



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Diane Kitchen films of the Ashaninka of Eastern Peru, 1979-1982

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Diane Kitchen films of the Ashaninka of Eastern Peru
Date:	1979-1982
Identifier:	HSFA.1984.03
Creator:	Kitchen, Diane
Extent:	Film reels (color silent; 17,000 feet)
Language:	Moving image materials are silent; supplementary materials are in English.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Diane Kitchen in 1984.

Provenance

Previously titled "Ashaninka of Eastern Peru 1979 and 1982."

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Diane Kitchen films of the Ashaninka of Eastern Peru, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Full film record documenting the Ashaninka (also known as the Campa) of the eastern Peruvian rainforest. Footage was shot in two villages, Otika and Oviri, on the upper Tambo River, Peru. Extensive documentation of Ashaninka subsistence in the eastern foothills of the Andes includes: slash-and-burn agriculture; fishing expeditions in which men use *kómo* root to poison fish; making of *masato*, a fermented drink central to daily subsistence and recreation; making of arrows; spinning of cotton thread and weaving of cloth; basket making; and preparing and eating meals. Ritual and other activities include: singing, dancing, and playing panpipes; an indigenous medical practice known as *ciokánci* (a diagnosing technique); face and body decoration; a marriage ceremony; childbirth; and preparation of *kamárami* (*ayahuasca*), a psychotropic drink.

Project is believed to be the only film documentation on the Ashaninka, an indigenous group which has resisted acculturation since contact with colonists during the rubber boom at the turn of this century. The film, BEFORE WE KNEW NOTHING, was made from this project.

Collection also contains sounds recordings, photos, film descriptions and copies of photos.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Number

HSFA 1984.3.1

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Cultures:

Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Types of Materials:

silent films

Places:

Peru
South America