

1. Description

1.1 Name of society, language, and language family: Karitiana, Arikém, Tupi

1.2 Location: The Karitiana reside in the state of Rondônia. However, in August 2003 a census was conducted, finding a few lived in the cities of Porto Velho and Cacoal.

1.3 Brief history: Very little is known prior to the 20th century. First reference is 1909 (with the Rondon Commission). However, it is thought that actual undocumented first contact occurred at the end of the 18th century. Systematic contact was avoided by the Karitiana until the 1950s. In 1957, Darcy Ribeiro considered the Karitiana extinct. However, after seeing such a decline in their own people, the Karitiana developed new ways, such as allowing the elderly with more power to marry multiple wives (one known example is Antônio Moraes, who married 7 to 10 women). The Karitiana are thought to have moved quite often; travelling westward and meeting with a lost section of their group, the Capivari/Joari. They now are located about 100km from Porto Velho.

1.4 Population/Size: Currently, the territory is about 89,682.1380 hectares in size, with about 320 individuals. There has been a 60% increase in Karitiana population in just a decade. There are high numbers of infants and children.

Population	Year	Source
64	1970	Monteiro 1984
65	1973	D.Landin & R.Landin 1973
78	1976	D.Landin 1988
109	1983	Leonel & Junqueira 1983
168	1994	Lúcio 1996
185	1997	Storto 1997
220	1999	ISA 2000
270	2003	Vander Velden 2004
320	2005	Nelson Karitiana (pers. comm)

2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s):

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: “The Karitiana say that monkey meat is the “prime meat of the Indians,” the most prized. Spider monkey, capuchin monkey, white-lipped peccary, collared peccary, paca, agouti, deer (red and brocket) and various kinds of birds (especially curassows, toucans, guans and different species of tinamous) are the most frequently hunted game.” (1)

2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: Current weapons include guns, but some older men say they still use a bow and arrows. Also, the Karitiana use traps when hunting. When fishing, individuals will use nets, hooks, as well as bows and arrows.

2.4 Food storage:

2.5 Sexual division of production: “Hunting is an eminently male activity” and “Fishing is generally a collective activity that also includes children” (1).

2.6 Land tenure:

2.7 Ceramics:

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns:

2.9 Food taboos:

2.10 Canoes/watercraft?

3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f):

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):

4.3 Completed family size (m and f):

4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):

4.5 Age first marriage (m and f):

4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce:

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- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously:
- 4.8 Arranged marriage, bride purchase/service, dowry:
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns:
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict:
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals:
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): "Endogamy prevails among the Karitiana, and their documented family structure demonstrates that the entire group is essentially one family." (2)
- 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
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin)
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms?
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring
- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older)
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect?
- 4.24 Joking relationships?
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony?
- 4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name?
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)

Warfare/homicide

- 4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:
- 4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death:
- 4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:
- 4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations):

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

- 5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size:
- 5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality):
- 5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes):
- 5.4 Post marital residence:
- 5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense):
- 5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex):
- 5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships:
- 5.8 Village and house organization:
- 5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):
- 5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere?
- 5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc:
- 5.12 Trade:
- 5.13 Indications of social hierarchies?

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

- 6 Time allocation to RCR:
- 6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine):
- 6.2 Stimulants:
- 6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal):
- 6.4 Other rituals:
- 6.5 Myths (Creation): Botyj- the 'great, chief' God. (1)
- 6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games):
- 6.7 Sex differences in RCR:
- 6.8 Missionary effect: "the missionary couple David and Rachel Landin, linked to the Summer Institute of Linguistics, resided among the Karitiana, with the aim of studying their language in order to, subsequently, translate the New Testament." (1). This divided the Karitiana into two groups: "the shaman's people" and "the pastor's people"/"believers". "There are three pastors – although they be substituted by other trained individuals – and each of them 'owns' one of the three 'churches' existing in the village." (1).
- 6.9 RCR revival:

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- 6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs:
- 6.11 Taboo of naming dead people?
- 6.12 Is there teknonymy?

7. Adornment

- 7.1 Body paint:
- 7.2 Piercings:
- 7.3 Haircut:
- 7.4 Scarification:
- 7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.):
- 7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment:
- 7.7 Sex differences in adornment:
- 7.8 Missionary effect:
- 7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

8. Kinship systems

- 8.1 Sibling classification system: “The ‘sibling’ category is divided by the sex of ego and alter; same-sex siblings are divided by the sex of alter: the term for the older alter is haj, while the term for the younger alter is ket if ego is male, and kypet if ego is female. Siblings of the opposite sex to ego are divided by ego’s sex: a man calls his sisters pan’in, while a woman calls her brothers syky.” (1)
- 8.2 Sororate, levirate:
 - 8.3.1 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.): “The terms for the nuclear family, are ‘father’ (syp for a female ego and 'it for a male ego), ‘mother’ (ti for both sexes) and ‘children’ (a man refers to his children by the term 'it, while a woman uses the term 'et). Note that the term for ‘father’ and ‘child’ are identical ('it).” (1).
 - 8.3.2 Marriage is preferred to be between cross-cousins. “a male cross-cousin of ego’s mother is usually ego’s father and a female cross-cousin of ego’s father usually ego’s mother.” (1)

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

1. “The Karitiana, like the Suruí, became victims in the race to profit from the genetic diversity and wealth that swept through Amazonia from the end of the 1980s. Samples were collected from their bodies on two occasions, events that, even today, have significant implications for the Karitiana history and conception of their relations with the white world.

The news that ten samples of Karitiana (and Suruí) DNA and cell lines were being sold on the internet by Coriell Cell Repositories (CCR) exploded in 1996 after a denunciation made by Ricardo Ventura Santos and Carlos Coimbra Jr., who visited the institution’s stand at the parallel fair to the congress of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, which took place in April of the same year. Genetic material from 15 populations from various parts of the globe were – and still are – available for sale on Coriell’s website, the prices varying between US\$ 85 (for cell cultures) and US\$ 55 (for DNA samples). The material remains stocked at the company’s head office under the label of ‘Human Variation Collection’ or ‘Human Diversity Collection’, and comes from the samples collected as part of the Human Genome Diversity Project (HGDP), which, in the wake of the Human Genome Project (HGP), proposed a large database on the variety of genetic structures representing the full diversity of the planet’s indigenous populations. The news quickly reached the headlines of numerous Brazilian newspapers and was followed by a wide-ranging debate involving Funai, the National Congress and different entities working in the defence of indigenous rights, as well as the Indians themselves. However, much of the information published in the press was inaccurate and even today some doubts remain concerning the trajectory of the blood samples from the Amazonian villages to their processing and commercialization on the internet.” (1)

2. The oldest known photo of a Karitiana person is from 1912, taken by the Carlos Chagas Expedition. (1)

Numbered references

1. Storto, Luciana
Indigenous People of Brasil. <http://pib.socioambiental.org/en/povo/karitiana>. May 2005.
2. Kidd, Kenneth K.
Allele Frequency Database. [http://alfred.med.yale.edu/alfred/recordinfo.asp?condition=\(populations.pop_name='Karitiana'\)](http://alfred.med.yale.edu/alfred/recordinfo.asp?condition=(populations.pop_name='Karitiana')). Yale 2010.