspectives:**  
**The Changing Role of the Heart, from Seat of the Personality to Exchangeable Pump**  
O.Güvenc, G.K.Tucek

**The Healing Depth**  
**Comments on a 'Deep Ethnology' Approach**  
A.Pfeiderer

**The Warrior and the Goddess of Love,**  
**Spiritual Paradigms to Ensure the Continuation of Life**  
C.Rätsch

**12:35pm - 14:00pm            Lunch break and exhibitions**  
**14:00pm – 18:00pm            Workshops WS 1 – WS 20**

## **Speakers, Healers, Shamans, Workshop Leaders**

### **David P. Crandall Prof. USA**

D.Crandall gained his PhD in Social Anthropology at the University of Oxford in 1993 with his thesis on Namibia's OvaHimba tribe. ("A Study of Dual Descent and Values") Since 1994 he has been teaching at Brigham Young University in the Department of Anthropology. One of his publications 'Subduing Ondundu Spirits: the life and healing techniques of a Hakavona woman called Wombinda' tells about the life of this powerful healer in the Northwest of Namibia and discusses her healing techniques and the cosmological principles on which they are based.

### **Michel Odent, Dr. med.**

For several decades Michel Odent has been instrumental in influencing the history of childbirth and health research. For 24 years he was the head of the OB/GYN-department at a hospital. As an obstetrician he developed the maternity unit at Pithiviers Hospital in France in the 1960s and '70s where he pioneered the concept of birthing pools and home-like birthing rooms. He is the founder of the Primal Health Research Center in London (UK), which focuses on the long-term effects of the primal period (from conception to the first birthday) regarding health, sociability, aggression and capacity to love i.e., by taking into account intercultural comparisons. He is author of approximately 50 scientific papers and 11 books published in 21 languages.

### **Mr Narayan Das Prajapati, India**

Is Dedicated to medicinal plants; he is actually an agriculturalist who cultivates various species of medicinal plants in different parts of Rajasthan. Aloes, Henna and Jojoba are just some of his cultivated plants. Mr. Prajapati has also developed specific agricultural techniques for particular medicinal plants. He lectures at many academic institutions throughout the country. The 'handbook of medicinal plants' is one of best-known publications.

### **Jörg Fachner Dr. Rer. Med. Dipl. Päd. Witten Herdecke, Germany**

Senior research fellow at the Faculty For Qualitative Research in Medical Sciences and at the Institute for Music Therapy, University Witten Herdecke. Research service for music therapy and editor of the on-line journal 'Music Therapy Today'. Main emphasis: youth culture, popular music research, study of consciousness, improvisation, music physiology, music psychology, Cannabis as a remedy for hearing defect, psychiatry, neuro-imaging, doctorate on cannabis and music (audio) perception.

### **Daniel Donald Feh, Cameroon, Africa**

Mr. Feh received his MA in History from the University of Yaounde. He specialized on the diplomatic relations between the superpowers. He works as a journalist and is active as an educator working in public relations for NGOs (Int. Organisation For Children's Enlightenment) and is involved in politics. Mr. Feh is the project co-ordinator of the Rural Farmers Training Center. He researched ways to overcome malnourishment with study of the Bali Nyongha people. This study (Ecological and Economic Benefits of Mountain Forests) has been presented at a UN conference.

**Eva Jane Neumann Fridman Dr. PhD Brown University, USA**

Dr. Fridman has worked as a psychotherapist in psychiatric care and in her own practice since 1964. She received her MA in Anthropology and Archaeology from Harvard University. Her PhD thesis (1997) examines the ethnology and anthropology of the Middle East, Eurasia and Central Asia, with emphasis on nomadic culture and belief systems. She conducted her fieldwork in the former Soviet Union (UdSSR), Siberia, and Kalmykia. She is co-editor-in-chief of the 'Encyclopaedia of Shamanism' (ABC-CLIO, Inc.) As a senior fellow at the 'Center For The Study Of World Religions', Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University she taught a class on 'Shamanism - East and West' at Brown University. Her Book, Sacred Geography: Shamanism among the Buddhist peoples of Russia" will be published at the end of 2003 as part of the series: Bibliotheca Shamanistica (ed. Mihály Hoppál) Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.

**Galba, Mongolia**

Shaman of the Tuva tribe of Mongolia

**Grandfather LittleCrow USA Medicine man of the Crow Indians (USA/Canada)**

Grandfather LittleCrow apprenticed with several medicine men of his tribe. He embarked on a journey to learn from indigenous healers around the world and thus to link the knowledge of native peoples. At present he is in Sweden learning from the elders and shamans of the Saami. LittleCrow seeks a synthesis between the old healing methods and modern medicine. He has worked with AIDS patients in different parts of the world, combining allopathic and traditional healing methods. Thus he practices his vocation as a healer, passes on spiritual knowledge and follows his vision of medicine and healing.

