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DIALOGUE ON RESPONSIBLE TOURISM AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA: 13-14 FEBRUARY 2014

The “For ME” Story

The Grandmothers sat around the fireside, each wrapped in a colorful blanket. They had come from all corners of the Earth, from all cultures – seven of them in all, each one of them representing each continent and the 7 Generations that were to be a part of the future. They were well pleased for the lessons that they had come to impart had at long last been heard, absorbed and embraced. The Earth upon which they sat was being honored and treated as Sacred. All was as it should be. The wholeness of Mother Earth had been restored through the wonder, beauty and gentle strength that had been found in the balance of the Divine Feminine having been restored.

Indeed, they reflected upon the special generation of women that had heeded their call. These younger women they had mentored were filled with courage, purpose, and poise had heard the call of the grandmothers. The grandmothers recalled how desperate the plight of the planet and her people had become. It was just a few years earlier that all could have been lost. Each of the grandmothers had at the time identified an initiate, a maiden who was to learn the time honored traditions of the Sacred Feminine. The 7 Grandmothers had looked to the teachings from all cultures and traditions that were found on the planet that each had brought into this Sacred Circle. For in amongst these traditions were the timeless, honored authentic truths of what it meant to walk in beauty as a woman.

It was over the last few decades that the gentle strength of the Grandmothers made their presence felt. They all knew that women needed guidance and the inner wisdom and teachings that were timeless and in touch with the rhythms, the ebb and flow of the Earth. It was time for a healing of the feminine, time to create a world in which both men and women could walk in balance and beauty – co-creating instead of competing. Their role and the role of each of the Maidens they had mentored, was to embrace the beauty to be found in being women. It mattered not from which culture, custom, religion or country the women of the world came, the teachings were universal in their truth. For at the core was the inner wisdom of the gentle strength of all that it meant to be a woman, creative, nurturing, receptive and most of all coming from a love of Self. This was the way for a more harmonious, peace filled world, where there was enough for all, where networks of co-creation developed newer, better and more effective ways of living and being. A re-newed way of life that honored the Sacred gifts of each person, in the full understanding that each had gifts to bestow that benefited the whole.