



· K A N M A R E ·

Kanmare, the Rainbow Serpent, is one of the great spirits that participated, in Dreamtime, in the creation of the current world. At that time, the earth was barren and without form, and was modeled by these beings. Kanmare emerged from the bottom of the earth, and in his ascent he created peaks, mountains and ravines, while pushing the earth upwards.



It is a giant snake, and lives in wells of water that never dry. Control all the water in the earth.

She is a benevolent protector of people, but she also severely punishes offenders of her law, and is associated with life and fertility.

It is in charge of renewing the water reserves, for what it has formed with its channels of bodies, ravines and lakes. Without it, it would never rain and the earth would dry up.

For the Yalarrnga, Kanmare is also responsible for granting the power to cure medicine-men. To do this, he first appears to a man while fishing, and makes him sick for five days. At the end of that time, another medicine-man must practice a ritual by extracting from the inside of the body an object that Kanmare placed there. Thus the patient is cured, invested with the powers of a doctor.



Kanmare is a **YALARRNGA** creature
Current population: 798.365
(all aboriginal people)

Australian Aboriginal peoples come from ancient migrations, dating back 60,000 years, during the Pleistocene, from South Asia. At that time you could cross from island to island, many of them joined by isthmus, or in short canoe trips.

These populations, long before the development of agriculture and livestock, remained isolated from the rest of the world for tens of thousands of years, spreading throughout the continent and multiplying in hundreds of tribes and languages, and reaching a population of 300,000 individuals at the arrival of the English.

All these populations maintained a similar way of life, based on hunting (male) and gathering (female), and on nomadic life. They slept



under the sky, protecting themselves from the wind with barriers of branches and the cold, occasionally with hogeras. These peoples were not warriors and were not divided into classes, lacking even each tribe's government structure or private property.

In all these tribes plays a very important role in Dreamtime, the sacred time in which the world was formed by the work of the divine forces. The rituals, centered in sacred places and where dance and singing play an essential role, highlight the link of the tribe with the land and with the ancestors.

The English colonization from the 18th century meant the pillage of the aboriginal lands, considered 'no man's land' by the invaders, and their exile in the desert. Far from their territories and with their way of life and spiritual ties destroyed, the aboriginal peoples declined in number and strength, despite notable cases of resistance.

Only at the end of the 20th century were some rights granted to the aborigines, and some lands were returned to them. At present, 20 of the more than 200 existing languages are preserved.

Among the languages in danger of extinction is the Yalarrnga. The village located in one of the hardest and warmest areas of the country, next to the Simpson desert, the Yalarrnaga have their traditional lands between Cloncurry, Dajarra and Boulia, in Queensland. In their sacred lands, the most profitable mines in Australia are exploited.