

"There is more international interest in and support for the Indian movements," she adds, "and the organizations that exist are stronger, more sophisticated and surer. We have some problems, but we'll overcome them. Our experience is rich enough."

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## Yanesha Leader Disappears in the Peruvian Forest

Pedro Joaquin Berna, general secretary of FECONAYA, Federación de Comunidades Nativas Yaneshas in the Central Forest of Peru, disappeared on May 4th of this year. Pedro was leaving on a trip to Lima, the country's capital, to organize a union meeting.

According to FECONAYA, Pedro's disappearance may have been caused by conflicting interests in the area. "The Yanesha people are continuously being hassled by farmers, timber

companies, businesses, government officials, and recently by a new religious sect—the Israelian Church of the New Universal Pact, accusing the Indian leaders of drug dealing and terrorism."

"We feel the Peruvian authorities must investigate the case, for this aggression is not only against Pedro Berna, but also against the rights of all Indian communities, its organizations and representatives. We ask your support by writing to the following officials:

Dr. Alan García Pérez

Presidente del Perú  
Palacio de Gobierno  
Lima, Perú

Dr. Enrique Lozada E.  
Presidente de la Cámara de Senadores  
Congreso de la República de Perú  
Palacio Legislativo  
Lima, Perú

*The Yanesha and other Native people of the forests of Peru struggle against the threats of Amazonian destruction.*

