

Yanomami/o



Location



Location -

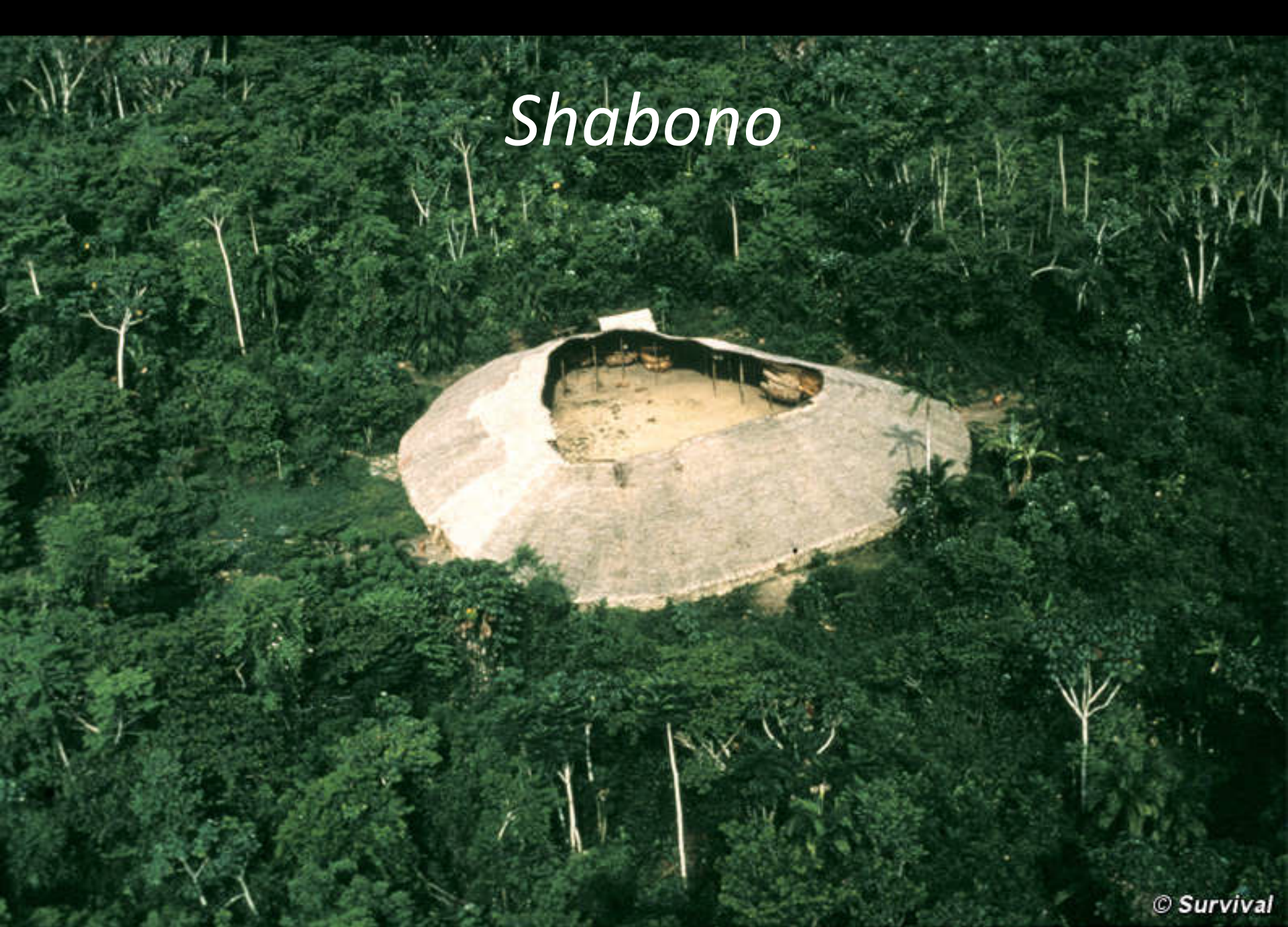


Ethnographies and further reading

- Chagnon, N. 1983 – *The Fierce People* (1st eds); *Yanomami* (further editions)
- Lizot, J. 1985 – *Tales of the Yanomami*
- Tierney, P. 2000 *Darkness of El Dorado: how scientists and journalists devastated the Amazon*



