

BE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF A 40,000 YEAR OLD TECHNOLOGY



THE FOUNDATION FOR SHAMANIC STUDIES

Dedicated to the preservation,
study, and teaching of shamanic knowledge for the
welfare of the Planet and its inhabitants.

The classic shamanic way is to accept one's own responsibility and potentiality to achieve first-hand knowledge by personally entering the spiritual realms. This is the spiritual democracy of our ancient ancestors.

—Michael Harner

Mystical union is an integral part of shamanism, not something that came with civilization. The active shaman is achieving union all the time—engaging in union, or merging, with animals, plants, rocks,, water—with everything. Through the journey and other experiences, the shaman regularly merges with deities and even the entire universe.

—Michael Harner

SHAMANISM

Shamans are often called “seers” or “people who know” in their tribal languages, because they are involved in a system of knowledge based on firsthand experience. Shamanism is not a belief system. It's based on personal experiments conducted to heal and to get information. In fact, if shamans don't get results, they will no longer be used by people in their tribe. People ask me, “How do you know if somebody's a shaman?” I say, “It's simple. Do they journey to other worlds? And do they perform miracles?”

—Michael Harner



Over tens of thousands of years, our ancient ancestors developed a remarkable system of methods for healing, personal empowerment, and problem-solving—known today as “shamanism.”

Neither dogma nor religion, it is humankind's oldest technology for exploring the relationship between us and all of creation.

Shamans were, in fact, the world's first scientists. Their laboratory was nonordinary reality; their methodology involved accessing this reality through the shamanic journey; their mission was to ensure the survival of the tribe. In these times of chaos, crisis, and hope, shamanism is a reservoir of wisdom that is as relevant to our survival now as it was to our forebears hundreds of generations ago.

OUR WORK

Based on the pioneering work of Michael Harner, the Foundation for Shamanic Studies (FSS) has a mission to study, preserve, and transmit ancient shamanic knowledge.

THE FOUNDATION IS:

- Helping to preserve traditional shamanism where it is being threatened and, *when invited*, assisting in its revival in indigenous societies.
- Providing annual lifetime stipends, through the Living Treasures of Shamanism program, to distinguished indigenous shamans whose age-old knowledge is in danger of extinction.
- Teaching more than 200 workshops and training programs in core shamanism annually to thousands of individuals around the world. The Harner-trained FSS international faculty introduce participants to the direct and democratic spirituality of shamanism—making this powerful method of healing and problem-solving once again available in our communities.
- Researching and documenting the effectiveness of shamanic healing methods to cure illness and solve problems of daily life, and investigating how shamanic practices complement mainstream medicine.
- Preserving shamanic knowledge for future generations in the Shamanic Knowledge Conservatory, a vast collection, unique in the world, which contains irreplaceable documents, books, audio-visual media, and artifacts. Future plans include making the materials available selectively to the public for research.

I could never have dreamed that the teachings of shamanism and in particular the process of shamanic journeying would have begun to alter me at my very core in all of these “ripple” effect ways. I am now 55 and have traveled many pathways. But this is the work that far transcends any of those attempted pathways. —FSS student

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What Yogananda did for Hinduism and D.T. Suzuki did for Zen, Michael Harner has done for shamanism, namely bring the tradition and its richness to Western awareness.

—Roger Walsh & Charles S. Grob

PARTNER WITH US

JOIN THE CIRCLE OF THE FOUNDATION

Become part of a growing circle of people who are working to return spiritual democracy to the individual, as well as helping to preserve and foster this transformative and effective method of healing and problem-solving. Receive valuable benefits to support your interest in and practice of shamanism.

BEGIN YOUR SHAMANIC TRAINING

“...changed my life on a cellular level.”

Take one of our convenient weekend workshops or residential advanced training programs with

our experienced Harner-trained international faculty. Training in core shamanism includes learning to alter your consciousness through classic shamanic non-drug techniques, such as repetitive drumming, so that you can discover your hidden spiritual resources, transform your life, and learn how to help others.



Modern Sami-made drum, indicating a revitalization of shamanism among the Sami. Photo ©2011 France Viana.

Step into a world of beauty, unity, and joy. Experience for yourself the power of the compassionate spirits and learn shamanic methods for healing and divination—be part of the reawakening of this amazing work.

MAKE A DONATION, MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your donation makes you an integral part of the Foundation’s work.

Support life-enhancing shamanic projects such as: sustaining indigenous shamans in the Living Treasures program; World Shamanic Education project, to make shamanic healing once again readily available to those who are suffering; and, preserving irreplaceable shamanic wisdom in the Shamanic Knowledge Conservatory.

FUND TO SAVE SHAMANIC KNOWLEDGE

Living Treasures Project – Indigenous Assistance Project – World Archives Preservation Project

FUND TO STUDY SHAMANIC KNOWLEDGE

Library Accessibility Project – Research & Publication Project – Mapping of Non-Ordinary Reality Project

FUND TO TEACH SHAMANIC KNOWLEDGE

World Education Project – Educational Training Project

Donations can be made securely online at

www.shamanism.org/join/donation. To discuss options, contact Susan Mokolke, Executive Director, at smokolke@shamanism.org.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, we are very grateful for your generosity.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.SHAMANISM.ORG

THE FOUNDATION FOR SHAMANIC STUDIES

PO BOX 1939 MILL VALLEY, CA 94942
www.shamanism.org • info@shamanism.org
415-897-6416 • FAX 415-897-5783

The Foundation is a nonprofit, public 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

MICHAEL HARNER



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Internationally renowned anthropologist Michael Harner pioneered the return of shamanism and the shamanic drum journey to the West and is recognized as the originator and world leader of core shamanism. In his half century of anthropological fieldwork, cross-cultural studies, experimental research, and firsthand experience, Dr. Harner arrived at the universal and near universal core methods of shamans worldwide. He established the Foundation for Shamanic Studies to return this lost knowledge to contemporary life, to preserve the shamanic knowledge still practiced by the remaining indigenous shamans, and to study and preserve the ancient wisdom of our ancestors.

Michael Harner received his anthropology Ph.D. in 1963 from the University of California, Berkeley. His many honors include the 2009 “Pioneers in Integrative Medicine Award,” from California Pacific Medical Center’s Institute for Health & Healing; and special academic recognition from his peers through the presentation of sessions dedicated to him at the 2009 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association. The AAA acknowledged him for his role during the last forty years in the “exponential growth in anthropological studies of the importance and significance” of shamanism. His classic book, *The Way of the Shaman*, remains the premiere text on modern shamanism.