In the center of the painting, the ninth scene recounts the Fiesta of the Drum. During this important celebration, the shaman’s chants guide the spirits of Huichol children along the road to Wirikuta, the Huichol’s spiritual homeland located in the Sierra Madre mountains of northeastern Mexico.
[The second fiesta is that of the tambora, or drum. All of the children of the host of the fiesta must sit in the sun for a full day and shake a rattle. The married daughters of the host often come from far off to take part in the fiesta. During the ceremony, the shaman chants the entire peyote pilgrimage to Wirikuta that someday the children are expected to make. He guides their spirits to all the shrines along the way, describes them in detail, and fully explains the rituals that must take place at each stop. He thus creates a pattern in their memories that they will never forget. At the top, the scene also shows an animal being sacrificed, and the lines from it to the gods and to the calihuey at the right represent the Huichols’ prayers being received. The scene also shows musicians who play during the ceremony.]