Shabono



Keeping the forest out



- Made of wood and palm fronds/leaves
- Villagers all under one roof
- Central public space
- Sleep in hammocks
- Dichotomous conception of world - 'human in, other out'

Building a *Shabono* 1



Building a *Shabono* 2



In the *Shabono*





Subsistence – g/h and swidden

- Gardens for about 3 years
- Thought of as women
 - (old = infertile)
 - New called 'nose'
 - Old called 'anus'
- New gardens extend off old



Clearing gardens

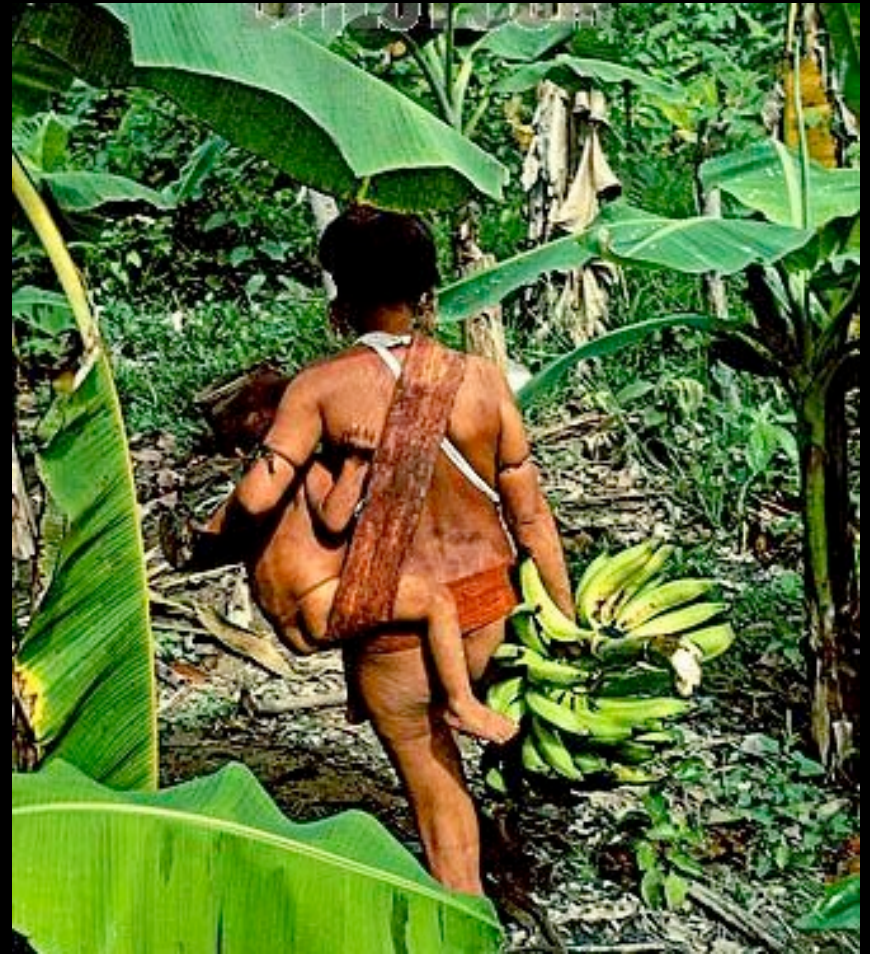


Males plant gardens - digging stick



Women harvest garden produce

- Plantains
- Manioc
- Maize
- Indigenous tubers
 - Sweet potatoes
- Avocados
- Papaya
- Hot peppers
- Tobacco
- Medicinal/magical plants



Wild foods – collected by women

- Palm hearts
- Brazil nuts
- Seed pod bananas
- Mushrooms
- Eggs
- Honey
- Grubs
- Armadillos



