

MYTH: is a story or example believed as true from a religion or culture group (usually an origin story)

- Myth comes from the Greek word “muthos” which means word. “Muthos” is not literal words (they are metaphors)
- “Logos” are literal words

LEGENDS: stories that may or not be believed

FAIRYTALES: Stories that start with “once upon a time” (e.g. Cinderella, Sleeping beauty, etc.) that have a moral part behind it

OCCULT: It is the hidden (suover natural) like the mark on the chocolate bar or soft drink (COR, MK)

MAGIC(K): Is the neutral force that is always preens and anyone can use. Like electricity is not good/bad but requires a professional. The person who added the (K) was Alister Crowley

MAGIC: stage magic, fight of hand, entertainment magic (e.g. pulling a rabbit out of the hat)

WITCHCRAFT

There are 5 different and unrelated phenomenon

1. Anthropological witchcraft: small religions and culture that didn't match christianity (spells, curses). Evil in part of practitioner not witch doctors. Shaman: one who masters and guides spirits (tungas people)
2. Historical witchcraft: it is the hunting of witches and burning them (it starts in 1400's in Italy not in the medieval ages). The peak of witches in the 1600's and 1700's way part the middle ages. All it took was accusation. Women were called witches and men were called warlocks. (Warlocks: waer loga meaning oath breaker)
3. Religious witchcraft: People identifies as witches to describe belief, they practice pre-christianity. Wicca is the religion, and women and men are called witches
4. Feminist / Goddess witchcraft: women that are not controlled by men. It has nothing to do with religion but more politics. Other religions didn't have female figures so they worship female divine beings. Starting in NA
5. Satan(ism): In christianity = god's evil opponent. Neo-satanists worship satan as divine figure. Narcissist. Self-worshipping

CLASSICAL STEREOTYPES

WITCH

- Female, never choose the title, they get their power from evil cast glamour spell.
- Classically: female, old, satanic, evil
- Tied to ricks if water lister her god loved.

WARLOCK

- Anglo-saxons “Waer Loga” or “Oath Breakers”
- Not to be trusted accused of women's miscarriages
- Classically: old, bad, evil

MAGICIAN/WIZARD

- Classically: old, men, study, chosen title, good

- Study occulted knowledge.
- They were employed by nobles (chose a good week to have a battle)
- Only serve whoever is paying them
- They advice more than use of spells
- Roots of 3 magi from old testament (astrology)
- Had to know how to undo spell.

SORCERER/ESS

- Classically: male or female, age independent, neutral, family knowledge
- It comes from a latin word (sorc)
- Means 'fate' meaning they read peoples fate and tried to counsel
- Faux-Amis: same word with different meanings (french sorcerer means witch)

CULTURE

- Society that shares beliefs, values, customs, behaviour, dresses
- Transmitted through learning (taught) and not biological
- People who study culture are anthropologists

TABOO

- A Tunisian word
- Taboo is something you cannot do or cannot say (e.g. you cannot sleep with one of your parents)
- A lot of taboos come from religion (e.g. same sex marriage) and culture

RITUAL: It is a number of acts done in group for a purpose (When a pope dies, they chose the new one they hold a cup of wine to show the blood of Christ, or putting on shoes before another because overtime you do that you win the game)

- A set of actions always done the same
- A right of passage (to become an insider)

SOCIAL CONSTRUCT

- Artificial categories to divide people by subsections (race). Race is mutable, it can change.
- e.g. apartheid: race law in South Africa. 3 Categories: white, black, coloured. Could not interact with those outside of categories.

METAPHOR: A direct comparison between two things (Adam is a turkey, which means Adam is so stupid). They are culture bonds

- Most religious language is metaphoric
- The 3 people of the book: christian, jew, muslim. All have abrahamic origins.
- All 3 faiths use metaphoric language only islam is discretely in arabic

HOLYDAYS

- Serious, fasting, periods of deprivation

FESTIVALS

- Joyous, food, colour, music

MYTHOLOGY: It is not false. Stories shared through generations about supernatural phenomenons. Univocal. No poetry.

AXIOLOGY: It is your value system, how you live your life, what is wrong or right

COSMOLOGY: is the world view, how and why you believe that world is the way it is (Are humans treated equally? Are men more important than women?) Also it deals with religion and culture.

Example of Axiology and Cosmology: Abortion, both Axiology and Cosmology will never agree on that topic because it is different from how you view things. (e.g. Is it a life from the day it starts or is it life after the 8 weeks, etc)

PEOPLES OF THE FAITH: Muslims, Jews and Christians

LIMINAL(ITY): in between, on the edge

DIFFERENT WAYS SOCIETY IS CONSTRUCTED

HUNTER/GATHERERS: Small scale society

- This is not evolutionary people
- They own what they can pack up and take with them
- Live on ranges, move everywhere 4 to 6 weeks depending on food source.
- Art doesn't exist, rather functional equipment
- Smallest unit: small groups of extended families, 10 to 15 people usually related by marriage or blood
- Spiritual beliefs:
 - They have celebrations few times a year (e.g. wedding) where they trade food and handcrafts
 - They do not recognize a hierarchy spiritually
 - Equal basis belief (Human=tree=bear). Ask for the spirits
 - Shamanic relations: bridge the human and non-human world more personal.

AGRARIAN/AGRICULTURALIST: Medium scale societies

- Make their own food. Domesticate animals. Cannot move in order to take care of their crops. The weather is extremely important because their plants and food rely on it
- Clan membership: non-direct relatives (100s)
- Breeding/Agriculture: breed animals to help humans. Make tastier/more food
- Spiritual belief:
 - Anthropomorphize: begin to have a god/goddess of wind, river, rain in order to pray to gods that suited their needs
 - Female rain = nurturing male rain = disaster
 - You begin to have a hierarchy, not more (1 on 1 relationship)
- Commerce:
 - People begin to specialize and trade due to extra time

URBAN: Large scale societies

- Large number of unrelated people living together (1K to 10K)
- People specialize and there is hierarchy (your job, class, name)
- The hierarchy:
 1. Elite (king, queens, royal family)
 2. Religion (red starts, priests)
 3. Noble
 4. Merchant (no control over your life)
 5. Poor (no control over your life)
- Divinity was mostly male
- Spiritual beliefs:
 - Must give offering to priest who prays for you (all jobs had a divine figure)
 - Supplication: inferior to a superior relationships, no guarantee of answered prayers

PAGANISM

- Religious outlook that is nature venerating and recognizes divine beings, gods, goddesses
- Modern pagans live intelligently in accordance with nature, nature seen as good sometimes. Have strong sense of spirit in place that has strong significant for people in that place

MONOTHEISM: Single divine figure (e.g. Judaism, Christianity, Islam)

POLYTHEISM: Many devine figures (e.g. gods/goddesses)

SUPPLICATION: Offers something in exchange for something