

Berito Kuwaru'wa



The story of Berito Kuwaru'wa, a member of U'wa indigenous tribe, has a very inspiring story that allowed him to prevent the drilling of petroleum in the U'wa territory in Colombia. He and his indigenous tribe share an interesting analogy in what petroleum is to the world, the "the earth's blood" for which each time it is drilled is like slowly killing what allows us to live.

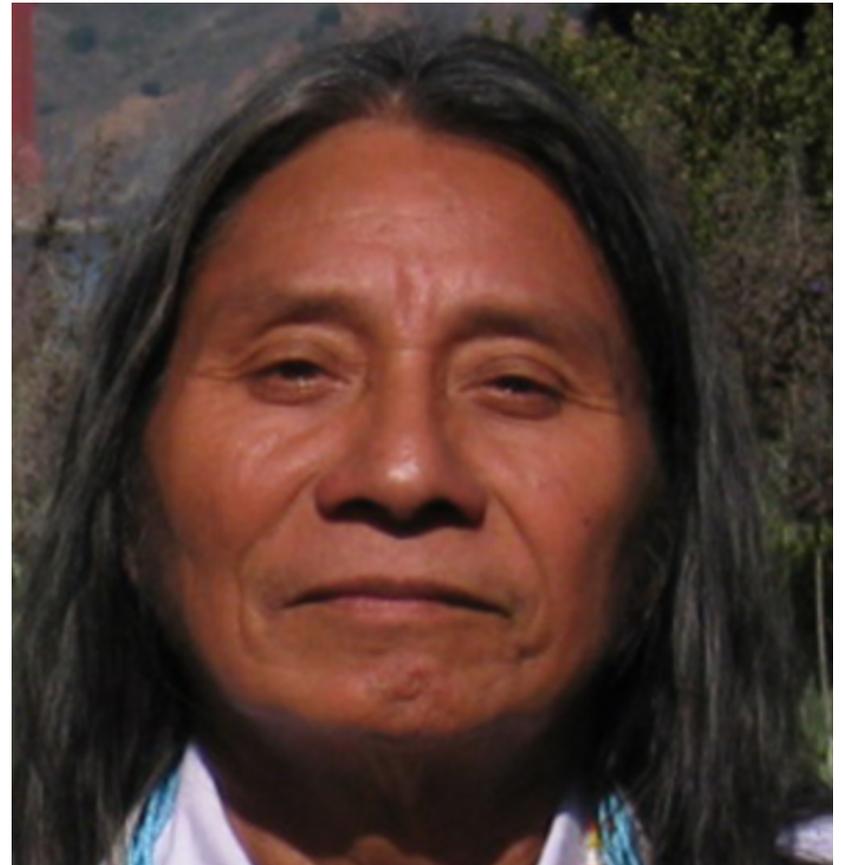
to be best in any relation
point of view.

Survivor

remain alive or
lives through affliction;
"the survivor"

Berito Kuwaru'ua is a survivor of the constant threats in Colombia against both indigenous leaders and environmental activists. As a very well known Colombian newspaper called it, "Colombia: The most lethal country for environmental leaders." The same article stated that according to the annual .. of Global Witness, on average each week 4 environmental leaders have been assassinated since 2015, a very worrying statement. It seems as if carrying for the environment, and opposing the fossil fuel industry is a death sentence.

