

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

Cristina M.C.M. Couto<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cooperativa de Ensino Superior, Politécnico e Universitário

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

I've reviewed the article "Sacred plants and their miraculous or healing properties" by Ana Maria Rosso.

The article is an interesting but extensive review of psychoactive plants with hallucinogenic properties that develop mystical experiences and altered states of consciousness.

The strengths of this review are a large bibliography (148 papers) on the archaeological and modern literature on hallucinogenic plants and powerful narcotics, and a very rich and interesting iconography documented with beautiful figures.

The weakness is its excessive length, with sometimes useless information, and the poor scientific knowledge, especially in chemistry and biology.

For instance, on page 6/7, the description of proponents of entheogenic plants or page 63, the history of Real de Catorce, is unnecessary for the focus of this paper; it can be significantly shortened.

The option to analyze these two species of plants with psychoactive powers, mandrake and the peyote, although interesting, should be further explained (why these?).

There are some typographical errors that should be corrected during proofreading.