

1. Description

- 1.1 Name of society, language, and language family: Aikana, Aikana, Isolated Language – Alternative names include: Corumbiara, Huari, Kasupá, Kolumbiara, Mondé, Tubarão, Uari, Wari (1)
- 1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): tba (1)
- 1.3 Location (latitude/longitude): Rondonia, Brazil, west of Vilhena, near Cuiabá-Porto Velho highway, 24.0000° S, 51.0000° W (2)
- 1.4 Brief history: The Aikana are the surviving people of an isolated language group. They were once a group that survived in the tropical forest group, living in small villages subsisting by fishing, hunting, and raising manioc. They were first contacted in the 1730s when gold prospectors entered their territory, severely damaging the population with a measles epidemic. Until 1750, Jesuit missionaries worked with the Aikana, prior to the Treaty of Madrid granting the territory to Portugal. The Aikana were isolated from Brazilian society until the early 1900s and the rubber boom. After epidemics, dislocation, and violence devastated the tribe population to such an extent that merges with various other tribes occurred. In 1940 the Brazilian government settled the Aikana and other tribes at the Igarape Cascata River; however, after a measles epidemic the tribes reverted back to the forests. In the mid 1970s they were moved once again to the Chupinguai River. (4) Now they are working to protect their language through schools. (3)
- 1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors: Joshua Project, 50% Christian, 25% Evangelical (2)
- 1.6 Ecology: The Aikana mostly lived within the forest until the Brazilian government re-located them along the Chupinguai and Igarape Cascata rivers.
- 1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density: Ethnic population: 260, Population 180, (1) but only 80 speak the original language. The Aikana did not form large villages, staying within the forest in small groups. (4)

2. Economy

- 2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): Manioc (4)
- 2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: Fish (4)
- 2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns? Bow and arrow (5)
- 2.4 Food storage: N/A
- 2.5 Sexual division of production: N/A, but like many of the other tribes that have manioc, possible to assume the women refine the manioc while the men hunt, there main subsistence. (4)
- 2.6 Land tenure: Due to their area and its low fertility of the soil the Aikana worked mostly with rubber extraction. (3)
- 2.7 Ceramics: N/A, but considering their small population and isolation it can be inferred the Aikana did not partake in ceramics.
- 2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns: N/A due to the Aikana's isolation
- 2.9 Food taboos: N/A
- 2.10 Canoes/watercraft? For varying periods the Aikana lived by rivers and water-heads, can be assumed some sort of water crafts were used for travel (3)

3. Anthropometry

- 3.1 Mean adult height (m and f): N/A
- 3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f): N/A

4. Life History, mating, marriage

- 4.1 Age at menarche (f):N/A
- 4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):N/A
- 4.3 Completed family size (m and f):
Inferred that the Aikana had smaller family sizes than various other tribes as they were semi-nomadic, living in small villages through the forest, marrying in-group. (4, 5)

- 4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):N/A
- 4.5 Age first marriage (m and f): N/A
- 4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: N/A
- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously:
The basis of family structure is polygyny, especially sororal. (5)
- 4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry? N/A
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns: N/A
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict: After marriages the couple may stay with the man's parents or the woman's (5)
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals: N/A
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): Practice endogamy, through varying groups of sisters (5)
- 4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized?
- 4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows")
- 4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)?
- 4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape: N/A
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin): Society organized around sets of brothers, marrying a group of sisters (5)
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms?
N/A, but possibly not as much as women of other tribes may have due to in-group marriage between sisters and men. (5)
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring: N/A as many of the marital relations occurred between sisters, and relationships may be assumed. (5)
- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?
Mostly polygynous and the children can be considered a member of different subgroups, depending on relation of mother(s). (5)
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females: N/A
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades: N/A
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older): N/A
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect? N/A
- 4.24 Joking relationships? N/A
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules: N/A but could depend on subgroup of different marriages and partners, that is, a man marries into a group of sisters that has some relationship to the male, or sisters of the wife. (5)
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony? N/A
- 4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name? N/A
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)
Within the community, particularly around set of brothers marrying into sets of sisters (5)
- 4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)?
N/A, but possible to assume that they are arranged to some degree as men marry into a group of sisters (5)
- 4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who:
N/A, but if the Aikana practiced the same marriage concept as the Wari possible that there was not much conflict as men would marry into a group of sisters, into polygynous marriages. (5)

Warfare/homicide

- 4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare: N/A
- 4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death: If the Aikana practice much warfare it may have been like that of the Wari who practiced outgroup warfare on those who were former Wari (5), besides, of course, European contact.

