



The Story Of San Fernando Hill

Illustrated by Natéja Mohammed
In commemoration of UNESCO's Preservation of Culture

Preface

San Fernando Hill, a natural landmark, was considered a holy mountain sacred to the Amerindians. These religious and historic stories about our ancestors are no longer easily accessible to the public since it is kept safely in a room on San Fernando Hill that is locked and requires management to allow access. Through my project I intend to preserve my culture in an open and public forum so that anyone would be able to access and gain some insight into the lives of our early ancestors. With a contemporary approach of our history, I plan to appeal to, and kindle the cultural awareness of our younger generations. I chose to do an installation as it will be interactive and fun while learning about our indigenous people, their traditions and daily living – the project is beneficial to the entire community. This colouring book represents one facet of my project.

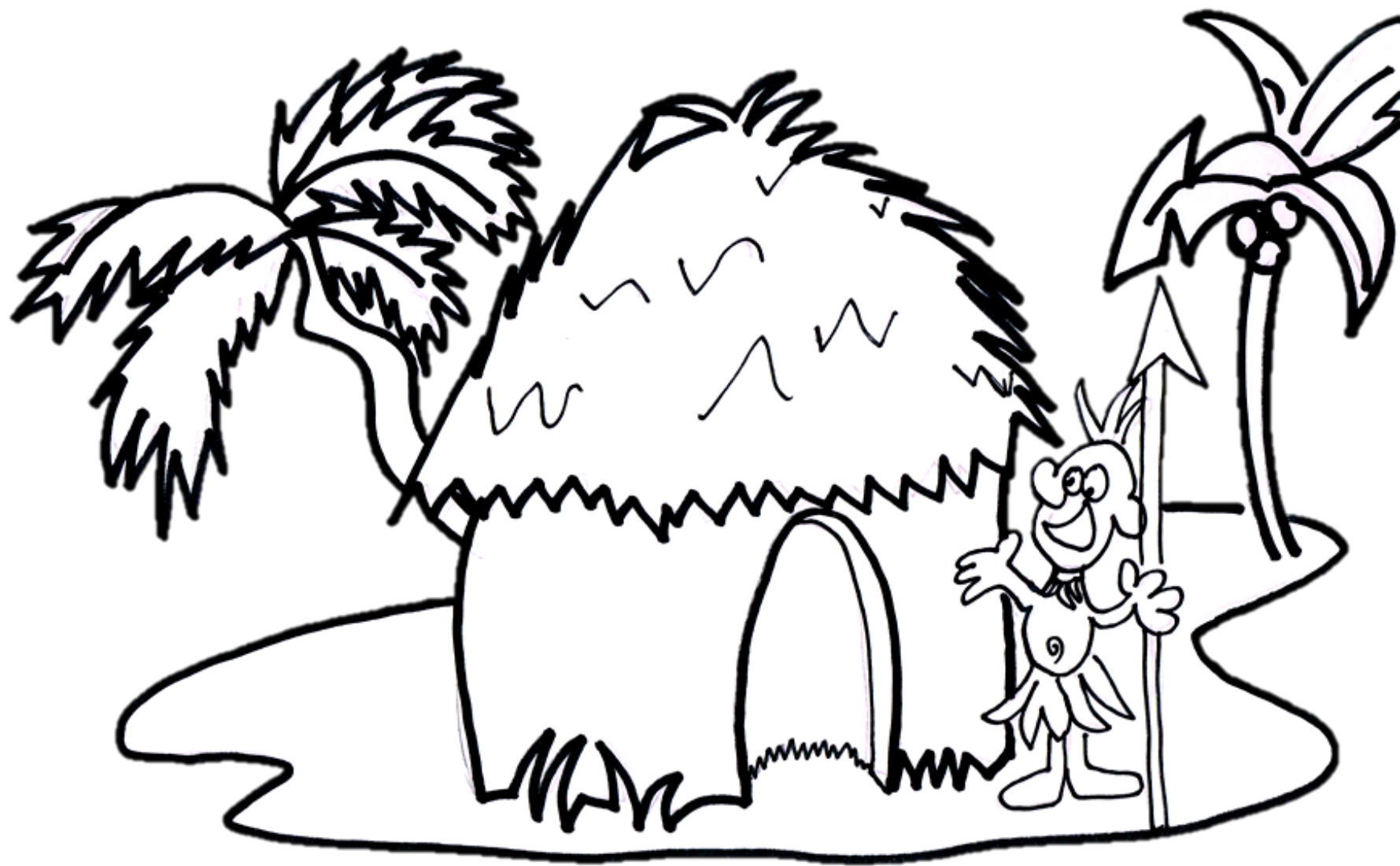
UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is known as the “intellectual” agency of the United Nations. UNESCO's was created in 1945 with its beliefs that political and economic agreements were not enough to create peace. With 195 state members, the organization's main purpose is to contribute to peace and security by promoting international collaboration. UNESCO aims to build systems between nations that build solidarity by: Mobilizing education, building intellectual understanding through protection of heritage and support for cultural diversity, perusing scientific cooperation and protecting freedom of expression.

