

Sorceror And Witch In Melanesia

Maria Alexandra Lepowsky

Sorceror And Witch In Melanesia:

Sorcerer and Witch in Melanesia Michele Stephen, 1987 Sorcerer and Witch in Melanesia Michele Stephen, 1987 This illustrated book edited by Michele Stephen is of both current and practical use and interest Seven distinguished scholars provide descriptive and analytical studies of sorcery and witchcraft in seven varied Papua New Guinea communities covering both the highlands and the coast This highly original contribution to anthropological knowledge will emancipate Papua New Guinea studies from the domination hitherto exercised by theories drawn from Africa It will appeal to anthropologists and practical administrators as well as those interested in magic shamanism comparative religion and the inherent fascination of Talking it Through Miranda Forsyth, Richard Eves, 2015-05-05 Sorcery and witchcraft practices and Papua New Guinea beliefs are pervasive across Melanesia They are in part created by and give rise to a wide variety of poor social and developmental outcomes These include uneven economic development low public health lack of social cohesion crime fear and insecurity A further very visible problem is the attacks on men and women who are accused of being practitioners of witchcraft or sorcery which can lead to serious bodily harm banishment and sometimes death Today many communities individuals church organisations and policymakers in Melanesia and internationally are exploring ways to overcome the negative social outcomes associated with witchcraft and sorcery practices and beliefs This book brings together a collection of chapters written by a diverse range of authors both Melanesian and non Melanesian providing crucial insights both into how these practices and beliefs are playing out in contemporary Melanesia and also the types of interventions that are being trialled or debated to address the problems associated with them Sorcery, Witchcraft and Christianity in Melanesia Franco Zocca, 2008 Understanding Witchcraft and Sorcery in Southeast Asia C. W. Watson, R. F. Ellen, 1993-01-01 Witchcraft holds a perennial fascination for scholars and the public at large In Southeast Asia malign magic and sorcery are part of the routine experience of villagers and urban dwellers alike and stories appearing in the press from time to time bear witness to a persisting public concern The essays presented in this volume describe what people believe and what actions result from those beliefs Not surprisingly given the range and variety of cultures considerable differences exist in the region Among some cultures in Thailand and Indonesia for example sorcerers are said to possess spirits that empower them to cause illness and misfortune Elsewhere in Malaysia and Sumatra the power of the dukun derives from the accumulation of arcane knowledge and mystical practice Contributors describe the witches and sorcerers they have met and suggest both how their societies look upon them and how we in turn should regard them Understanding Witchcraft and Sorcery in Southeast Asia will appeal to scholars and students of social anthropology and comparative religion Its substantial contribution to theoretical and comparative issues in a Southeast Asian context provides a fresh perspective on a stimulating topic The Anthropology of Morality in Melanesia and Beyond John Barker, 2016-04-01 The Anthropology of Morality in Melanesia and Beyond examines how Melanesians experience and deal with moral dilemmas and challenges Taking