Hunting with bows and arrows - Males





Taro – staple, cooked by women



Gender

Women as 'nature'
Or the 'other';
women are
captured and stolen

- Men as people
- Masculinity and fighting

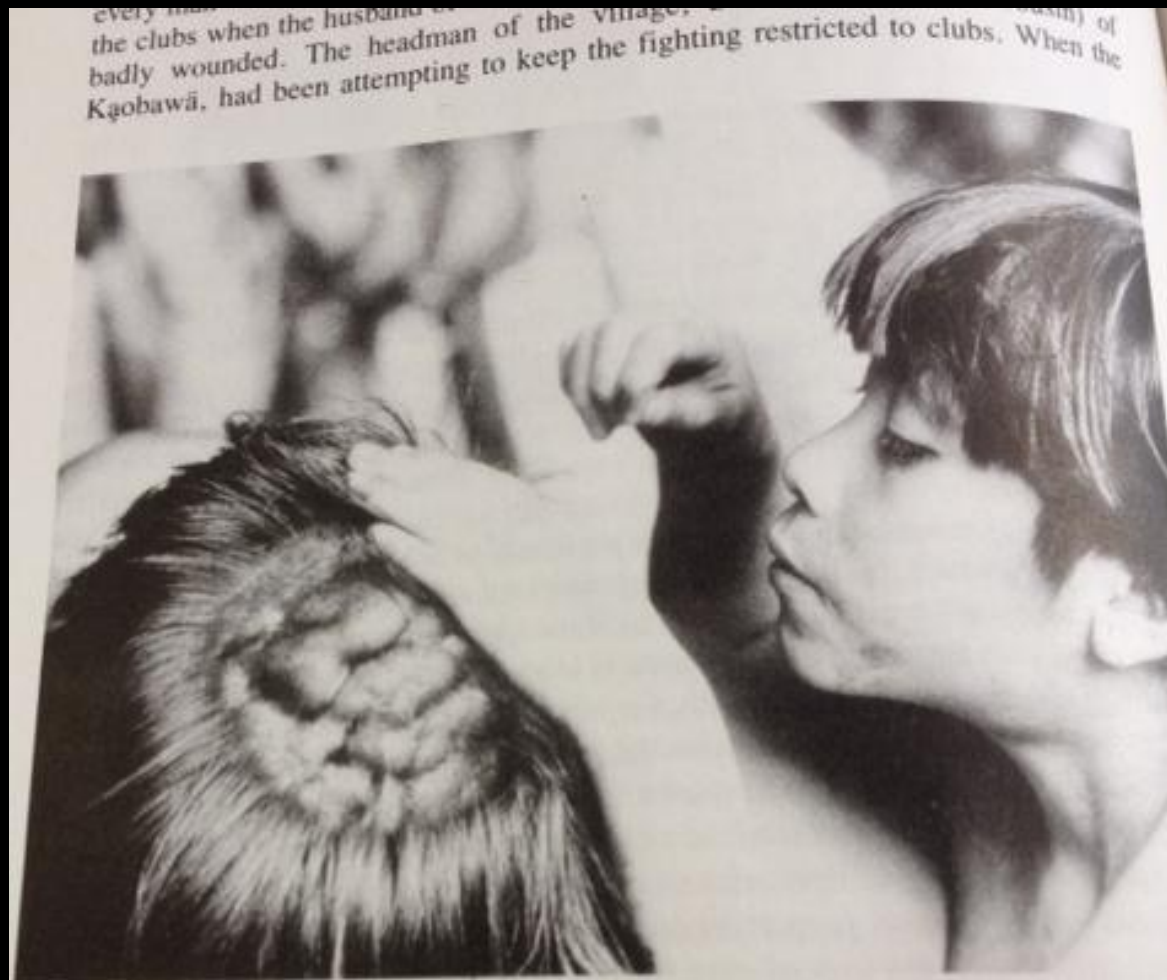


Figure 6.2. Older men who have been in many club fights have enormous scars—of which they are very proud.