**Oruc Güvenc Dr. Istanbul, Turkey**

University of Istanbul: Philosophy and Clinical Psychology. Oruc Güvenc has gained international recognition far beyond Turkish borders, most of all in connection with his efforts to resurrect traditional music therapy of the Turkish peoples. He is considered one of the most influential representatives of Central Asian folk music and Turkish Sufi music. He is the initiator of the international music festival 'Friedensbrücke' (bridge of peace). He teaches at the Marmara University, Istanbul and at the Institute of Ethnomusictherapy, Austria.

**Shuyun Guo, M.A., Changchun, China**

MA in History from the East-North Normal University. Shuyun Guo is a professor at the Jilin Institute for Ethnology. Her research emphasis is the practice of shamanism in the province of Jilin, Heilong and the region of Neimeng. Shoyun Guo is director of the 'Association of Religions in China', professor of the 'Research Center of Shamanism of the Chinese Academy of Social Science' and member of the 'Special Group of Jilin Social Science Plan'. Author of numerous publications. Special attention is devoted to the living shamanism among ethnic groups of northern China. Extensive collection of graphic materials.

**Otto K. Hanus, Munich, Germany**

Works as an independent art-therapist, artist, group coach, creative coach. Former colleague of Prof. Dr. Karlfried Graf von Dürckheim at the 'Training and Encounters Center for Existential Psychology' (Todtmoos Rütte). Groupdynamic (ÖAGG) and certified Hypnotist (Institute for Educational Therapy, Berkeley). Co-founder of the 'Forum for Analytical and Clinical Art Therapy', Munich.

**G. Hariramamurthi, India**

Initiator of the 'Medicinal Plant Network of the Tamils', the Medicinal Plants Conservation Network - Gandeepam and founder of the 'Organization For the Revitalization of Local Health Traditions'.

**Ingfried Hobert, Dr.med., Steinhude, Germany**

Doctorate on the subject of 'nutrition and cancer among the Sinhalese rural population of Sri Lanka'. Four years of medical training at various clinics. Practising in the Portuguese Algarve and in the Bahamas, then deputy director of the 'Wiedemann Centre for Naturotherapy and Holistic Medicine', Gran Canaria. Established his own practice as a practitioner of holistic medicine at Steinhude by the 'Steinhuder Meer.' Founder of the 'Academy for Visionary Medicine' where he teaches seminars on the integration of ethnomedical therapies. Focus: Tibetan Medicine, Outback-Phytotherapies and Nature Philosophy of aborigines.

**Patrick Iroegbu, Ph.D., Nigeria**

Ph.D in Social Sciences at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology. In depth investigation of ethnomedical and political topics. Trained in analytical research and ethnology, as well as economy, management and development. Diploma in co-operative economics and management, degree in development economics, MA in social & cultural anthropology, Advanced Master Degree in social and cultural anthropology with specialisation in medical anthropology, Ph.D in medical anthropology.

**Nayanika Jayaram, New Delhi, India**

Spiritual healer from New Delhi, India, works with three different healing methods: Sanjivini, which is not only practised by paramedical and alternative healers, but also by Sai Baba and his followers at 'Super Speciality' hospitals in India. Nayanika Jayaram also uses Prana-Energy healing combined with Homeopathy and elements of Acupressure and Acupuncture.

**Holger Kalweit, Dipl.Psych., Lenzkirch-Kappel, Germany**

Dipl. Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Ethnologist. Researcher of shamanism with emphasis on Hawaii, Tibet und Mexico. His special interest is dedicated to the creation myths of indigenous cultures, the birth of mankind, world catastrophes and cultural evolution. He has developed new forms of therapy, known as 'nature therapy', which is based on shamanic techniques, and 'darkness therapy' which is based on the Tibetan darkness retreat.

**Aida Kakosyan, Armenia**

Was born in Erevan. After completing her studies she worked at the pantomime theatre at Erevan. Aida survived clinical death twice and has clairvoyant abilities. During her first death she was shown the way on which she was to embark with David Khatchaturyan. At the time she did not know him. Since then she has dedicated herself to God and humanity.

**Vyjayanthi Kashi, India**

Vyjayanthi Kashi was trained in Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi and Ritual Temple Dances from a tender age. Under guidance of world famous Gurus she has proved a dynamic force in Indian dance theatre. Through her daring and original choreography she has elegantly and efficiently conceived and choreographed many dance dramas that highlight the culture of India. With a temperament that combines respect for traditions and a burning passion for creativity, Vyjayanthi has created a repertoire of healing approaches in dancing and is attempting to explore the horizons of dance as a message, healing therapy, social cause, inspiration and spirituality. Infusing new creative energy in every project, her resources make traditional Indian dance therapy accessible to every microcosmic cell of the body.

