

# Illusion and Reality – from a shamanic perspective



Article by Marius Enrico Hannig

The reality in the shamanic world comprises many more levels than the ones available to us in the everyday use of this term.

In the sparsely seeded indigenous shamanic cultures that have survived until today we find a sophisticated and animated world, regardless of their different cosmological ideas.

This complex world is only experienceable when we go far beyond the normal everyday perception, strip our personal ego and self-importance and take advantage of the whole spectrum of human awareness.

There are numerous tools and very different ways to achieve this extended perception, ranging from simple mental technics, to trance- and ecstasy technics, up to the use of sacred substances. To sustainably expand the perception and the personal horizon of reality, the profound experience of an authentic shamanic ritual or ceremony is essential.

In the northwest of Mexico in the high rough mountains of Sierra Madre lives the primitive tribe Wixárika (span. Los Huicholes) They belong to the few surviving shamanic communities on Earth, which have retained their authentic spiritual way of life for millennia.

They possess magical knowledge that is passed down through generations which enables them deep insights into the beginning of creation and the relations of all life.

Their spiritual leaders are called Marakamés.

They expand their magical powers by years of shamanic training and an immaculate spiritual way of living.

The life of the Marakamés is characterised by the fulfilment of responsible tasks that serve the spiritual balance between the community and the nature.

Through the making of costly sacrifices and the performing of devotional pilgrimages, they - representing all mankind - contribute to maintain the energetic balance between mother earth, the cosmos and the people.

*Real is what works.*

Over decades of magical maturation, the Marakamés have evolved into excellent healers. They possess healing-techniques which among other things enable them to materialize the disease causing factors into crystals or to extract the negative influences from the body in form of small black living foreign bodies.

For the Wixárika tribe, the world consists of material, mental and spiritual appearances by which all human beings are connected.

*Real is only what really works.*

The shamanic world is constantly defining itself through the interaction of different elementary forces in connection with the own actions or non-actions. Another reality or non-ordinary reality does not exist.

There is no separation between this world and the otherworld. The reality is always present, embraces everything and is always interactive. How much can be perceived of the whole reality depends on how much personal energy and strength one has on their own disposal.

For the one who wishes to grasp the reality there is only one way to do that. He must take the radical way of freedom, to become a Marakamé, to get rid of all personal involvements, definitions and valuations, and to gain enough energy to be able to conceive the whole reality.

What is reality in the end?

A construct of our thoughts and our explanations how the world works and what it is made of? A story that has been told to us since the day we are born? An illusion?

If all this constructs and descriptions fail, what will be left? Just you and the world? What connects you with the world? Is reality just a feeling you sense when you go beyond your senses?

What kind of meaning can the expanded shamanic dimensions of reality have for your life?

For the Marakamés of Wixárika these questions are irrelevant. The entirety of reality cannot be deprived from their perception. They “see” the world as it really is. That means to recognise it and to be able to change it.

The necessary personal strength to do that, they receive in their ceremonies, in healing rituals and during their annual pilgrimages to millennia-old sacred places of power, where the doors of perception are pushed open as well as the entry in one archetypal world which exists forever.

To know more about the Wixárika, to participate in projects or take part on their rituals and pilgrimages, contact the registered association Mother Earth Institute on the web-site.

**For more information:**

**[info@mother-earth-project.de](mailto:info@mother-earth-project.de)**

**[www.Mother-Earth-Project.de](http://www.Mother-Earth-Project.de)**