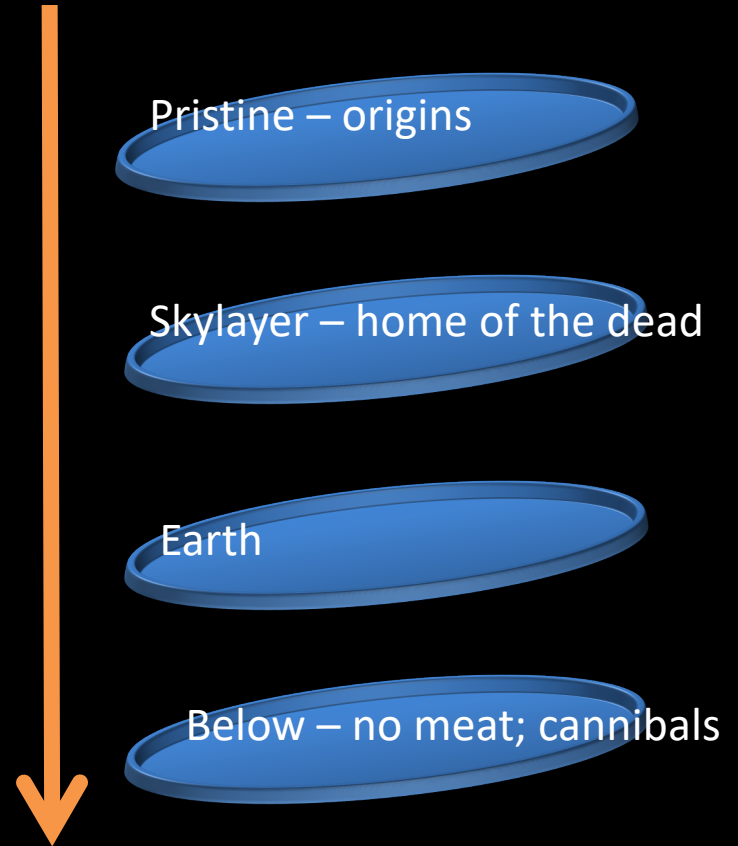
Moonblood story (the beginning)

- Men were original people, made of moonblood
- Women were fruit (*Wabu*) that if thrown to the ground became women with 'hairy vaginas' (Chagnon, 1992:105) that startled men but excited them too