Kenelm Burridge's seminal work as their starting point the contributors focus upon public situations and types of people that exemplify key ethical contradictions for members of moral communities While returning to some classical concerns such as the roles of big men and sorcerers the book opens new territory with richly textured ethnographic studies and theoretical reviews that explore the interface between the values associated with indigenous village life and the ethical orientations associated with Christianity the state the marketplace and other facets of modernity A major contribution to the emerging field of the anthropology of morality the volume includes some of the most prominent scholars working in the discipline today including Bruce Knauft Joel Robbins F G Bailey Deborah Gewertz and Frederick Errington Witchcraft, Sorcery, Rumors and Gossip Pamela J. Stewart, Andrew Strathern, 2004 This book combines two classic topics in social anthropology in a new synthesis the study of witchcraft and sorcery and the study of rumors and gossip First it shows how rumor and gossip are invariably important as catalysts for accusations of witchcraft and sorcery Second it demonstrates the role of rumor and gossip in the genesis of social and political violence as in the case of both peasant rebellions and witch hunts Examples supporting the argument are drawn from Africa Europe India Papua New Guinea Sri Lanka and Indonesia **Primitive to Postcolonial in Melanesia and Anthropology** Bruce Knauft, 2025-10-01 What have anthropologists taught us about Melanesia one of anthropology s most important and intensively studied world regions In this book Professor Bruce Knauft draws together and critically reanalyzes what we know about major features of Melanesian cultural history warfare and politics gender bodily practices and spirituality as discerned from more than a century of academic study From Primitive to Postcolonial in Melanesia and Anthropology is arguably the most comprehensive single reassessment of Melanesia as an ethnographic world area to have been published in several decades Written for students as well as professional scholars this work further broadens our understanding by analyzing the history of Melanesian ethnography and relating this history to the larger relationship between Melanesia as a contemporary world area and anthropology as a field of contemporary human study Bruce M Knauft is Professor of Anthropology Emory University and the author of three previous books as well as some thirty journal articles and chapters Knauft's interests span a wide range of issues in the anthropology of Melanesia and he is articulate with general issues of cultural theory and anthropological history Witchcraft, Intimacy, and Trust Peter Geschiere, 2013-08-09 In Dante's Inferno the lowest circle of Hell is reserved for traitors those who betrayed their closest companions In a wide range of literatures and mythologies such intimate aggression is a source of ultimate terror and in Witchcraft Intimacy and Trust Peter Geschiere masterfully sketches it as a central ember at the core of human relationships one brutally revealed in the practice of witchcraft Examining witchcraft in its variety of forms throughout the globe he shows how this often misunderstood practice is deeply structured by intimacy and the powers it affords In doing so he offers not only a comprehensive look at contemporary witchcraft but also a fresh if troubling new way to think about intimacy itself Geschiere begins in the forests of southeast Cameroon with the Maka who fear witchcraft of the house above all else

Drawing a variety of local conceptions of intimacy into a global arc he tracks notions of the home and family and witchcraft s transgression of them throughout Africa Europe Brazil and Oceania showing that witchcraft provides powerful ways of addressing issues that are crucial to social relationships Indeed by uncovering the link between intimacy and witchcraft in so many parts of the world he paints a provocative picture of human sociality that scrutinizes some of the most prevalent views held by contemporary social science One of the few books to situate witchcraft in a global context Witchcraft Intimacy and Trust is at once a theoretical tour de force and an empirically rich and lucid take on a difficult to understand spiritual The Palgrave Handbook of Anthropological practice and the private spaces throughout the world it so greatly affects Ritual Studies Pamela J. Stewart, Andrew J. Strathern, 2021-08-24 Ritual Studies have achieved prominence since the 1980s when interest in ritual as an object of inquiry was established bridging over a number of humanities and social science disciplines Both connected with religious studies and independent of it overlapping with social and cultural anthropology but also with history related to science and health practices and ranging across the life course to education Ritual Studies has come to encompass studies of change and dynamism in social life Rituals are determinate in form but not static They enunciate distinctive social values within specific contexts that frame them and they relate to the wider concerns and issues of their practitioners Due to this broad and wide ranging scope it is often difficult to find a single resource on Ritual Studies and even more so to find one which moves beyond the beginnings of anthropological theorizing to grapple with the present day contexts of ritual Bringing together recent ethnographies of ritual practice and ritualization from across the globe this Handbook provides case study of ritual in the light of Emotion and Cognition Identity Religious Power Performance and Literature Ecology and Ecological Disaster Media and other topics While each chapter provides a deep ethnography of a specific society ritual or ritualized practice each also engages with current theoretical and substantive approaches to the relevant topic The scholars collected here provide original synoptic and indicative pieces as guideposts and pathways through the complex varied and cross disciplinary and vast landscape of scholarship that constitutes Ritual Studies today and **The Gift of Kinds** Stephen David Ross, 1999-09-16 In this fourth volume of Stephen points to developments in the future David Ross's ongoing project reexamining the Western philosophical tradition. The Gift of Kinds explores the order of things linking the kinds of the natural world to disciplinary distinctions and to social divisions by gender race class and nationality It pursues a local and contingent ethics that pervades human life and the earth that responds to the expressiveness of things everywhere resisting the tyranny of kinds human and otherwise The book examines the idea of natural and human kinds as requisite to any thought of heterogeneity and any resistance to neutrality developed in relation to ecological and environmental issues The giving of the good is understood in terms of species and kinds linked with genealogy family gender race kin and kind Levinas s sense of exposure expression and proximity is interpreted as propinguity Kinds are interpreted as intermediary figures between histories of domination and celebrations of responsibility between essentialism and identity

