

## A TYPOLOGY OF RITUAL EXPRESSIONS

### Maintaining the Balance

1. **"Rites of Transformation,"** beautifying and maintaining the world.

- **"Renewal Ceremonies,"** plant, animal and world fertility for the collective welfare, e.g., Mandan Okipa Ceremony (buffalo), Hopi Snake/Antelope and Katchina Dances (maize), Inuit Sedna Complex (sea animals), Plateau Salmon Ritual (fish), Sun Dance Ceremony (world), Root Ceremonies (root).



**Huichol Shaman Balancing the World**

- **"Guardian Spirit Ceremonies,"** human to spirit animal transformations for personal identity, "one becomes what one displays" (Eliade), e.g., Kwakwaka'wakw Winter Ceremonials (dance and mask), Salish Jump Dances.

2. **"Rites of Reversal,"** healing the sick individual

**Health** = archetypes in balance manifested in the material body, e.g., Saah Naaghahi Bikeh Hozho (continual reoccurring long life through old age in an environment of beauty and harmony)

**Illness** = archetypal boundaries are broken and out of balance, and their qualities are disrupted, e.g., hocho (ugliness and disorder), broken taboos, "bad medicine"

**Healing** = restore the archetypal boundaries and qualities to their proper balance, e.g., Navajo chantways and drypaintings (hozho), Lakota Yuwipi, Crow Sun Dance Bundle Meeting, Kwakwaka'wakw Shaman Journeys, Iroquois Society of Faces

– **"Intrusive Scenario"**

**cause:** intrusive object "shot" into person, e.g., "arrows," "spiders," or "bad medicine"

**human** <-----

**cure:** "sucking doctor"

**human** ----->

– **"Loss Scenario"** (healed by the healed healer)

**cause:** "soul loss"

**human** ----->

**cure:** shaman's soul journey and return

**human** <-----

3. **"Rites of Passage"** and **"Pilgrimage"** facilitating the growth and the life cycle of the individual, e.g., vision quest and Sun Dance

1. orphan status; 2. quest, separation and "death," sacrifice and reciprocity; 3. "molded in the sacred imprint," vision, adoption, apprenticeship, acquisition; 4. return and "rebirth," affirmation

4. **"Rites of Revitalization,"** welfare of the society

relative and absolute deprivation; prophetic revelation and code, charismatic founder, triadic structure; e.g., Ghost Dance, Iroquois Handsome Lake and Peyote