

## CONTENTS

Preface	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
I. Introduction: Prophecy in Cross-Cultural Perspective	1
Points-of-View on the Prophets	1
Methodological Considerations	4
Terminology	7
Categories of Comparison	10
II. Texts	21
<i>The Americas</i>	23
1. An Insider's View of the Dynamics of Shamanism	23
2. Contacting the Spirits in the Shaking Tent	59
3. The Yuwipi Cult Among Contemporary Sioux	77
4. Navajo Diagnosticians	87
5. Handsome Lake: The Intermediary as Founder of a New Religion	101
6. Wovoka, the Indian "Messiah," and the Ghost Dance of 1890	122
7. Consulting the Spirits at an Umbanda Center	142
<i>The Arctic</i>	149
8. Siberian Shamanism	149
9. Shamanism Among the North American Eskimo	203
<i>Africa</i>	215
10. Two Nuer Prophets and Their Pyramid	215
11. Spirit Mediums Among the Shona	230
<i>India</i>	249
12. Spirit Possession and Its Mythic Prototype	249
13. Hill Saora Shamans and Their Tutelaries	260
<i>The Pacific</i>	285
14. Kamoai, "Canoe" of the Goddess Jari	285
15. The Community Designates a "Cargo Prophet"	295

III.	The Sociology of Storytelling and the Transmission and Preservation of the Intermediary's Words	309
	Oral Tradition and the Old Testament Prophets	310
	The Sociology of Storytelling	314
	The Development of the Handsome Lake Tradition: A Case Study	321
	Texts	329
IV.	Anthropological Materials and the Old Testament	333
	Some Anthropological Perspectives on Old Testament Prophecy	333
	Concluding Thoughts on Method	340
	Bibliography	343
	Subject Index	365
	Index to Marginal Notations	000