

From the Lands of the Akroá Gamella People

A Letter to the Munduruku Warriors

Brother and sisters, we have been following your struggle for the defense of Sacred Lands against the violence of the Brazilian government and the businesses and businesspeople who have taken genocidal actions that threaten not only your lives but the lives of the forests, the waters, the animals...and the entire planet.

We too are under attack. The latest attack was on April 30 of this year when many of us were gravely injured with bullets and machetes. Our people's lives are threatened because we are fighting to defend our lands, our enchanted spirits (*Encantados*), and our future generations. With all this, we still stand strong.

For over five hundred years, the colonizing project has soaked sacred ground with our blood, but it hasn't yet managed to exterminate us. Our children, once sown as seeds, grow to become great trees that grow, bloom, and spread their own seeds.

Relatives, more than ever we must strengthen our alliance among native peoples, maroon communities, riverside villagers, peasants, and the urban poor...to defend life itself.

We declare our SOLIDARITY with your struggle against the destruction of your rivers, forests, and sacred grounds. We cannot stay silent. We will call upon the power of our enchanted beings so that they might guide and protect you in the struggle underway.

Receive our embrace, in solidarity!

Akroá Gamella people

Viana, Maranhão,
19 July 2017