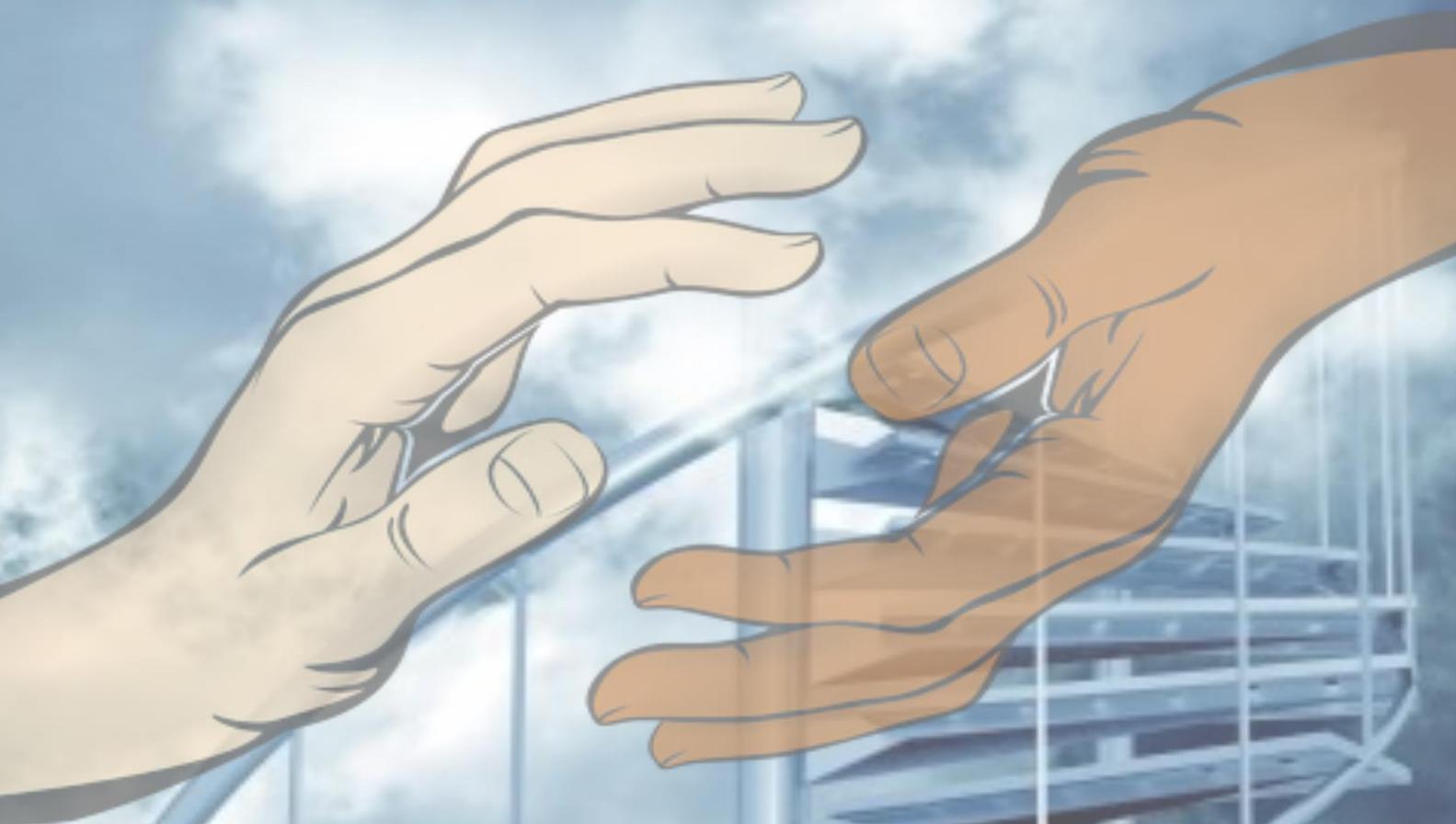


**Hernani Guimarães Andrade**



# Jacira and Ronaldo

**A SUGGESTIVE CASE OF REINCARNATION**

THE BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOBIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH  
INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DE PESQUISAS PSICOBIOFISICAS

I. B. P. P.

Monograph n.º 03

A CASE SUGGESTIVE OF REINCARNATION  
JACIRA & RONALDO

R—14

by Hernani Guimarães Andrade

—SÃO PAULO, Brazil —

1980

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**For IAN STEVENSON**

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*São Paulo, Brasil, February, 1980*  
HERNANI GUIMARÃES ANDRADE

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## INTRODUCTION

This monograph refers to a case which suggests reincarnation. It deals with the results of investigations made by the research team of the Brazilian Institute for Psychobiophysical Research (Instituto Brasileiro de Pesquisas Psicobiofísicas -IBPP) concerning the memories and behaviour of a child born in Penápolis on the 31st October 1956.

For obvious reasons names of the people and places where facts occurred have been changed. The Institute takes the maximum amount of care to ensure that their patients are not unnecessarily troubled out of mere curiosity.

This type of case is not unknown in the field of scientific research. Investigations of this kind have already been incorporated into the area of parapsychology. The most prominent investigator in the field of cases which suggest reincarnation is Dr. Ian Stevenson, Carlson Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Virginia, School of Medicine. Dr. Stevenson has classified two thousand cases suggestive of reincarnation, and has published extensive material relating to these facts. For those who may be interested we offer a Bibliography that precedes this introduction.

The Brazilian Institute for Psychobiophysical Research has fifty cases of the reincarnation type in its archives. Some of them only have significance inasmuch as they can be classified within the patterns already established by research, while others permit the setting down of complete evidence, such as the case of Jacira and Ronaldo.

The importance of research in the field of reincarnation need not be stressed. It forms part of a deeper and more thorough study of *the nature of man*, of his origin and his final destiny.

According to Stevenson –...*a perfect case of reincarnation would be the decisive proof in favour of survival after death of the physical body*’.

This alone justifies the search.  
São Paulo, Brazil, 1976  
H. G. A.

## BACKGROUND

In 1971 we were informed of this case by Mrs. Isaura Leite do Canto while visiting the city of Curitiba in the State of Paraná, Brazil. She gave us her brother's address, he being the person who knew the patient's family who lived in Penápolis, in the interior of the State of São Paulo. During the same year the patient's father gave his first recorded statement to our correspondent Mr. Joaquim Norberto de Camargo, also a resident of Penápolis. This recorded statement was intriguing but, due to a series of circumstances, almost two years passed before we could continue our research.

It was only on 14 February 1973 that we finally made contact with the patient's father, Mr. Antônio B. Munhoz, by means of a letter soliciting a personal interview on a date convenient to him. Mr. Munhoz was kind enough to answer our request but had one stipulation to make, writing: *"The only thing I wish to make quite clear is that Jacira doesn't know the facts and I prefer that she remains in ignorance."*

*From this observation on the part of Mr. Munhoz, we realized that the patient had had memories during early childhood which had later been forgotten, probably during puberty. This occurrence is extremely common in cases where past lives were remembered during infancy, but we were unable to guess the reasons for maintaining the secret. At a later date we discovered that the personality in the past life had committed suicide, and the family had received a strong recommendation from "Spirit guide" for complete secrecy because it was feared that "if Jacira finds out what happened, she may try and commit suicide again when she reaches the same age as the previous personality."*

*We made our first visit to the residence of Jacira's family on 17 August 1973. On this occasion we received ample information and a second statement was recorded. After having gained the confidence of the family, we were able to convince Jacira's parents to permit us to reveal the motive of our visit to her. The patient showed herself pleasantly surprised when she discovered that we thought she was the reincarnation of her deceased uncle Ronaldo. She told us that although her parents had, until that date, kept this secret, she received the idea with pleasure. She put herself at our disposal and showed her willingness to collaborate. But it was clear she no longer had any recollections of facts linked with a past life, although she retained a vague impression that there had been another life related to her grandmother Odila.*

Jacira is a beautiful, healthy-looking and athletic adolescent. She is good-humoured, well-mannered and communicative. She dresses simply preferring blue jeans and T-shirt. She uses no make-up or jewellery and does not seem to even appreciate them. As far as we could find out she had never a boyfriend (up till that time - 17 years old) and showed a certain disinterest in the opposite sex. Although physically feminine and beautiful she appears less feminine than is normal, and she does not seem to be at all vain. When we met her on our second visit, on 14 May 1974, she told us that she had had one boyfriend, but she showed little enthusiasm with regard to the fact.

Jacira's family are middle-class, typical of a traditional background of the interior. They are simple well educated and hospitable people. The family atmosphere is tranquil and full of affection and we noted loving cordiality in the relationship of all members of the family with each other. The father Mr. Antônio B. Munhoz, born in 1916, is a specialized mechanic dealing with refrigeration equipment and is a man of apparent calm who is affectionate with his children. The mother of the patient \*D. Martha G. Munhoz is an efficient housewife who usually surrounded by her children and grandchildren, to whom she has dedicated her life. The couple are really very charming. Perhaps because of this, some of the children, although adult, still live with their parents, or at least constantly frequent their home. In all, there are six children.

