



The Huichol Indians

Descendants of the Aztec, the Huichol Indians are a group of people who live in the Sierra Madre mountain range in Mexico, in the states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Zacatecas, and Durango



The Huichol live in the mountains above Mazatlán and other tourist towns, where they sell their crafts. In summer, when the rains come, they live on their ranchos (farms) and make cheese from the milk from their cattle.



For the most part, they eat tortillas, made from the Blue, Red, Yellow or White "Sacred corn," beans, rice and pasta, chicken or pig, chili peppers, and wild fruits and vegetables, such as "ciruelas" (wild plums) and guayabas (guavas).



The Huichol are a deeply religious people. They have a sacred vision of the world. To the Huichol, everything is alive and has a soul (called Kupuri).



The Huichol are very creative people. Through their art work they show their many beliefs. They use their clothes as an important form of expression. Their highly decorated and colorful clothing is said to give pleasure to the gods



making sure that the gods take care and protect the Huichol.

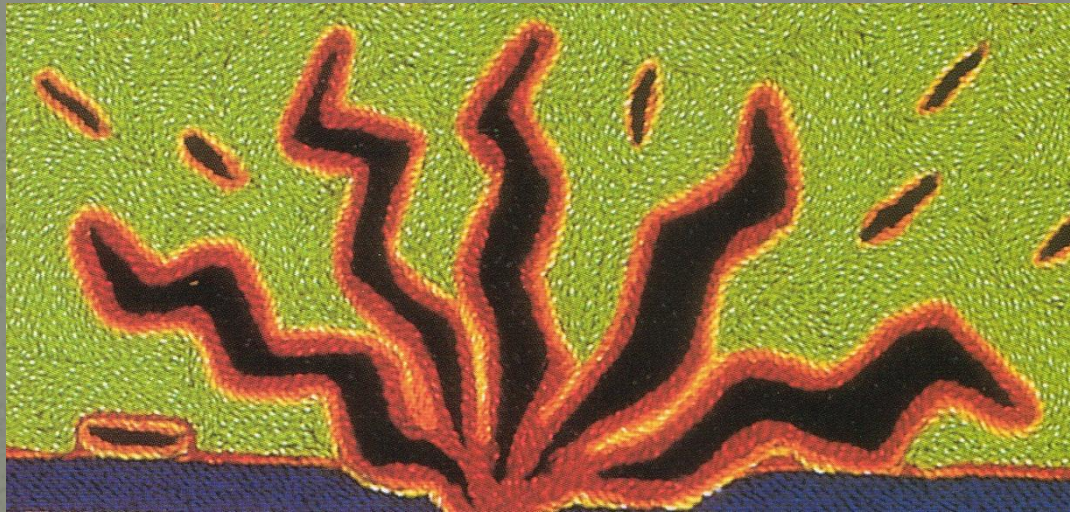
- SUN

Rules the heavens, bringing warmth and light .
Ensures good crops and abundant food.



- FIRE

The most valuable gift from the gods.



- BIRDS

The messengers to the gods – eagles and turkeys are especially important.



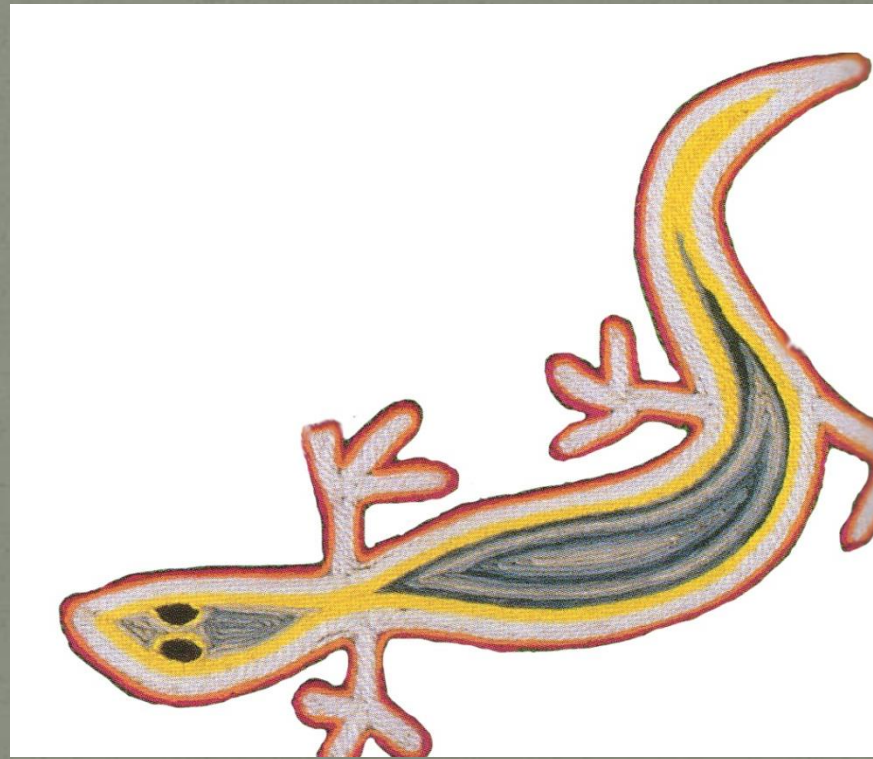
- DEER

They guide on spiritual journeys and teach about knowledge and healing.



- SALAMANDERS

The spirit animal of the rain god.
It stirs up the clouds to make rain.



- SNAKES

The Huichols believe that rain is made of millions of small snakes.



- FLOWERS

The Huichol believe all flowers are sacred.

