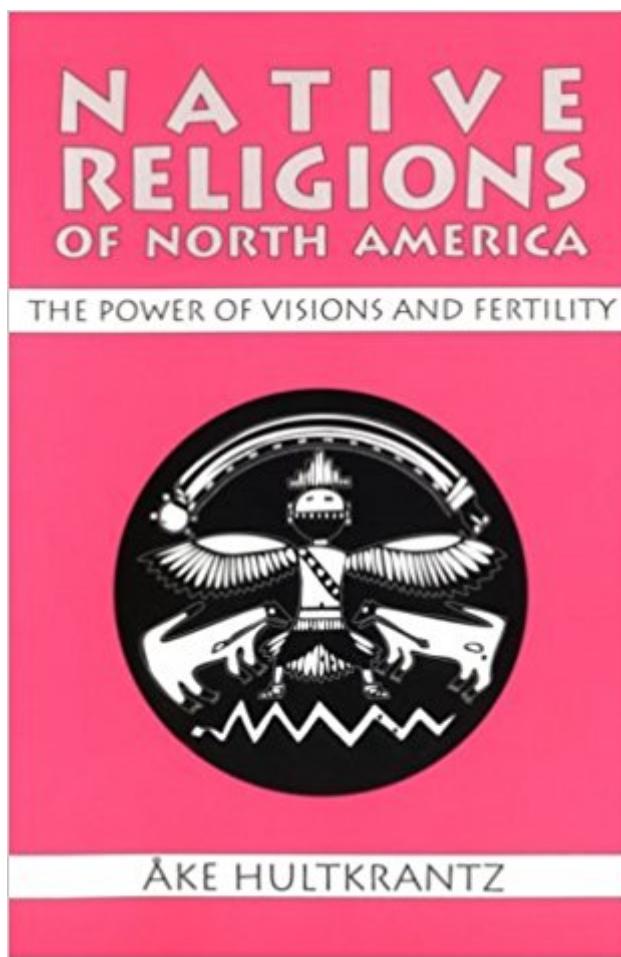


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# Native Religions Of North America: The Power Of Visions And Fertility



## **Synopsis**

The diversity and continuities in American Indian spirituality! The religious life of Native Americans is a panorama featuring an immense diversity of beliefs, ceremonies, and ways of life. Native Religions of North America reflects this rich tradition as it admirably distills a complex subject in a practical and engaging manner. Through concise expression and careful choice of examples, Hultkrantz identifies the diversity and continuities in American Indian spirituality. He introduces the hunters and farmers, the past and present, and the physical contexts and the sublime speculations of tribal religions, even the subtle shades of meaning within an Indian community.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Hultkrantz is without question one of the leading authorities on American Indian religions. His mind is inquiring, his perceptions are sound, his learning is substantial, and his writing is clear and engaging." -- N. Scott Momaday

Titles of related interest from Waveland Press: Basso, The Cibecue Apache (ISBN 9780881332148); Downs, The Navajo (ISBN 9780881330373); Dozier, The Pueblo Indians of North America (ISBN 9780881330595); Farrer, Thunder Rides a Black Horse: Mescalero Apaches and the Mythic Present, Third Edition (ISBN 9781577666998); Garbarino-Sasso, Native American Heritage, Third Edition (ISBN 9780881337730); Kehoe, The Ghost Dance: Ethnohistory and Revitalization, Second Edition (ISBN 9781577664536); and McCleary, The Stars We Know: Crow

Indian Astronomy and Lifeways (ISBN 9780881339246).

Textbook for school but actually quite good. One of those texts that is good to keep if this is your field. If you are humanities or history and want to keep one Native American boom on the shelf for reference this one is great. Broad enough to cover it all yet specific enough that you can do some good work with it and reference it for other things

If you don't know anything about Native American religions and you want a general overview, this is a good place to start. Ake Hultkrantz begins with a chronology of the cultures, explains a little about traditions and worldviews, then goes on to give two examples: a society of hunters (Shoshoni), and a society of horticulturalists (Zuni). It is a very short, simple and effective way to generally categorize these societies, and will help direct you to further reading based on your interest.

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