Most of the information has been furnished by the parents. Due to the care they had taken to hide the occurrences linked with the former personality from their daughter, they had obviously avoided comments, even with the rest of the children and relatives, regarding the questions and references concerning the deceased Ronaldo which the patient made to her parents when she was very young. In D. Martha's statements referring to episodes relating to Jacira's memories, her extreme caution is noticeable. To avoid stimulating the conversations with her daughter she turned the matter aside, pretending not to have understood. This provoked a certain amount of irritation on the part of Jacira when a child, and she always insisted on being clarified with respect to the episode she remembered, and which related to the previous personality.

\* Dona or L. Term used in Portuguese as "Mrs." is used in English.

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D. Martha's parents are Roman Catholics. To them reincarnation makes no sense. This was yet another motive for the matter to be restricted to the patient's parents. When we visited D. Odila, Jacira's grandmother, who lives in Lins, on 15 May 1974, we noted her ignorance of the subject. D. Martha had already notified us of this fact.

Other witnesses heard were: Mrs. Angelina F. Botassi, who had served as the medium who had received the communications from the '*spirit*' of Ronaldo (the previous personality); Mrs. Antonia da Silva; Mr. Hélio Alves, who pre-sided at the meetings held on those occasions and Mrs. Maria Alves, his wife. All these people refer to the episodes dealing with the spiritual meetings at which the '*spirit*' of Ronaldo and another entity involved in the case made themselves manifest. Unfortunately none of them could offer more details with respect to the initial part of Jacira's infancy. The great care that had been taken so the case should not pass beyond the immediate family, which was restricted to the parent and the patient, was the principal reason for this fact. We found the same difficulties regarding the patients' brothers and sisters. During Jacira's infancy, they had been far too young to pay attention or even remember any facts. What they know is only fragmentary information they have got from their parents, who always did everything to avoid broadcasting the situation to prevent Jacira hearing, even indirectly.

However the statement given by Mr. Hélio Alves and his wife Mrs. Maria Alves is quite relevant and bears mentioning. Despite the fact that many small details have been forgotten, Mr. Alves assured us that he clearly remembered details of a communication received from the '*spirit*' of the previous personality only a short time before he reincarnated. When referring to the identity of this entity Mr. Alves declared:

*"As soon as the spirit began to communicate, we knew it was Mr. Munhoz's wife's brother, the one who had committed suicide. The message was directed to Mr. Munhoz's wife and immediately we felt the emotion from spirit as he thanked his sister affection for the prayers, she had offered in his favour. He informed us that reincarnation was imminent, and that it would be within Mr. Munhoz's immediate family."*

An interesting observation is that made by Mr. Hélio Alves on referring to the past behaviour of Jacira's mother: *"Mr. Munhoz's wife was always a very reserved woman. She was never expansive, even when talking about her children's pranks. She was a very reticent person."*

Perhaps this was due to her fear that the case would be discovered. When asked to describe the patient's behaviour during early childhood, Mr. Alves and his wife stated that she had had attitudes and had behaved more like a boy:

*"Like a tomboy, more energetic and liked to wear her hair cut short. She was always running through the gardens and waste lands, climbing trees, jumping over walls, in fact all those sorts of games too violent for girls. Nevertheless, she was a very affectionate child and very sweet,"* they commented.

Mr. Alves and his wife further declared that when Jacira was small she was cross-eyed (She suffered from strabismus). This defect corrected itself. Ronaldo, they told us, had also suffered from strabismus.

### RELEVANT FACTS PRIOR TO JACIRA'S BIRTH

On 15 January 1951, in the town of Lins in the State of São Paulo, Brazil, RONALDO COMES BARROSO died at the age of 28. The cause of death was suicide by poison in the form of insecticide dissolved in Guaraná. (Brazilian soft drink).

Ronaldo was the son of Mr. João Gomes Barroso and Mrs. Odila A. Barroso. He had nine brothers and sisters, one being his twin brother Romildo.

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His eldest sister, Martha, is married to Mr. Antônio B. Munhoz. D. Martha was the one who had looked after the other younger children, and she had had a special affection for Ronaldo.

Ronaldo never revealed to anyone the motive which led to his suicide. He had been engaged to a girl called Alice (now married). As far as can be ascertained they had no quarrel that could have given him a motive. Ronaldo had had an adopted niece, Juraci, the adopted daughter of D. Martha, of whom he was very fond of. Juraci was the only person to whom he confessed his intention to commit suicide. Two days before he had said to his niece: — "*Juraci, I am going to kill myself. But you mustn't tell anyone. If you do I won't ever speak to you again*".

D. Martha lived in Penápolis, a neighbouring town to Lins. Ronaldo had been visiting his sister. He had said good-bye on Friday night, 13 January 1951, saying that he was going to Lins. In actual fact he had only gone there on Sunday 15 January, arriving in Lins at approximately 9p.m. He then took a bath and went out to meet some friends. Returning later that night to his home he went to bed. Sometime later on the same night he got up, went to the bathroom, prepared the poison and took it back to his room, drank it, and within a few minutes cried out for help. After violent vomiting and contortions, he died in the presence of his mother and some relatives.

D. Martha was very upset at the death of Ronaldo at the time. Then, after a lapse of nearly five years she began to relive the tragedy. Mr. Munhoz, being a Spiritist, was worried about his wife's state of health. Although she was Catholic by birth she was also beginning to study Spiritism, and Sometimes, Mr. Munhoz took her to a 'Spiritual Centre' whose President was Mr. Hélio Alves. The principal medium of this Centre was Mrs. Angelina F. Botassi. Mr. Munhoz tried by this means to alleviate the anguish which his wife was suffering. In January 1956 she began to have frequent dreams, during which she saw her dead brother in great despair;

*"In dreams, I saw myself in a kind of coach which was travelling rapidly through a storm. I saw Ronaldo running through the storm with the lightning flashing round him and I was crying out to him. I told my husband about my dreams. He suggested that I frequent a 'Spiritual Centre' and pray for Ronaldo", she told us.*

Describing to us what happened at the Centre on one occasion she *said:*

*"When we arrived my husband started to pray for Ronaldo. Then Mrs. Botassi was taken over by the spirit of Ronaldo, who was in a state of despair ... he said he hadn't known what he was doing and that he had only found out a long time after because he had been driven to suicide by an obsessing spirit from whom he had been liberated. Now he wanted to return, but with the consent of my husband who had been like a father to him, since when we had married Ronaldo was still a small boy. He said only my husband could help him ... He kept repeating — 'You must help me. I hope you will help me!' ... When we returned home I said to my husband that perhaps we would have another baby. (At this time their youngest child was four years old). My husband asked me why I thought that and I told him that I had understood that Ronaldo wanted to reincarnate. Nevertheless, my husband argued that I had misunderstood him and that the help he was asking for was enlightenment for his spirit".*

Despite the opinion of her husband, Mrs. Munhoz was certain that the communicator had referred to the possibility of a new birth in her home. Her dreams continued, the scenes always the same . . .

*"The coach traveling rapidly through the middle of a storm, lightning, cries of despair, Ronaldo calling for help ... ", she explained.*

In February 1956, some time after the session in which Ronaldo's spirit had made its appeal to his brother-in-law and sister, another session was organized during which

brief prayers were said for Ronaldo. Various people were present, amongst them the same medium, Mrs. Angelina Botassi. The meeting was held in Mr. Munhoz's residence.

During the meeting Mrs. Botassi went into trance and her Spirit Guide, called Mother Christina, took over. This is how D. Martha described the *episode:-*

*"During the session Mother Christina asked me if I was willing to make a sacrifice. I replied that if it depended on me I was quite willing. She told me it would be hard and that I would need a lot of courage. My brother wanted to return, but his reincarnation would not be easy. She said that as soon as I felt myself pregnant I would have to organize prayer meetings at least once a week to enable him to come*

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back.. Then I asked her if there was any danger, due to the fact that he had drunk insecticide, that I would have a defective child. She replied that the child would not be defective, but that I would be the one who would suffer consequences. A month later I was pregnant, and the trouble began. Everything I tried to eat seemed to be contaminated with insecticide.