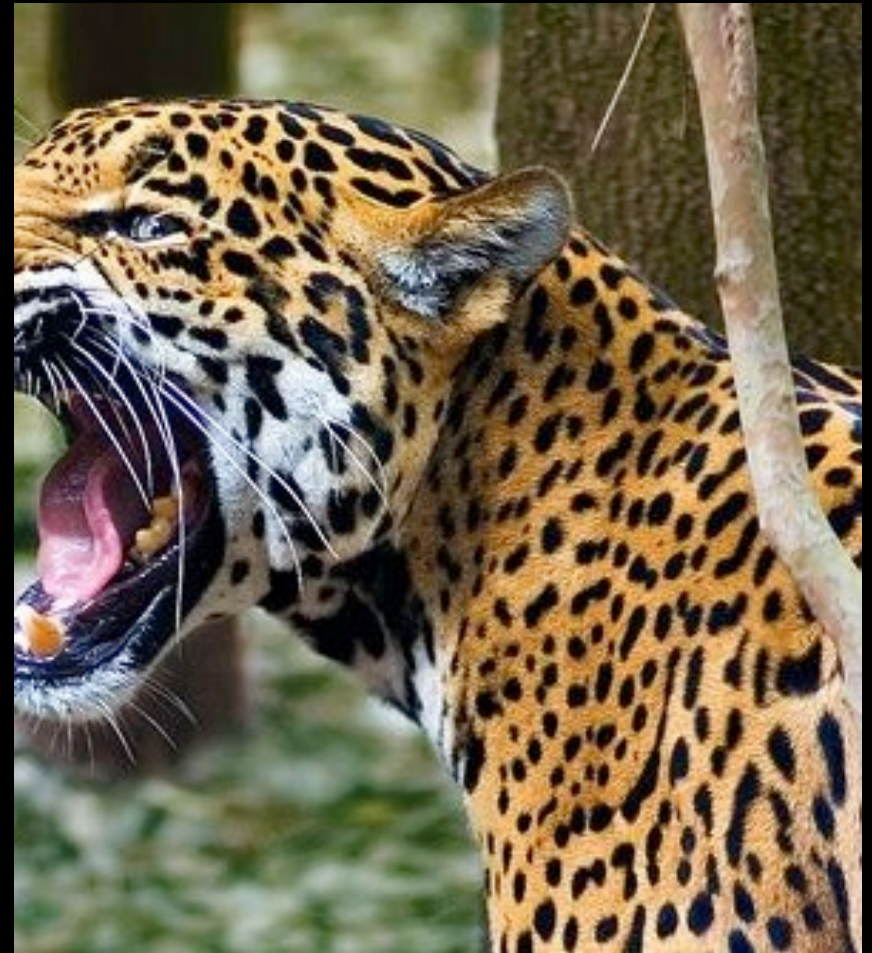
Cosmology and beliefs

- Universe is made of 4 parallel layers
- Top = original location, pristine
- Skylayer = we see underside; dead live here
- Earth = chunk of fallen skylayer
- Below = chunk of fallen earth where the people eat each other because there is no meat



Jaguar myths

- Jaguar and humans are similar – they hunt each other, like each other.
