

## non-Western history of mental illness?

**From:** [Paul Jenkins](#)

**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2019 9:46 PM

Hi all, I have a question. I am working on a writing project involving the history of the concept of mental health/mental illness. Can anyone (or everyone) give me a recommendation regarding a non-Western history of mental illness? As you all know, 99% of histories of psychiatry are focused almost exclusively on the Western world. I am having trouble finding anything regarding *history* of this topic looking outside the West.

Paul Jenkins, PsyD  
Professor & Regional Lead MAC Rancho Cordova  
College of Letters and Sciences  
Department of Psychology

"One does not become enlightened by imagining figures of light, but by making the darkness conscious" Carl Jung

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**From:** [Darcia Narvaez](#)

**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2019 10:54 PM

Paul, one thing to keep in mind is that the separation of mental from physical and spiritual health is a recent, Western splitting. Most societies don't compartmentalize human nature this way. So you'd have to look at the history of shamanism and other holistic healing approaches around the world. Also, most of these holistic approaches are not written down by practitioners but by Western outsiders who impose their own interpretive schemas..

Darcia

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Darcia Narvaez (DAR-sha narv-EYES), PhD  
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**My University Website**

[The Evolved Nest \(\*Evolved Developmental Niche\*\)](#) (academic papers)  
[EvolvedNest.Org](#) (podcasts, info, and monthly newsletter)

Also see [DarciaNarvaez.com](http://DarciaNarvaez.com)

Blog at Psychology Today: [Moral Landscapes](#)

[Interviews and Podcasts](#)

**[Sustainable Wisdom Conference website \(videos of speakers, more\)](#)**

BOOKS:

[Indigenous Sustainable Wisdom: First Nation Know-How for Global Flourishing](#) (Peter Lang)

[Basic Needs, Wellbeing and Morality: Fulfilling Human Potential](#) (Palgrave-Macmillan)

[Embodied Morality: Protectionism, Engagement and Imagination](#) (Palgrave-Macmillan)

[Neurobiology and the Development of Human Morality: Evolution, Culture and Wisdom](#) (winner of the 2017 Expanded Reason Award and the 2015 APA William James Book Award)

[Evolution, Early Experience and Human Development](#) (OUP)

[Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution](#) (OUP)

[Young Child Flourishing: Evolution, Family & Society](#) (OUP)

[amazon.com/author/darcianarvaez](https://amazon.com/author/darcianarvaez)

[Families for Conscious Living](#)

*I acknowledge my presence at the University of Notre Dame on the traditional homeland of the Pokégnek Bodéwadmik / Pokagon Potawatomi, who have been using this land for education for thousands of years, and continue to do so.*

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**From:** [sayyedmohsen fatemi](#)

**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2019 11:40 PM

Hello, Paul,

One way to approach the non- Western perspective is to look at an Islamic based psychological perspective known as Elmon Nafs( the knowledge of the soul) where they present more than sixty arguments and demonstrations to corroborate and substantiate the immateriality of the soul.

Mohsen

Sayyed Mohsen Fatemi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology,

Chair of the Desk of North America,

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

Adjunct Faculty

York University, Canada

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**From:** [Dr. Judy Kuriansky - drjudyk at aol.com \(via iptaskforce list\)](#)

**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2019 11:34 PM

Paul,

That sounds like a wonderful project

Maybe my work on policy can be helpful... tho you may be going in a different direction.

My advocacy about mental health and well-being in the UNAgenda has made history; also in the Universal Health Coverage political declaration and the Compact on Migration and Astana Declaration.

Do keep me apprised of your final paper as I cite it!

Best,

Judy Kuriansky

Below only a few selected links:

Kuriansky, J. & Zinsou, J. (2019) Mental Health and Well-being at the United Nations: Activities, Achievements and Contributions of the IAAP New York Team. *Applied Psychology Around the World*, 1(3), 16-28. Retrieved from [https://iaapsy.org/site/assets/files/1082/apaw\\_vol1i3.pdf](https://iaapsy.org/site/assets/files/1082/apaw_vol1i3.pdf)  
<http://bit.ly/2FnebZW>, <http://bit.ly/2CYJZXF>, <http://bit.ly/2mghiOH>,  
<https://bit.ly/2P41wkb>.

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From: **Ajmarsella** <[ajmarsella@gmail.com](mailto:ajmarsella@gmail.com)>

<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9781489979971>

Student Cost is 24.95 if your Univ has a contract with Springer.

**Anthony J. Marsella, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822**

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** [Paul Jenkins](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 03, 2019 8:28 PM

This looks excellent, thank you!

Paul Jenkins, PsyD  
Professor & Regional Lead MAC Rancho Cordova  
College of Letters and Sciences  
Department of Psychology

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