



UNIVERSIDAD
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MAPUCHE FOLK TALES

MAPUCHE EPEW



PAMELA CORREA GURTUBAY Y SOFÍA VALDÉS FUENTES
Relatos de María Paz Vargas Quidel

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EPEW

INTRODUCTION

MAPUCHE FOLK TALES

Mari Mari kompu che (hello everyone),
inche Alen pingan (my name is Alen)
and I want to invite you to learn about
my people, our culture and traditions. Join
me on an adventure to get to know the
beauty of my people!

Many centuries ago, my people lived
between what we today know as Santiago
and the Chiloé Island. Many of us still live
here. **The mapuche** (people from the land)



and chileans live close to each other. We can also meet mapuche people that live across the Andes mountains, in the south of Argentina. There are many cities and places that still have mapuche names.

As a people, we believe and respect the **ñuke mapu** (mother earth), the **antü** (the sun) and the **küyen** (the moon), because they are part of our beautiful home, to which we belong and that gives us life.

In these **epew** (tales) we can explore my life as a mapuche together. I invite

The **ñuke mapu** is very important because it represents everything that is on Planet Earth. That means plants, animals and all living beings.



you to meet my family, my friends, and learn about my favorite food and places in the **mapu** (mapuche land).

It is important for us to keep our culture, language and traditions alive.

KÜME AKÜIMI! (WELCOME!)

?

Did you know there are mapuche words that describe the characteristics of a place? Some city name's examples are: Pichilemu **Pichi** (small) / **lemu** (forest) and Bucalemu **Buca** (big) / **lemu** (forest)?





EL NGILLATUN (CEREMONY)

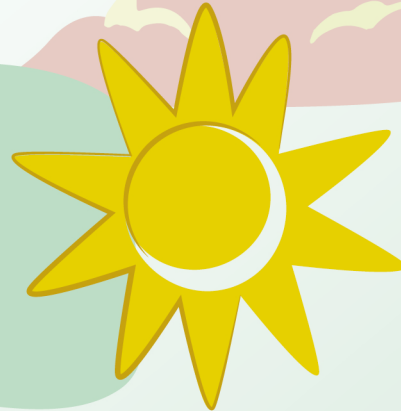
I want to tell you an **epew** (story) about our ceremonies. Two years ago, I was invited to a **Ngillatun**, a ritual of my people. I went with a **weñui** (friend), who is called **Nahuel** (tiger)

and who is also **mapuche**. We were both excited because it was the first time we went to such an important ceremony. My **weñui** and I had to meet at the main square to wait for a bus that would take us to the **Ngillatun**. Apart from that, my **ñuke** (mother) told us to carry food to share with the community. We also brought a **makuñ** (blanket) and a **trarilongko** (wool headband) to participate in the ceremony.





Did you know that mapuche people also celebrate the winter solstice called **We Tripantu**, which is when the new year begins?



When the bus arrived, we got on and we saw a lot of **mapuche** who carried **kultrun** (traditional drum), a **ñolkin** (traditional wind instrument) and a **kaskawilla** (percussion instrument). They came from all over the **mapu** (mapuche land). When we were already on the bus, we saw a woman who was wearing some beautiful and sparkling jewelry. It was a **trapelakucha** (large silver necklace) and a **trarilongko**.

?

Did you know that the **foye rou** is a tree that has healing powers for the skin by speeding up the process?



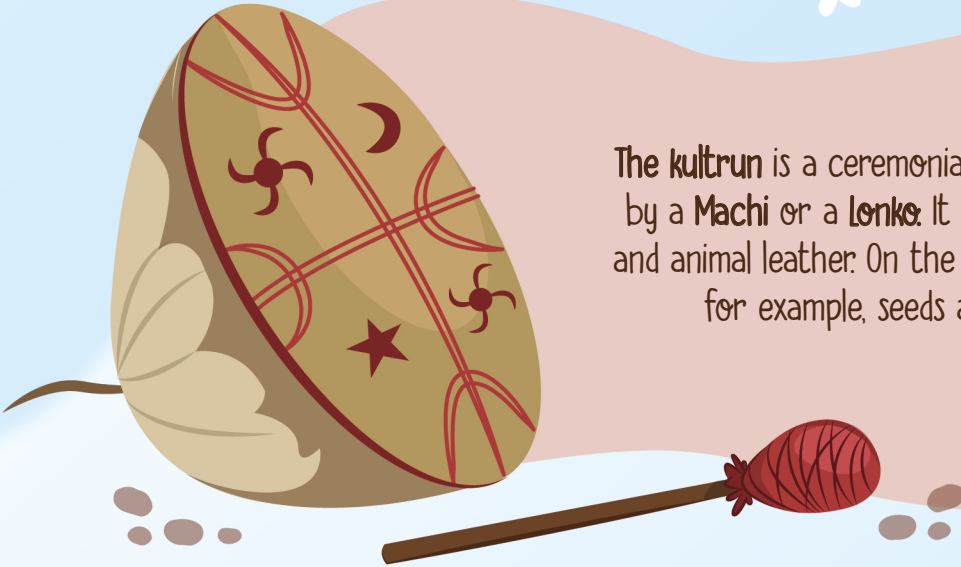
She was also carrying a **foye rou** (branch of cinnamon) and a **kultrun** (traditional drum). When we arrived and got off the bus, many **peñi** (brothers) and **lamngen** (sisters) greeted her. It seemed like she was very famous. Then we realised that we had been traveling with Mrs. Candelaria Huenumil, the **Machi**.