During his statement Mr. Munhoz referred to certain relevant details connected with the predicted birth of Jacira. We print here the three complete statements concerning these episodes. The first was given on 26th September 1971 in Penápolis during the first recording made by our correspondent in that city:

*"The month of January passed. At the end of February I was at a private meeting held by the Directors of our group when the spirit who gives us orientation for our work made manifest. He told me that the spirit of my brother—in-law would reincarnate in my home and that my wife was already pregnant. We were ignorant of this fact (Martha's pregnancy) when the spirit told us that he would reincarnate in our family. The Spirit Guide made it quite clear that in his past existence he had failed as a man and God had granted him permission to return again as a woman".*

On 17 August 1973, again in Penápolis, while recording the second statement he said:

*"Then the Spirit Guide came through, the one who is called Mother Christina, and announced, before either I or my wife knew about it that my wife was pregnant and that the spirit who was to reincarnate was Ronaldo, but that this time he would come in the form of a woman".*

On the occasion of our second visit to the family in Penápolis, on 14th May 1974, we recorded the third statement given by Mr. Munhoz. His declaration ratified what had been previously said:

*"One day we were attending a private meeting which we were accustomed to hold once a month for orientation, when the spirit of Mother Christina came through. She revealed that Martha was pregnant. Neither I nor Martha knew that she was pregnant. Then the Spirit Guide said that Ronaldo had reincarnated in our home, but that this time would not be a man, but a woman".*

Jacira was born on 31st October 1956. D. Martha must have already been pregnant by the end of January 1956. So that, in February 1956, when the spirit of Mother Christina announced that Ronaldo was already in the process of reincarnation the information was correct, although D. Martha had not yet felt any symptoms of pregnancy.

The information as to the change of sex was also correct. Towards the end the parents were so sure of this, that at the suggestion of an intimate friend of the family called Margarida, they had already chosen the name for their future daughter: Jacira (See Table, item 14).

Another relevant detail communicated to us by Mr. Munhoz and his wife on 14th May 1974 is that both had initially been very sceptical about the announcement of the reincarnation of Ronaldo in their home. The reason for this was that D. Martha's children had all been big babies when born. This always meant a difficult birth, requiring special plastic surgery operations afterwards. When Adauto was born on 24th March 1952 the doctor had advised the tying of the fallopian tubes to prevent further pregnancies, which could be more complicated. The operation was performed. Due to this fact, after four years without any sign of another pregnancy and because D. Martha was 39 years old, she was not expected to conceive again. Nevertheless, the announced pregnancy occurred. The event is not extraordinary as in the case of a simple ligature of the fallopian tubes it is possible that fertilization could occur by accident if the operation was not done very well. D. Martha then had one more child, Everton, born on 28th June 1961 five years after Jacira. But at the time when the spirit of Mother Christina made the revelation, both Mr. Munhoz and his wife doubted the correctness of the information, admitting the possibility that the medium could have unconsciously interfered in the communication. Only after the doctor had confirmed that

D. Martha really was pregnant were they forced rather reluctantly to believe the medium. This certainty grew much stronger later due to the facts occurring during the period of pregnancy.

According to Mrs. Botassis Spiritual Guide, D. Martha would have a healthy daughter, despite the fact that the previous personality had committed suicide. Both Mr. Munhoz and his wife were anxious about the possible effects of Ronaldo's poisoning. When they stated their fears the Spirit Guide had said that D. Martha would be the one to suffer the consequences and asked if she was willing to make that sacrifice

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for her future daughter. She accepted the challenge. And once again the facts confirmed the words of the Guide:—

*"My mouth was full of open sores. I felt as if I was being eaten up inside, and then I would faint. My sister said that sometimes I would start to tremble and then appear as if I was dying. It was necessary for them to pray to enable me to return to normal",*

D. Martha told us. She then went on to tell us about another painful episode. When she was already in her eight month of gestation, she lost consciousness and fainted, falling and affecting the baby seriously. It stopped giving signs of life. Everyone was afraid and ran to ask for help from the Spiritual Guide. The Guide calmed them all, reassuring them that the child would live and then prescribed a special herbal tea, called '*funcho*'.

— *"I had no sooner taken funcho tea than the baby began to move again and I had no more trouble",* D. Martha told us. Finally the pregnancy came to an end: — *"I suffered a great deal right up till the time Jacira was born. The pains started at 9p.m. but the child was only born the next day at 1p.m. She was born at home with the help of a midwife and it was a normal birth. Mrs. Botassi witnessed the birth and stated that she received confirmation at the exact moment of birth that Jacira had been Ronaldo and had now returned",* concluded D. Martha.

After the birth of Jacira the unhealthy symptoms, the taste and smell of insecticide, the mouth sores and digestive problems, burning feelings caused by food, nocturnal vomiting and fainting fits, all disappeared as if by magic. Jacira weighted 5 kilos (approximately 10 lbs.) and was a healthy child with no defects.

### JACIRA'S CHILDHOOD

Her early infancy was quite without incident, but it was noticeable that she had a squint in both eyes which corrected itself after she was a year old. It is relevant to remember that Ronaldo also had a squint in both eyes.

She was a precocious child and was walking by nine months. At ten months she was pronouncing her first phrases. When she was eleven months old she started making her first references to her last incarnation, asking her mother about the dual relationship within her family. On these occasions she showed puzzlement as to her new relationship with her aunt and uncle, who had been Ronaldo's brother and sister, as well as her own grandmother and D. Martha:—

*"You were my sister! How is it that now you are my mother? And my other mother who lives in Lins? How is it that now she is my grandmother, when she used to be my mother?",* she inquired.

The references made by the patient as to the facts of her previous life became more frequent after she was 18 months old and grew in intensity until she was about four years old. Later, after reaching the age of puberty the memory of these facts went away entirely, leaving only certain reflexes and characteristics of behaviour.

Her parents were always very careful to avoid revealing the facts, fearing that if Jacira became conscious of her situation she might try and commit suicide again. And as Mrs. Munhoz explained, Jacira herself preferred to voice her doubts directly to her parents:—

*"She only liked to talk to us. Sometimes she would say — 'Martha, you don't remember, you can't remember. You don't even know where we lived, only mother knows'".* She was referring to D. Odila (her present grand-mother) as if she were her real mother and showed through these words her disappointment when Martha pretended to have forgotten the episodes which had occurred at their country home in São Bernardo do Campo, where they had first lived. This preference in choosing to talk to her parents was very natural and this helped, up to a point, to keep the secret. But even so, Martha worried about the possibility that these memories might increase and that Jacira would later attempt suicide again, as Mrs. Botassi's Guide had warned.

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It is easy to understand the drama of the mother of the patient and her subsequent actions due to this situation. Mr. Munhoz made the following statement to us on 17th August 1973 during our first visit:—

*"Sometimes on arriving home from work I would find my wife crying desperately, due to conversations she had had with Jacira, who had been remembering facts from her past life in which she said she had lived in a big city, in Sac Bernardo do Campo, in a large country house and that she remembered the house and its colour ... She remembered the house, the location, the reservoir where they used to go fishing and do their washing. She remembered everything and began asking her mother questions about these things ... and her mother began to cry, afraid that Jacira would die too or commit suicide as had Ronaldo".*

Jacira's descriptions of the place in which the previous personality had lived were very precise, including the form and divisions of the house, the pathway downhill that lead to the reservoir and many other details.

As well as the scenery where Ronaldo had passed his childhood, Jacira also remembered events that had obviously deeply impressed the previous personality. One of these episodes to which she most frequently referred was about a cow whose name she remembered perfectly. It was the cow called 'Morena', who one day escaped and chased Ronaldo and his brothers, throwing them into a panic. They were saved by the intervention of D. Martha's eldest brother and so a serious disaster was avoided. This fright must have made a profound mark on the memory of Ronaldo, because Jacira mentioned this incident many times to Mr. and Mrs. Munhoz.

With the intention of making this report more objective we have organized a TABLE OF RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PATIENT in which we have grouped, according to category, the principal memories manifested by Jacira during the period of her infancy.

\* \* \* \*

### TABLE OF RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PATIENT

1 - JACIRA ALWAYS SHOWED AVERSION TO RED COLOURED LIQUIDS. SHE RELATED THE COLOUR RED OF ANY LIQUID TO POISON.

D. Martha declared that ever since Jacira began to speak, whenever she saw a red liquid she said:  
— *"Take it away, I don't want to take poison".*

When D. Martha made blackcurrant juice, she said:  
*"You can die if you like; but I don't want to die".*

If she was obliged to drink the liquid she immediately vomited. Jacira made a personal declaration to us on 14 May 1974 saying that she still has a violent aversion to any red liquids or anything similar. For example, she avoids soft drinks such as 'Crush' or "Fanta" (both being artificial orange juices) which are orange in colour, although she does not feel any aversion to red in objects or clothing.

During the personal interview we had with Mr. Munhoz, in Penápolis, on 14 May 1974, he told us that he could personally verify that the colour of the liquid Ronaldo had drunk had been red.

*"Underneath the bed was a hottle of Guaraná, with a little taken from it, and a cup; the remains of the liquid was still in the cup and it was completely red from the mixture of insecticide and Guaraná",* explained Mr. Munhoz.

2 - FROM THE AGE OF ONE YEAR, JACIRA AVOIDED ALL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PREVIOUS PERSONALITY.

