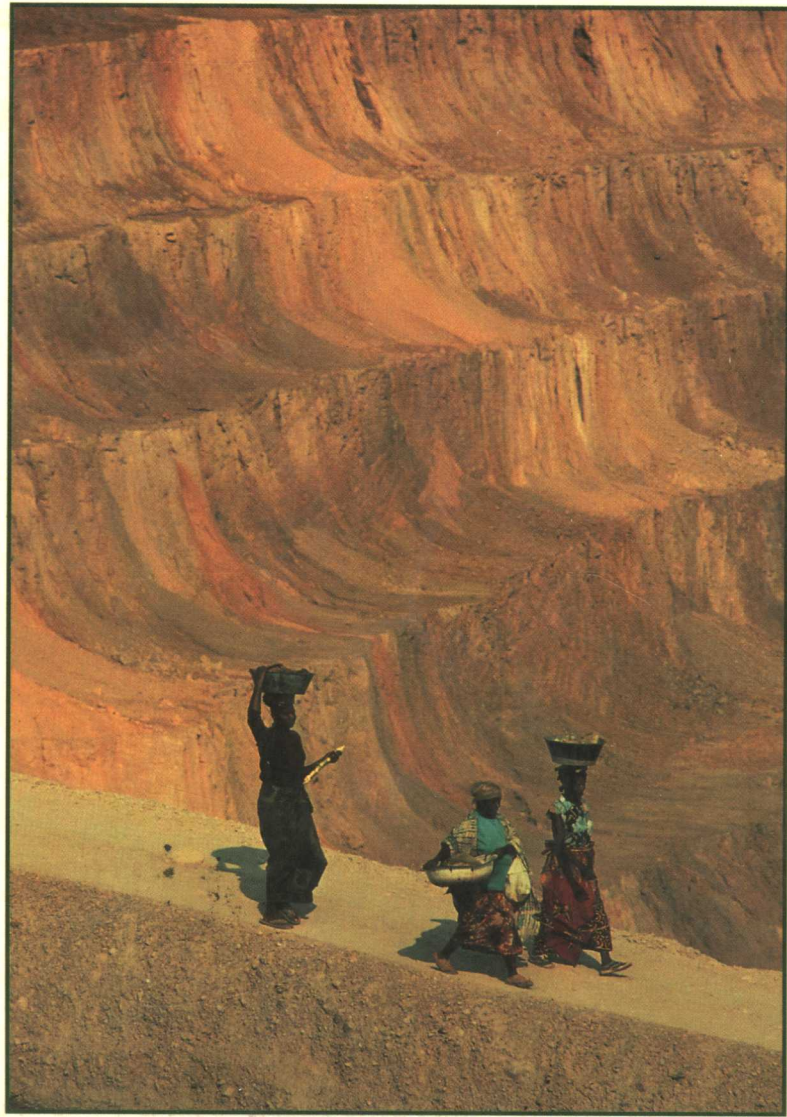

CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

FOURTH
EDITION



MICHAEL C. HOWARD

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Simon Fraser University

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Front Cover: Throughout the world, mining has had an impact on natural and human environments. Cobalt from this surface mine in Zaire, Africa, is sold to the United States where the metal is used in jet engines and for military purposes.

Contemporary Cultural Anthropology, Fourth Edition

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Preface

Contemporary Cultural Anthropology provides students with a comprehensive, coherent, and readable introduction to sociocultural anthropology and with a framework for understanding the evolving world system. This fourth edition of the text has been substantially revised from earlier editions to keep abreast of changes in the world and in anthropology itself and to improve the overall presentation of the field to the student. Virtually every chapter and every element of the book contains new information, and much of the remaining material has been rewritten.

General Overview of the Text

Contemporary Cultural Anthropology explores the rich complexities of human life and culture with a focused treatment that effectively communicates the depth and breadth of the topic. Throughout the text, cultures are examined through an ecological perspective that views humans as creative beings who seek to adapt to a multi-faceted environment. Thus a dynamic ecology is presented that shows humans trying to overcome problems in the environment and to reconcile factors such as population growth and limited resources in a particular adaptational strategy.