politics The Gift of Touch Stephen David Ross, 1998-01-01 Traces Western ideas of corporeal bodies from Plato to contemporary feminist and postructuralist writings with the purpose of reexamining the good identified in Plato as that which The Gift of Property Stephen David Ross, 2001-02-01 Explores the human gives authority to knowledge and truth propensity for owning and having The Gift of Beauty Stephen David Ross, 1996-07-03 Ross explores the developments in Western thought from Plato and Aristotle through Kant and Hegel when art was separated from science and philosophy At the heart of the project is a reexamination of the good found in Plato as that which makes being possible which gives authority to knowledge and beckons to art preserved in Levinas as infinite responsibility. The idea of the good is interpreted as nature s abundance giving beauty and truth as gifts calling us to respond It gives rise to an ethics of inclusion expressed in Hard Times on Kairiru Island Michael French Smith, 2021-05-25 This book follows the difficult lives of people living in the village of Kragur in Papua New Guinea They have been in poverty since European contact and now must find a way to become prosperous **Mixed Blessings** Amanda Whiting, Carolyn Evans, 2006-05-01 The essays in this volume explore some of the diverse and contradictory ways that the lives of women in the Asia Pacific region are shaped by two powerful regimes religion and law and by the interactions between them They show that for women laws customary colonial post independence and international and religions indigenous or introduced Buddhism Christianity Islam and Confucianism have been a mixed blessing These diverse legal systems and religious doctrines and institutions have variously denied women authority and the capacity to participate fully in the public organization of social political and religious life they have furthermore constructed gender and familial relations in ways that subordinate women Yet they have also offered promises of women's empowerment and provided rules and procedures norms values and interpretations of sacred traditions to deliver those empancipatory promises Each chapter is devoted to a single state first the history and current framework of the national legal system is introduced then the place of religion in the state is explained and finally by means of precise and detailed case studies or examples each author explores how these sometimes competing sometimes colluding regimes constructed women and how women interpreted this positioning and sought to resituate themselves The Gift of Truth Stephen David Ross, 1997-04-24 This volume traces the history of the idea of truth as an ethical movement exploring those developments in Western thought from Plato and Aristotle through Kant and Hegel when ethics was separated from science and philosophy At the heart of the project is a reexamination of the good found in Plato as that which makes being possible which gives authority to knowledge and beckons to art preserved in Levinas as infinite responsibility. The idea of the good is interpreted as nature s abundance giving beauty and truth as gifts It gives rise to an ethics of inclusion **Dream** Travelers Roger Ivar Lohmann, 2003-09-20 In dreams part of the self seems to wander off to undertake both mundane tasks and marvellous adventures Anthropologists have found that many peoples take this experience of dreaming at face value assuming that their spirits literally leave the body to travel meet other spirits and acquire valuable knowledge with dramatic

consequence for relationships social organization and religions Dream Travellers is about Melanesian Aboriginal Australian and Indonesian peoples who hold this assumption Several leading anthropologists contribute theoretically and ethnographically rich chapters showing that attention to these peoples dream lives deeply enhances our understanding of their cultures and waking lives as well **Fruit of the Motherland** Maria Alexandra Lepowsky,1993 An ethnographic study of how gender is negotiated in Vanatinai a small matrilineal island near New Guinea **Plenishment in the Earth** Stephen David Ross,1995-02-16 This book is an ethic of inclusion leading from gender and sexual difference through the social world of race and culture to the natural world

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