**David Khatchaturyan, Armenia**

David Khatchaturyan was born in Tbilisi, Georgia. Four years prior to his birth his mother had been told that she would give birth to a second son. When he reached the age of 20 years he began his mission. David was one of the first healers in Armenia, at that time under the Soviet regime, who received official permission and a certificate as a healer. Aida and David are founders and directors of the Spa/ Academy 'Noah's Arc' set in the mountains of Armenia, and of a Polyclinic in Yerevan, where they co-operate with the local health authorities and many doctors of their country. They teach people about the laws and foundation of the spiritual world. In close alliance of alternative and orthodox methods they treat illnesses at their roots in physical, psychological and spiritual planes.

**Kokopelli, Mexico**

Anthropologist and traditional Aztec dancer of the Nopaltzin clan.

**Robert Josef Kozljanic, Dr. phil., M.A., Munich, Germany**

Studied philosophy, ethnology, psychology, works in Munich as a lecturer at the University and as a publicist. He leads excursions to sacred sites and holds seminars on 'nature encounter'. Main emphasis: religious-, social- and life philosophy, phenomenology, philosophical anthropology and cultural anthropology, mythic and aesthetic approaches to nature, nature philosophical practice, deep ecology, intercultural philosophy.

Publications: (selection)

Art and Mythos (Kunst und Mythos, Oldenburg 2001);

Ernesto Grassi (Munich 2003);

The Spirit of a Place - cultural history and phenomenology of the 'Genius Loci'

(Der Geist eines Ortes - Kulturgeschichte und Phänomenologie des Genius Loci, Dissertation Darmstadt 2003; Publication, Munich 2004),

Naturephilosophical Practice and Deep Ecology

(Naturphilosophische Praxis und Tiefenökologie Klein Jasedow 2004);

Philosophy of Life (Lebensphilosophie, Stuttgart 2004).

**Maile Ngema Lama, Nepal**

Summoned into the wilderness at only 8 years old to heed the call of the shamanic ancestors and receive initiation into the shamanic healing traditions. She grew up in a mountain village of the Tamang, which belongs to the Tibetan language family. After further training in her tribal traditions she started practicing at 11 years of age. She is now approximately 50 years old and belongs to the ethnic group of the Tamang. She is considered one of the most famous healers of Nepal.

**Loren Leon Lewis, Montana, USA**

Is a tribal elder of the North American Assiniboine, and one of the last keepers of the healing rituals and sacred chants. He recently embarked on a journey to us 'western peoples' in order to share with us his knowledge of healing wo/man and of mother earth.

**Claudine Lightfoot Chiefstick, Montana, USA**

Her tribe calls her 'Old Lady White Thunder Bird Woman'. This name implies that she is recognized as the female chief and keeper of the secret spiritual knowledge in the circle of female tribal elders. On her mother's side she is the descendent of the last tribal chief of the Assinaboine. On her father's side she is the daughter of Little Bear, the last tribal chief of the Cree Indians. Little Bear was also a healer of his tribe and leader of the Sundance ritual.

**Kurt Lussi, Switzerland**

Scientific associate of the Historic Museum, Lucerne, and curator of the 'Dr. Josef Zihlmann donation'. Speaker at scientific seminars, author and exhibition organizer. Research emphasis: folk belief and folkloristic medical practices in the Alps. Editor of the Series „Volksfrömmigkeit und Brauchtum", (folk piety and custom).

**Uwe Maas, Dr. med, Witten, Germany**

Study of medicine, since 1985 clinical paediatrician in Lübeck, Berlin, Moers and Witten. Father of two. Training in systemic family therapy. Violinist and Guitarist (classic and folk-jazz). Working visits to Bangladesh (1992) and to the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Gabon (1998). Visits to Lambarené lead to the development of friendships with traditional Mitsogho healers. In 2001 his interest in their practices lead him to the decision to receive initiation into the Missoko men cult. In June 2003 the Internet Journal 'Music Therapy Today' published his study of Mitsogho initiation music.

**Margret Madejsky, Munich, Germany**

Naturopath and teacher for NATURA NATURANS – traditional occidental medicine, author of 'Alchemilla' Goldmann 2000 and "Paracelsus medicine", AT-Verlag 2001.

**Claudia Müller-Ebeling, Dr. phil., Hamburg, Germany**

Ethnologist and Art historian. Her scientific specialities include above all visionary art, the daemonization of nature in art history, Thanka-paintings and shamanism. Her work has found expression in numerous publications, such as: "Schamanische Wissenschaften", (Shamanic Sciences) "Hexenmedizin" (Medicine of the witches), "Schamanismus und Tantra in Nepal" (Shamanism and Tantra in Nepal)

**Nopaltzin, Mexico**

Medicine man and traditional dancer of the Aztecs, Mexico. Founder of the institute for the dissemination of Aztec culture 'Nopalli Mexico'.