4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:

Any in/out-group killing would have most likely come from warfare, notable victories for the similar group the Wari coming against the Karipuna, and against Europeans. (5)

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): N/A

4.18 Cannibalism?

Like the Wari, the Aikana may have practiced endocannibalism, specifically on their dead, done as a form of respect for the deceased. (5)

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: Small village sizes that were usually within the forest, semi-nomadic (4, 5)

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): Semi-Nomadic (5)

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes):

5.4 Post marital residence: At times staying between the two, partners would stay with the man's or woman's parents.

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense): N/A due to small village sizes within the forests, being semi-nomadic. Not until the Brazilian government relocated them would there be defined borders (4, 5)

5.6 Social interaction divisions? (age and sex): N/A

5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships: N/A

5.8 Village and house organization: Reflected by the Wari, villages organized by nuclear families (5)

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses): Men's house specifically for single adolescents and as a meeting place for adults (5)

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere? N/A

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc: Sub-groups within the population, reflected by Wari, organized around sets of brothers who marry sets of sisters. (5)

5.12 Trade: N/A

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? N/A

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6 Time allocation to RCR: Rituals rarely occur now. (3)

6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine): More group rituals and ceremonies. The men would come together, with the women hidden away, sing songs and play on large flutes (3)

6.2 Stimulants: Would brew a beer from manioc called chicha (3)

6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal): Depending on how much was transferred between the Aikana and Wari it is possible the Aikana took part in endocannibalism after someone were deceased. (4)

6.4 Other rituals: N/A, besides the few rituals with chicha and possible endocannibalism of their deceased (3, 5)

6.5 Myths (Creation): Created from Kianto, a kingdom exists of Earth, and another of water. Another myth occurs from a total eclipse, being the "day the sun died" and if people are not in their homes when it happens they may be attacked by spirits from the forest (3)

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games): Men would play music on large wooden flutes (3)

6.7 Sex differences in RCR: Ceremonies took place in a secret location hidden away from the women. (3)

6.8 Missionary effect: 50% of the Aikana are now Christian (2)

6.9 RCR revival: N/A, not many rituals take place today, and they were preciously rare in their entirety (3)

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs: If the Aikana practiced similar traditions to the Wari, endocannibalism occurred because they believed the soul of the body would be transferred to relatives consuming it. (5)

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people? N/A

6.12 Is there teknonymy? N/A

6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.)

Deist, in that, Kianto, a big snake the colors of the rainbow, lives in the realm of the waters where he resides, and the kingdom of Earth with its people (3)

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint: N/A

7.2 Piercings: N/A

7.3 Haircut: N/A

7.4 Scarification: N/A

7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.): N/A

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: N/A

7.7 Sex differences in adornment: N/A

7.8 Missionary effect: Jesuits interacted with the Aikana in the 18th century, but since they have been part of the Joshua Project, making 50% of the population Christian

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment: Today rituals are rarely practiced, thus adornment not as present, however different trinkets such as earing, bracelets, and necklaces are made and sold today by the remaining few (3)

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system: N/A

8.2 Sororate, levirate: Sororate (5)

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.):
N/A

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

Due to their isolation from other major language groups it is difficult to gauge the impact they had on various tribes, and vice-versa. This also complicates any cultural distribution between each. The lack of record on top of this makes it difficult to find specific cultural aspects of the Aikana.

Numbered references

1.<http://www.ethnologue.com/language/tba>

2.<http://www.joshuaproject.net/people-profile.php?peo3=15610&rog3=BR>

3.<http://pib.socioambiental.org/en/povo/aikana/>

4.http://books.google.com/books?id=175c4xOpLtYC&pg=PA8&lpg=PA8&dq=aikana+language&source=bl&ots=W1c_0jkh0c&sig=mMGSK9GD1i2nhcOj8eLCkT2TA04&hl=en&sa=X&ei=BTxeUcbSI4ji2QXgpICAAQ&ved=0CGcQ6AEwCQ#v=onepage&q=aikana%20language&f=false

5. Conklin, B. (2001). Consuming Grief: Compassionate Cannibalism in an Amazonian Society. Austin: University of Texas Press

Lack of information on the Aikana, but related to the Wari, a tribe that broke off from the Aikana, sharing many similarities – thus, a variety of information from Wari research, inferring similarities