

Title: Joroterapia: Taking Care of People by Treating their History

Presenting author name: Alice Ranorojaona Pélerin

Affiliation details of Presenting author: Joroterapia SAS Independent Researcher Reunion Island

Abstract:

Alice Ranorojaona-Pelerin practiced biomedicine in Réunion for 33 years, during which time she often felt helpless in the face of the number of psychosomatic cases not treated by biomedicine. She continually sought to supplement her knowledge by training in victimology and ethnomedicine. At the age of 50, she crossed her native island, Madagascar, from north to south for seven months and connected with her Malagasy culture, primarily ancestor worship and second funerals. She drew inspiration from this to create a method for understanding and concretely resolving anthropological problems and curing many psychosomatic cases. She calls this method Joroterapia. It involves exploring the person's psychogenealogical history in search of painful events that could have left them with suffering inherited from their predecessors. She accompanies him in his mourning to help him soothe his emotions while resolving, at the same time, the psychosomatic symptoms. This method can help the elderly to free themselves from old genealogical problems, to put their emotions and their bonds with their loved ones in order, to restore the lessons that all the trials of life can bring to their descendants. It can also give meaning to their lives. Joroterapia was the subject of the doctoral thesis of Dr. Ranorojaona-Pélerin Alice, defended at the University of La Réunion on September 10, 2018. Since then, Dr. Ranorojaona-Pélerin Alice has continued her research on this method, a transdisciplinary process drawing on the human sciences, as well as sciences such as mathematics, physics or neuroscience, but always centered on the culture and representations of the person concerned.



Biography:

Dr. Alice Ranorojaona Pélerin has been retired since 2023 from her medical exercise. She completed her training with psychotraumatology, ethnomedicine, and with a doctorate in anthropology. She was a teacher for the university degree in ethnomedicine, and the university diploma in palliative care at UFR Health in Reunion. She worked at the penitentiary center in Reunion with the Joroterapia to accompany prisoners in a program entitled "Treating one's history".