

# The Four Colors Ceremony

conducted by Mexica Tolteca Elder Maestro Tlakaheel

**Sunday, May 30, 2010 3 pm-5pm**  
**Jillson Square Willimantic, CT**



The Four Colors Ceremony was created in 1990 by Tlakaheel with other Native Elders to honor the four sacred directions and the four colors of humanity and their contributions over 48,000 years of history. The ceremony reminds us that we are four colors of humanity and their mixtures but one human race, and that we all are citizens of one small planet Earth, truly cosmic citizens. It is a ceremony in which all present may participate, each giving honor to all of our human ancestors.

*Tlakaheel tells us; "The Ceremony of the Four colors is an effort by indigenous peoples to inspire the new generations to work for Peace and Dignity among all the people of all the colors and their mixtures who inhabit this planet in which live , so we can improve it to leave it to the coming generations better than how we received it. We are planting the sacred seed that believes in the greatness of the ancient civilizations, that have been in silence the last five centuries."*

Tlakaheel is a Mexica -Tolteca indigenous Elder from Mexico, raised in a special way for his mission. He has been traveling the world sharing ceremonies and speaking about the common origin and basic unity of all peoples of the four colors, reminding us that we are truly cosmic citizens sharing this Earth. He is gifted in his ability to interface Indigenous traditions with a vast knowledge of the modern world. His message is of the universal stature of each individual, peace and the indispensable value of indigenous wisdom and tradition to all of us in the modern world. He is building a Peace Pyramid in San Martin, just two miles from the pyramid the Moon in Teotihuacan. Kalpulli Chaplin, founded in January of 1991 on the suggestion of Tlakaheel, is an indigenous-styled organization that serves to encourage and support personal and spiritual growth and sharing. Although its foundation is partly based on the work of Tlakaheel and the Mexica oral tradition, the Kalpulli is an independent and autonomous group that supports and encourages all spiritual paths.

## FORM OF THE CEREMONY;

The Four Colors ceremony generally takes from 1 to 2 hours, depending on the number of people involved. Everyone is invited to participate in the ceremony, including children. A circular area is marked off with strings and colored ties. Tlakaheel, or another presiding elder, gives a brief talk about the ceremony and its history. Each person participating is given a small pinch of tobacco to give as an offering if they choose. Tlakaheel lights a small fire at each of the cardinal directions and as he does so, gives words of honor and remembrance to the color of humanity (red, black, yellow, white) represented at each of the fires. Tlakaheel speaks of 48,000 years of history and the contributions each of the four colors of peoples have shared. Fires are attended and kept burning low throughout the ceremony. After all the small fires are lit, the Elders and honored guests proceed around and each one offers a pinch of sacred tobacco at each of the fires, then the rest of the people proceed around and offer their tobacco to the four fires. It is a simple but beautiful ceremony, oftentimes with the steady beat of the drum accompanying us, and people are moved by its message of peace and unity.

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***18 Bedlam Rd. Chaplin, CT 06235 860-455-9203***

***<http://kalpullichaplin.com>***

***Email; [info@kalpullichaplin.com](mailto:info@kalpullichaplin.com)***