On September 19th, 2015 UNESCO hosted a workshop for the adoption of a Work Plan for Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean. They recognize that today's world is much more interconnected and aim at using the power of culture to transform our societies. They place great emphasis on preserving historic monuments and museums, to traditional practices and contemporary art forms, fully understanding the way in which these things enrich our everyday life. Many Heritage sites around the world have been developed laying the foundations for vibrant, innovative and prosperous knowledge societies.

The story told in this book through words and pictures is to help us remember our past and honor those who were here before us. I dedicate this book to the memory of our intrepid ancestors who crossed the seas to pay homage to the sacred site known to us as San Fernando Hill.

The Story of San Fernando Hill





Long ago the Chief of the Warao tribe would tell his people to come together, it was time.



My people we must travel to the
sacred mountaintop that holds up
the sky.

To worship our three Spirits
Kanados, for Peace, Protection and
so our crop do not die.



But the people
were fearful of the
Canoe.





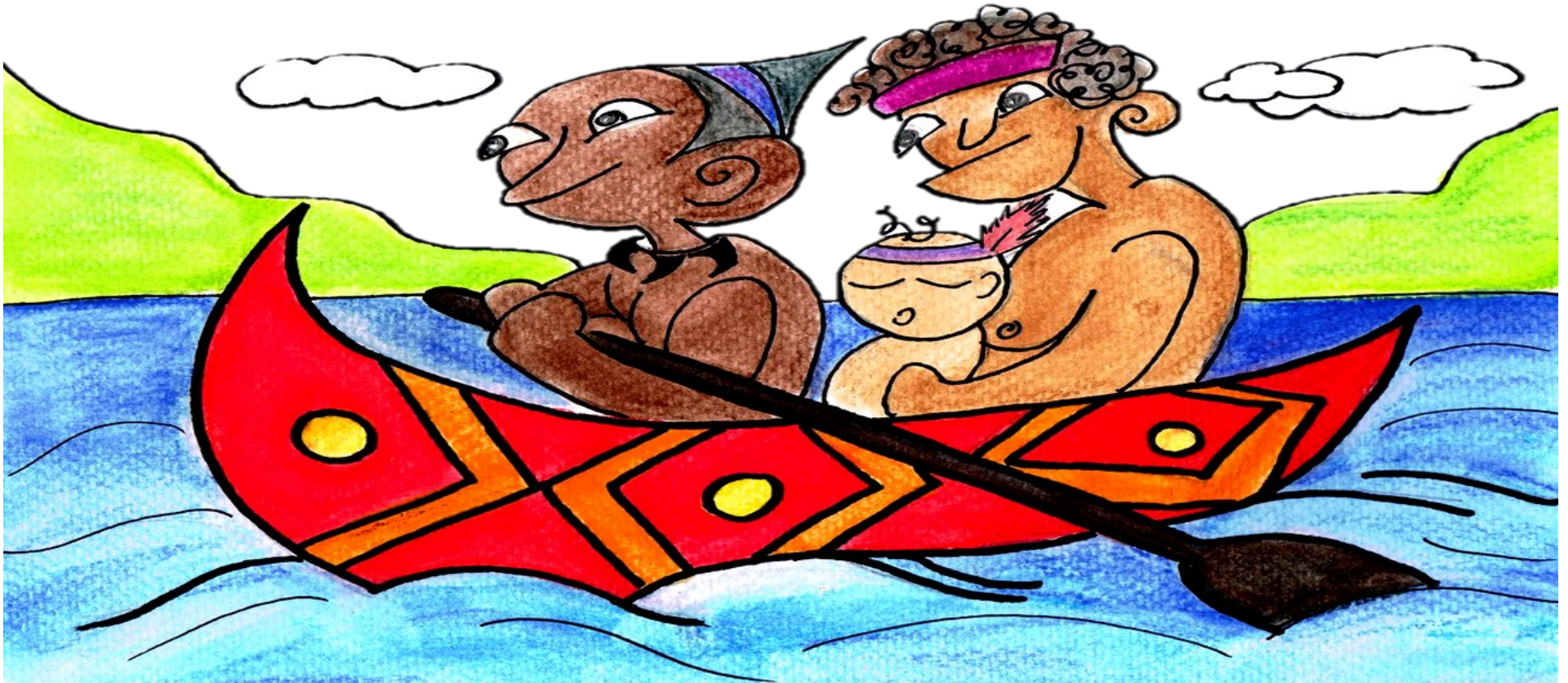
What if the water Spirit took them for a long,
long dip?

“Do not worry it will be fine. We have travelled
before to the forest of the Divine.”





