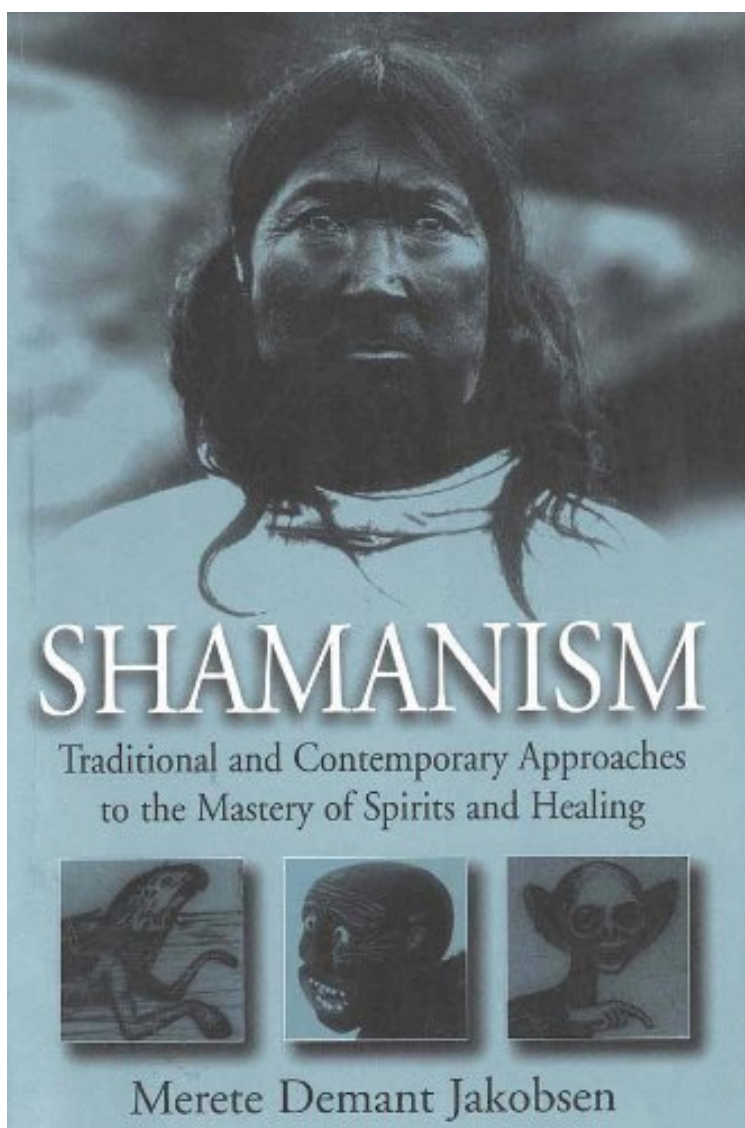


[Library ebook] Shamanism: Traditional and Contemporary Approaches to the Mastery of Spirits and Healing

Shamanism: Traditional and Contemporary Approaches to the Mastery of Spirits and Healing

Merete Demant Jakobsen

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Merete Demant Jakobsen : Shamanism: Traditional and Contemporary Approaches to the Mastery of Spirits and Healing before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shamanism: Traditional and Contemporary Approaches to the Mastery of Spirits and Healing:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ANGAKKOQ AND COREBy jormaThis is a very thorough and

detailed work. This book is divided into two main sections. The first part details the history, and accounts of early Greenland shamanism. The second part deals with modern or neo-shamanism (Morpheus, or Trinity do NOT make an appearance) and is basically an accounting of shamanism classes from informants reporting on the course, and instructors. The early accounts are from explorers, and missionaries, expressing different viewpoints, which give a good balance to the work. The second part is about contemporary shamanism, and how it is vastly different from the earlier Angakkoq (shaman). This seems to be the sentiment overriding the second part, and seems to be relating to "Harnerism" I love the subject of Shamanism, and this was a great read, I love the early accounts from Rasmussen, and the index has a listing of advanced courses in Shamanism as well. A very thorough volume.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Her thoroughness was not boring to me as she stayed on point though quite ...By Kim StricklandMrete D Jakobsen is Academic and the book is structured in that way. Her thoroughness was not boring to me as she stayed on point though quite detailed. She does highlight mainly Greenland Medicine People. Excellent pictures and graphics. A superb job in showing the similarities and dissimilarities of Greenlandic Shamanism to current Modern New Age Shamanism with actual interviews of participants in Workshops and Classes. I gave it a 5 Star for structure of the material presented, source material used (great Bibliography and Index) and especially her own interviews with modern Practitioners. Reading the book revealed to me what was the source and secret these Medicine people had and how they acquired it. I bought the paperback and yes I wrote in it. A book that you "do not lend out". A good Read.11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Dave Hanson's Review Says It WellBy Nicholas Noble WolfAfter reading Dave Hanson's review, I found I had little to offer that wasn't already covered other than to add two more stars. This book covers, through extensive research, what so many traditionals have been saying for years: there is little similarity between real shamanism and neoshamanistic practices offered by the followers of Harnerism.True shamanism is neither pretty nor fun. It is a path that one is forced upon by the spirits and ancestors, not one that a person seeks for fame and fortune. It involves deadly encounters with spiritual beings that some do not survive. It requires a shattering, not just of the psyche, but of the very soul of the shaman.Enough said. This book will give you an opportunity to acquaint yourself with real shamanism and its difference from the likes of Harnerism. This is not intended to be a criticism of Harnerism, but to intend that such is not shamanism.

Shamanism has always been of great interest to anthropologists. More recently it has been "discovered" by westerners, especially New Age followers. This book breaks new ground by examining pristine shamanism in Greenland, among people contacted late by Western missionaries and settlers. On the basis of material only available in Danish, and presented herein English for the first time, the author questions Mircea Eliade's well-known definition of the shaman as the master of ecstasy and suggests that his role has to be seen as that of a master of spirits. The ambivalent nature of the shaman and the spirit world in the tough Arctic environment is then contrasted with the more benign attitude to shamanism in the New Age movement. After presenting descriptions of their organizations and accounts by participants, the author critically analyses the role of neo-shamanic courses and concludes that it is doubtful to consider what is offered as shamanism.

"The book is clearly written, and contains some wonderfully vivid quotations from texts that have never previously appeared in English ... Much valuable and suggestive material ... of value to scholars and students." Ethnos "This is a most useful book in the present discourse on shamanism, for it is one in which a specialist in traditional or classical shamanism who is also familiar with New Age shamanism compares the two complexes ... highly recommendable." Shamanism "The volume is highly to be recommended to the specialist and to the interested layperson alike." Religious Studies "Valuable ... worth reading." American Anthropologist "Jakobsen's analysis of traditional and contemporary forms of shamanism provide an important contribution to studies in this specialised type of religious experience. She confirms the view of many scholars, such as the Alaskan anthropologist Wendell Oswalt, that the central feature of shamanism is 'spirit control' while at the same time demonstrating its growing importance in contemporary Western urban settings. In my view, this book should be included among the core resources for those interested in the study of indigenous religions and how they persist in new and innovative ways in modern societies." De Numine "Jakobsen's book is a valuable addition to a discussion of shamanism." .com About the Author Born in Copenhagen, Merete Demant Jakobsen has taught in Denmark, Britain, and Alaska. Having worked on shamanism in ethnography and literature for her Danish degrees, she completed her doctorate at the University of Oxford in anthropology. She is currently researching negative spiritual experiences at the Religious Experience Research Centre, Westminster College, Oxford.