

## **Native American Clowns Info**

**Koshari or Koyala is the name of a Rio Grande clown that is often seen on the Hopi Mesas. The Hopis very frequently call this clown the Hano or Tewa clown.**

**These clowns are considered to be the fathers of the kachinas. They behave in the usual manner of pueblo clowns, engaging in loud and boisterous conversations, immoderate actions, and gluttony. They are tradition keepers and teach lessons about the Good and Bad in man. The clowns isolate the core of a current event and reduce it to the ridiculous. Both verbal and visual punning are greatly enjoyed, particularly when a double meaning can be used. The clowns are manifestations of the human obstacles met within them as they try to fulfill their humanity. Often time there is an object lesson on improper behavior in the skits and actions of the clowns.**

**The Northeastern Arizona Hopi people live on a series of high mesas. The First Mesa is where the pueblo Hano reside. They are Tewa speaking Native Americans, and have lived here since the late 1600s. The ancestors of the Hopi-Tewa previously lived in the region that is now known as Santa Fe, New Mexico.**

**Third Mesa, further west, contains the village of Old Oraibi. This community was founded about 1100 AD and is the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the United States.**