

Workshop – *Árran (heart, fireplace)* - The achievements, advancement and recognition of Sámi education
15-16 April 2021



Day 1: 16 April 2021 at 9.10 (UTC +3)

The Sacred Circle of the Sámi Education

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Abstract

I will present the sacred circle, or medicine wheel, which is widely used in indigenous research and has been further developed in my PhD study (The University of Lapland, 2016) to fit into a Sámi educational context. According to the model, Sámi teachers' perceptions can be grouped by 'doors' opening to four cardinal points. The West Door describes the influence of the history of colonialism on today's teachers' pedagogical practices. The North Door illustrates Sámi teachers' experiences of inequality and otherness when implementing Sámi pedagogy in western school structures. The East Door envisions the development of Sámi education and its appreciation based on Sámi teachers' experiences. The South Door leads to developmental questions and future wishes and dreams for Sámi education.