

ANDEAN BELIEFS QUESTIONNAIRE

Participant Personal Information

Name:

Gender:

Age:

Kichwa speaker (yes/no. If yes, first or second):

Education (level of schooling ie > what year?):

Mobile phone:

TV:

Computer/internet (access to):

Other relevant information (occupation etc)

Interviewer:

General (all participants)

1. Cultural Identity

1.1 Do you self-identify with a particular cultural or national group?

(If possible, please give a brief history of your Community group)

1.2 Is your family the basis of your cultural identity, beliefs, traditions, and customs?

1.3 How is community knowledge transmitted among family/community members, by telling stories or through formal education?

2. Beliefs about the World and Nature

2.1 What religion do you follow?

2.2 How do you see the physical landscape and nature, ie the earth, the sun, moon, stars, the sea, the landscape, plants, animals etc? Do you see them as all being part of a 'whole' or do you see them as being separate things?

2.3 Does any element, such as the wind, the water, the sun, have the power to harm / to heal?

2.4 Do you believe in earth spirits, spirits of the mountains, good/evil spirits, etc.?

2.5 Do you believe in 'sacred locations' in the landscape, and the importance of venerating them with offerings?

- 2.6 Do you believe that a supernatural being is in charge of the health of their community and able to cure people of any illness (as the wak'as had once been believed to)?
- 2.7 Do you see life and life experiences as being good or bad, positive and negative? (duality)

3. Life and the Human Body

- 3.1 Is the human body seen to mirror the wider cosmos, or any particular feature (e.g. a mountain)?
- 3.2 What do you believe about the 'life force' or 'vital energy'? Does it animate only living creatures, or is it seen to be in all things, animate and inanimate?
- 3.3 Are any bodily substances (e.g. fat, blood, sweat etc) understood as having special properties, or to be symbols of life?
- 3.4 Are the mind and body separate, or are they part of a larger 'whole'?
- 3.5 What are the functions of the body (e.g. breathing, eating, circulation, mind and feelings).
- 3.6 Do you believe that people have a:

- i. mind,
- ii. body,
- iii. soul,
- iv. spirit,
- v. shadow
- vi. other (describe)

Please give a brief description of how you think they interrelate.

4. Health and Illness concepts

If these questions are not fully understood, please ask the interviewee to give a brief description of their understanding of health and related issues.

- 4.1 Is there a word that means health?
- 4.2 How do you say (do you explain) a person is healthy?
- 4.3 What is health (the concept)?
- 4.4 When do you lose your health?
- 4.5 What are the origin / the causes of illness, sickness, disease?
- 4.6 What are the most common illness/diseases in your family, community?
- 4.7 How do you know somebody is sick?
- 4.8 How is a sick person viewed, i.e. is sickness related to identity?
- 4.9 Is sickness a condition that can be changed?
- 4.10 Do you believe in:

- i. Mal/mal aire/malviento/aire,
- ii. Susto/espanto,
- iii. mal de ojo (ojeado)
- iv. agarrado del cerro,
- v. la luna,
- vi. cuichig,
- vii. hualambario,
- viii. brujería,
- ix. San Gonzalo, o otro Santo malo (como San Martín)
- x. castigo divino,
- xi. mala suerte,
- xii. envidia,
- xiii. others (specify)

If yes, please provide a brief description.

5. Modern vs Traditional Therapies

5.1 When do you go to a traditional healer/yachak?

5.2 When do you go to a modern doctor or clinic?

5.3 Does the cost of treatment affect whether you decide to go to a 'modern' doctor/clinic or a traditional healer?

5.4 Which do you think is more reliable at treating illness?

5.5 Are modern doctors/clinics effective for some illnesses and traditional healers for others?

Please describe.

For Healers/Yachaks/Shamans

6. On being a Yachak

6.1 What different types of healers do you know?

6.2 Why did you become healers?

6.3 How did you become a healer?

6.4 What is the origin of your powers?

6.5 Do you see other healers as in competition with you?

7. Understanding of the cause of illness

7.1 How diagnosis is performed?

7.2 How is the illness 'seen'? (e.g. ability to see the nature of afflictions, as clearly as if in a mirror, or as if the body were open to the eye).

7.3 Are there any mediums employed, e.g., as with candles, guinea pigs, egg yolks, special equipment like stones, or the use of plants which allow them to 'see' an illness in a patient and its causes of illness?

7.4 Are these intermediaries experienced or understood as 'spirits'? (e.g as with the spirits of plants)

7.5 Can you direct and control good/bad forces?

8. Healing

8.1. What forms of healing and/or rituals do you employ for illnesses? (e.g. magical herbs, puntas/puro etc)

8.2. Are your ritual/therapies conducted through a spiritual assistant/guide?

8.3. Do you have an altar/mesa?

8.4. What special artefacts or equipment do you employ for your healing rituals?

8.5. Do you employ story telling for any part of this therapy?

Younger community members (aged 18-23)

9. Health and Life Beliefs of Younger People

9.1 Do you see yourself as being:

- i) part of the 'modern world' in how you behave, what you wear, music you listen to etc or:
- ii) a member of your family's community and traditional values or:
- iii) A mixture of both?

- 9.2 Do you believe in modern ways of seeing the world and nature as taught in school, or seen on TV/social media, or do you believe in the ideas that you hear from your grandparents?
- 9.3 Do trust more in modern medicine or in the traditional therapies of your parents and grandparents?
- 9.4 Do you believe in modern ways of seeing the world and nature as taught in school, or seen on TV, social media, or do you believe in the ideas that you hear from your grandparents?
- 9.5 Do trust more in modern medicine or in the traditional therapies of your parents and grandparents?

Modern Clinical Community

10. Beliefs/opinions of Modern Clinicians about Traditional Medicine

- 10.1. What are your views about Traditional Medicine and indigenous Andean health beliefs and practices?
- 10.2. Do you believe that indigenous peoples have a right to inter-cultural health provision that respects and integrates their own views/beliefs about life, health, medicine etc?
- 10.3. Are you aware that Traditional/ancestral medicine and related practices is recommended to be protected and promoted globally by organisations such as UNESCO, the WHO, PAHO etc?
- 10.4. Are you aware that the government of Ecuador has enshrined the rights to protection and inclusion of traditional/ancestral medicine in the 2008 constitution?
- 10.5. Would you personally be prepared to work alongside traditional healers/yachaks/partero/as?