

A Review of *Healing Civilization* by Claudio Naranjo, Gateway Press, 2010

Healing Civilization is a courageous call by an innovative scholar and successful practitioner in nurturing human potential. Claudio Naranjo's therapeutic work is celebrated in Europe, Latin America and the USA. This book builds on his earlier works analyzing how human societies suppress individual creativity and potential through their child-rearing and educational practices. Dr. Naranjo points to the pervasive patriarchal structures and mindsets inherited from our distant past – but not inherent in humans. He traces these repressive authoritarian societies and how they overtook earlier matrifocal societies described by Marija Gimbutas and later by Riane Eisler in her *The Chalice and the Blade* and *Sacred Pleasure*.

As the feminist movements grew since the 1960s, more research has focused on patriarchal structures and mindsets in religions, academia, corporations, bureaucracies and within families. Both female and male scholars have noted the repression, fear and aggression leading to violence that is engendered by these patriarchal societies which still pervade humanity world wide.

Philosopher-psychologist Dr. Jean Houston provides an insightful Foreword to Claudio Naranjo's book. I welcome this book as a student of the pioneering work in reforming education of Naranjo, Houston, Eisler and Elise Boulding and Daisaku Ikeda. As a fellow workshop-giver with many educational leaders at the famed Esalen Institute in California, I highly recommend this book at a time when our human family worldwide is in need of deep therapy.

I welcome the debate that will be engendered by *Healing Civilization*, as it may help us devise paths toward development and fostering fully-alive, compassionate, empathetic human beings who can evolve toward the Planetary Citizenship I and the Buddhist leader Daisaku Ikeda described in our book in 2004.

Dr. Naranjo should take heart that many around the world have taken up the vital task of reforming markets, money-creation, credit-allocation and capitalism itself, from the UN Principles of Responsible Investing (representing \$20 trillion of pension fund assets) and the UN Global Compact's 10 Principles of Corporate Citizenship to my own Ethical Markets Media efforts to reform markets and grow the new more ecologically and socially aware "green" companies of the post-fossil fueled Solar Age.

– Hazel Henderson