**Richard Nebel, PD Dr. theol., Bayreuth, Germany**

Historian, theologian and religious scientist (University of Würzburg), corresponding member of the 'Mexican Academy of History'. Emphasis: America, especially Mexico, ca. 100 publications, incl. Several on Mexico, in scientific journals, anthologies, encyclopaedia. Most important publications:

Altmexikanische Religion und christliche Heilsbotschaft. Mexiko zwischen Quetzalcóatl und Christus", Immensee (Schweiz) 1983,

('Ancient Religion in Mexico and the Christian message of salvation', Mexico between Quetzalcóatl and Christ)

1990 (doctorate); "Santa María Tonantzin Virgen de Guadalupe. Religiöse Kontinuität und Transformation in Mexiko",

(Santa María Tonantzin Virgen de Guadalupe, Religious continuity and transformation in Mexico) Immensee 1992;

México (FCE) 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 (post doctoral thesis).

**Jack Odongo Ogembo, M.A. PhD, Kenya**

Studied at the University of Cape Town and at the University of New York and carried out ethnomedical studies. He was the head of the Department of Literature at the Maseno University in Kenya und worked with UNICEF. He has presented many lectures, among them 'Language and Culture' at Oxford University. Numerous magazine publications pertaining to the language and culture of Kenya.

**Beatrix Pfeleiderer, Prof. Dr., USA**

Medical Anthropologist, Professor of Ethnology (Hamburg 1982 – 1992), visiting professor in India and in the USA. Field research in North Africa, India and Hawaii, especially on the subject of rituals and the healing process. Book and Magazine publications. Tagore prize for literature in 1996 for: 'The Possessed Women Of Mira Datar Dargah' (Campus 1994). Seminars and further education in the TARA-Process-work in USA and Europe. Since 1992 she is living in Hawaii.

**Mr. Tarun Prajapati, India**

M.Sc. for medicinal plants from the Gujarat University, Jamnagar (Gujarat), India and specialization in various areas such as Ayurveda, Vrikshayurveda, Ethnomedicine, cultivation techniques for medicinal plants, organic agriculture, etc. He is a well know author of several books on these topics and has co-authored the "Handbook of Medicinal Plants". Mr. Prajapati is the administrator for the des 'Asian Medicinal Plants and Health Care Trust'.

**Christian Rättsch, Dr. phil., Hamburg, Germany**

Ethnopharmacologist and Cultural Anthropologist. He lived with the Lakandon Indians in the Mexican rain forest for almost three years and has travelled to numerous places in the inner and outer worlds ever since. Through his publications, e.g. "Indianische Heilkräuter" (Native American Healing Plants), "Rituale des Heilens" (Rituals of Healing), "Die Steine der Schamanen" (Stones Of The Shamans), "Enzyklopädie der psychoaktiven Pflanzen" (Eyclopaedia Of Psychoactive Plants) the decades of his research become accessible to the public.

**Mohan Rai, Kathmandu, Nepal**

Director of the 'Shamanistic Studies and Research Centre' in Kathmandu, Nepal. Mohan Rai is a central figure in the shamanic culture of the Himalayas. 68 years old, he comes from the border region between Nepal and Bhutan und belongs to the Mongolian ethnic group of the Rai (Kirati). His father was a very famous Kirati-Shaman ("mudung"). Mohan Rai speaks more than 10 languages.

**Parbati Rai, Kathmandu, Nepal**

Is a Kirati-Shaman and has been practicing for 43 years. She has been married since the age of 15 and is a mother of four. Parbati was born in 1946 in Bjojpun Chhinaku, eastern Nepal. Like all people of the Kirati-Tradition she does not belong to any particular religion, but is dedicated to nature. Shamans play a central role in the life of the Kirati, from the moment of birth to the time of their death. Parbati Rai had her first initiation experience at the age of nine. At 16 she became an acknowledged shaman. Today she lives in Kathmandu and works as a shaman for the Kiratu-community. She supports Mohan Rai's centre through her work for the Kirati-Foundation.

**Fabio Alberto Ramirez, Dr. med., Bogota, Colombia**

Doctor at his own clinic near Bogota, Colombia. He combines modern medicine with rituals of the Amazonian yagé-shamanism. He is a student of the famous Inca shaman Isayas Mavisoy, who trained him as a ritual leader. 8 years ago, following his ethnopharmacological studies concerning the sacred ceremonies of the Huitoto-masters, he began to integrate archaic rituals and orthodox therapies.

**Andreas Reimers, Dr. med., Münster, Germany**

Neurologist and psychotherapist at his own practice. Research emphasis: altered states of consciousness in meditation, mysticism and shamanism. Research trips to India and Nepal. Co-operation with the University of Münster.

