

Entering Another World

Psychoactive Plants in Cultures

- Most cultures have incorporated the usage of some psychoactive compounds into their religions, medicines, or other social structures.
- Incorporation usually includes rules and conditions for appropriate usage.
- Alternatively, most cultures also restrict or prohibit access to some psychoactive compounds.
- Only in “modern” western culture are psychoactive plants perceived as “recreational” or appropriate for individual usage in non-culturally significant situations.

Plants in Religious Communication

- Context
 - Usage
 - Control
 - Actions
 - Belief systems
 - Complete settings



Plants in Religious Communication

- Plant mixtures
 - Effectiveness
 - Side effects
 - Symbolism
- General Effects of Plants
 - Hallucinogens
 - Depressants
 - Stimulants
 - Non-bioactive



Plants Used

- Hallucinogens
 - Change brain chemistry and processing to produce visual, auditory, olfactory, and tactile sensations.
 - Many concentrated plant extracts & plants including
 - Belladonna, henbane, mandrake, datura, angel's trumpet
 - Ayahuasca, marihuana
 - Peyote, San Pedro
 - Epena, mescal bean, salvia



Plants Used

- Depressants
 - Decrease sensory inputs and may decrease brain activity
 - Many plant extracts, resins, and saps including:
 - Kava
 - Opium (morphine, codeine, heroine)
 - Reserpine





Important Plant Hallucinogens

Africa

- *Mesembryanthemum expansum* Kanna
- *Plinacatum thalictroides* Kwashi
- *Tabernaemontana bogota* Bogota

Europe

- *Atropa belladonna* Belladonna, Deadly Nightshade
- *Hyoscyamus niger* Henbane
- *Mandragora officinarum* Mandrake

North America

- *Acorus calamus* Flag Root, Sweet Flag
- *Arisarctus fissuratus* Chauite, Hikuli, Sunamé
- *Calceolacanthus* Thie-pelakano, Zacetechichi
- *Colutea alamer* El Ahigado, El Nene
- *Coryphantha compacta* Bakana, Hikuli, Wichuri
- *Datura innoxia* Toiloacha, Tolostzin
- *Datura stramonium* Jimson weed, Loco weed
- *Erythrina americana* Colorines, Chilicote
- *Hemina salsifolia* Sinicuchi
- *Ipomoea violacea* Bashah negro, Pule
- *Lophophora diffusa* Mescal Button, Peyote
- *Mammillaria craigi* Hikuli rosapara, Wichurki
- *Nymphaea ampla* Quetzilavochasiti
- *Pachycereus pecten-aboriginum* Cawé, Wichowaka
- *Salvia divinorum* Hierba de la Pastora, Hierba de la Virgen, Pipiltzinanis
- *Scirpus atrovirens* Bakana
- *Solanandra breicalyx* Huepasi, Keli, Tecomaxochiti
- *Sophora secundiflora* Cowli Bean, Mescal Bean
- *Turbina corymbosa* Badoh, Ololuqui

Asia

- *Cinnabaris saviia* Bhang, Marihuana
- *Datura metel* Dhatura, Dutra
- *Lagochilus irielaris* Turkestan mint
- *Popavum karntala* Syrian Rue

Pacific

- *Gomortega lasalle* Kaula
- *Homalomena peckellii* Erelia

South America

- *Anadenanthera colubrina* Cohoba, Sebil, Yopo
- *Banisteriopsis cagaji* Ayahuasca, Cagaji
- *Brygmarsia arborea* Borrachero, Huanto, Floripondio,
- *Brunfelsia chircasipi* Huacacachu, Maicota, Toá,
- *Cestrum laevigatum* Chircasipi
- *Desfontainia spinosa* Dama da noite
- *Heliconia pedunculata* Borrachero, Taique
- *Lochnera fuchsoides* Takini
- *Justicia pectoralis* Borrachero, Paguando, Totutjansush
- *Lasia pubiflora* Mishi-hiri
- *Lobelia tupa* Anel de los Brujos, Latusá
- *Maqueira sclerophylla* Rapé dos Indios
- *Mimosa hostilis* Ajaca, Jurema
- *Pernettya furcens* Hierba loca, Tagli
- *Teperaria methystica* Casapi-pintha
- *Trichocereus pascheri* Aquacolla, San Pedro
- *Viola calophylla* Epená, Nyakwana, Yakee
- *Zornia latifolia* Macorha Brava

General Observations

- Look over the list of plant hallucinogens distributed.
- Many of these are now found in Hawai'i and are being used.
- Almost none of the people who developed long-term relationships with the plants are in Hawai'i
- What are the implications of the disjunction between cultural control and usage?

1. Most cultures have incorporated _____ into their religions, medicines, or other social structures.
2. Usage of "recreational" drugs is:
3. Elements of the context of psychoactive plant use in religions are:
4. Examples of hallucinogenic plants include:
5. Examples of depressant plants include:
6. Non-psychoactive plants might be added to mixtures to:
7. Examples of stimulant plants include:
8. Differences between foods, medicines, psychoactives, and poisons are:
9. Marijuana is originally from:
10. Iboga is a plant used traditionally to:
11. A common name for Ayahuasca is:
12. Cultures that use more plant hallucinogens are located: