

Title: The Ticuna Tribe of Brazil's Amazon: Like the Forest, They are Victims of Bolsonaro's Policies, Corporations, and our Ignorance

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The Ticuna is a group of indigenous people that reside in three countries in South America. In Brazil, the Ticuna have tens of thousands of people who reside in the Amazon, making them the largest Ticuna group compared to those that reside in Peru and Colombia. However, the Ticuna are about to lose their home if the destruction of the Amazon continues. The choices and the agreements that are made by Brazil's government will lead to the loss of the Amazon as well as the homelessness of the Ticuna. For years, Brazil has made it difficult for indigenous people not to lose their cultural identity because their laws have forced many of them to assimilate; however, today, the President of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro, has worsened the situation. Bolsonaro supports the industries of farming, logging, mining, and cattle raising, all leading causes of the Amazon's deforestation, recent spate of massive forest fires, and indigenous people's destruction. He cites the economic benefits that come along with those industries and the pressure of the Free Trade Agreement that Brazil and made with the European Union. Brazil does not seem to be putting the effort into saving the Amazon anytime soon, so if the world does not take action soon, tribes like the Ticuna and the "lungs of the world" will cease to exist because Bolsonaro's response to last summer and fall's 76,000 fires prove that Brazil will not stop until there is nothing left of the Amazon. It is time to act.

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