



## **LESSON 2**

## Who will tell the story for everyone to hear?

## History -

For 500 years the *Q'ero elders* have preserved a sacred prophecy of a great change, or "pachacuti," in which the world would be turned right-side-up, harmony and order would be restored, and chaos and disorder ended.

The Q'ero had lived in their villages high in the Andes in virtual solitude from the world until their "discovery" in 1949.

In that year, Oscar Nuñez del Prado, an anthropologist, was at a festival in Paucartambo, in southern Peru, when he met two Indians speaking fluent Quecha, the language of the Incas.

The first Western expedition to the Q'ero villages then occurred in 1955.

Four years later, at the annual *Feast of The Return of the Pleiades* taking place in the Andes, the gathering of 70,000 pilgrims from South America were awed, and the crowd parted to let the Q'ero, unannounced and wearing the Incan emblem of the sun, make their way forward to the mountain top to make known that the time of the prophecies was at hand.

They were welcomed by the assembly and were told,

"We've been waiting for you for 500 years."

Recently, Q'ero elders journeyed to North America in fulfillment of their prophecies.

In November 1996, a small group of Q'ero, including the tribal leader and the head shaman, visited several cities in the US, including New York, where they performed a private ceremony at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

The shamanic ritual had not been performed for 500 years.

But in the very home of those who symbolized the former conquerors of their Incan ancestors they shared their ritual and knowledge, not only with interested Westerners who were learning their ways, but also with the Dean of the great cathedral, thereby symbolically and spiritually linking the two continents of North and South America.

According to *ancient prophecy*, this is the time of the great gathering called the "mastay" and reintegration of the peoples of the four directions.

The Q'ero are releasing their teachings to the West, in preparation for the day the Eagle of the North and the Condor of the South (the Americas) fly together again.

They believe that "munay," love and compassion, will be the guiding force of this great gathering of the peoples.

"The *new caretakers of the Earth* will come from the West, and those that have made the greatest impact on Mother Earth now have the moral responsibility to remake their relationship with Her, after remaking themselves," said Don Antonio Morales, a master Q'ero shaman.

The prophecy holds that,

- North America will supply the physical strength, or body
- Europe will supply the mental aspect, or head
- and the heart will be supplied by South America

When the Spanish conquered the Incas 500 years ago, the last *pachacuti*, or *great change*, occurred.

The Q'ero have been waiting ever since for the *next pachacuti*, when order would emerge out of chaos.

For the past five centuries they preserved their sacred knowledge, and finally, in recent years, the signs were fulfilled that the great time of change was at hand:

- the high mountain lagoons have dried
- the condor is nearly extinct
- and the discovery of the Golden Temple has occurred, following the earthquake in 1949 which represented the wrath of the sun

The prophecies are optimistic. They refer to the end of time as we know it - the death of a way of thinking and a way of being, the end of a way of relating to nature and to the earth.

In the coming years, the Incas expect us to emerge into a golden age, a golden millennium of peace. The prophecies also speak of tumultuous changes happening in the earth, and in our psyche, redefining our relationships and spirituality. The next *pachacuti*, or great change, has already begun, and it promises the emergence of a new human after this period of turmoil. The chaos and upheaval characteristic of this period will last another four years, according to the Q'ero.

The paradigm of European civilization will continue to collapse, and the way of the Earth people will return. Even more importantly, the shamanic elders speak about *a tear in the fabric of time* itself. This presents an opportunity for us to describe ourselves not as who we have been in the past but as who we are becoming.

*Pachacuti* also refers to a great Incan leader who lived in the late 1300s. He is said to have built Machu Picchu and was the architect of an empire the size of the US.

For the Incas, *Pachacuti is a spiritual prototype* - a Master, a luminous one who stepped outside of time. He was a messiah, but not in the Christian sense of the only son of *God*, beyond the reach of humanity. Rather he is viewed as a symbol and promise of who we all might become. He embodies the essence of the prophecies of the pachacuti, as *Pacha* means "earth" or "time," and *cuti* means "to set things right."

His name also means "transformer of the earth."

The prophecies of the pachacuti are known throughout the Andes. There are those who believe

the prophecies refer to the return of the leader Pachacuti to defeat those who took the Incas' land.

But according to Dr. Villoldo, the *return of Pachacuti* is taking place on the collective level.

"It's not the return of a single individual who embodies what we're becoming, but a process of emergence available to all peoples."

The Q'ero have served as the caretakers of the rites and prophecies of their Inca ancestors.

- The Munay Ki are a 'body' of teachings and practices, energetic empowerments and initiations that are created in their current form as a gift. A gift to help us, this current generation of people, at this time of the 'great turning.'
- They are a body of wisdom teachings that have been held in a sacred trust by generations of men and women in the Andes.
- They have a history, traditions, and a body of prophecies that have informed their creation so that we might share them.
- In their current form they are a collection of the lineage rites, energetic empowerments of the Qero, the Inca people, and of other Andean traditions.
- Created in a form that it is hoped people of all cultures and backgrounds on the planet, at this time, may be able to understand, accept and benefit from them.