I have carefully chosen ethnographic examples from a wide range of cultures that effectively illustrate the points raised. A few peoples are also covered in more depth throughout the text to pro-

vide students with a more holistic view of culture.

Understanding the culture of any people today requires attention to how they fit into the modern world system. I have emphasized that all societies are part of an evolving world order and have examined the different ways and degrees to which they are incorporated. I have then attempted to show how the nature of this integration influences various aspects of people's lives.

In keeping with the perspective that human culture is constantly evolving, the topics of change and acculturation are integrated throughout the text, rather than treated in a separate chapter. Unlike some texts, which present the subject of gender in a separate section or chapter, *Contemporary Cultural Anthropology* raises the subject when and where it seems most relevant and in a way that shows how this aspect of culture is interrelated with other aspects.

New to this Edition

The major content and organization changes in this fourth edition are as follows.

- Extensive new material on the increased globalization of the world and environmental degradation has been included. There is also new material on Eastern Europe.
- New studies and perspectives on gender issues are now discussed in sections on linguistic variation,

subsistence, politics, the division of labor in society, socialization, and cultural attitudes toward sex. Some of the new “Focus on Anthropologists” writers discuss the role of women in other societies and gender-related issues of aging in America.

- Twelve new “Focus on Anthropologists” essays offer students in-depth accounts of anthropologists’ work and of the lives of particular peoples.

- Chapters have been reorganized, rewritten, or expanded as follows.

Chapter 1, “Introducing Anthropology,” is now somewhat shorter and more direct—and, I hope, more effective in introducing the student to the field. It has new sections on biological anthropology and archaeology and a discussion of anthropology as a science. These sections owe a great deal to the contributions of biological anthropologist Janet Dunaif-Hattis.

Chapter 2, newly titled “The Growth of Sociocultural Anthropology,” now incorporates some biographical information on anthropologists—for example, Richard Burton. The treatment of Julian Steward and cultural ecology has been extended.

Chapter 4, now called “Culture and Communication,” offers for the first time a discussion of protolanguages and a diagram that shows a proto-Indo-European language tree.

Chapter 5, “Patterns of Subsistence,” now provides a discussion of the preagricultural revolution and has additional material on plantations. Chapter 6, “Economic Systems,” has updated material on labor migration and a new discussion of commerce.

Chapter 7, “Society,” besides being streamlined, now makes a clearer distinction between groups and networks.

Chapter 9, “Sex, Marriage, and the Family,” sharpens its answer to the question “How are sexual relations conditioned by society?” It also now offers a fairly extended description of the Bugis (Sulawesi) marriage ceremony.

Chapter 10, “Socialization,” clarifies the distinction between socialization and enculturation and

replaces the concept of a “primitive” and “civilized” worldview with the concept of an “indigenous” and “metropolitan” worldview. The chapter also includes new material on the life cycle. Chapter 11, “Ethnicity and Social Stratification,” has a new section on slavery as a system of stratification.

Chapter 12, newly titled “Politics and Political Organization,” discusses the origin and fall of states from a new perspective.

Chapter 13, now called “Law and Conflict,” has been pruned down to a more manageable length to help students better assimilate the material.

Chapter 14 is now titled “Religious Belief, Behavior, and Symbolism” to better reflect the content of the chapter. The section on art now includes the work of Haida artist Bill Reid.

Chapter 15, “Illness and Curing,” includes an update of the AIDS epidemic.

Chapter 16, “Sociocultural Anthropology and Human Problems,” has been updated and now contains a discussion of the United Nations Human Development Index and a section on environmental destruction.

- A *Color Portfolio* has been added to this edition. Titled “Anthropology and Natural Resources Management,” it is written, and illustrated with color photographs, to show students the environmental crises involved when forestry, mining, and dams destroy the world’s natural resources and impinge on human communities. It also discusses the role of anthropologists in dealing with the problems of resource management.
- I have also made important pedagogic improvements in this fourth edition. There is now at least one focus question in every chapter introduction. The summary at the end of each chapter now includes definitions of most of the key terms. In addition, many titles have been revised to better reflect the significance of the material, introductions have been rewritten to better orient the student to the chapter themes, and key terms now appear in boldface type with definitions appearing immediately in the text.