D. Martha declared:  
— *"She didn't want to lack at any photograph of Ronaldo.*

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And when we showed her one she said:

— *"Take it away, take it away!"*

Nowadays she no longer shows this aversion.

3 - WHEN SMALL, JACIRA WAS NOT PLEASED IF SHOWN A CARD FROM THE 7TH DAY MASS, REFERRING TO THE DEATH OF RONALDO. IF SHE FOUND ONE SHE WOULD TEAR IT UP.

D. Martha, referring to this episode, explained:

— *"They were those remembrance cards that were printed for the 7th Day Mass and there was a photo of him (Ronaldo). Those that she got hold of she tore up. She would say:*

— *"What are these for? I didn't die! What have you got these for?"*

— *"Because the cards have his photo on them and when she saw them, she tore them up and threw them away. She was very small.*

4 - JACIRA REFERRED TO THE BOISTEROUS CHARACTER OF THE PREVIOUS PERSONALITY, AND ESPECIALLY THE CARE TAKEN BY D. MARTHA TO SEE THAT THE LATE RONALDO DID NOT FALL INTO THE RIVER THAT RAN BY THE COUNTRY HOUSE WHERE THE FAMILY LIVED AT THAT TIME.

D. Martha was his 'Nanny' and took care to see that he did not fall into the river near they had formerly lived. Jacira referred to this place saying:

— *"Mummy, do you remember the day that I ran and you shouted that I would fall in the river? You were always telling us to stop, but I never did. I never fell in the river, though".*

On another occasion she also referred to the same episode adding:

— *"It would have been better if I had died there; then I wouldn't have taken the poison..."*

5 - WHEN SHE WAS ONLY A YEAR AND A HALF OLD SHE REMEMBERED THAT ON A CERTAIN OCCASION A COW CALLED 'MORENA' HAD CHASED THE CHILDREN, AND THAT ONE OF THE BROTHERS, JOÃO, HAD SAVED THEM BY PUSHING THEM INSIDE THE HOUSE.

At one time she said:

— *"Mummy, do you remember that time the cow triad to catch us and João ran and grabbed us and pushed us inside?"* She remembered the story of the cow when she was only a year and a half old. She was sitting next to D. Martha when she said:

- *"Ah! Mummy, do you remember that day when we were sitting on the grass and the cow got loose?"*

D. Martha asked:

— *"Which cow?"*

She replied:

— *"The cow Morena".*

D. Martha asked her how she could remember that, to which Jacira replied:

— *"Don't you remember that João grabbed us and pushed us into the living—room and that you cried?"*

Then D. Martha said she remembered, to which Jacira answered:

— *"Then why did you say you didn't remember? I was there!"* This episode was remembered by the patient when she was only a year and a half old.

6 - DUE POSSIBLY TO THE INCIDENT WITH THE COW 'MORENA', JACIRA HAS TO THIS DAY A TERRIBLE FEAR OF COWS.

Jacira told us the following, personally, during an interview on 14th May 1974:

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— *"I went to a farm with my brother, near the town of Piraju. We wanted to go down to the river but there were some cows some three kilometers away. Half way there we had to come back, because I couldn't go any further, even with my brother to protect me, I couldn't go on!"*

Although the vivid memories of the previous life have disappeared from her conscious mind, there remains this reflex in the form of an uncontrollable fear of cows.

7 — SHE REMEMBERED HOW SHE USED TO FRIGHTEN LAURINDA WHO WAS HER SISTER AT THEIR COUNTRY HOME WHEN THE FAMILY LIVED IN SÃO BERNARDO DO CAMPO, AND WHOM RONALDO TERRIFIED BY SAYING THAT THE 'SPIRIT' OF THE COW 'MORENA' WOULD GET HER (LAURINDA).

Among the members of the family living in the house in São Bernardo do Campo was one of Ronaldo's sisters, Laurinda. On that occasion the pet cow 'Morena' had died. Laurinda was in the habit of going to the reservoir to wash the coffee strainer. Ronaldo loved to play jokes on Laurinda, and frighten her by saying:

— *"Look at the cow, Laurinda."*

She would then run away frightened of the 'ghost' of the cow. Jacira, when she was small, remembered this episode and said to D. Martha:

— *"Do you remember, Mummy, when I used to say: Look at the cow, Laurinda!"*

To which D. Martha asked:

— *"Which cow?"*

And Jacira replied:

— *"The cow 'Morena'. Don't you remember? There at our house in the country!"*

The one thing that she had most engraved on her memory was this story of the cow. D. Martha stated:

— *"Sometimes I was sad and she would say:*

— *"Mummy, remember when Laurinda was afraid of the cow? The cow was dead and she was still afraid of it!"*

8 — WHEN SHE WAS TWO AND A HALF YEARS OLD SHE REMEMBERED WHEN HER UNCLE JOÃO (RONALDO'S ELDEST BROTHER) FELL INTO THE RESERVOIR.

On one occasion when Mr. Munhoz arrived home from work he found her talking to her mother, saying:

— *"Do you remember when uncle João fell into the reservoir and he got all wet and we had a job to get him out?"*

On this occasion she was only two and a half years old.

9 — BETWEEN THE AGES OF TWO AND SEVEN, SHE USED TO PLAY WITH MR. MUNHOZ IN A RATHER UNUSUAL MANNER, GIVING THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PREVIOUS CHARACTER OF RONALDO WAS SHOWING, THROUGH WORDS AND ATTITUDES.

Ronaldo was always full of jokes and took many liberties with Mr. Munhoz, who was his brother-in-law. At two years old Jacira behaved in the same way. When, for any reason, Mr. Munhoz showed himself to be cross, she ran round him giving him taps on his legs saying:

— *"It's no use old man... You have to put with me. You wanted me, you agreed, now you will have to put up with it. When she was older, she would ask for money to go to school. Mr. Munhoz used to joke with her, saying:*

— *"My goodness, you're getting expensive, aren't you?"* Then she would reply:

— *"No, if you ask for the cross you must carry it till the end".*

This kind of behaviour lasted till she was about seven years old.

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10 — WHEN JACIRA WAS THREE OR FOUR, REMEMBERING HER SUICIDE, SHE STARTED TO CRY BITTERLY. SHE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT SHE HAD TOLD JURACI (WHO HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP WITH HER) OF THE INTENTION TO END HER LIFE. SHE THEN EXPLAINED TO D. MARTHA HOW SHE HAD DRUNK 'THAT RED WATER' (POISON DILUTED IN GUARANA).

One day, at the age of three or four, while she was sitting down she began to cry. She cried a great deal. D. Martha asked her why and Jacira explained:

— *"Do you know what I am remembering? Why did I do what I did? I trusted Juraci and told her I'd be cross with her if she told anyone. If I'd talked to father I wouldn't have done what I did!"*

And when D. Martha asked her what she had done she replied:

— *"I drank that red water."*

11- SHE SHOWED REGRET AT NOT HAVING REVEALED TO D. MARTHA (THEN HER SISTER) THE INTENTION TO COMMIT SUICIDE.

D. Martha related the following episode:

— *"One day I had made a soft drink that was red in colour. She started to cry. But really cry! I asked why she was crying about and she said:*

— *think I silly? I don't to die again!"*

— *I asked her what she meant by that. She replied:*

— *'That's poison; I won't drink it!'*

Then she embraced her mother and said:

— *'What I am most sorry about is that I didn't tell you what I was going to do, what I was going to drink. I told Juraci, but I didn't have the courage to tell you that I was going to commit suicide'.*

When Mr. Munhoz came home that day he found her still in a very emotional state. D. Martha told him the reason. Then Mr. Munhoz advised his wife to pretend it had not happened, but it was only when some time had passed by before Jacira was calm again.

12 - SHE SHOWS REPULSION AND WORRY CONCERNING THE ACT OF SUICIDE. NORMALLY SHE TRIES TO FIND OUT WHO WAS GUILTY IN SUICIDE CASES, AS IF SHE WERE TRYING TO JUSTIFY AN ACT PRACTICED DURING A MOMENT OF INSANITY.

When asked about Jacira's attitude to suicide D. Martha replied:

— *"She is repulsed by it and doesn't want to hear of people who have committed suicide. When we talk about it and try to find a motive she says:*

— *'Perhaps they didn't want to do it, perhaps they were forced to do it!'*

— *"She always justifies the act. Sometimes, when we are talking about it and somebody says that the person shouldn't have committed suicide she argues: — 'He did it without knowing what he was doing."*

13 -WHEN SHE WAS SEVEN YEARS OLD AND ALREADY GOING TO SCHOOL SHE ONCE AGAIN REFERRED TO SUICIDE. AT THE SAME TIME AS SHE PONDERED THE ADVANTAGES, SHE REPROVED TILE COWARDLY ACT.

— *"Do you see what a good thing it was? Now I can go to school. I want to grow up to be somebody, I don't want to be a coward again".*

Due to financial difficulties in the family, Ronaldo could never go to school. He only became literate after he grew up, which he regretted bitterly as he had always wanted to go to school. Jacira also showed a love of studying.

