



# HUNI KUIN CEREMONIES WITH SACRED PLANTS FROM THE AMAZON

WITH  
SABINO IXÃ, NESHANE  
& TXANÁ NIXIWAKA

14th - 16th  
JUNE  
2024





*Retreats like this one are born of the vision of creating an ALLIANCE between the indigenous peoples of this world and the Maison de Paille, which wishes to offer a space for intercultural exchange.*



The Huni Kuin people are mostly inhabitants of the rainforest, spreading from the region at the foot of the Andes in Peru to the south of Amazonas and Acre states in Brazil.



One of the speakers of the isolated “pano” linguistic family, they still speak their language fluently and keep their cosmovision alive through their stories, spirituality, festivals, and traditional ceremonies.

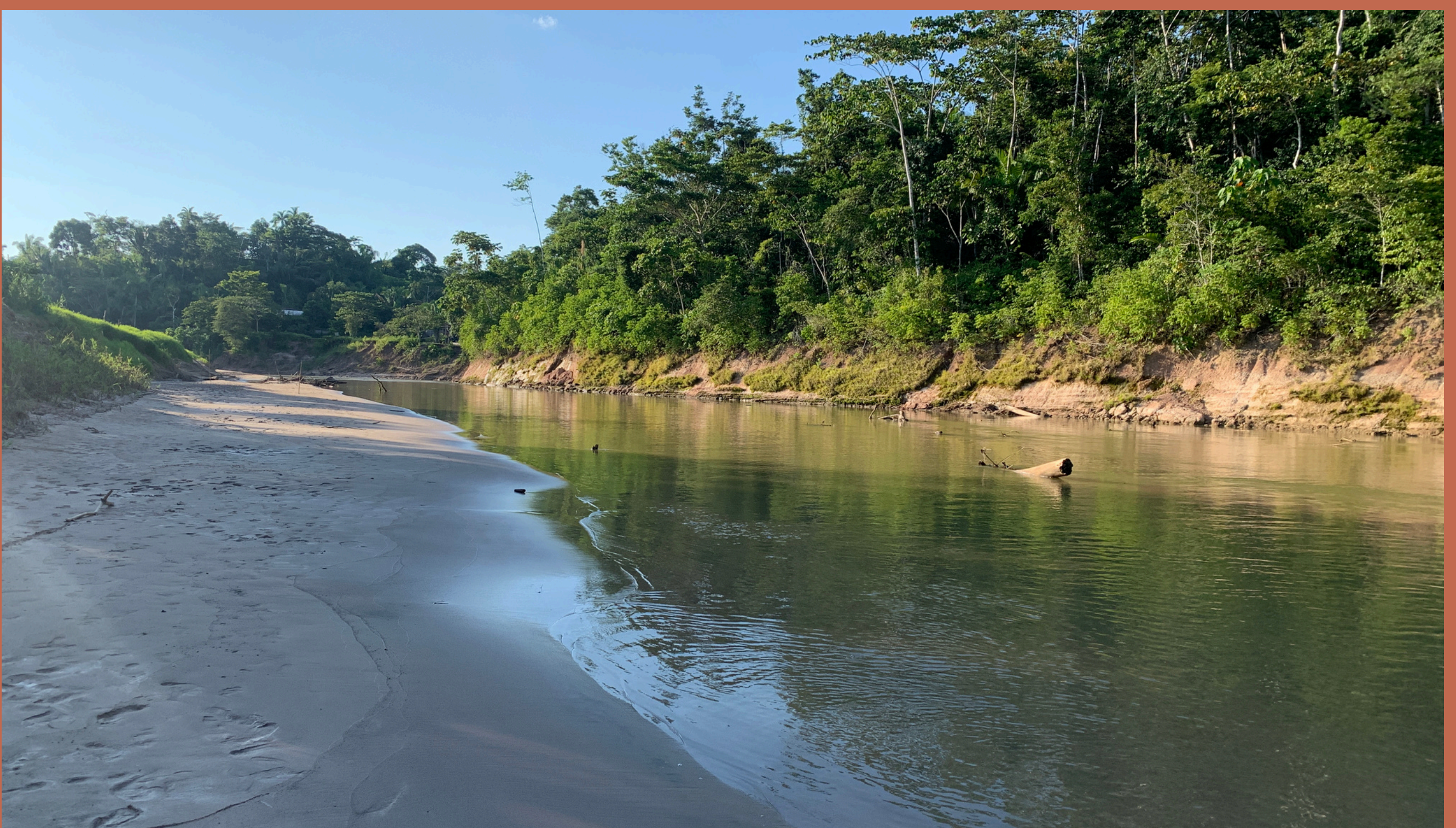
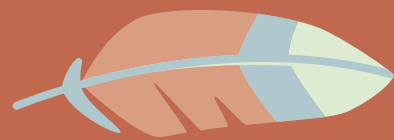
The Huni Kuin divide their history into five periods: the time of the malocas, when they lived together in a common big house; the time of the running, when they needed to make long escapes, due to invasions in their territory; the time of the serfdom, when they were forced to work in the rubber plantations under slavery conditions; the time of the rights, when the people have their territory demarcated and freedom to practice their culture; and the Xinã Bena time, which is the current moment, where the Huni Kuin people open themselves up to cultural exchanges, weave alliances, and take their culture and cosmovision to the world, because, according to them, the present time demands it, both for the resistance of the forest people and for humanity itself.