**Klaus Röder, Dr. med., Augsburg, Germany**

German Society for Traditional Chinese Medicine. Study of music and work at the Orchestra and Theatre. Study of dentistry. Specialization at a university clinic for oral surgery, head of department at the university clinic. Study of medicine. Specialization in internal medicine and start of personal studies in Chinese medicine. -Degree in internal medicine. Thereafter annual stays in southeast Asia, years of studies in Chinese natural healing methods with Prof. Dr. Zhào Rén (Buddhist monk and Chinese doctor), Prof. Dr. Zhang Zhong-Guo and Prof. Dr. Jiang Shu-Ming. - Since 1988 established in Augsburg and now exclusively practicing Chinese medicine.

**Jostoichüü Sandschmajtav, Westmongolia**

Healer and doctor from the province of Chowd. Jostoichüü grew up in a yurt, as a child of the nomadic Ölt tribe in the mountain steppes of western Mongolia. From an early age he felt a desire to help and heal people. As a young man he went to study orthodox medicine and traditional healing methods at the regional capital of Ulaanbaatar. Today he is working in his own practice, mostly as a traditional practitioner of the Mongolian nomadic medicine and as a 'Bariatsch' (traditional masseur and bone setter). His focus is on acupuncture, traditional pulse diagnosis, heat treatment, bloodletting, massage and the use of animal and plant substances. He is a specialist for the treatment of internal organs, the head and neck.

**Harsa Kumar Satapathy, India**

Born on the auspicious day of Sivaratri in a Brahmin family of Orissa. His mother taught him the spiritual rules of life through years of strict discipline and moral codes. Deeply rooted in his native culture, tradition and practice his studies and experiences culminated in his present healing practice of mantra, yantra, tantra, meditation, touch therapy, teletherapy and healing with Indian natural elements.

**B.B.L. Sharma, Dr., India**

Director and head of the Department of Geography; previously director for adult and further education at the Jai Narayan Vyas University in Jodhpur (Rajasthan, India). He has taught and conducted research in the following fields: Human ecology of arid regions, resource development and demographics. He has presented many research reports at various national and international seminars.

**Amelie Schenk, Dr.phil., Mongolia**

Ethnologist and expert in the healing arts of tribal cultures. She has lived with Native American Indians and later in India, while teaching at Benares Hindu University, she went on research field trips into the Himalayas. Her current focus is Mongolia. It is her aim to promote the dissemination of cultural knowledge and techniques of indigenous peoples. She is the founder of 'friends of the Altai e.V.' ("Freunde der Altai e.V.") and of an 'East-West Centre' in Mongolia, where she currently lives.

**Bhupinder Singh, Prof. Dr., India**

Professor und Director of the Departments of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Punjabi University, Patiala, India

**Wolf Dieter Storl, Dr. phil., Allgäu (pre Alps), Germany**

Has taught cultural anthropology, sociology, ethnology and ethnobotany for 20 years at universities in the USA and as a visiting professor in Austria and Switzerland. Much of his ethnographical and ethnobotanical field research, e.g. among the medicine men of the Northern Cheyenne or among the Shaivaites of India and Nepal, has been published.

**Süster Strubelt, Witten, Germany**

After completing her studies in sociology Süster Strubelt worked for four years as a journalist in Central America and for the Westdeutschen Rundfunk (radio station). She promotes 'one-world - work' at the information/ resource centre 'Third World' in Dortmund. Training in systemic family therapy followed by employment as a psychologist at a children's hospital and facility for supervised living for children and youth. Study of health science in Bielefeld, presently completing her MA on the topic of Iboga-healing ceremonies in Gabon, for which she has conducted several fieldtrips. In 2003 she was initiated into the Mabandji women's cult of the Mitsogho.

**Gerhard Kadir Tucek, Dr., Austria**

Director of the 'Institute for Ethnomusicotherapy' at Schloss Rosenau, Austria. Study of theology and psychology in Vienna, applied cultural studies in Klagenfurt and Vienna and Oriental Music therapy with PD Dr. Oruc Güvenc, in Istanbul. 1997 planning and implementation of an interdisciplinary academic pilot project for ancient oriental music therapy. Cooperative partners: College of Music in Munich and Marmara University, Istanbul.

**Gregor Zimmermann, Bayreuth, Germany**

Doctor of general medicine - psychotherapy- since 1982 in his own practice. Body language and communication coach (training at the Galli-Institute, Freiburg). Further studies in natural healing methods, biophysical information therapy and complementary medicine, e.g. for many years diagnosis and treatment at his practice are conducted under consideration of humane, holistic medical aspects and the inclusion of analogous thought models. Also, creation and use of healing rituals. Research on the use of images and symbols in clinical practice management of trainee groups in the healing arts.

