

Kanakia. Eloi Machoro will not see that day. Perhaps I will one day visit a free and independent Kanakia. For now, Kanakia remains under French colonial control and the struggle goes on.

Paper Autonomy And

Indian Rights

Revolutionary Nicaraguan Policies?

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While proclaiming great differences between their different political systems, Nicaraguan Ladinos have presented the same paper position on Indian Rights! Try to match the following proclamations on Indian rights with their Ladino UNO, ARDE and FSLN origins:

1. Native peoples and communities of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua have the right to preserve and develop their cultural traditions, their historical and religious heritage; the right of free use and development of their languages; the right to organize their social and productive activities according to their values and traditions. The culture and traditions of native peoples and communities of the Atlantic Coast are part of the national culture.

2. The Miskito, Sumo, Rama and Creole communities will have an ample and effective autonomy in their communal organizations that includes the administration of their resources and the promotion of their ethnic, cultural

and religious values. All this is to be within the indissoluble frame of Nicaraguan nationality.

3. A just and genuine policy will be developed towards the Indian peoples (Miskitos, Sumos and Ramas), Creoles and the Indian communities of the Pacific Coast. That policy will place emphasis on the respect and promotion of their ethnic identities and cultural values. An adequate legislation will guarantee their traditional communities.

The integrated development of the Atlantic Region will be promoted utilizing its resources to improve agricultural and industrial production, in order to satisfy the basic needs of its habitants.

Which of the above was written by the original Sandinistas (ARDE), Marxist-Leninists (FSLN), and proclaimed advocates of a pluralistic democracy (UNO)?

What the above quotes mean is that Indian folklore will be "protected" but nothing is said about territory, self-determination, and group ownership of land and resources.

#1 = First Draft of the FSLN's "The National Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua", 1986, Article 210.

#2 = UNO's "National Democratic Project of the United Nicaraguan Opposition", 1986, p. 17 (of 17 pages).

#3 = ARDE's "Postulates for the Democratic Rescue of the Nicaraguan Revolution", 1983, Article 16 (of 20).