

# **EMPOWOMENT**

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# THE LACANDONS

#### **Cultural Valuation of the Forest**

The Lacandons, an indigenous community of Maya descent, have inhabited the Lacandon Jungle, located on the border between Mexico and Guatemala, specifically in the state of Chiapas, Mexico, for centuries. In 1530, during their first encounter with the Spanish, the Lacandons occupied an area south of the Lacandon Jungle, centered around the Laguna de Lacam-Tun, now known as Miramar. They were farmers and hunters who spoke the Choltí language and resisted the invasion, much like the Itzá people of Petén, until the late 17th century.

## **Demonstration of Cultural Significance**

The Lacandons consider the Lacandon Jungle as a vital component of their survival. To them, the forest provides oxygen, soil fertility, water, and rain, all essential for life. They maintain a deep connection with nature through daily customs and rituals. They seek permission from their gods before utilizing natural resources and perform ritual ceremonies in honor of their deities. The Lacandons dress traditionally and practice a form of sustainable agriculture, minimizing their impact on the environment.

### **Ecological Knowledge**

Their ecological knowledge is evident in their agricultural system. They practice agriculture that promotes vegetation regeneration while conserving soil nutrients. Fields are cultivated for two consecutive years, followed by two years of rest, allowing for soil recovery

## **Incorporating Lessons into Our Culture**

Adopting sustainable agriculture practices, such as crop rotation, can enable vegetation regeneration in our forests. Valuing and respecting nature, as well as maintaining a spiritual connection with it, are crucial aspects we can learn from the Lacandons.

#### The Lacandons as Guardians of Nature:

The Lacandons have been guardians of the Lacandon Jungle for centuries, actively promoting the care and conservation of natural resources. This jungle in Chiapas is one of the most biodiverse areas in Mexico, significantly contributing to the country's reputation as megadiverse. In addition to protection against erosion and the accumulation of organic matter, the Jungle provides Lacandon for water human consumption and irrigation. This deep spiritual connection and respect for nature, along with sustainable agricultural practices and preservation techniques, are valuable teachings we can incorporate harmonious and build more sustainable to a relationship with our own forests and natural environments.





# INFOGRAPHIC





#### THE LACANDONES

The Lacandons are an indigenous community of the Maya lineage that has lived in the Lacandon Jungle, located on the border between Mexico and Guatemala, in the state of Chiapas, Mexico.



#### **CULTURAL IMPORTANCE**

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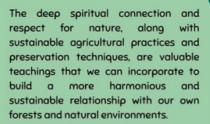
#### **ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE**

Their ecological knowledge is evident in their agricultural system. They practice agriculture that promotes vegetation regeneration while preserving soil nutrients.



#### **GUARDIANS OF LACANDONA**

For centuries, the Lacandons have been guardians of the Lacandon Jungle, actively promoting the care and conservation of natural resources.









# <u>the</u> post

## **Description:**

The Lacandons, an ancestral indigenous community in the Lacandon Jungle. Discover their deep connection with nature and sustainable way of life. We can learn from them and care for our forests to preserve the beauty and biodiversity of our planet. Together, we can draw inspiration from these cultures for a greener and more harmonious future. Quurninggreenorg