- The jaguar treats humans like they are animals but because the jaguar is nearly human it becomes almost cannibalistic to the Yanomami



Vivieros de Castro: Perspectivism

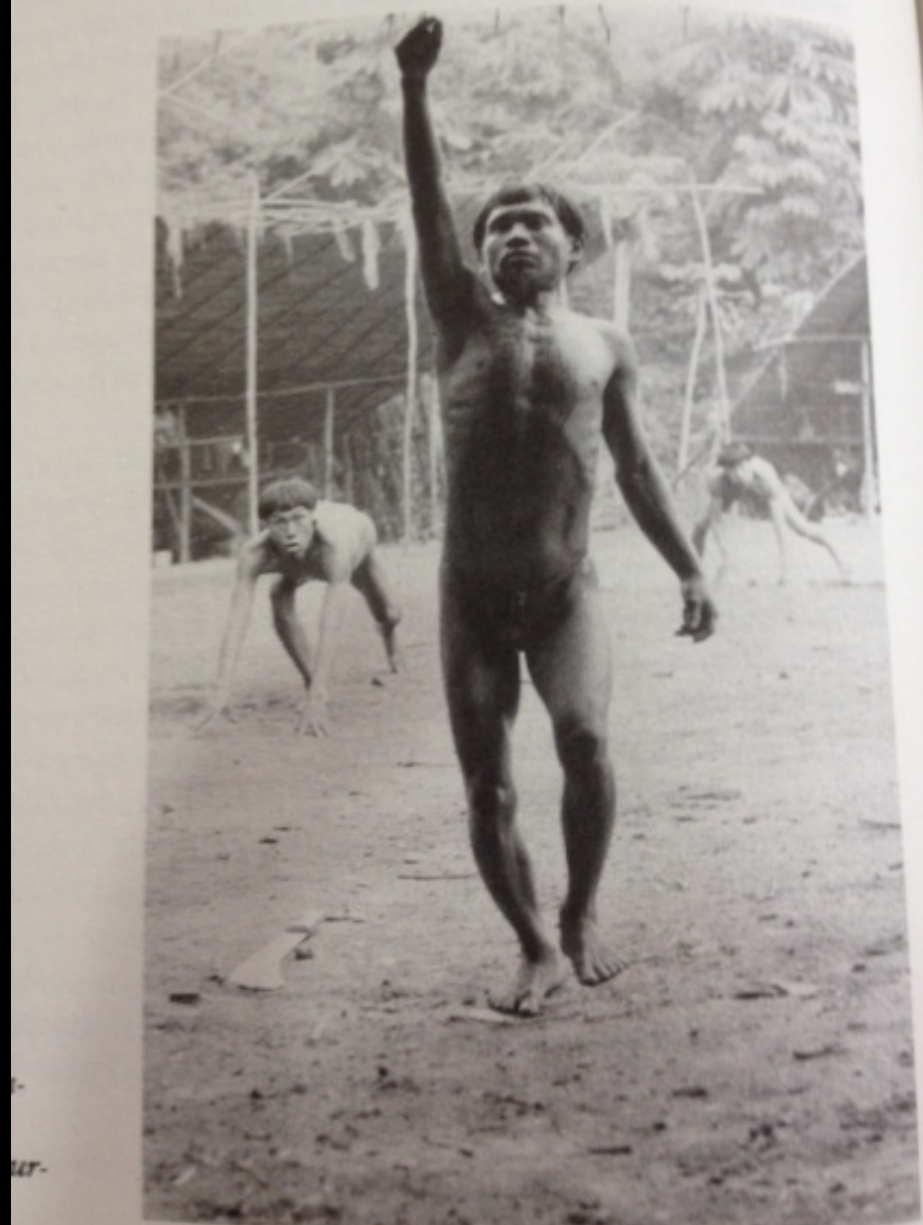
- Humans see humans as humans; animals as animals
- BUT -
- Animals see humans as animals, and themselves as people
- = animals are people
- (form is a wrapping)



