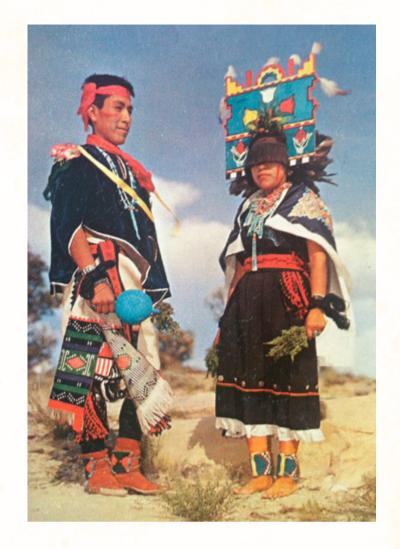


B A H A N A

ahana is a central figure in Hopi eschatology. This esoteric being, capable of taking human form, possesses supernatural powers and has the mission of restoring order and virtue to the Earth.

According to Hopi tradition, humanity has passed through three stages, each marked by corruption and a departure from the teachings of the Great Spirit. As a result, humanity has been almost completely annihi-



lated by natural catastrophes, leaving only a few virtuous survivors. In the most recent purification episode, the survivors were guided by a Great Chief who carved Sacred Stone Tablets containing revelations, laws, and prophecies.

The Great Chief had two sons, the Younger Brother and the Elder Brother, named Bahana. The Younger Brother would remain in the lands of the Great Spirit in the East, while Bahana was to travel in search of him. Together, they would bring about the next Day of Purification when this stage of humanity also becomes corrupt. Thus, they would establish true justice and peace on Earth.

Bahana will appear as an all-powerful being, dressed in a Red Cloak, and will belong to no known religion. He will be accompanied by two

very powerful beings, identified by solar symbols. His arrival will precede the Day of Purification, during which the Earth will tremble and calamities will ensue. Bahana will then seek the Sacred Stone Tablets to fulfill his mission. If he succeeds and some Hopi remain faithful to the Great Spirit, the Great Spirit will manifest and establish a new era of peace and eternal life.



Bahana is a **HOPI** creature Current population: 12.000



he Hopi Indians, belonging to the Pueblo group, have a rich history that dates back over a thousand years in northeastern Arizona. Sedentary and peaceful, they developed an advanced agricultural culture with irrigation systems and terraces. Despite the arrival of the Spaniards in the 16th century, they managed to preserve much of their cultural heritage.

The life of the Hopi is deeply connected to the land and agriculture, cultivating corn, beans, and squash. Their villages on rocky mesas provide protection and strategic views. The society is matrilineal, with women owning the land and homes, while men handle religious ceremonies and community affairs. A ceremonial calendar dictates agricultural activities and festivities.

Hopi mythology and religion focus on harmony with nature and the cosmos. They believe in a single God and in the "kachina" spirits. Kachina rituals, involving masks and costumes, invoke natural forces and ancestors. Their prophecies guide their conduct and warn about the future, and have had a profound impact on countercultural movements worldwide.

Today, the Hopi face significant challenges. Modernity and external influence have changed their way of life, affecting their environment through mining and water and land conservation issues. Additionally, they struggle to preserve their language and ancestral knowledge. The Hopi Reservation, located in northeastern Arizona and surrounded by the Navajo Nation, is the current home of most of the Hopi population. Despite these challenges, they remain resilient, working to maintain their cultural and spiritual identity.

