



"Jeets' Lu'um". Asentar la tierra. Análisis de un rito maya de Yucatán [

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text (article)

Analítica

The Yucatec Maya have a special rituality. Ritual specialists are still in charge of religion: they perform agrarian rituals and healing ceremonies. The ritual of jeets' lu'um is performed in a familyspace. Its aim is to clean a terrain from bad spirits and it is repeated every couple of years, or when its necessary. This article describes a jeets luúm performed by Dona Berta, living in Maní, Yucatan. It begins with the ethnographic description of the ritual in order to open the possibility to interpret a facet of this cosmology. Furthermore, it examines some of the problems of the investigation-practice, like the misunderstandings emerging from different interpretations given by different actors, as well as the three languages used in the relationship between anthropologist and informant: German, Spanish, and Yucatec Maya. In this way ethnographic description, participant observation and interpretation of symbols are mixed up to show the dependence on each other. Different interpretations of meanings are shown to illustrate the ambiguity of symbols. Mayan cosmology mixes christian and mayan ideas and concepts of the universe. Also, there are different meanings given, according to each participant or investigator

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