- The illustration program contains almost all new photographs and some new figures and updated figures. A revised map of peoples and locales discussed in the text appears at the very beginning of the book. A map of contemporary world trade routes (see page xix) is designed to give students an idea of the economic interconnectedness of the world. A map of the world shows the locations of rain forests and the logging discussed in the color portfolio.
- Writing style has not been neglected: A great deal of attention has been paid to making the writing more direct, less wordy, and more concrete. Overall, although some of the chapters have many fewer words than before, they say a great deal more.
- Key terms appear in boldface type in the text with definitions immediately following.
- A comprehensive *Glossary* can be found at the end of the text.
- A *Bibliography* of works cited in the text provides students with additional resources.
- Both a *Name Index* and a *Subject Index* are included.
- An *Instructor's Manual* has been prepared to accompany the text. It includes suggestions for using the text, annotated film suggestions, learning objectives, and individual and class projects for each chapter in the text. A test bank in the manual provides over 700 test items: 40 to 50 multiple-choice questions and 5 to 10 essay questions for each chapter.

Special Features

- “Focus on Anthropologists” is a general title for a collection of thirteen original essays. Each essay offers a vivid account by a practicing anthropologist in a specific subfield.
- *Color Portfolio*—Anthropology and Natural Resources Management, discusses the environmental crises involved when forestry, mining, and dams destroy the world's natural resources and impinge on human communities. It also discusses the role of anthropologists in dealing with the problems of resource management.
- Each chapter begins with a brief outline of the major topics to be covered—providing students with a convenient overview.
- A concise *Summary* at the end of each chapter helps students review chapter material
- A carefully selected list of *Suggested Readings* appears at the end of each chapter.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As always, I would like to thank my wife, Linda, for tolerating the long hours that I spent staring at the silly machine. I would also like to thank Janet Dunaif-Hattis, whose perseverance has been an inspiration, and my developmental editor, Phil Herbst, for his hard work and perceptiveness.

I am also grateful to the following reviewers who commented on various stages of the manuscript. They include: Bradley Allen Blake, New Mexico State University—Las Cruces; James Garber, Southwest Texas State University; Ilsa Glazer, New York University; Katharine Salter Goodell, Normandale Community College; Ruth Krulfeld, George Washington University; Frances Risher, California State Polytechnic University; and Maria Lydia Spinelli, University of Massachusetts.

Michael C. Howard

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michael C. Howard received his M.A. degree in 1973 from Memorial University in Newfoundland after completing fieldwork with the Maya of southern Belize. He then began research on urban-dwelling Aborigines and Aboriginal politics under the supervision of anthropologist Ronald Berndt, and he was awarded his Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia in 1977.

Dr. Howard returned to the United States in 1976 to teach at California Polytechnic State University where he began work on the first edition of *Contemporary Cultural Anthropology*. In 1978, at the University of Houston, Howard pursued his research interests in Australia and also resumed work in Central America. There he examined change taking place in Belize and became involved in debates surrounding United States involvement in Central America.

In 1981, Dr. Howard went to Fiji to take up a position with the School of Social and Economic Development at the University of the South Pacific. In Fiji, he became involved with a workers' education project for the South Pacific, undertaken by the International Labour Organisation; served as a consultant on worker participation at Fiji's international airport; and carried out research on a variety of political, economic, and labor-related topics in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Nauru, and Kiribati. He also developed a close relationship with the Transnational Corporations Research Project at the University of Sydney, conducted research in India on labor and transnational corporations, and began what has proved to be an on-going research interest in the Philippines.