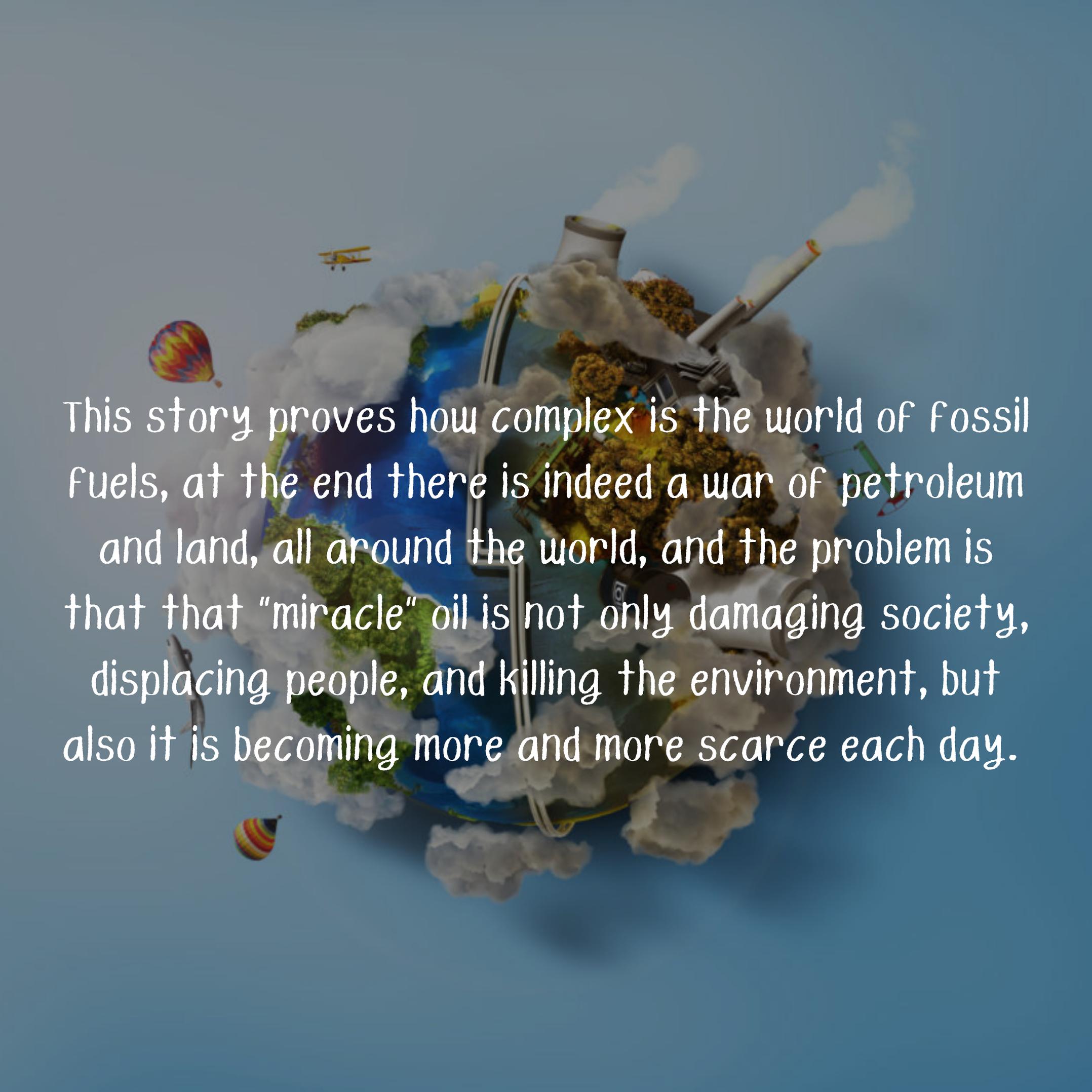
In the case of Berito Kuwaru'wa, at the age of 10 he was kidnapped, given a "white" name, taught Spanish, and "converted" catholic religion as modern Colombia, which pushed him to become such a strong defender of the territory of his indigenous tribe. By 1996 a Fossil Fuel company from the USA, Oxy, pretended to extract oil in U'wa territory, for which Berito Kuwaru'wa traveled to the USA and sang a song to Oxy executives making them know that taking over their territory was not an option, or at least that they had to prepare to fight against a defender of human rights and the environment.



After that, the community suffered lots of attacks, one in which the Berito Kuwaru'wa was beaten almost to death for not agreeing to a treaty related to petroleum in the area. Finally, by 1998, Oxy moved off from U'wa where Kuwaru'wa was located, yet they retained the rights to drill for oil in a larger area of U'wa territory.

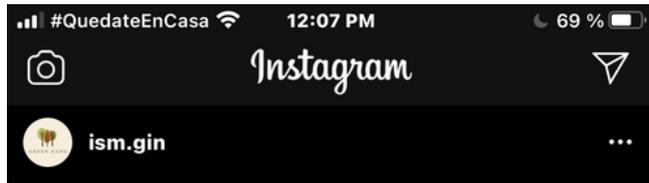
In fact, if Oxy persists in taking U'wa territory for oil, Kuwaru'wa and hundreds of other indigenous people will commit suicide by jumping from a cliff, used by their ancestors when the arrival of Spanish conquistadors.



A conceptual illustration of the Earth as a globe. The globe is partially obscured by thick, white, billowing clouds. Several industrial smokestacks are positioned around the globe, with white smoke rising from them. A yellow biplane is flying in the upper left, and a jet airplane is flying in the lower right. A hot air balloon with a colorful pattern is visible on the left side. The background is a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the globe and clouds.

This story proves how complex is the world of fossil fuels, at the end there is indeed a war of petroleum and land, all around the world, and the problem is that that "miracle" oil is not only damaging society, displacing people, and killing the environment, but also it is becoming more and more scarce each day.

INSTAGRAM POSTS



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+ pic of every other image in this challenge
Caption