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When she referred to the suicidal attitude of the previous personality, labeling herself a coward, D. Martha asked her what she meant:

- *"Why do you say coward?"* To which Jacira replied:
- *"Don't you remember what I did? I don't want to do that again. I don't want to be a coward."*

14 - SHE REMEMBERS MARGARIDA, WHOM SHE STILL CALLS 'AUNT MARGARIDA'. IN HER HOMAGE SHE ALWAYS KEEPS A SMALL VASE WITH ONE DAISY IN IT IN HER ROOM.

(Note: Margarida is Portuguese for 'daisy')

In Jacira's bedroom there is always a daisy. D. Martha explains why:

- *"A girl the family once knew before Ronaldo's death died on 9th October 1956, twenty-two days before the birth of Jacira. This girl, who was called Margarida, told us that the child about to be born would be a girl and should receive the name of Jacira. She always said:*

- *'Jacira's on the way!'*
- *Although Jacira never met her, she remembers her.*

D. Martha added further information to the fact that Jacira dreams frequently of her Aunt Margarida who always asks her for flowers; hence there is always a vase with one daisy in it for her aunt.

15 - WHEN JACIRA WAS A CHILD (6 YEARS OLD) SHE REFERRED TO AN INCIDENT: RONALDO HAD GONE FISHING TOGETHER WITH MARGARIDA AND HAD FALLEN DOWN WHILE CHASING AN ARMADILLO, WHICH MADE MARGARIDA LAUGH A GREAT DEAL.

When relating this episode, D. Martha told us that Ronaldo, then a young man, while running after an armadillo had fallen down and hurt himself. Jacira asked D. Martha if she remembered this saying:

- *"Do you remember that day when I ran after the armadillo and Aunt Margarida had to sit down because she laughed so much?"*

D. Martha asked Jacira:

- *"Do you remember Aunt Margarida?"*

And she replied:

- *"Yes, I remember her.*

She then described her correctly. Jacira referred to her as Aunt Margarida just as Ronaldo had done. Margarida died on 9th October 1956 and Jacira was born on 31st October 1956; twenty two-days later.

16 - ON THE EPISODE OF THE FALL RONALDO HAD HAD WHILE TRYING TO CATCH THE ARMADILLO, JACIRA REMEMBERED THAT IT WAS D.MARTHA WHO HAD WASHED THE SHIRT THAT GOT DIRTY ON THAT OCCASION.

On another occasion, referring to the incident of the fall, while she was doing some crochet one day, Jacira said to

D. Martha:

- *"That was bad luck, wasn't it?"*

Surprised, D. Martha asked her to what she was referring. She explained: - "That day when I fell down and got my white shirt all dirty. The bad luck was yours, wasn't it? Because when I got home you had to wash and iron it."

D. Martha pretended not to understand and asked her who had told her that. She answered:

- *"Don't you remember? Well, I do."*

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17 -JACIRA REMEMBERED MR. JOAG COMES BARROSO, RONALDO'S FATHER AND GRANDFATHER TO THE PATIENT. Mr. Barroso died on 17 September 1932, when Ronaldo was only nine. Jacira used to say to her mother:

*"Do you remember how father used to get cross, because he didn't want us to go near the river?"*

And when D. Martha asked her what her grandfather had looked like she described him correctly, and said he was 'just like Uncle João (one of D. Martha's brothers who was very much like his dead father). When Mr. Barroso died, Jacira's mother was only 14 years old.

18 -WHEN REFERRING TO D. ODILA (THE PATIENT'S GRANDMOTHER), JACIRA USED TO SAY SHE WAS ALSO HER MOTHER.

One day, when D. Martha told Jacira they were going to Lins, where her grandmother lived, she exclaimed:

- *"Goody! Today I am going to see my other mother!"*

When she was small she also said:

*"You know, Granny, I have two mothers; you and Mummy".*

Questioned personally by us on this subject, Jacira stated:

— *"I see my grandmother as if she were my present mother. I don't feel as if she were my grandmother."*

19 - SHE REMEMBERED HAVING BEEN OF THE MASCULINE SEX, CONNECTING THE PAST PERSONALITY TO THE SUICIDE EPISODE.

Jacira said:

— *"What a good job I was born a girl."*

On being asked why she thought it better to be a woman, she replied: — "To do what I did? I don't want to be a man, no. I don't want to do what I did again. If you are a woman you can put up with more; can't you, Mummy?"

D. Martha explained that Jacira had said she had been a man:

— *"I was a man, but I was coward".*

20 - HOWEVER, SHE SHOWED PREFERENCE FOR WEARING TROUSERS AND TO JUSTIFY HER TASTE, SAID THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF SHE HAD COME BACK AS A MAN. HER ATTITUDE ON THIS OCCASION WAS CONTRARY TO THAT CITED IN ITEM 19.

When she was small Jacira liked to wear trousers. D. Martha told her:

— *"You must put on a dress, Jacira!"*

To which she exclaimed:

— *"Ah ... why didn't I come back as a man again?... Wasn't I a man? One should be what one was; the same thing."*

21 - WHEN SMALL SHE SHOWED MOMENTS OF STRONG IDENTIFICATION WITH THE PRIOR PERSONALITY EVEN TO THE POINT OF COMPLAINING THAT SHE DID NOT STILL HAVE THE SAME NAME; RONALDO.

When small, Jacira complained because they had not given her the name of Ronaldo. Because of this her relations pulled her leg, which caused her to justify like this:

— *"What's so funny... are Ronaldo and Jacira so very different?"*

D. Martha asked her why, to which she replied:

— *"Oh! If it was Ronaldo wouldn't it be the same thing?"*

D. Martha explained that Ronaldo was a boy's name and that Jacira was a girl's name. To which she replied:

— *"I know, but I could have continued with the same name".* Her mother insisted that that was not possible because she was a girl, to which Jacira answered:

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— *"Then why didn't you give me another name that went with mine?"*

She gave the impression that she preferred the name of the past personality, which she considered to be her real name.

22 - WHEN ROMILDO (RONALDO'S TWIN BROTHER) DIED IN 1970, JACIRA SHOWED SHE STILL FELT SENTIMENTS CONNECTED WITH THE PAST INCARNATION.

Jacira had always shown a marked affection for Romildo, Ronaldo's twin brother. Of all of D. Martha's brothers it was with him that she had the closest relationship. On receiving the news of his death, Jacira hugged her mother and said:

— *"Mummy, he completed his mission, he is happier than me because I didn't complete mine."*

Referring to the death of Romildo, Jacira stated:

— *"I felt something very different I'd never felt before. It was as if a part of me had been taken away."* (Declaration made to us when she was 18 years of age).

23 - JACIRA, WHILE STILL SMALL, REFERRED TO ALICE WHO HAD BEEN RONALDO'S FIANCEE, SHOWING A GREAT PREFERENCE FOR THAT NAME. SHE USED TO SAY THAT ALICE HAD NOT FORGOTTEN HER AND WOULD THEN ASK IF SHE HAD MARRIED.

When she was small Jacira asked:

— *"Do you think Alice got married?"*

D. Martha asked:

— *"Who is Alice?"*

She replied:

— *"Ah! As if you didn't know..."*

She was angry when D. Martha pretended, she didn't know the facts. Then she added:

— *"But she hasn't forgotten me, though."*

The affirmation made by Jacira that Alice had not forgotten probably comes from the fact that Ronaldo had received a fervent declaration of eternal love from Alice. In fact, on one occasion, Ronaldo's twin brother Romildo met Alice casually in São Paulo. She had married and was the mother of several children. But when she saw Romildo she cried and told him that she would only be able to forget Ronaldo when she died.

On 14 May 1974, on our second visit to Penápolis, we personally asked Jacira about the name 'ALICE'. She declared that she liked the name very much. We asked her why, to which she replied:

— *"I don't know. I think it's a super name. Sometimes I feel something different about that name."*

24 - WHEN JACIRA WAS THREE OR FOUR YEARS OLD SHE CRIED WHEN SHE HEARD THAT ALICE (EX-FIANCÉE OF RONALDO) WAS GOING TO GET MARRIED.

D. Martha related this episode to us on 14th May 1974 as follows:

— *"She was listening to our conversation. My mother told me that Alice was going to get married. I asked her if the fiancé was from Lins and my mother said no, he was from São Paulo. She (Jacira) was drinking some milk and she suddenly left it and ran to her bed and began to cry. My mother asked why she was crying and I said I didn't know. Then I asked Jacira if she had a pain or something, but she didn't answer. When my mother left I asked her why she had cried and she said:*

— *"But she didn't have to get married!"*

— *"I asked her who didn't have to get married?"*

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- *"Alice; she had to wait for me."*
- *"So, I asked her why she had to wait for her, and she replied:*
- *"Goodness! We were engaged, weren't we? She had to wait for me!"*
- *"I didn't say anything then, and when her father came home from work, she ran crying to him to tell him what had happened."*

This episode is very important as it shows a clear identification on the part of Jacira with her past personality, Ronaldo.