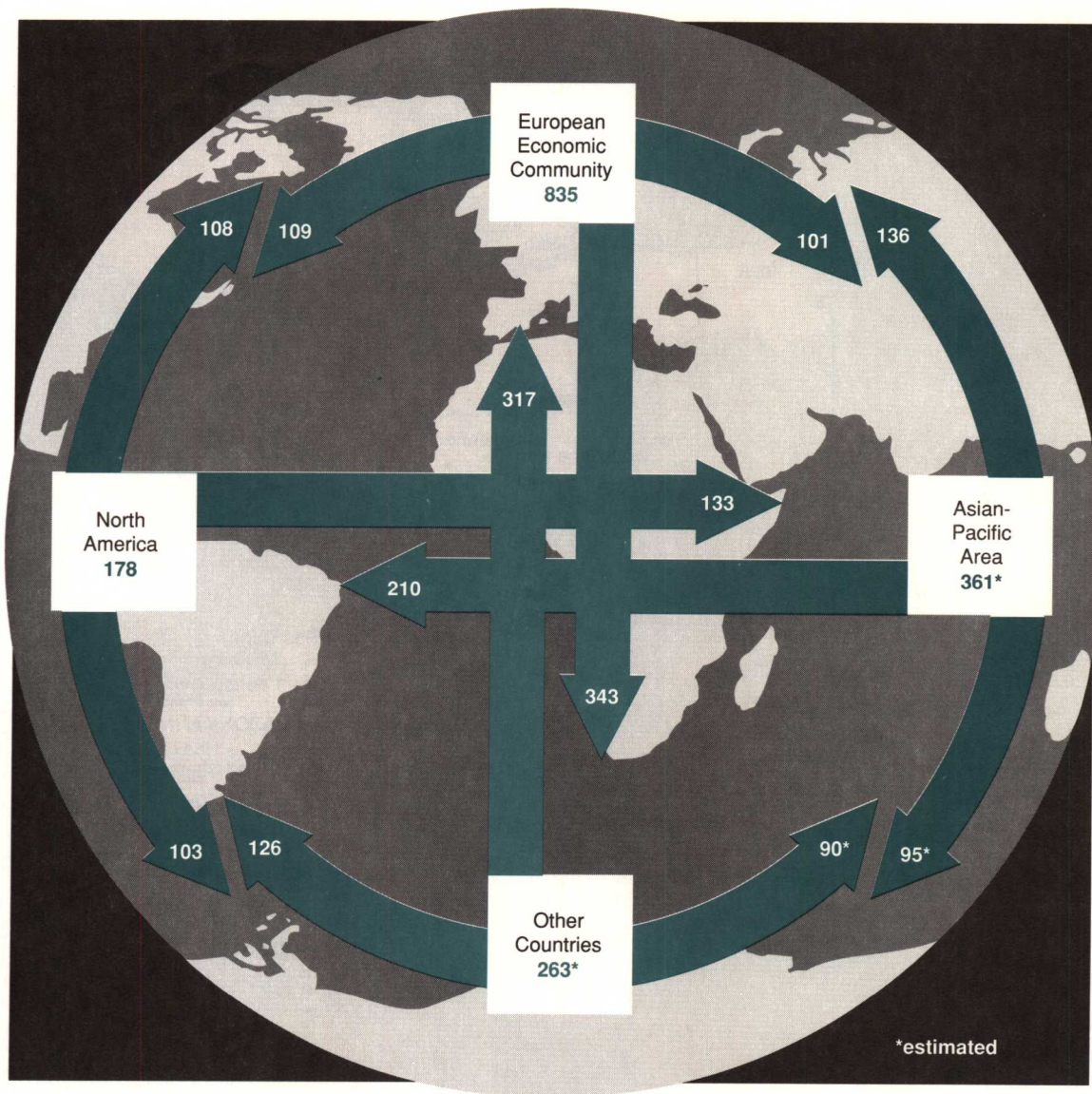
Howard's association with Fiji's labor movement took a dramatic turn in early 1987 when the head of the Fiji Labour Party, for whom Howard served as a personal advisor, became prime minister. Four weeks after the prime minister assumed office, the government was overthrown by a military coup; and a short time later Howard, whose freedom in Fiji was at risk, left for Australia. There he took a teaching position at the University of New South

Wales and lobbied on behalf of the overthrown government of Fiji.

Beginning in 1988, Dr. Howard taught at the University of British Columbia and then at Simon Fraser University, where he is currently a professor with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. In Canada he has maintained his interest in Fiji and the South Pacific and also works with the large community of migrants and refugees from Fiji. The focus of his research, however, has increasingly been on Southeast Asia. This includes research on mining, environmental issues, and ethnic relations in the Philippines, as well as work with other anthropologists on a variety of projects in Thailand and Indonesia.

