Curing and Healing

Medical Anthropology in Global Perspective

SECOND EDITION

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DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS
Durham, North Carolina
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Dr. Pamela J. Stewart (Strathern) and Prof. Andrew Strathern are a husband and wife research team in the Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh. They are also affiliated scholars at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland (RIISS) and the University of Durham, U.K. For many years they have carried out research in the Pacific (including the Hagen, Duna, and Pangia areas of the Highlands of Papua New Guinea), Asia (primarily Taiwan), and Europe (focusing on Scotland and Ireland). They have published over 35 books and hundreds of articles on their research. They are the Editors of the “Ritual Studies Monograph Series” and the “Medical Anthropology Series” for Carolina Academic Press. Their recent co-authored books include: “Witchcraft, Sorcery, Rumors, and Gossip” (Stewart and Strathern, Cambridge University Press, 2004) and “Empowering the Past, Confronting the Future” (Strathern and Stewart, Palgrave Macmillan, 2004). Their recent co-edited books include: “Exchange and Sacrifice” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., Carolina Academic Press, 2008), “Asian Ritual Systems: Syncretisms and Ruptures” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., Carolina Academic Press, 2007), “Terror and Violence: Imagination and the Unimaginable” (Strathern and Stewart, and Whitehead eds., Pluto Press, 2006); and “Religious and Ritual Change: Cosmologies and Histories” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., Carolina Academic Press, 2009). Forthcoming works include “Self and Group: Kinship in Action” (Strathern and Stewart, Prentice Hall), and “Ritual” (Strathern and Stewart, eds., Ashgate). Stewart and Strathern have a wide range of research interests. Their work in Ritual and Religious Studies includes three edited volumes “Millennial Markers” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., James Cook University, 1997), “Millennial Countdown in New Guinea” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., Special Issue of “Ethnohistory”, Duke University Press, 2000), and “Charismatic and Pentecostal Christianity in Oceania” (Robbins, Stewart and Strathern, eds., Special Issue of “Journal of Ritual Studies”, 2001). Currently, they are involved in the “Shamanic Performances” research group at the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, and they have been the Co-Organizers of the
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The two fieldworkers at the verandah steps of their house in Hagu among the Duna (1998).
Acknowledgments

We wish to thank Ms. Joan Paluzzi for assistance with the text of Chapter 2 on Latin American ideas and Ms. Leah Voors for help with the questions supplied in conjunction with each chapter. Both were supported through the Dean’s fund in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. Fieldwork among the Duna people of Papua New Guinea was supported partly by the Pitcairn-Crabbe Foundation, administered by the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Ms. Rachel Chapin-Paolone assisted with the typing of the manuscript. Parts of the manuscript were written while we were based at the Centre for Pacific Studies in the School of Anthropology and Archaeology, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia in mid-1998. The copy-edited text was finally checked while we were Visiting Senior Fellows at the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden. We thank all of these institutions for their support, as well as a number of individual colleagues in the Medical Anthropology Discussion Group at the University of Pittsburgh for their interest in our project. Kaja Finkler also gave initial encouragement to proceed with the book. For all shortcomings we remain responsible.

Leiden, The Netherlands
December 1998

Acknowledgments
Second Edition

Since the first edition of this book was published we have continued our research in this arena of anthropology and have published a number of articles and our book, “Humors and Substance: Ideas of the Body in New Guinea” (Stewart and Strathern, 2001, Bergin and Garvey Publishing). We visited Seoul,
South Korea, to investigate aspects of “Sasang Constitutional Medicine” and we briefly discussed some of this work in “Asian Ritual Systems: Syncretisms and Ruptures” (Stewart and Strathern, eds., 2007, Carolina Academic Press, pp. 263-264). We thank Dr. Jun Wang for her assistance during our stay in Seoul in 2005. We also thank the members of the “Shamanism and Ritual Performance in Contemporary Contexts” research group, where we are also members, for their exchange of ideas on this topic in relation to healing practices amongst members of the Indigenous Austronesian-speaking peoples of Taiwan. This research group is based in the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. We thank the Director of the Institute, Prof. Huang Shu-min, for his assistance during our recent stays as Visiting Research Fellows with the Institute. We have made research visits over many years. Several of our publications from this collaboration in Taiwan include:


We also thank the various students who have worked with us over the years in the USA and abroad. We thank Chris Mercer and Nell Zhang for assistance in compiling some literature for us to use on the topics of malaria, tu-
berculosis, and Chinese medicine for this second edition. In Taiwan we thank the following for their collegial interactions over the years: Huang Ying-kwei, Chao Chi-fang, Guo Pei-yi, Hu Tai-li, Liu Pi-chen, and Yeh Chuen-rong.

Cromie Burn Research Unit
University of Pittsburgh
April 2009