

10/05/2010

Indian leader Aritâna calls Lula 'Champion of Destruction of the Amazon'

Written to the indigenist Moacir Melo.

My friend and brother Moacir,

I would like to let you know that we indigenous peoples of the Xingu are very sad about and hurt by the Belo Monte situation. And also by the zoning of the state of Mato Grosso, because the state government has approved a large amount of deforestation around the Xingu park. For these reasons, we Indians of the Xingu and Indians of Pará state are uniting and heading towards Belo Monte.

We leaders of the Xingu park are very saddened by President Lula's attitude and his decision to construct the Belo Monte dam without consulting the indigenous people! In his eight years in office, he has destroyed nature and polluted all the rivers of Brazil. He is Champion of destruction of the Amazon!

Here is a message for you, President Lula:

Lula, we thought you were a good man! You are a monster who wants to get rid of our forest, our river and our land! Please, we are asking your Excellency to cancel the construction of Belo Monte! The Xingu river is the biggest riverbed that the Creator made for us indigenous peoples of Brazil! That is why no dam can be built on this river. One dam has already been built in the headwaters of the Xingu river, and we were not consulted about it. Since the government does not care at all about the indigenous people, we are ready to invade the Paranatinga II dam. That dam is harming us. Our river transport is not flowing in the river because of the dams. Lula, what did we indigenous people do to annoy you? Is it that we voted for your Excellency? Is it that? Please, let us work together in peace and joy and with care, and for the protection of the environment in Brazil!

SDS

CACIQUE ARITANA

PIRAKUMAN YAWALAPITI

INDIGENOUS LEADERS OF THE UPPER XINGU