Other books by Michael C. Howard include *Political Change in a Mayan Village in Southern Belize* (University of Northern Colorado); editor, *Whitefella Business: Aborigines in Australian Politics* (Institute for the Study of Human Issues); *Aboriginal Politics in Southwestern Australia* (University of Western Australia Press); editor, *Aboriginal Power in Australian Society* (University of Queensland Press/University of Hawaii Press); *The Political Economy of the South Pacific: An Introduction*, with N. Plange, S. Durutalo, R. Witton (James Cook University); *The Political Economy of the South Pacific to 1945*, with S. Durutalo (James Cook University); *The Impact of the International Mining Industry on Indigenous Peoples* (University of Sydney); editor, *Ethnicity and Nation-Building in the Pacific* (United Nations University); coeditor with R. Tonkinson, *Going it Alone? Prospects for Aboriginal Autonomy: Essays in Honour of Ronald and Catherine Berndt* (Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies); coeditor with E. W. Wheelwright, *The Struggle for Development: Essays in Memory of Ernst Utrecht* (Simon Fraser University); *Fiji: Race and Politics in an Island State* (University of British Columbia Press); *Mining, Politics and Development in the South Pacific* (Westview Press); coeditor with D. Ross, *Mexico's Second Revolution?* (Simon Fraser University).

Dr. Howard's latest book is a general anthropology text, *Anthropology: Understanding Human Adaptation*, coauthored with Janet Dunaif-Hattis.







FORESTRY



Rain forest is destroyed to clear land for a farm in Brazil. In the tropics, 55 percent of the destruction of forests is due to the demands of agriculture and shifting cultivation.



Cutting native forest for paper pulp on Brazil's Jari River. Deforestation is a drain on valuable resources and a source of worldwide atmospheric changes. It also represents the loss of habitat for countless plant and animal species.

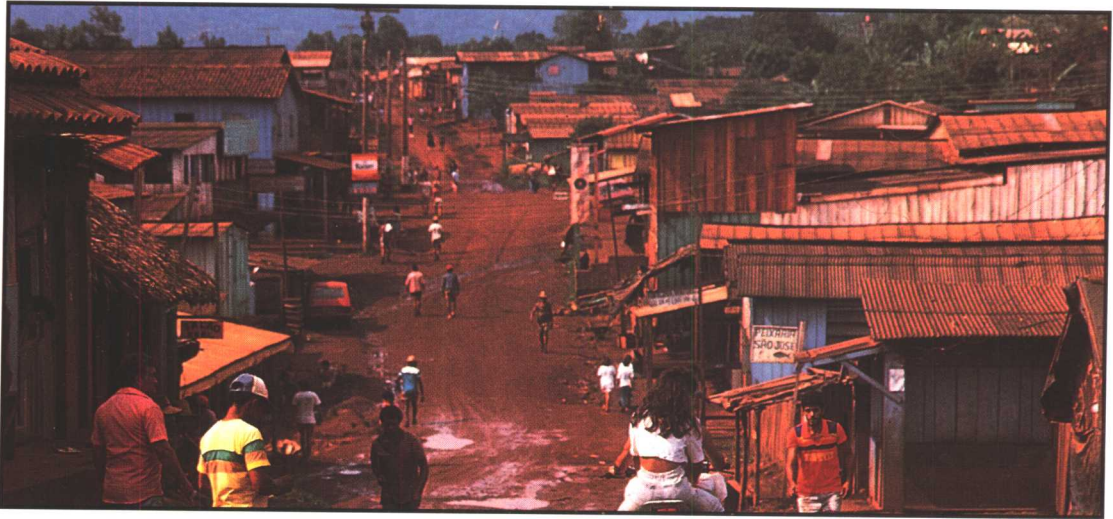


The lands of the Penan, in Sarawak, Indonesia, are being felled by loggers. As the timber disappears, animals die and the traditions of the people are lost.



A Penan of Sarawak fishes a local river. The Penan complain that there are no fish left in the rivers because of the pollution caused by logging road construction.

