

Tracing a path from the Neanderthal burial in the Shanidar cave in north-east Iraq 60,000 years ago, to modern Europe by way of India, the Middle East, America and Australia, Sacred plants of the world, from Neanderthal times until the present day, investigates and compares the role of specific plants in religious ritual and plant lore throughout the world. The information it contains is extensive, the answers to many questions lying within its text. How drugs made from plants have been used throughout history and utilized to gain the gods help with prophecy, or to wage war. How ceremonies such as the Captive Girl Sacrifice of the Pawnee link with present day harvest rituals. Why some plants have reputations for bringing good or bad fortune which vary in different parts of the world. How the strewing of flowers at funerals in modern times is linked to the plant lore of Egypt, Greece and Rome. Sacred plants of the world, from Neanderthal times until the present day is a book about a time, not long ended, when work, worship and the natural world were linked together in ways which seem outside the understanding of the modern world.

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