Anaparima is the single hill that they travelled to in San Fernando. They paddled down the Orinico, they would canoe across the Gulf of Paria and onto the shore. Sir Walter Raleigh was flabbergasted at the little clothes they wore.





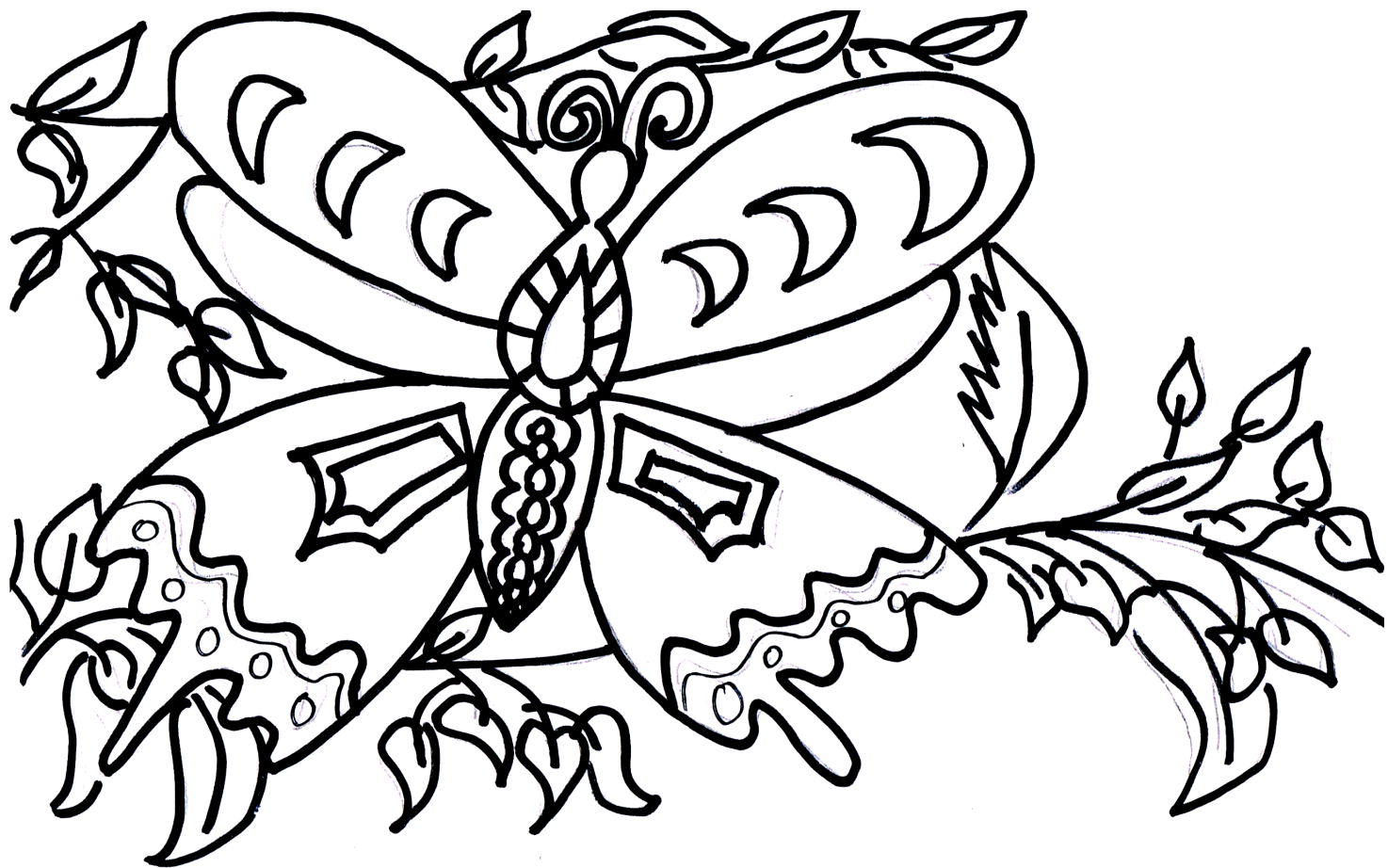
Up through the beautiful forest they would go.







To the mountain top world that holds up the sky, to
worship the Supreme Spirit Waro Waro, the giant
Butterfly.





They would enjoy the land and
all the fruit it offered up there,
And just as quickly the tribe
would come down the
mountain back onto the sea and
simply disappear.



Acknowledgement

Through the help of many people this colouring book has come to life.

Thank you to Tamara Pollonais for the inspiration of the story, all my teachers and my great family of friends.

Special thanks to UNESCO for their endorsement as well as for being an inspiration to others to make a difference.

Thank you to Mr. Rahaman for helping to fund and propel this project along with the cooperate help of Ramco we have been able to touch the hearts of the young and old.