The Sami are the indigenous peoples of northern Scandinavia and the Kola Peninsula in Russia. Up until the periods between the 17th and 18th centuries the Sami practiced an indigenous form of shamanism, characterised by hunting and animal ceremonialism. After the crusade against the Sami and the practice of their ancient nature religion by the Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish priests and missionary workers, a subsequent number of Noaidi-Shaman drums were collected and in time exhibited in different museums throughout Europe, where many still remain today. The Noaidi drums have been vital sources of information for scholars outside Sami culture, as well as the Sami themselves. In the 1670s, Johannes Schefferus, the German scholar and linguist wrote about the history of Lapland which was translated into
Latin under the uniform title Lapponia. English, French and Dutch editions soon followed as did a German edition. This article discusses some of the implications for researchers due to a number of significant errors recently identified in these original manuscripts and furthermore, what this means for the Sami history, religion and culture today?

**Details**

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**The History of Lapland and the Case of the Sami Noaidi Drum Figures Reversed**

by Gerard Canals. The Sami are the indigenous peoples of northern Scandinavia and the Kola Peninsula in Russia. This article discusses some of the implications for researchers due to a number of significant errors recently identified in these original manuscripts and furthermore, what this means for the Sami history, religion and culture today? In the winter of 2002, I travelled to Finland to undertake studies in Circumpolar and sub-Arctic animism and shamanism, as an exchange student at the University of Helsinki, and a student of comparative religion. The History of Lapland and the Case of the Sami Noaidi Drum Figures Reversed.


145. Tatiana Panina. Restructuring of the Ritual Year in the Post-Socialist Countries.

181. Irina Sedakova. doi:10.7592/FEJF2011.47.ritualyear. A Few Impressions and Reflections from the American Anthropological Association: 109th Annual Meeting. November 17–21, 2010. New Orleans. The Sámi shaman, noaidi, was the mediator for communication between the different worlds. The use of drums, chanting, and sacred objects allowed these messages to take place. The shamanic drums are very important painted skins portraying key concepts of Sámi beliefs. Often the three worlds are depicted. Sometimes images of three female deities, the daughters of Máttaráhkká, are also displayed. The Cult of the Sacred Stones belong to the Sami people of northern Europe. The Sami (occasionally spelled Saami) live in Lapland, a part of northern Europe near Norway, Sweden and Finland, and Read Later. Read more about Sami Spirituality and the Cult of the Sacred Stones. 1 comment. Add new comment. A Sámi drum is a shamanic ceremonial drum used by the Sámi people of Northern Europe. Sámi ceremonial drums have two chiefly two variations, both oval-shaped: a bowl drum in which the drumhead is strapped over a burl, and a frame drum in which the drumhead stretches over a thin ring of bentwood. The drumhead is fashioned from reindeer hide. In Sámi shamanism, the noaidi used the drum to get into a trance, or to obtain information from the future or other realms. The drum was held in one hand, and The Noaidi drums have been vital sources of
information for scholars out-side Sami culture, as well as the Sami themselves. In the 1670s, Johannes Schefferus, the German scholar and linguist wrote about the history of Lapland which was translated into Latin under the uniform title Lapponia. English, French and Dutch editions soon followed as did a German edition. This article discusses some of the implications for researchers due to a number of signifi-cant errors recently identified in these original manuscripts and furthermore, what this means for the Sami history, religion and culture today.