

Indigenous

GROUP NASA

Strikes for human rights

Since April 28th, the indigenous group Nasa has been supporting the national strike. However, there are also own reasons to defend



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On April 28th the Nasa group joined the indigenous minga to fight for human rights, which have been violated in Colombia. Furthermore, the group stands against the tax and health reform and the situations they have been going through like the massacres of their people throughout this year. Nevertheless, most Colombians don't know who the Nasa people are, their history and the reasons behind their fight.

The indigenous group Nasa is known for the constant fight and resistance for its origin, which was taken during the Spanish invasion. But it has been brought with the passing of the years by their chieftains, like the Chieftain Gaitana, who defended her community from the beginning. Since then, the indigenous group has stayed around all of Colombia's departments, but mostly located in north of Cauca. Nowadays, there are 186.000 people who are part of the Nasa group.

In Bogotá, a group of college students, who are part of the Nasa group but live in the city,

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had the idea of making a coterie to comply with the projects focused on a better quality of life. Therefore, the Student Indigenous Group Nasa was born in the capital of Colombia. Nowadays, there are plenty of families who identify themselves as Nasa and fight for the recognition of their customs based on their ideologies, one of the reasons why many have come out to protest.

Retrieve their lands

Since their lands were invaded by the paramilitarism during the ex-president's Alvaro Uribe government (2002-2010) and the Havana's peace agreement statement, which says that there will not be taken again hasn't been met, the Nasa association decided to ask the government for the guarantee of their lands and rights. >>



Culture respect


On the other hand, the community is protesting to get their customs respected. Ancestral knowledge and rituals are their ideology. Law 100 of 1993 makes them feel like they are required to forget about medical plants to be subjected to the traditional medicine. Moreover, the indigenous group Nasa wants to be educated based on their philosophy.

Peace

Peace makes part of the Nasa's community principles. However, their youth has been murdered through the years. By 2021, 3 Nasa leaders were killed, 2 of them were women. The group asked President Ivan Duque to face the situation and talk to them. Nevertheless, he had just sent one of his ministers. Ana Deida Secue, a member of the assembly, says: "We are not asking the president for money, we just want to know what happened with the killing's investigations". On May 9th a leader was captured by the police in Cali, when the rest of the group went out to see what was happening, some armed citizens in armored vans (with police company) started shooting to them. This moment left 12 indigenous people wounded, two of them are in critical care.

With this strike, the indigenous group wants to leave a message of peace to all the country. Because of their ideology, they defend life above all. Nasa people wants Colombia to understand that it is not necessary to shoot a gun to fight for human rights. Moreover, due to ex-president's Alvaro Uribe tweet "we need to defend Colombian people from these Indians", they want to be

treated as Colombian citizens, who deserves respect.

Nasa people will fight until human rights get respected in our country. Until then, as Ana Deida Secue says, "Minga stays and Minga continues". 



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