## ***Workshops***

### ***W1***

#### **Prediction, trance and healing rituals in the shamanism of Nepal**

In the mountains of Nepal exists an unbroken shamanic healing tradition, centred on 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 forces of the cosmos and thereby readjust the disturbed order. In this workshop three masters of this tradition will introduce the shamanic cosmology and healing practices. The focus will be on trance journeys and healing rituals, the structure and meaning of which will be explained by the shamans. They will be talking about their shamanic path, the cosmology and symbolism of their shamanic tools. They will discuss the traditional interpretation, scientific models as well as problems arising with therapy transfer.

Mohan Rai, Maile Lama & Parbati Rai, Nepal & A. Reimers, Münster

### ***W2***

#### **The Dragon's Breath - the culture of incense**

Incense burning belongs to the most important ritual actions and healing practices among shamans, healers and ritual leaders worldwide. This workshop will examine the history and meaning of incense burning rituals and include practical demonstrations. In particular the use of incense in shamanic rituals, the creation of 'olfactory space' and the consciousness-altering effects of incense will be interculturally investigated. The profound ethnomedical importance of incense burning will be explored.

Dr. phil. C. Rättsch, Ethnopharmacologist, Hamburg

### ***WS3***

#### **Healing chants and rituals of the Assiniboine - for the healing and the survival of wo/mankind and Mother Earth.**

The government has oppressed the Native American tribe of the Assiniboine and their traditions have almost been destroyed. The Great Spirit presented the old ceremonial masters with the secret healing chants and rituals of the people. Only by his will and this sacred knowledge was it possible for the tribe to survive. Loren Leo Lewis is one of the last keepers of these oral traditions. He recently embarked on a journey to the people of the Western world in order to pass on his knowledge to us also, for the healing of wo/mankind and Mother Earth.

Loren Lewis, Assiniboine, USA.

### ***WS4***

#### **Female secrets of the spiritual realms and the path to healing**

The laws of life demand balance between men and women and Mother Earth and the spiritual realms. Old Lady White Thunder Bird Woman will be speaking to us as an elder, as a chieftain of her tribe and as a woman of this world. She will lead us on the path to strength, wisdom, knowledge and spirituality, the path of the original people, to live in the spirit of Mother Earth and her laws. This is the only way that the survival of Mother Earth and wo/mankind can be assured - this is what the prophecies of the past and the future have foretold.

Claudine Lightfoot Chiefstick - Old Lady White Thunder Bird Woman, Assiniboine-Cree, USA

## **WS5**

Sounds of healing has been cancelled

Regretfully Stormy RedDoor, Sioux-Craw, H.Petersen, Musictherapist have cancelled

## **WS6**

### **Dying in Lucerne – Death and caring for the dying at the foot of the Pilatus**

The focus of this workshop is the preparation for death, the coming to terms with what will happen after death and caregiving for the dying. Requirement for attendance is a willingness to get involved with the ancient magico-religious paradigms and Christian-influenced rituals of the Alps.

K.Lussi, Curator, Switzerland

## **WS7**

### **Healing Practices of India: Sanjivini, Jayaram Prana**

Nayanika Jayaram is a spiritual healer from India. She is working with three different healing methods: sanjivini, practised not only by paramedical and alternative healers, but also by Sai Baba and his followers at 'Super Speciality' hospitals in India. Another holistic healing method that Nayanika Jayaram uses is prana-energy healing combined with homeopathy and aspects of acupressure and acupuncture. This method can result in healing of even hard to treat conditions. She is also working with the remarkable sanjivini qualities of the Siberian cedar oil, which she will demonstrate at the conference through massages.

Nayanika Jayaram, Healer, India

## **WS8**

### **Insight and transformation – basis of Tibetan medical philosophy**

The lamaistic art of healing is based on a philosophical cosmological approach, which includes the spiritual reality of people's lives. Basis of this model is the teaching of the three universal principles, chi, shara, badgan and their manifestations (levels of existence) in this workshop you will be introduced to this perspective of wo/man and the world. It will be demonstrated how this analogous perception can be related to the concept of a creative art therapy. With the aid of some creative exercises you will be able to experience directly how insight is gained and prepares for transformation.

O.Hanus, Art therapist, Munich

## **WS9**

### **Traditional rituals of the Aztecs**

At one time the Aztecs, also known as Mexicas, were one of the most influential peoples of pre-Columbian Mexico. In this workshop representatives of this civilization will demonstrate the living rituals of their culture. When carrying out these rituals it is of special importance to pay attention to where and when healing plants and substances are gathered, how they are prepared and in which combination they are administered. Aztec rhythm and sound of the medicine drum accompanies the journeys to other states of consciousness to undergo purification of the energy body. Rituals for cleansing the energy body or aura are of special importance for the removal of negative influences and to identify causes of tiredness, sadness or disease. According to Aztec tradition, such rituals cleanse cosmic energy, which is utilized to heal disease, transmit prayers and offerings and find answers to important questions.

