



## **ARI's role in reviving our collective identity**

It is hard for modern people to believe that collective consciousness has an audible voice, but it does. You can hear it in South America when the mountain spirits speak; you can hear it in the teachings of the living elders, you can hear it in the countless stories we hold as 'myth'. Yet we believe that myth, ancient teachings, and stories of spirit voices are not really true, just approximations of old ideas that we no longer need. However, nothing could be further from the truth. These voices are alive and speaking out loud so we won't lose our wisdom. It is essential that we remember and carry forward what we know. This is the only way we can properly steward the evolution of our knowledge as a collective expression of thriving life and unfolding consciousness.

## **Collectivity and global abundance**

Every cycle of life has a particular axis of alignment. The one we've been living through has been aligned by the principle of the individual and the Hero's Journey. The new cycle that arrived on the December 2012 Solstice – a new world age, not just a new year – brought with it a radical new alignment: collectivity and the manifestation of collective-level vision. This new axis aligns us with membership in the whole of life, in a universe that is always reaching and growing beyond known horizons to create higher levels of well-being for every living being.

The December 2012 solstice, and the new alignment it brought, also marks the beginning of a new era of fertility and possibility, of relationship to new energies emerging to support the evolution of abundant life. This turning of time as we know, and the emergence of new alignments, is a sacred process, and the stewardship of the sacred is the job of the shaman. It is not a fixed job description because the sacred is always evolving, so the consciousness, the identity, and the membership of the shaman – the wisdom carrier – must evolve with it.

## **The emerging wisdom carriers**

This brings us to a point of revelation – that we as modern people must shift with the emerging alignment, with all that is collective, because we are the emerging wisdom carriers. We must open into collective consciousness. The collective includes the land we live on; it is not just about humans. The collective includes our vision; it is not just about individual wants and needs. The fertility that is a hallmark of this emerging time lives in the land and it demands a shift in human consciousness now, to collective perception, awareness, and action.

The remarkable vision of this newly emerging alignment has been held in indigenous cultures for ages, and a particular stewardship of this vision has been going on in the Andes all this time. And as the shifting of world ages drew closer, a new kind of emergence occurred in the Andean cultures. As early as the 1980's the Andean medicine people came down from the mountains; they came looking

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for us, modern westernized people, because they saw that it would be our turn next. It is now our turn to learn from them, to learn the teachings of consciousness, and carry the wisdom into our world. It is time for us to remember and live into our identity as it resides in the land, to make innovative use of the fertility emerging now and regain our ability to call in and manifest collective vision.

### **Investing in relationships**

These elders have come to teach us, and they need our support. They have left their ways of living and walked into ours – in this new world age let's meet them in munay, ayni and ayllu. This means meeting these courageous elders in universal love, learning from them how to invest in relationship so there is at least a 2-fold, if not a 10-fold return for everyone. It means releasing our old identities and beliefs about the singular hero's journey and stepping into our deeper capacity to steward life forward into greater expressions of collectivity.

### **The exercise of presence**

Consciousness is not linear – it is relational, and all of its processes occur simultaneously. This is the basis of a key teaching imparted to us from one of the great mountain spirits, Chaupi Orco. He reminded us that first we must exercise presence, and then craft each day with vision. In order to do these, things we cannot be linear – first one thing and then the next – because we must always be present, and continuous presence isn't possible in a linear mindset. The secret to exercising presence is this: as we bring closure to each day, we must simultaneously bring forward the vision of each new day – in this way we're always present.

This simple, elegant teaching of consciousness applies to all types of cycles, including this emerging Solstice. However you celebrate the return of the light, the ending/beginning of the world ages, be present and timeless. In this state you will experience full consciousness and collectivity. Remember your experience and live into it every moment, in full presence.

### **Creating the future here and now**

The Andean Research Institute exists to support the Andean cultures and the wisdom keepers who are gifting us this extraordinary knowledge. It is for our future that we must remember they are behind us, supporting us. In turn, in minka [abundance-producing relationship at collective levels] we must support them and their children now.