25 - WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD, JACIRA MENTIONED NUMEROUS FACTS RELATING TO HER GRANDFATHER'S COUNTRY HOUSE IN SÃO BERNARDO DO CAMPO, DESCRIBING DETAILS OF THIS PROPERTY.

Jacira has never been to São Bernardo do Campo nor ever visited the former property of her grandfather. This property was sold to Colonel Rufino, a cousin of Mr. Barroso (her grandfather). Despite this, Jacira remembers facts that took place more than thirty years ago, when Mr. Munhoz's father-in-law was a farmer in São Bernardo do Campo and where he had a white stone house and also a reservoir where they bred fish. When Jacira used to sit beside her mother on the sofa at her home, it was her custom to refer to this country house, describing it in great detail, mentioning its colour as well as the number and details of the rooms. She used to refer to the reservoir where she used to fish in the company of other members of her family. She also mentioned the orchard and the place where they used to play as children. On talking of these events and places she would ask her mother:

- *"How is it that at that time we used to play together and today you are my mother?"*

The recollections of this country home belonging to her grandfather (Ronaldo's father) began when Jacira was about one year old.

26 - WHEN SHE WAS VERY SMALL, SHE FOUND THE DUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HER MOTHER AND OTHER RELATIVES VERY STRANGE.

When Mr. Munhoz's wife used to sit in her usual place on the sofa, Jacira would always sit close beside her mother and ask this kind of question:

- *"Listen, have I got two mothers? The one that you told me is my grandmother is my mother. How can she be your mother too? Before, we were brother and sister. Why do I have to call you mother now? Why was Uncle Romildo my brother and now I have to call him Uncle? Why is that Uncle João used to be my brother and now I have to call him Uncle too?"*

This was the way Jacira used to talk to her mother. On many occasions Mr. Munhoz arrived home from work he found his wife and daughter sitting together on the sofa crying and talking about these problems. Mr. Munhoz explained that at this time his wife had little knowledge of the Spiritist doctrine. So, she would become very upset by these questions of Jacira's. She believed that these conversations were a prelude to a premature death for Jacira and this made her feel hopeless and she would cry desperately, imagining that soon she would lose her daughter.

Referring to these episodes, Mr. Munhoz told us that on one occasion when Romildo went to visit them, Jacira went up to him and asked:

- "How can you be my uncle, when you used to be my brother and we were always together?"*

27 - WHILE JACIRA WAS SMALL SHE CONSIDERED D. MARHA TO BE HER SISTER AND NOT HER MOTHER.

D. Martha told us that when Jacira was small she used to say:

- *"You're my sister? You aren't my mother!"*

(She would use the adult form of 'YOU' (Você) , whereas like other Brazilian children she would normally

address her mother by the formal 'Senhora')

When D. Martha assured her that she was her mother. Jacira replied:

— *'NO, you aren't! You're my sister! You just want to boss me around!'*

### **ANALYSIS OF THE RELEVANT ASPECTS OBSERVED IN THE RECOLLECTIONS AND BEHAVIOUR OF JACIRA.**

In the case history of Jacira, her identification with the prior personality is one of the most noticeable aspects. This identification was principally accentuated during the initial period of her memories. Here, we have tabulated only those items we consider to be most striking.

#### **1 - DURING HER INFANCY JACIRA REFERRED TO THE PRIOR PERSONALITY USING THE PERSONAL PRONOUN IN THE FIRST PERSON SINGULAR OR PLURAL.**

When Jacira insisted in remembering, together with her mother certain episodes in the past that had happened with D. Martha and their brothers at the country home, she used the first person:

- *"Mummy, do you remember the day I ran and you shouted that I would fall into the river?"*

- *"Mummy, do you remember the time the cow tried to catch us and Joao ran and grabbed us and pushed us inside?"* When asked about this fact D. Martha affirmed that Jacira never used *he* but had said *I* or us. *Jacira would say:*

— *"Remember, Mummy, when we were in that place we used to do so and so"?*

D. Martha went on:

— *"She mentioned our names as if we were her brothers saying:*

*'we played in the park; we climbed the tree; we used to go to the reservoir ...' It was always we. She never said 'he'; always 'we'."*

#### **2 - JACIRA SHOWED AND STILL SHOWS A STRONG AVERSION TO RED COLOURED DRINKS. IF SHE IS FORCED TO SWALLOW ANYTHING RED IN COLOUR SHE IMMEDIATELY VOMITS. THIS REFLEX REMAINS UNTIL TODAY. (SEE TABLE ITEMS 1 AND 11).**

We believe that the patient has retained the reflex, in the form of nausea, which the former personality acquired on drinking the poison, which was red in colour.

This aversion limits itself exclusively to liquids. Anything else red causes no repulsion. She even shows a preference for this colour in her clothes.

The repugnance for red liquids is related to the idea of poison. When she was small she showed her horror for red liquids by saying:

— *"Take that away, I don't want to drink that poison."*

D. Martha has no such aversion for red liquids. Neither has any relation of Jacira's. During the recorded interviews, D. Martha revealed that she uses blackcurrant juice regularly as a drink in her house. But Jacira still refuses to drink it today.

It is also relevant to mention that D. Martha was not present at Ronaldo's death. At the time she was in the city of Penápolis.

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3 - JACIRA SHOWED SHE WAS JEALOUS OF ALICE, WHO HAD BEEN RONALDO'S FIANCÉE. EVEN TODAY SHE SHOWS A MARKED PREFERENCE FOR THE NAME ALICE. (SEE TABLE, ITEMS 23 AND 24).

Jacira has never met Alice, who first lived in Lins and later moved to São Paulo, where she later married and set up home.

Apart from his fiancée, Ronaldo had a mistress also called Alice. When he got engaged and was about to get married he broke off with Alice II (the mistress). From what information we could gather he really loved Alice I (his fiancée). Jacira never referred to Alice II. She was only ever concerned with the fiancée of the past personality.

During our interview on 14th May 1974, we asked Jacira which was her favourite girl's name:

Q. — *"Do you have any preference for any girl's name?"*

J. — "Yes, I do. I like the name of my uncle's fiancée, Alice, very much. I think that is the only one. I have no other preference."

Note that in her reply she did not use the possessive form of 'my fiancée'. She used the expression 'my uncle's fiancée. It should be noted that by the age of eighteen the patient had been informed of her condition. So her reply was therefore more suitable. The preference for the name *Alice* shows a sentimental attachment to the previous personality. At 18, Jacira's memories of the past had faded.

4 - AS OF OUR INTERVIEW JACIRA STILL HAD AN ABSOLUTE FEAR OF COWS. (SEE TABLE, ITEMS 5 AND 6).

Already grown up, Jacira no longer has any memory of episodes that happened to the past personality. Nevertheless, they do appear to have been maintained in the form of reflexes acquired, like the terror manifest for cows.

It is possible that the incident with the cow '*Morena*' made a sufficiently strong impression on Ronaldo. He was very young and therefore possibly felt a strong degree of terror on seeing the animal attacking him and his brothers. D. Martha, on referring to Jacira's memories as a child, declared:

- *"The thing she most remembered was the story about the cow".*

5 - JACIRA IDENTIFIED HERSELF WITH THE MASCULINE SEX NOT ONLY DURING HER INFANCY, BUT ALSO DURING PUBERTY. (SEE TABLE, ITEMS 19, 20 AND 21).

Nowadays Jacira does not look like the past personality. Even she did, it would be quite normal considering that Ronaldo was her uncle. Nevertheless, during the first months of her life the physical similarity was quite noticeable. She was cross-eyed till she was nearly two years old. Ronaldo also had had this defect. But her identity with the opposite sex was most noticeable

in her behaviour and also in some physical respects too, until she was about fifteen.

Mr. Hélio Alves and his wife stated that Jacira's behaviour was more in keeping with that of a boy. She preferred boys' games to girls'. She wore her hair short. Until she was ten her favourite toys were not dolls, or things usually preferred by girls. She liked to play with a set of wooden scales and weights. When D. Martha threw these scales away, Jacira was very upset.

Her tendency to wear boys' trousers and sport clothes began when she was a child and continues today.

She showed her preference for the name Ronaldo. When small, she complained because she had not been given this name or a similar one.

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Today, Jacira is an attractive young woman of clearly feminine appearance.

Nevertheless, she is less feminine than normal in her walk and way of dress. She does not appear to take much notice of the opposite sex, because until she was 17 years of age she had had no boyfriend. With regard to the manner in which she behaves towards her family it can be seen that she received an excellent education in the traditional Brazilian style, favoured by the harmonious surroundings in which she grew up. In other respects Jacira seems to be a typical affectionate teenager, devoted to domestic task and also to other members of her family, like any normal girl of her age.