1. Day: Medicinal plants and their uses
2. Day: Medicine drum, rhythm and cosmic dances
3. Day: Rituals and aura cleansing

Nopaltzin, Kokopelli, Anthropologists, Traditional Dancers and Drummers of the Aztecs, Mexico

## ***WS10***

### **Shamanic rituals and medicine use among the indigenous peoples of the Amazon**

Mythologies, powers of the ancestors, shamanic rituals and healing traditions have been a part of the everyday life among the people deep in the jungle of the South American Amazon, since time immemorial. Sacred and medicinal plants will be discussed and various preparations made with the active involvement of all participants. Elements of shamanic diagnosis and ritual practice will be explored. Universal elements of nature and possibility of transfer into the context of a contemporary society will be crystallized.

F.A.Ramirez, Doctor, Ethnomediziner, Bogota, Colombia

## ***WS11***

### **Vision of a medicine man – synthesis of spirituality and medicine**

The shaman and medicine man of the Crow Indians (USA/CANADA), Grandfather LittleCrow apprenticed with several shamans of his tribe. He embarked on a journey to learn from the indigenous healers throughout the world and link the knowledge of the original peoples. He initiated a meeting of elders and medicine men and women worldwide and works with representatives of orthodox medicine on developing a global holistic medicine. LittleCrow seeks synthesis between ancient healing methods and modern medicine. He works with Aids patients in different parts of the world and combines the use of allopathic and traditional therapies. In this workshop he will share his knowledge and experience as a shaman and medicine man and impart the spiritual knowledge of the Crow Indians. He will be exploring with you his vision of medicine and healing.

Grandfather LittleCrow, USA.

## ***WS12***

### **A Mongolian shamanic ceremony**

Since time immemorial Mongolia has been the classic country of shamanism. There is still a part of the primeval times in the 'now-time' and it helps the nomads to live, or rather, survive in the wide-open spaces. To make do with little, to be in the flow of nature, emptiness, this is what defines the meaning of life there. We will build a bridge from there to here and travel into the wilderness of the soul: from the shamanic customs of the steppes to modern rituals here in Europe and to our selves.

A. Schenk, Ethnologist, Mongolia, Jostoichüü

Sandschmajtaw, Healer und Doctor, Mongolia, Galba, shaman, Mongolia

## ***WS13***

### **Excursion to the cemetery**

While walking around the cemetery participants will learn about the meaning of traditional grave plants. Plants that are used to adorn graves, still commonly used to this day, have extraordinary powers. Typical graveyard plants such as box, yew, periwinkle or holly are used in the treatment of geriatric diseases, such as a weakened immune system and possess magical powers that can even be used to ward off evil spirits and ghosts.

(WS only offered on Friday 8.10)

M.Madejsky, NATURA NATURANS, Naturopath, Munich

## **WS14**

### **Plant magic for childbirth - Traditional significance and contemporary uses of 'Mother Herbs' for motherhood and childbed**

Throughout the centuries many healing plants have proven to be useful helpers for aiding birth. These 'mother' herbs have the power to stimulate labour, to ease birth, to prevent episiotomies or the much-feared childbed fever. Protecting mother and baby by burning incense or with the use of amulets is rooted, as is midwifery in general, in the medical traditions of the witches. The spectrum of possibilities will be demonstrated with a slide show presentation and practice experience will be shared.

(WS only Sunday 10.10)

M. Madejsky, NATURA NATURANS, Naturopath, Munich

## **WS15**

### **Spiritual teachings and healing methods of Armenia**

The most important legend, which makes reference to Armenia, is the story of the landing of Noah's Arc on the top of mount Ararat. Apart from early religious, scientific and philosophical scriptures, the first treatises on medicine also belong to this time. Armenia's early medicine was developed by strict examination of the healing effects of plants, animals and minerals. A highlight of early Armenian medicine is presented by a book called 'useless to those who are ignorant', an encyclopaedic dictionary in the four languages, Armenian, Greek, Arabic and Persian that contains over 3500 specialist terms for various medicinal substances. Khatchaturyan conveys to us his mission as one of the great spiritual teachers and healers with the experience of early Armenian medicine.

C.Khatchaturyan & A.Kakosyan, Armenia

## **WS16**

### **Marapu - invocation of the dead**

The most important ceremony of the Subanese peoples of Indonesia is the invocation of the ancestor Marapu. Marapu is the first ancestor of a clan. He looks after the living from the realm of the dead, where all the Marapu mameti, (the departed) now live. The living invoke the dead to ask for help. The dead must not be neglected. Those Marapu mameti, who were the first to be sent by the gods to people the earth, are also invoked. Their power manifests in the megalithic stones through which they are invoked.

