

What can we tell you that is special about our history and way of life?

Before, some years ago, we could not live because of the repression from the army. They would come to our houses to murder us and also at work, we couldn't work, the enemy was chasing us. They terrorized us for nothing and that was why we had to abandon our houses leaving everything thrown about and they would say that we had weapons hidden.

The children cried when we were hungry. The mothers would cover their mouths so the enemy would not find us.

And so we were wandering about, suffering from hunger, cold, under water and without sleeping walking day and night, without light. And so we came to Honduras, in a place called Mesa Grande, and built houses there. We lived there for 8 or 9 years. There was a lot of hunger and war. So we had to leave for El Salvador. Here we came as refugees to Teosinte, Chalatenango. This was in the winter.

The rivers were very high and there were rainstorms. The road was completely ruined and the cars couldn't pass, so we came on foot, making a bridge out of logs so that we could cross the river. When we got here to Teosinte there was nothing left of our houses. The airplanes had destroyed the whole county. We built our houses and workshops with the help of yourselves and that's how we live.

elva, monica, hilda, licha, fide, and lupa
(The group of students who wrote this story.)