A **Machi** is a person who is in charge of the well-being of the community, but not anyone can become a **Machi**. It is a calling that someone must have through a dream.





The **kultrun** is a ceremonial instrument used by a **Machi** or a **Lonko**. It is made of wood and animal leather. On the inside, it contains for example, seeds and stones.



We met **Likan** (quartz), another **weñui** (friend) that had been participating in many other **Ngillatun**. He asked us to be helpers and care for the energy of the place. Then, we put on our **kollong** (masks) and we stood at the entrance. In the middle of the place was the **rewe** (wooden totem) and three **Machi** that sang with their huge

kultrun. Around them there were many **peñi** (brother) and **lamngen** (sister) dancing the **choyke purrun** (the ostrich dance) and singing with all the **newen** (energy). Sometimes they got tired and drank **muzay** (beverage made of wheat). After that, they continued dancing barefoot so they could feel the **newen** (energy) from the ground.

While the music was playing **Likan** (quartz) asked me to dance with him. He introduced me to a **weñui** (friend) who was called **Millaray** (golden flower) and she was the **lonko's** (leader of the community) daughter. We were happily dancing for many hours. When we said goodbye she gave me a blue bracelet made of beads with a **wangülen** (a single white star) to remember that day.

The ceremony was very special. We all went back home with our hearts full of joy.






ÑUKE MAPU

(MOTHER EARTH)

Did you know that our people's knowledge is transferred through generations by the eldest people in the **reñima** (family)? That's right friends! I will tell you an **epew** (tale) about the importance of the **itrofill mongen** (five kingdoms of living things) for us.






I remember that my **laku** (grandfather) used to sit next to the **kütral** (bonfire) and tell us about how important it is to care for the **mapu** (mapuche land). One time, he told us the story of a **pillan** (volcano) that was breathing. Yes, it was breathing! And every time it did so, more and more clouds appeared in the sky. When that happened everyone had to go to the edge of the **pillan** (volcano) and pray for it to calm down and bring it gifts like **kako** (wheat), **kofke** (bread), **kofke kura** (round big bread baked in the ashes of a bonfire) and **alficha** (peas).

So, the people spent all day at the **Llellipun** (ceremony), asking it to protect us. After that, the people walked down from the edge and washed their faces with the **ko** (water) of the **trayenko** (waterfall), to clean our hearts.



Did you know that this ritual is done in a **ruka** (house) early in the morning facing the sunrise, to give thanks for the day before, and to ask for a great new day?






My hometown **Melipeuco** (a place where 4 waterfalls meet) is surrounded by **trayenko** (waterfall). The **ko** (water) is so powerful that it falls in the shape of waterfalls all around us. Sometimes, we go and wash our faces with water to purify ourselves. That means that we still do things that the eldest used to do. Can you believe it? Besides that, the town is surrounded by enormous evergreen **pewen** (monkey puzzle tree). With my **refima** (family), we go and collect the **ngülliu** (seeds) that we use in our food.

Can you see **pichikeche** (boys and girls)
that we take care of our **ñuke mapu**
(Mother Earth) for everything it gives
us? It's an incredible experience.

I invite you to take care of her!

CHALTUMAY!
(THANK YOU VERY MUCH!)

An illustration of two people, a woman on the left and a man on the right, both crying with their hands covering their faces. They are standing in front of a large, blue waterfall. The woman is wearing a blue jacket and has a braid. The man is wearing a tan shirt. There are green bushes in the foreground and background. A speech bubble with a question mark is above the woman, and a speech bubble with text is next to it. Two pinecones are floating in the air to the left of the speech bubble.

Did you know that
they pewen seeds
are edible and that
can be prepared in
different dishes?



PU NGEN

(THE SPIRITS)

Mari mari pu pichikeche! (Hello boys and girls!) I want to tell you a story that my **kuku** (paternal grandmother) told me. She told us that the **pichikeche** (boys and girls) cannot walk around alone at **pun** (night), because at that time the **weza newen** (bad energy) is hiding to reach people and can cause **kütran** (illness).

Did you know mapuche call their maternal grandmother **chuchu**?

?





Many years ago, a boy called **Kalfü** (blue) walked out of his **ruka** (house) without permission.


On his way, **Kalfü** (blue) was **ayukülen** (happy) walking through the **lemu** (forest) when he saw an enormous **pewen** (monkey puzzle tree). Suddenly, a strong wind came. He got scared and started to scream, while in another part of the **lemu** (forest) his **reñma** (family) were looking for him. When they heard him scream again, his **ñuke** (mother) knew where he was and ran to go and find him.