H. Kalweit, Psychotherapist, Ethnologist & a Shaman from the island of Sumba

## **WS17**

### **Little worm without skin or bone**

Shamanically orientated healing methods of indigenous northern European origin  
Wolf Dieter Storl introduces us to a healing tradition that is less concerned with active constituents than with the magical powers of plants and our pagan ancestors, druids, wise women and shamans. They knew the herbs as keys to the 'Otherworld', the realm of the dead, the sphere of the gods and realm of elemental spirits, they knew them as flying herb and love potion. Storl introduces us to the most important medicinal and magical plants and trees of our ancestors within the seasonal and cultural context of the healing arts and magical traditions and explains the cycle of the Celtic year. Although Druidism has been destroyed, the simple people held on to the old traditional knowledge, which has been transmitted orally and practically in the form of country sayings, fairy tales, legends, seasonal rituals and most importantly herb lore and folk medicine.

W.D. Storl, Ethnologist, Cultural Anthropologist, Ethnobotanist

## **WS18**

### **Way of the Sufis – Sufi-psychology of healing and the sanctification of the soul and ancient oriental music therapy**

Those who work with pearls must take care that their beauty is not destroyed. Likewise it is appropriate that those who wish to heal human bodies, the most precious creation on earth, must treat them gently and lovingly.

Ancient oriental music therapy presents an approximately 1000 year old, documented, and empirically proven system of practical therapeutic relevancy. Its roots reach back in time to the musical healing ceremonies of Central Asian shamans. The seeker goes through a transformation process of the soul from a nafs amara (undirected instinctual soul) to nafs kamila (completely awakened (light) soul). By letting go of desire, vanity etc. and abstaining from the 'things of the world' such as power ambition, wealth etc. the soul travels through the 7 valleys – the 7 stages of soul growth. The last aim of the journey, in the sense of sanctification and healing is the soul's communion with God. Sustenance for this arduous journey is a yearning and an increasing ability to love.

Oruc Güvenc, University Istanbul, G.K. Tucek, Institute for Ancient Oriental Music and Art Therapy, Austria,

## **WS19**

### **Dance a Therapy - Indian Dance Therapy**

The strength, power and beauty of dance lie in its ability to integrate the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual dimensions of wo/mankind. Dance is the timeless pragmatic science evolved over thousands of years, dealing with the physical, moral, mental and spiritual well being of man as a whole. Dance is a form of yoga, which synchronizes the inner biorhythms with the movements of the body. The body and mind interrelation has led to the use of art, hypnosis and affirmations as therapies along with mainstream medicines. A quote from Natyashastra states: 'Dharma Yashashya Mayushyha, Hittham buddhi vivardhanam, Lokopadesh Jannanam Natyamethad Bhavishyathi - The art of dance promotes virtue, heals the sick; it assures sustenance, luck in the chase, victory in battle; brings fame and longevity, provides benefit, increases intelligence and contains proper advice to the world. Throughout the ages the creators of Indian dances, music and yoga achieved distinct effects on both mental and physical body. Dance is an outward mode of expressing deep inner feelings and man is moved to dance on all occasions, joyous as well as painful.

Vyjayanthi Kashi, India

## **WS20**

### **This workshop will be purely concerned with healing practices and practical demonstration.**

- 1.Mantra: The application of Mantras, the effects created on the nervous system by the chanting of Mantras.
- 2.Yantra: Worship of Yantras and its implications.
- 3.Tantra: The role of tantric rituals in healing.
- 4.Meditation: Healing through meditation. Diseases have their roots in the psychological process; meditation is a science to enrich the will power.
- 5.Touch therapy: Transmission of will force from one body to another through touch.
- 6.Teletherapy: Distant healing through the use of symbols.
- 7.Eastern Indian traditional healing: Healing through natural elements like water, fire, earth and herbs.

Harsa Kumar Satapathy, India

**Thanks:** We thank you for your involvement, your donations and support of our partners without which this conference would not be possible: AT-Fachverlag, Bionika, Eine Welt Haus München e.V., Natur & Heilen, Die Öko-Kiste, Tattva Viveka, Visionen, the colleagues of Munich University and the many tireless helpers and translators of ETHNOMED, as well as all those invisible good spirits, such as initiatives, co-organisers and colleagues. We are happy that a large undertaking such as this one can be realized with the commitment of volunteers and in the spirit of a charitable work, so that the money raised by the conference can go towards the support of traditional peoples and their healing arts.

**Concert:** A concert is planned for Sunday evening 10.10.04. With the initiative of a team of professional dancers and actors and David Khatchaturyan the project 'beauty is saving the world' was born, combining beauty with the art of healing. Music and harmonic movement, the power of voice and active chakra work unfolds its energetic power on the physical, psychic and spiritual planes. The concert is not included in the registration fee.