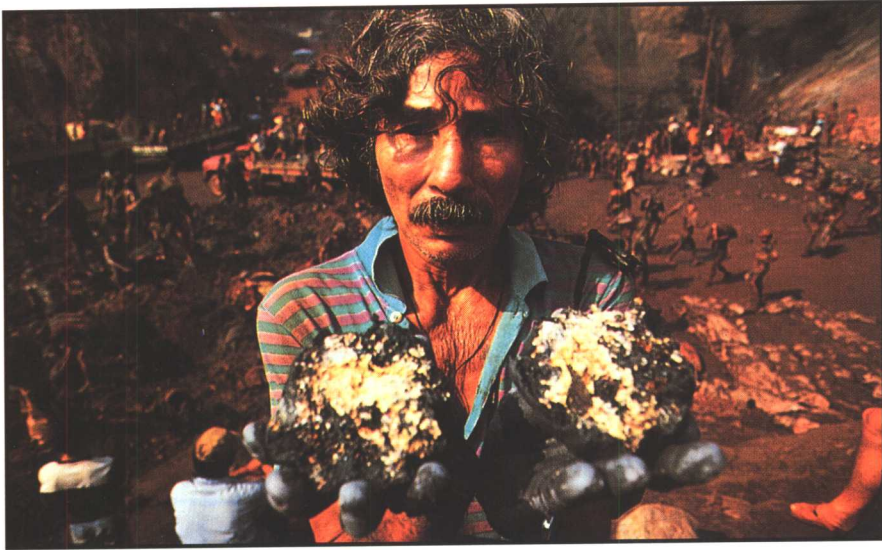
MINING



Miners in the Amazon build roads to mining camps. The social disruption brought by miners to indigenous peoples, the destruction done to the environment, and the diseases introduced can leave a lasting legacy.



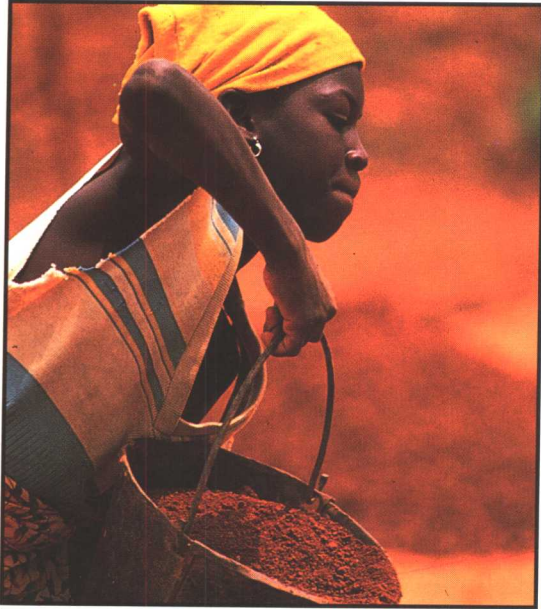
A miner gives food to Yanomami children in Brazil. In the past, Yanomami were massacred by miners.



A man holds up clumps of mined gold at the Serra Pelada gold mine in Brazil. The gold rush that began in 1987 has led to a flood of more than 100,000 prospectors to Brazil's rain forests.



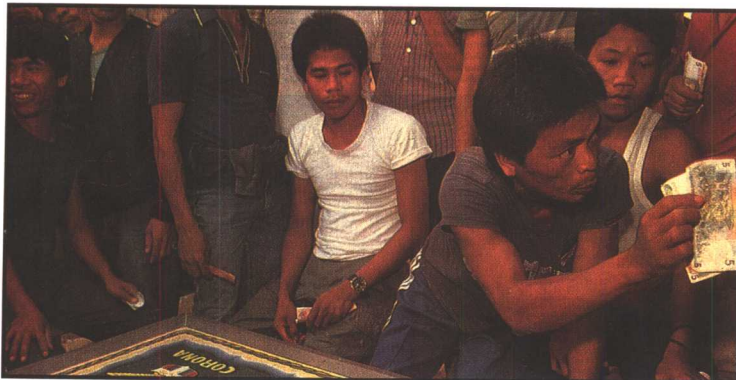
The world's largest iron ore deposit at Carajas, Brazil. Such a large mining operation may harm the fragile ecosystem of Amazonia.