Ronaldo was also very devoted to his parents and family.

It should be noted that with regard to tastes and preferences in food, money, travel, music, career to follow, etc., there are no really significant coincidences.

The application of more rigid psychological tests was not possible for lack of sufficient information as to the personality of Ronaldo. Nevertheless, we feel that this does not significantly affect the analysis in question in any way.

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### **EXPLANATORY HYPOTHESES CONCERNING THE MEMORIES AND BEHAVIOUR OF JACIRA**

Before attempting an explanation, we must analyse several hypotheses that can be applied to the case in question.

We must choose those which we feel most applicable and that are founded on facts which we consider completely valid. We then plan to test these hypotheses, so that it can be verified if they explain all the situations or at least most of them. The hypothesis which covers the greatest number of situations will be elected the most adequate. We wish to stress the fact that this choice will be conditioned by the possibility of future changes, should these take place, so that the character of our choice will therefore be temporary.

### **DELIBERATE FRAUD**

We must begin with the hypothesis of fraud, due to its eliminative character. Once fraud has been proven the case ceases to exist.

Fraud can be motivated by various reasons, namely: the desire to gain money or other economic advantage; the desire for notoriety; proselytism in favour of a belief or philosophical doctrine; the need to emphasize a certain situation with the desire to neutralize a scandal or to promote an ideological campaign. It is rare to encounter motives beyond these stated, especially in circumstances similar to those of Jacira's family.

The first two motives are immediately eliminated, due to the fact that both Mr. Munhoz and his wife have done their best to keep quiet about the case. They always did their best to prevent Jacira from becoming interested in her own case. They were afraid that at some time she might try and commit suicide, as they had been warned by the Spirit Guide of D. Angelina (the medium). We do not believe they have used any artifice to induce us to accept the facts of the case as they have been narrated. They would not have waited so many years to effect this manoeuvre. When they decided to grant the interviews, no mention of money was ever made nor did we make them any promises. Neither the parents nor the patient have anything to gain from inventing such a story.

No publicity has resulted from the publishing of the facts. From our first contact with the family they requested absolute secrecy. We have not been authorized to publish the real names of the persons or places implicated. The breaking of the secrecy with regard to Jacira herself was only agreed to after repeated discussion and persuasion.

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Taking into consideration the fact that Jacira's parents are Spiritists we might postulate the intention of religious proselytism. But for those who know Brazil and the extent of the Spiritist movement in that country, it would have no foundation. Due to the immense publicity given to the works of Allan Kardec and of the medium Francisco Candido ('Chico') Xavier, Jacira's case would appear to be of little significance.

Finally, on entering into contact with the family of the patient, we encountered complete peace and harmony, with no problems other than those common to any modest family from the interior. Both Mr. Munhoz and D. Martha and their children are honest, hard working and devoted to study. The tragedy of Ronaldo's suicide had happened more than twenty years previously and was not remembered outside the close family circle. We noted no problems, moral or material which could find a solution through these means. The initiative to research the case came exclusively from our part. We do not believe the hypothesis of deliberate fraud fits the present case.

### **DIRECT INFORMATION - CRYPTOMNESIA**

The first supposition that fits the present case is that the patient had obtained the information referring to the previous personality through normal channels. This would be the hypothesis of *direct information*. This information, although apparently forgotten, would be latent in the subconscious mind of Jacira. In certain circumstances this information would become conscious, in the form of impersonation or dramatization. We should then be facing a possible case of *cry cryptomnesia*.

It is evident that the tragic death of Ronaldo, as well as the various facts of his childhood and adolescence were probably discussed among members of the family. There were also strong ties between D. Martha, her husband and the deceased Ronaldo. It is difficult therefore, to rule out altogether the supposition of transmission of information on the part of members of the family to the patient.

Nevertheless, we must carefully examine the conditions in which Jacira manifested her identification with the personality of Ronaldo, together with the nature of references to situations and episodes relating to the personality of her deceased uncle.

The first point to be considered is the precocity of Jacira's manifestations. She began to pronounce her first phrases at ten months. By eleven months she was already referring to episodes concerning the personality of Ronaldo, and asking her mother about her immediate family relationship both with her own mother and with those who had been brothers to the previous personality. On these occasions she identified herself with the deceased personality. It was not a matter of mere questions about her uncle, which would be more logical in the case of seeking verbal information concerning this person, and about whom the child wished eventually to satisfy her curiosity. It is also important to evaluate the conditions inherent at the tender age of the patient on that occasion. Those who have experience with children know perfectly well that it would be most unlikely that a one-year-old child would be able to dramatize recollections of verbal information by assuming the role of the person about whom she wanted more information. This might be admissible in the case of a genius. However, Jacira, apart from being precocious in her walking and talking did not reveal any trace whatsoever of genius. Her general learning capacity and academic progress has been normal. We had the opportunity to observe her at length, and to discuss several topics with her, and the impression we receive was that of a normal young girl.

It should be mentioned that the difference of sex is another reason for the improbability of impersonation. In this case it is more likely that she would, for example, have impersonated Margarida, who was probably often mentioned. Margarida had chosen Jacira's name before she died. Jacira still shows a strong affinity today with this woman, whom she never knew personally as she died twenty-two days before Jacira's birth (see table, items 14, 15 and 16). Nevertheless, she remembered episodes involving Ronaldo and Margarida. It would have been more logical for Jacira to place herself in the position of Margarida to enable her to ask D. Martha about the facts she remembered. Why then should she choose the personality of Ronaldo?

Admitting, however, the hypothesis of direct verbal information, Jacira herself cannot explain her aversion to red liquids, not to mention her repugnance, leading to vomiting, if she swallows any drink of that colour (see table, items 1 and 11)

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Another fact very difficult to explain through the hypothesis of direct information is the aversion Jacira showed from the age of one year to photographs of the previous personality. Of special relevance is the reaction of the patient with regard to the Seventh Day Mass cards (see table, items 2 and 3). On this occasion she showed a very strong identification with the deceased Ronaldo and tried to contradict the situation suggested by the cards, by saying:

— "*Why? I didn't die! Why is this here?*"

We believe that the mere information of the death of a relative would never generate this kind of behaviour in a child two years old.

Items 9, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 reveal types of behaviour that completely exclude the mere recollections of information received. The events described in these items show us much more clearly a marked identification on the part of Jacira with the personality of Ronaldo. Jacira's preoccupation with respect to Ronaldo's ex-fiancée then becomes completely relevant (see item 23). Her jealousy on hearing that Alice was going to get married (item 24) is very difficult to explain by means of cryptomnesia, especially with regard to a child of three or four. How could all these subjective facts, necessary for the manifestation of jealousy towards an unknown person, be transmitted to a child?

### TELEPATHY — (E S P)

The hypothesis of telepathy or extra-sensory perception (ESP) would perhaps be one of the best explanations for the present case. It is especially relevant to the atmosphere of intense emotion which preceded Jacira's birth. Naturally, all involved in the case, especially D. Martha, were inclined to admit that the child to be born was a reincarnation of Ronaldo. This belief was reinforced by the series of events which coincided with the information from the medium's Spirit Guide. The convergence of confirmatory proofs of the Spirit Guide's forecasts was of such a nature as to eliminate any doubts as to the authenticity of the principal information which had been:

- "*Ronaldo has reincarnated as Jacira!*"

Adding to these facts the natural links and influences between mother and daughter and we have ideal condition for the establishment of a possible telepathic relationship between both. Jacira would capture the mental images from D. Martha, dramatize them and play the part of the deceased Ronaldo. It would also be possible to capture through ESP the other details relating to the place where her parents had lived.

We would have here a case of *retrocognition*.

We do not wish, at this point, to reject the hypothesis under analysis by arguing that ESP experiments are not of the kind to admit the authorization of a belief in such an enormous capacity for paranormal reception. But it must be pointed out that Jacira has shown no sign of being a sensitive with such a capacity. Those who deal with ESP tests know how difficult it is to get correct answers with Zener cards, or with any other type of experiment.

Nevertheless, even admitting that we have before us one of those very rare cases of apparent telepathic transmission and reception, it is strange that such a situation should manifest itself over so long a period, fading almost completely only at puberty. Occurrences of very clear and intense ESP are normally of short duration and occur in determined instances linked with dramatic situations or strong emotions.

This can be immediately verified by reference to the vast literature on many extraordinary cases of ESP. Even if we make a concession in Jacira's case and consider her as a notable exception, it still leaves us with the obstacles which we have pointed out in relation to the hypothesis of *direct information to the patient*. We must not overlook the fact that ESP is also information of a kind.