A **ruka** is a traditional **mapuche** house made of wood and different elements found in nature and the door must always be facing where the sun sets.

On the way back to the **ruka** (house), his **ñuke** (mother) and his **chaw** (father) told him he had to go to the **lawentuchefe** (doctor that knows about medicinal herbs).


With the great fear he had felt he could have kept some **weza newen** (bad energy). On the next day, they went to see her and told her what had happened with their **fofüm** (son). The **lawentuchefe** (doctor that knows about medicinal herbs) told **Kallfü** (blue) that he should not do that again because he had to act **norche** (do the right thing /act correctly).





She gave him a glass with **lawen** (medicinal herbs) that she had prepared to remove the **weza newen** (bad energy) and then could finally keep calm again and carry on.

His parents were thankful and **Kallfü** (blue) understood that he did not have to leave the **ruka** (house) without their permission.

- 
- Did you know that while a **lawentuchefe** knows about medicinal herbs, the **Machi** also knows about spirits?

Pu weñui (friends): when you want to go to the **lemu** (forest) ask your parents for permission. In the forest there is life and there are some **pu Ngen** (spirits) that care for that life. In that way no **weza newen** (bad energy) will scare you.

PEUKAYALL! (SEE YOU!)



MAPUCHE RECIPE

PEPILKANTUN MUZAY

(HOW TO PREPARE THE MUZAY)

Pu weñui (friends): Do you remember the story of the **Ngillatun**? When we dance at the ceremonies we get tired and sometimes we stop to recover **newen** (energy) to continue. At that moment, we drink a really tasty drink, delicious and healthy for us mapuche. I want to share it with you. I asked my **ñuke** (mother) how it is made.

Ingredients:

- 1 **kiñe** (cup) of **kachilla** (wheat)
- 1 liter of **ko** (water)
- 2 **epu** (tablespoons) of **miski** (honey)

You will need:

- 1 bowl
- 1 **chaiwe** (basket)
- 1 **metawe** (mug)
- 1 **challa** (pot)





Directions:

1. (KIÑE): Wash the **kachilla** (wheat)
2. (EPU): In a bowl with **ko** (water) add the **kachilla** (wheat) and let it simmer for an hour.
3. (KÜLA): Filter the water with a **chaiwe** (basket) and pour in a **metawe** (mug).
4. (MELI): Remove the warm cooked **kachilla** (wheat) and put on a grindstone.
5. (KECHU): Put the ground **kachilla** (wheat) in a **challa** (pot) and let it simmer for an hour.
6. (KAYU): Stir slowly and add **miski** (honey).
7. (REGLE): Remove from the **kütral** (fire) once it is warm and put it in a bowl.
8. (PURRA): Serve and drink the **Muzay**.

KÜME ZUNGU! (IT'S VERY GOOD!)
ENJOY!





1. **Ñuke mapu:** Mother Earth
2. **Antü:** sun
3. **Küyen:** moon
4. **Ngillatun:** ceremony to thank and ask for harvests
5. **Weñui:** friend
6. **Nahuel:** tiger
7. **Ñuke:** mother
8. **Maküñ:** blanket
9. **Trarilongko:** headband made of wool
10. **Kultrun:** percussion instrument
11. **Ñolkin:** traditional wind instrument
12. **Kaskawilla:** rattle instrument
13. **Trapelakucha:** large silver necklace worn by women
14. **Foye rou:** cinnamon tree branch
15. **Peñi:** brother
16. **Iamngen:** sister
17. **Machi:** male or female Mapuche authority
18. **Kollong:** mask
19. **Rewe:** wood totem
20. **Choyke purrun:** ostrich dance
21. **Newen:** energy
22. **Millaray:** gold flower
23. **Longko:** community leader
24. **Wangülen:** star
25. **Reñima:** family
26. **Chaw:** father
27. **Fotüm:** son
28. **laku:** grandfather
29. **Kuku:** paternal grandmother



SEARCH AND FIND



1. **Itrofill mungen:** nature
2. **Kütral:** bonfire
3. **Pillan:** volcano
4. **Kako:** husked wheat
5. **Kofke:** bread
6. **Kofke kura:** round big bread baked in the ashes of a bonfire
7. **Allficha:** peas
8. **Ko:** water
9. **Trayenko:** waterfall
10. **Pewen:** monkey puzzle tree
11. **Ngülliu:** monkey puzzle tree seed
12. **Pichikeche:** children
13. **Weza newen:** bad energy
14. **Kütran:** illness
15. **Kalfü:** blue
16. **Ruka:** house
17. **lemu:** forest
18. **Pun:** night
19. **lawentuchefe:** female doctor that knows about medicinal herbs
20. **Norche:** acting correctly
21. **Newen:** energy
22. **lawen:** medicinal herb
23. **Ngen:** spirit
23. **Muzay:** beverage made of wheat
24. **Kachilla:** wheat
25. **Chaiwe:** basket
26. **Metawe:** jar
27. **Challa:** pan
28. **Miski:** honey



SEARCH AND FIND