About the Rio Jordão Indigenous Land: this is a land demarcated in the early 1990s, conquered after a process of struggle, articulation, and organization that marked the “time of rights”, a period in which the Huni Kuin made the transition from a reality of exploitation in the rubber plantations to a scenario of self-management and management of the territory. There are 36 villages along the Jordão, the last of which is located a few kilometers from Peru.



The Huni Kuin people living in this territory maintain much of the knowledge related to rites of passage, celebrations, stories, cuisine, medicines and traditional songs. They speak the Hantxa Kuin extensively and communicate with nature in a very precise way.





## SPIRITUAL LEADERS

# Sabino Dua Ixã

Sabino is an elder of the Huni Kuin people who acts as a political and spiritual leader. He lived and worked in the rubber plantation, actively participated in the struggle for the demarcation of lands of his people and studied with great shamans to become one of the greatest masters of Huni Meka (ceremonial songs) of the Huni Kuin people. Sabino lives with his entire family in one of the most remote villages of the Upper Jordão River, a place where very few goods from the city arrive and where a deep connection with the territory is maintained.

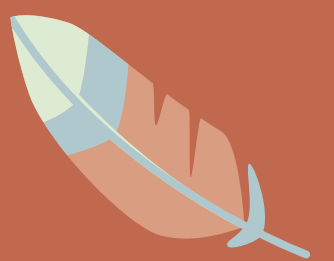




## SPIRITUAL LEADERS

# Zenira Neshane

Neshane is the daughter of Maria Sabino and Sabino Dua Ixã, two very important leaders of the Huni Kuin people. Neshane began early to study with her mother about handicraft, the graphic patterns, plants, cooking, spirituality and place of knowledge of women inside the tradition. Neshane is one of the few women recognized as a pajé within her people. Besides her being a master craftswoman with a large knowledge about the patterns, she also studied the sacred songs and healing techniques of the Huni Kuin tradition.





## SPIRITUAL LEADERS

# Txaná Nixiwaká

Nixiwaká is from the younger generation of Txanas or performance artist xamãs, from the farest village from the Jordão river, since his childhood has been devoted to study the traditional song of his people. He is also a very skilful artist in drawing and painting. He is married with one of the granddaughters of Sabino Dua Ixã, from whom he is a student, and had been invited by Sabino to go out of his village for the first time to represent his people and its culture.





**PLACE**

# Maison de Paille - tipi



The Maison de Paille is a seminar center located in the idyllic setting of the Clos du Doubs, in the Swiss Jura. In summer, the center also includes a tipi village for nature getaways, as well as ceremonies and seminars. Ceremonies for this retreat will take place in a tipi, whatever the weather. A sheltered kitchen, dry toilets and showers provide rudimentary comfort in a very special setting connected to the elements. The Maison de Paille itself will not be accessible during the retreat, which will take place entirely in the tipi village.

ESSERTFALLON

CH-2886 EPIQUEREZ

(Google Maps: 47.326160, 7.080565)





## COSTS

# Offer ceremonies

1 ceremony: CHF 280.-  
2 ceremonies: CHF 500.-



We encourage participation in both nights, the first often being a cleansing ceremony and the second a more introspective, personal work.

- Extra healing sessions:

- 1 KAMBÔ SESSION: CHF 100.-

Kambô is a secretion coming from a giant frog of Amazonia. It is used against infections and to prevent diseases, but also as a physical and mental invigorator and as an analgesic. It has no psychedelic effects and also seems to help get rid of addictions. More information can be found at <https://laisondepaille.ch/kambo/>

- 1 RAMPAYÃ SESSION: CHF 80.-

A ritual during which chili is applied to the tongue with a bird's beak, accompanied by prayers, to give the strength and powers of the spirits of nature, to acquire a good memory and to learn to open one's voice.

- Accommodation in a tipi or personal tent to be set up around the tipi village. Each person brings what she/he needs to set up for the night.
- Meals: each person brings his/her own picnic. Rice or other basic dish provided.



## COSTS

# Cultural Exchanges

- On Sunday 16 afternoon, a workshop with the Huni Kuin on a yet-to-be-defined topic related to their culture will be open to the general public. The "Water Project", which raises funds to provide access to drinking water in the village of Novo Segredo, will also be presented (donations: <https://novo.welight.live/watersystem-novosegredo>).

- Admission: 10.- for adults, free for children under 16

Those who took part in the ceremonies are encouraged to stay for this afternoon of exchanges.

Accommodation available on request.

- In the following week, cultural activities such as conferences/workshops/concerts will be organized in Essertfallon or elsewhere with the Huni Kuin. This is part of the Maison de Paille alliance project: <https://lamaisondepaille.ch/alliances-peuples-premiers/>
- You can extend your stay on site to take part in these activities, or to simply continue to enjoy the tipi village.
  - Cost: 23.-/pers./night





**CONTACT**

# Registrations



Information about the place and registrations:

[contact@lamaisondepaille.ch](mailto:contact@lamaisondepaille.ch)

For information about the Huni Kuin and their traditions: please contact Rodrigo Moreiras, [hunikuinexpedition@gmail.com](mailto:hunikuinexpedition@gmail.com) (English, Brazilian). Rodrigo will guide these three pajés to Essertfallon. He is a psychologist, researching the therapeutic use of psychedelics; he is also an archaeologist, researching the medicinal plants used by pre-Columbian American societies. He has been working with the Huni Kuin people for 15 years. He also contributes to events on indigenous worldviews and the use of their medicines.