

Presentation by Angaangaq Angakkorsuaq - Greenland

My name is Angaangaq, and that means 'the man who looks like his uncle'. So if nothing else, now you have a new uncle from Greenland.

I just want to tell you that now I understand why there are no Eskimo living in Rome: it is simply too hot! I have no idea how you can live here, it is so hot.

But before that...in my tradition...I would like to honor my ancestors. Our beloved grandmother, Aanakasaa, told us that none of us – that includes all of us here – can live on this Earth without our ancestors. And thus we honor them [*chant of the Ancestors*].

Spiritual reflections. It's very interesting that, for some reason, I was given that task. How do we do that? I don't know if I told you, I am a carrier of an instrument which is called Qilaut which means 'an instrument from the Great Sky'. The old people say that the old shamans would travel to the Big Sky. When they come home, they would tell what they saw, whom they met, what they experienced and what they heard. But when it comes to what they heard they could not repeat.

Then, one day, somebody arrived in the village, and he brought this one [*shows the Qilaut*].

The visitor asked the old shaman: "may I?" And he did this [*beats on the Qilaut*]. And the old shaman said: "Oh, this is what we hear when we travel onto a journey into the Great Sky!"

So her name is Qilaut which means an instrument from the Great Sky.

In our belief – and we are old: my grandmother's village, my family has lived there for more than five thousand years. I am very old, but thank goodness of l'Oreal I don't seem so old. You know what I mean, that kind of cream...

They say that you and I, we belong in a circle. It is so interesting. The circle which has no beginning, no ending, in which we all belong. In the East, when the sun rises, she is always yellow. And through RAI Italian TV station, we learnt that there are actually yellow people on this Earth.

Isn't it amazing! Isn't it amazing that there are actually yellow people on this Earth, like the rising of the sun?

And in the South where the sun shines highest upon us, she is always white. And lo and behold, through RAI TV we have learnt that there are actually white people on this Earth! Isn't it amazing that there are actually white people on this Earth!

Then in the West, where the sun sets, she is always red. And I am one of these people, because I come from Greenland which is part of the American, North- and South American continent. My grandmother would tell us: "You are as red as the setting of the sun." So I am a red man. And because of RAI TV we know that we do exist. I met my family from South America, Panamerica and North America, we are all red people, and we are as red as the setting of the sun.

Then, at night, it is always black. And because of RAI TV we know that there are actually black people on this Earth. Isn't it amazing that we have yellow people, we have white people, we have red people and we have black people!? And we all belong in the same circle. The circle which has no beginning, no ending, in which we all belong.

The beauty of the circle is that we cannot see each others' back, and the strength of the circle is that we can only see each other's beauty. Can you imagine for a moment, thinking that you can never hear somebody putting someone down from their back, because we cannot see each other's backs. No one can ever be belittled, no one can ever be ignored; no one can ever be put down, because we all belong into the same circle. My grandmother – you should meet her, she is quite an incredible being – she says, the greatest illness of mankind is not tuberculosis. Because when I was born...71 years, oh, I must be very old, 71 years old! Do I look very old? Never change your glasses!

She says the greatest illness is not tuberculosis, the greatest illness of mankind is that you put each other down behind somebody's back. You backbite on people and belittle them, ignoring them, not recognising them, not honoring, not respecting them, but most of all - not loving them.

That's the spiritual significance of the circle. My prayer is that, one day you and I will be able to look at each other and recognise each other as humans. The beauty of us is that we are so different from one another. Can you imagine that everyone is like a lavender field? It will look stunningly beautiful for a moment, but few minutes later it will become monotonous. As beautiful as lavender is, it will become monotonous. But when we turn around to the next field, we can see all the flowers, all the different flowers that you are. Can you imagine to look at that field – everyone has their beauty. Everyone has a significance in them which is worth knowing.

This is why I told the people of the Vatican the other day that no one ever invited me for a cup of coffee. And people reacted to that: I have never drunk so much coffee! Everybody offered me coffee. One woman dropped it on the floor, I went down to lick the coffee, because it was a gift.

And that's what we need to do. My grandmother says that there is only one sun, and lo and behold, Nasa proved that there is only one sun, the big star shining upon us. And there is only one moon, and Nasa told that. And she says, if there is only one sun, then there must be only one creator.

I never met Him. I talk to Him quite often, but He seems to be busy, He is getting ready for the Sunday, so He is not listening to me. But hopefully Monday morning, if I am awake, I will talk to Him.

And I would realise that He brought the teachings to everyone of us. I am from a shamanic family, I had to learn to recognize 'religion'. The Christian religion in my country is less than three hundred years old. When they came, they were not very good. The men took the women; they didn't ask permission, they just took the women. That's what the Christians did, but when you look at the teachings of Christ, it's stunningly beautiful.

Of course, Abraham, when he came, he introduced us to something called God. Then came Moses, Krishna, Zoroastra, and Buddha, Christ, Mohammed, Báb and Baha'u'llah –

nine big religions on this Earth. We all believe in the same thing. There is only one sun and that shines upon us every day. And there is only one moon. But because you live here, you will go through difficult times. Then the moon will come and will shine upon you, so you will always have hope. Do you know what the moon brings? The light of the sun.

I pray that you and I will be able to look at each other, as doing today, as we are, carrying the message of Creator. The beloved one has many names, his name is Abraham, Mosos, Krishna, Buddha, Christ, Mohammed, Báb, Baha'u'llah. Before that, in the beginning, the shamans – and I am one of them. [*Chant*]

And after every prayer, when we send our prayer, we will send our prayer, my prayer, your prayer, with my breath [*breathing*]. So when it comes to God, He will look at his Samsung computer and He will say, 'Oh, that's from Uncle!' That's how He knows that I prayed. Some people say it's Apple, but apples are only for eating, Samsung are for computers. Now you know. Ho Ho!