

Shamanic Souls

Shamanic souls are reconnecting with the healing core of their beings. This healing core can be thought of as the center of the psyche, the eternal and infinite Ground of All Manifestation, the higher Divine Self. It is the individual soul in reunion with the world soul. Atman realizing it is embedded in Brahman.

Shamanism engages in archaic techniques of ecstasy. This is an old phrase used in the study of religions, but it still holds true. And “ecstasy” is the key word here. Among the Perennial Philosophers, who believe that all religions share a common esoteric core of universal principles, there is a beautiful maxim that connects ecstasy and knowledge: “All true knowledge comes from an ecstatic connection with the transcendent.” There are levels of knowledge, different types of knowledge. External knowledge that comes in through the senses is the province of scientific materialism. Inner knowledge is the deep knowing, or *gnosis*, that comes through a higher faculty of the soul, which is variously called the *intellectus*, the *numen*, or the *buddhi mind*. It is an actual *faculty of direct inner*



perception of truth and knowledge, dormant in many these days, rather than merely being a subjective dream or imagining. It is like the little light bulb going off over ones head, when one “gets it,” when one perceives the real situation. Usually this happens by stepping back from the individual perspective of ego, to see the bigger framework of what is going on.

Shamanic souls **cultivate the reawakening** of this state of direct inner perception, or knowing. It is a connection with the “transcendent” because higher wisdom transcends the ego and the concerns of the three-dimensional realm of sense perception. Because the ego has been formed and reinforced by societal dictates, fears, trauma, and agendas of self-preservation (the lower *charkas*), one must heal the personal scars and knots that negatively accrete around the ego. The ego itself is not the culprit, it is the knot of illusions, protections, shadow projections, and wounds that surround it, effectively keeping it a prisoner and not allowing the individual to see beyond the ego. Healing is thus an important concern of shamanic souls, so that the ego can become transparent to the Divine

Self that is hidden beyond it. Then, the individual and the universal can come into harmonious resonance. This is about awakening to the True Self that is always there, awaiting our activation.

The **outward pilgrimage** reflects an inner awakening. We believe that journeys to sacred sites can facilitate the recovery of the primordial connection that we lost with the divine. This happened to us individually when we were indoctrinated as children into the false values of the modern world, ruled by consumerism and a vampiric ruling class hell bent on keeping us disconnected from an empowering connection with each other and the sacred. It happened historically as humanity was tricked out of the Mother Goddess worshipping partnership society that nurtured us for tens of millennia. We fell into epochs of spiritual darkness as the ego eclipsed the Divine Self.

The **ecstatic reconnection** between ego and the higher wisdom can be thought of as a mystical state of consciousness, but the result is a practical realization that everything is interdependent, is unified in a higher space, and that we are all co-creators and collaborators in growing our reality. In this sense, we achieve a state of mind, an orientation to the world, that generates a sustainable culture.



Shamanism reconnects us with the whole. As such, it is much like *relig-iare* or *yoga*, both meaning “to reconnect” the individual with the sacred source and center of the world. Visiting the sacred sites where ceremonies were performed by shamanic souls in ancient times is a way of reactivating a global grid of light and intention. These sacred sites survive in many parts of the world, though thousands have been destroyed by “progress.” There are traditional societies and echoes of ancient practices that also survive. A renaissance of interest in shamanism, in oriental metaphysics, in Druidic and Celtic traditions, is underway. We crave to reconnect with and reawaken our ancestral lineages, of those ancient shamanic souls who immersed themselves in the renewing fires of pure consciousness, truth, and knowledge. Fire, water, earth, and air provide the food we need to grow and awaken our spiritual beings.

A **cosmology of rebirth and renewal** that informs the tours of Shamanic Souls comes from the Maya, who understood that a rare alignment to the cosmic source and center (the Galactic Center is happening in the decades around 2012, as indicated by their Long Count calendar. This same understanding of the cycles of time in which we are embedded, though denied or ignored by modern science, is also found in other ancient traditions from around the world. It comes down to us today fragmented and forgotten. But with the cyclic turning of nature's renewal, it is poised to return and feed the re-flowering of spiritual vision that our planet so clearly needs. Shamanic souls embrace the process of healing, awakening, and renewal, of ecstatically reconnecting with the revelation of higher wisdom. Sharing the experience with others, of having initiatory experiences at sacred sites, we forge alliances of partnership that will grow and expand through life.

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written for the **Shamanic Souls** project in Germany with **Jesaka Ahau Ra** and on Facebook