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Wrap the Dead : The funerary textile tradition from the Osmore Valley, South Peru, and its social-political implications

Minkes, W.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Willy Minkes was born in Heerenveen, the Netherlands, on the tenth of December of that tumultuous year 1968.

After her secondary education at the RSG in Heerenveen (1981-1987), she studied two years of Art History and Archaeology at the Groningen State University (RUG) (1988-1990). A visit to an exhibition on Andean art made her change her direction, so that she continued her studies at the Leiden State University (RUL) in 1991. There, she obtained her Master's degree in Archaeology and Cultural History of Indian America in 1995, specializing in the archaeological textiles and modern Aymara weaving tradition of northern Chile.

In 1996 and 1997, she was stationed in the Ixcán region, Guatemala, as international observer in the peace process and return programme of civil war refugees (Vluchtelingenwerk and Solidaridad).

In 1998, she was awarded a four-year grant from the Schuurman Schimmel-van Outeren Stichting in Haarlem, to carry out this promotion research. Additional grants came from the University of Leiden, the N.W.O. and Reiman de Bas Fonds. Between 1999 and 2002, she analysed archaeological textiles at Centro Mallqui in Ilo and at Museo Contisuyo in Moquegua in the south of Peru, and the traditional textile production in the modern Quechua community of Cuyo Cuyo in southern Peru. The research took place under the supervision of Prof. dr. Leendert P. Louwe Kooijmans and Dr. Corinne Hofman at the Faculty of Archaeology of the University of Leiden, and resulted in the present dissertation.

During her research, the author taught Andean cultural history at the University of Leiden.

In the meantime, she became a massage-therapist and currently is working as such. In time, she may work on an iconographic study of Peruvian archaeological material from an indigenous and shamanic point of view.