We find it difficult to explain, for example, how Jacira received by ESP her aversion for red coloured drinks, to the point that having drunk some harmless blackcurrant juice she immediately vomited. We admit that this could be the consequence of having received telepathically from her mother the fact that the poison drunk by Ronaldo was red in colour. The idea of poison, linked to a red liquid, could set off

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reflex defence vomiting. Let us assume this. But D. Martha had not seen Ronaldo die, nor had she seen the colour of the mixture. She found this out from her husband. Who then transmitted this information to Jacira telepathically six years later? D. Martha's gestation was marked by many morbid symptoms very much more intense and persistent than the facts just mentioned, which she believed to be connected to the poisoning of her brother.

Why were these symptoms not also captured by Jacira? We know that D. Martha vomited many times during the night, but these events were never associated with red liquids. The predominating symptoms were others, such as her mouth covered with sores, stomach and throat pains, a strange taste when eating food, giddiness, etc. But Jacira has never manifested any of these symptoms.

We see no way of explaining Jacira's dramatization in relation to Ronaldo's ex-fiancée (Alice) by means of ESP. How could a three-year-old child, through telepathic means, manifest a crisis jealousy after having heard that her deceased uncle's fiancée was going to get married? (see table, item 24). Or how can the preoccupation of Jacira be explained, as to what had happened to Alice, to the point of asking if she had got married? (see table, item 23).

We consider it unnecessary to extend this analysis regarding the telepathy / ESP hypothesis any further due to the fact that to be able to admit this hypothesis in the present case, we would have to make unacceptable concession to common sense regarding what is well established regarding ESP.

### GENETIC MEMORY

This hypothesis could be upheld on the basis of behaviour transmission through genetics. We could also think of genetic information by means of RNA, after the acquisition of a conditioned reflex.

The objections already stated during the study of the hypothesis for direct information or through ESP also apply to that of genetic memory. On the other hand, we consider it highly questionable to jump from a case of inherited behaviour and reflexes to one of vivid memories of clear-cut images of episodes lived or watched by progenitors. How and why would the patient choose exactly these experiences of her mothers? Why did she, and only she, *inherit* just the experiences referring to Ronaldo? D. Martha had one more child after Jacira and this one did not inherit any of these characteristics.

The hypothesis of genetic memory in the present case appears to us to be totally inadequate.

### MANIFESTATION OF A DISCARNATE ENTITY THROUGH A MEDIUM

The hypothesis of the manifestation of the personality of the dead Ronaldo through Jacira in the form of mediumistic trance should be examined. We must consider two possibilities:-

- Occasional manifestation by trance of short duration; and manifestation by possession of long duration.

In our personal experience of more than 40 years in dealing with the phenomena of trance mediumship, we have always noticed a series of alterations in the medium, due to the influence of discarnate agents before and during the process of taking control of the sensitive. In a general sense, trance mediumship is manifest through typical characteristics which are immediately recognizable. In the majority of cases it is preceded by noticeable changes in breathing rhythm, followed by a state resembling that of a somnambulist. On other occasions the medium makes violent movements, needing in certain circumstances to be restrained, in order not to hurt himself or to fall over. When the medium has gained the necessary practice he is then able to control most of these involuntary movements and the manifestation is smoother, but even so the changes in the medium are quite noticeable. Anyone who constantly frequents mediumistic sessions can easily distinguish the symptoms of trance. They are quite typical and easily identifiable.

The case of trance manifestations in children is quite rare. In all my experience I have never come across even one case of a very young child being taken over by a Spirit. And if this does occur it would not be only one Spirit that would take over now and, again. A medium who is developed but not controlled is

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systematically besieged by discarnate entities. If he does not learn control, he will possibly fall victim to total obsession.

Possession is a form of long-term trance. In this state the patient talks and behaves as if he were the discarnate personality. It is easy to identify these cases due to the fact that as well as the initial trance-like symptoms, there is a very obvious change in the personality of the medium.

There are variations of the phenomenon of mediumistic trance with or without possession which cannot be dealt with here. Nevertheless, it should be stressed that Jacira does not show, nor has ever shown, any characteristics which might lead one to assume this hypothesis. Right from the start, at a very tender age, she always behaved as any normal child would. Her memories as the previous personality were just like any other memories. Her wish for explanations about the situations which she found strange clearly showed her as a child facing an enigma. If it were caused by the manifestation of the personality of Ronaldo this would not occur, because he would be aware of his condition as a discarnate entity communicating through a medium. Her behaviour in that case would be totally different.

Mr. Munhoz, Jacira's father, has been a Spiritist for many years. He has acquired a great deal of experience with regard to Spirit manifestations through mediums. The spiritist group he frequents is expert on this subject. I believe they would have been the first to notice if Jacira was in trance during the moments when she remembered the facts

which had happened to the previous personality. During our interviews neither Mr. Munhoz nor his wife ever made any allusion as to this possibility. They never noticed any alterations in her personality which could suggest the phenomenon of mediumistic trance. The patient has never shown herself to be in mediumistic trance.

Trance mediumship may appear in some cases before puberty or during adolescence and may increase in later years with the practice of mediumship. If this is not developed and used it can cause psychic abnormalities easily confused with neurosis or psychosis. It may disappear with time, during middle age, but it almost invariably leaves traces of its influence in the behaviour of the patient. In Brazil, due to the widespread practice of Spiritism, these cases are usually detected at the outset and the mediums quickly find Spiritist Centres where they learn how to control their faculties. Jacira was born and grew up in a spiritist home. She always lived

in this environment. But, according to our research, she never attended meetings regularly. She is not considered to be a medium, she merely takes part in the Spiritist Youth Movement, where there is no mediumistic practice. The Spiritist Youth Movement, '*Mocidades Espiritas*', which now organizes numerous cultural activities throughout Brazil, dedicates itself to social and philanthropic help and the theoretical study of the Spiritist Doctrine. It organizes large gatherings for the purpose of stimulating brotherhood, which are attended by other Youth groups from all parts of Brazil and other Latin American countries. These activities are primarily cultural.

Various aspects regarding the memories and behaviour of Jacira which we have examined would be extremely difficult to explain through the hypothesis of mediumistic trance or possession. We consider it unnecessary to list them, it being sufficient to re-examine the table carefully to be able to reject such a hypothesis.

## REINCARNATION

The hypothesis of reincarnation requires a demonstration of at least a partial survival of the previous personality after death of the physical body. The surviving part should be in the form of memories of some or all the experiences lived by the deceased and transmitted to the succeeding personality. We believe there to be no lack of evidence for survival but a great lack of acceptance of the considerable amount of evidence in existence. This does not, however, affect the reality of the facts, it only delays their acceptance as something already proved. So it was, for example, with the case of the Copernican theory defended by Galileo in his time, which did not stop the Earth revolving round the sun. It was a real fact and still is, despite the opposing opinions manifested by peripatetic scholars of bygone ages.

If we take reincarnation as a working hypothesis and apply it to an observed fact, like the present case, we can put its efficiency to the test. If the theory of reincarnation covers all or most of the episodes it

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should be maintained as the most probable solution, even if a temporary one. However, this hypothesis will never completely replace the others if they have already shown themselves to be more adequate. The hypothesis of reincarnation covers the facts prior to the birth of Jacira, such as the manifestation of the Spirit of Ronaldo and the announcement by the Spirit Guide. It is adequate in explaining the repulsion for red liquids and the related vomiting. It explains the worry and jealousy regarding Alice. It also explains why Jacira found her relationship with her mother, brothers and sisters so strange.

Apart from the subjective aspects shown by the identification of Jacira with Ronaldo, the hypothesis of reincarnation justifies the physical characteristics shown by the patient during her first months of life. The fact that she had strabismus would be a manifestation classified under the title of *BIRTHMARKS*. These signs have already been noted by Dr. Ian Stevenson and also by us in our modest collection of cases suggestive of reincarnation. During her childhood, Jacira was more like a boy both in appearance and in behaviour.

We fully recognize that the law of heredity may be responsible for these physical features, but it is important to mention that none of D. Martha's other children had strabismus. The last child, a boy, never at any time showed signs of resembling the deceased Ronaldo. Neither did the children born before. The strabismus from which Ronaldo suffered was not congenital. According to Mr. Munhoz, Ronaldo became strabismic after an illness when he was a child. There is no known case of strabismus in any of the relatives of either Jacira or Ronaldo.

### CONCLUSION

Without wishing to summarily discard other hypotheses as being of no account, our personal opinion favours the hypothesis of reincarnation. We consider that there is ample evidence that Jacira is the reincarnation of the deceased Ronaldo.

NOTA:

@Museu Espírita do Estado de Sao Paulo e FEB. Doação feita por Suzuko Hashizume e familiares.

Nota de Oceano Vieira de Melo: ***essa obra já traduzida em inglês, pertencia a editoras diferentes. Desde 2016 foi todo o acervo das pesquisas e os direitos dos livros do Hernani Guimaraes Andrade foram passados para o Museu Espírita de São Paulo por Suzuko Hashizume com a anuência dos filhos do nobre cientista com documentos em reunião pública em São Paulo.***

Reino Unido, 31 de Outubro de 2019.

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