

WHAT WOULD HE THINK OF US?

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This Xikrin-Kayapo tribesman

and his people live in the deepest heart of the Brazilian Amazon on tributaries of the Xingu River. You wonder what he would think of us as panic, fear, and madness engulfs our civilization. Having spent time in his village not long ago, I'm confident he would simply shake his head in bewilderment and say, "Please just let us live our lives in our forest, that's all we want."

True indigenous tribes who keep to their traditional way of life are so rare now in the Amazon or anywhere else where they once flourished. Each one is a precious living cultural heritage of humanity. It is such a privilege when they share their way of life with you. They deserve to have their wish granted, as my tribesman friend would express it. (*Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World* #4photo ©Jack Wheeler)

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