The handle http://hdl.handle.net/1887/68891 holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Pesoutova, J.

**Title:** Indigenous ancestors and healing landscapes: cultural memory and intercultural communication in the Dominican Republic and Cuba

**Issue Date:** 2019-01-23
Acknowledgments

Many people have influenced the journey that resulted in this manuscript. I am grateful to my supervisor Prof. Corinne Hofman for having given me the opportunity to participate in a project full of inspiring colleagues, teaching me about histories and cultures of the Caribbean and facilitating me the contact with the Caribbean scholars. Since the beginning of this project Dr. Jorge Ulloa Hung and Dr. Roberto Valcárcel took time to orient me in the great amount of the historical and existing archeological studies, and offered me crucial support in the preparation of and conduct of fieldworks. They not only provided me with feedback on this work but inspired me as a person. I am also grateful to have received the support of my colleague Dr. Jimmy Mans who especially in the first half of the trajectory offered me his guidance, and shaped my approach by providing me recommendations of seminal works. I owe a great debt of gratitude to Prof. Maarten Jansen for his patience, vital guidance, recommending me literature and including me in discussions and meetings of the department of the Heritage and rights of indigenous peoples. The work presented here would not be also possible without the caring support and inspiration of Aurora Jiménez Peréz, a scholar and defender of indigenous rights, who made me aware of persisting social struggles of the indigenous peoples throughout the world.

Special thanks and gratitude deserve those who accompanied me on my journeys in the Dominican Republic: Adrian Rivera, Roberto Torres, Richard Peña, and Abelito Gonzáles. This whole dissertation would never be possible without the kindness, patience and knowledge that many Cuban and Dominican contributors have shared with me. I opted for the term contributors as it better reflected the importance of their collaboration and participation. Various local mentors and specialists have trusted me, shared with me their wisdom about medicinal plants, their worldviews and traditions. The list of those to whom I am grateful is very long but to mention just a few, I would like to thank again my Dominican contributors: Giovanni Guzmán from Haina, J. A. (Toño) Arias Peláez, Glenys Tavarez, Arlene Alvarez, Jypsy Matamoros, the family Torres especially Lucilo Torres Valdés from La Luperona, José Sadi and Estela Pérez from Loma de Guayacanes, family Gonzáles from Loma Atravesada. Likewise I am grateful for the time and information provided by Mrs. Esperanza from Guananico, brothers Morillo Martínez from Caño Miguel, Mrs. Felicia Ulloa from la Trinchera, Eloi Cruz, Cundo, Bonilla, Mrs. Mayra Dominques from Villa Isabel, families Álvarez, González, and Mr. Álvarez from Chacuey. From the Valverde region conversations also with the following were very helpful: Clementio Olivo, Maria Tati, José Fermín Ramón, Ramón Nevera, Mamita Rojas, Francisco Muñoz Ferniz, Antonio Almonte Cruz, Margarita Martínez, Juan Julio Castillo, Papito Polanco, Domingo Antonio Batista Costa, Ramón Díaz, Solillo Acosta, Cirillo Acerado Hernández, Francisco Basilio, Ramon Díaz and Ciprín Cruz, Martin Nuesis, Maria Nomenclia Flora, and Domingo Antonio Batista Costa. Various consults with healers such as Boby, Benito, Bololo, Dany, Dora, Dulce, Estela, Evita, Florinda, Flor, Juancito, Librado, Kukita, Mayra, Maribel, and Simona from Valverde region were important.

Similarly, many inhabitants of Bánica contributed in various way to this study. Among them were H. Gómez, L. De La Rosa Alcántara, Benjamín Alcántara, León Alcántara, Filomeno M. Alcántara, Hermania Alcántara, María García Alcántara, Carmela Alcántara, De La Rosa de Oro, Javier De Los Santos, Manuel M. Moreta De Los Santos, and Arturo Valenzuela from Pedro Santana. Among the inhabitants of Boyá my gratitude and best wishes go to: Dorotea Mejía, María Mejía, Juan Peña Valera, Héctor Zambrano, Felipe Ortiz from Naranjo, Ramona González Moreno. Several inhabitants of Boca de Mana shared with me their knowledge about fascinating local traditions; among these were: Julián De La Rosa, Juan Pablo Rosario Araujo, José Isabel Jiménez de Los Santos, Candelaria Bautista De La Rosa, Estefania De La Rosa, and Mirella from Boca de Mana.

Throughout my fieldwork in Cuba I was accompanied by Julio Corba Calzado, Hugo Armas, María Palmares, J. Yero Masdeu, Lourdes Perez Iglesias, Juan J. Guarch Rodriguez, Benedicto Paz, David Lester.
and Marcos Rodríguez Matamoros (R.I.P). The knowledge of Cuban contributors has also enriched the construction of this work. I would like to thank again my co-supervisors’ families and especially their spouses Idalmis Hernández and Jypsis Matamoros for creating for me a stable temporal home. Various Jiguaniceros have contributed, particularly Celida Hernández Reyes, Harvin Ramírez Reyes, Santos Anayas Castillo, Jínez Sánchez, Alberto Pérez. I owe also gratitude to Caridad Rodríguez Cullel (R.I.P.), M. Sánchez González, L.R. Fout Cruz, D. M. Rodríguez Sánchez, T. Rodríguez González, J. M. Gutiérrez Parrón, F. Zaldívar Rojas, D. Rodríguez Morales from Fray Benito, J. Gutiérrez from Chorro de Maita, R. Segura Hidalgo, C. Portelles, E. Avila Rojas, M. Álvarez Hernández from Barajagua, O. I. Zalazar Gonzáles, A. D. Campo Tarrago from Managuaco, Escalona Galán and his grandfather from Barajagua, family Los Zaldívar from Fray Benito, Jerónimo Santana, Torre Anguilera, José Corella Varona and Tomás Rodríguez Gonzáles from Gibara. This dissertation was also not possible without the support of Cristian Martínez (Museo Del Hombre Dominicano) and Elena Guarch Rodríguez (CITMA). In short, I am very grateful to all people that I have met during my fieldwork have facilitated me important information or shaped the content of this study.

Many thanks also to Andy Ciofalo and Angus Martin who with great patience have edited the grammar of this manuscript. To Daniel Antonio Guarch Pérez, Jypsis Matos Mora, for helping me with the transcription of some interviews and to Simone Cassale for creating the maps displayed in this dissertation. I am also very grateful to my colleagues who provided me with constructive feedback during our review sessions and team support and in particular to Adrian Gomes and Sony Jean who commented on some of these chapters. I am thankful to my family, friends and Tashunka for their support and patience throughout my PhD trajectory.
Curriculum vitae

Jana Pešoutová was born in Český Brod, Czech Republic in 1987. After obtaining her bachelor’s degree in applied linguistics at Palacký University in Olomouc in 2010, she moved to the Netherlands where she completed her Master in the Management of Cultural Diversity. Drawing on theories from social psychology, her master’s thesis focused on the impact of the social exclusion and its relationship with extremism among the youth. From 2013 she carried out her doctoral research as a part of the 1492 Nexus project at Faculty of Archeology, Leiden University, The Netherlands.