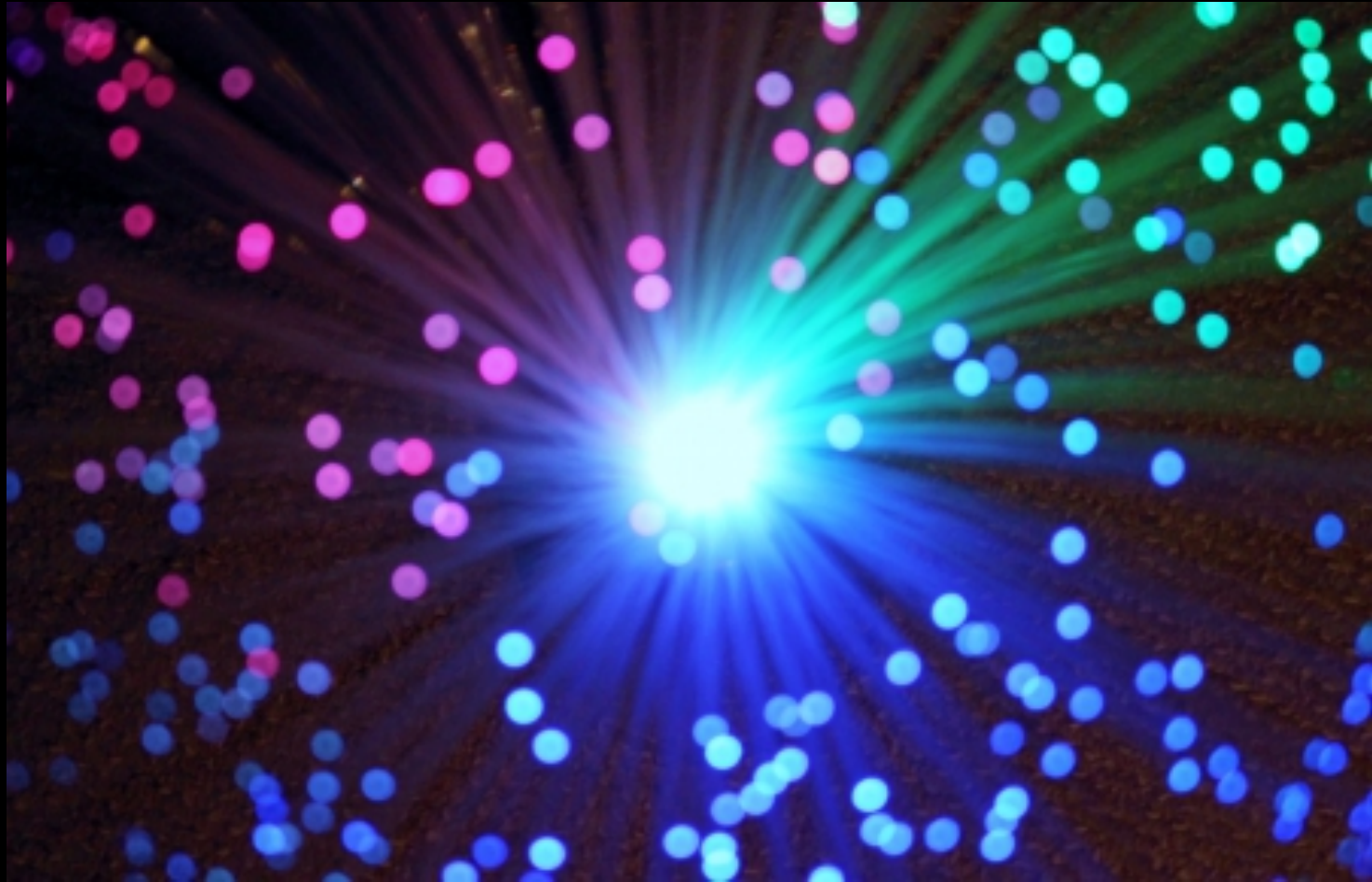
Shamanism - *ebene*



- 3 shamans working
- Pic from 4th ed of Chagnon's book



Hekura spirits



Under attack from spirit magic (magical death)



Children, socialisation



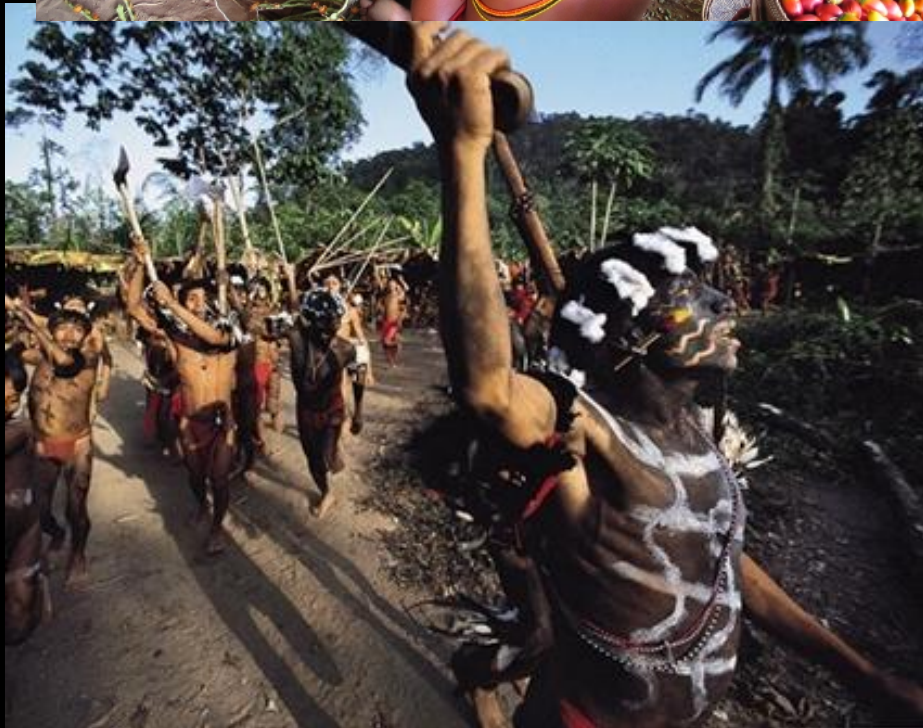
Politics

- Head man
- Shaman
- Fission/alliances
 - Raiding
 - Internal tensions



Feasting





Today: the controversy continues



The secrets of the tribes