

Review of: "Sacred Plants and Their Miraculous or Healing Properties"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I've reviewed the article on sacred plants and their miraculous or healing properties by Ana Maria Rosso from the University of Buenos Aires.

The article is an extensive historical review of psychoactive substances with hallucinogenic properties, entheogenic plants, psychotropic or psychedelic plants like magic mushrooms.

The good points of this review are a large bibliography with 148 articles and a very rich and interesting iconography.

Ana Maria Rosso discussed the comparison of mandragore extracts, peyote and mescaline, their historical use, the components of the drugs with psilocybin, psychotomimetic effects in man, and the difference between religious use and medicinal use.

She confronted the data with the works of Carlos Castaneda, a famous Peruvian anthropologist from UCLA (University of Los Angeles, California). He published several books, including a textbook about psychedelic plants. She analyzed the pharmacological bases of shamanism and made distinctions between their ritual use and their potential for addiction.

I recommend the article by Ana Maria Rosso to be published as an open access article.