A woman disposes of earth evacuated from the pits in Ivory Coast, West Africa. The anarchy of a boom mining town, where tens of thousands of prospectors have come to exploit (mostly illegally) the diamond fertile area, is now coming under control.



Landowners meet at Mt. Kare, Papua New Guinea, to endorse a mining venture with an Australian company. The agreement promises to give the landowners 49 percent of the wealth generated by the gold mine.

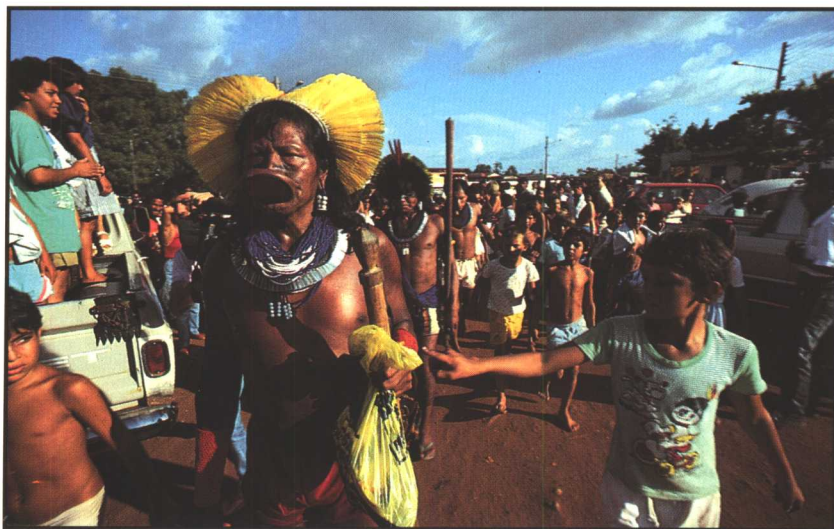


Vice springs up in gold rush towns in the Philippines, which are run by soldiers, deserters, insurgents, and bandits.

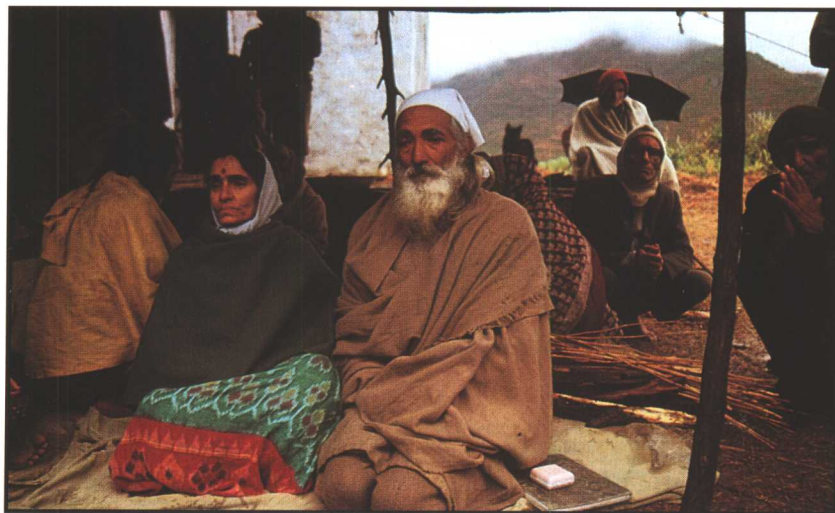
DAMS



The need for energy in developed and developing countries results in the construction of hydroelectric dams in remote areas. Building dams can flood local agricultural and hunting lands. Here a Yanomami house in Brazil is surrounded by flood waters due to hydroelectric projects.



Kayapo chief Raoni demonstrates against the construction of a dam in Altamira, Brazil. He feared the dam construction would cause the flooding of Indian lands and the spread of malaria. The dam was not built.



In India, followers of Bahagunu gather to fast and protest the construction of the Tehri dam. Construction of this dam in the Western Himalayas continues in spite of warnings from seismologists of the possibility of a large earthquake. The immediate cost of the dam project has been the displacement of 80,000 people.