

Protests in Brazil call for for those murdered in the Amazon region

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Indigenous people demanded justice for the crimes against British journalist Dom Phillips and indigenous Bruno Pereira and other unsolved cases. | Photo: @MbyaMidia

Sao Paulo, June 20 (RHC)--Indigenous Brazilians took to the streets of Sao Paulo over the weekend to demand justice for the murders of British journalist Dom Phillips and indigenous activist Bruno Pereira, whose remains were found after having been missing for several days in the Amazon.

Between 70 and 100 protesters, originally from the Tenondé- -Porã and Jaraguá Indigenous Lands, of the Guarani people of Sao Paulo arrived at the entrance of the Assis Chateaubridad Museum of Arts (Masp) in the central region of the city.

The protesters shouted "Justice" and carried signs and banners, also demanding justice for other martyrs of the Amazon such as Chico Méndez and the cacique Francisco Tukano.

They also asked for justice for Maxciel dos Santos, an indigenous man murdered in 2019, in Tabatinga with shots in the back of the head. He was a colleague of Bruno and worked in the Ethno-environmental Protection Front of the National Indian Foundation (Funai). The case has not yet been solved.

The Funai Servants Association was the convening organization, together with the Union of Federal Public Service Workers of Sao Paulo (Sindsef-SP) and the Trade Union and Popular Central Conlutas, called for justice and the resignation of the president of Funai, Marcelo Xavier, and of the country's president, Jair Bolsonaro.

According to the Brazilian Federal Police, this Saturday it was confirmed that the remains of the examined dental arches correspond to the indigenist Bruno Pereira (41 years old), who disappeared in the Javari Valley last June 5.

This information was confirmed by the National Institute of Criminalistics of Brazil and a third suspect turned himself in to the authorities. After the forensic examination it was established that the weapon used typical hunting ammunition with multiple bullets, in Pereira's case.

Previously, the security forces confirmed that another gallery belonged to the British journalist Dom Phillips (57 years old), who collaborated with The Guardian. According to their report, both were shot. Bruno, the journalist's guide, was shot twice in the head and once in the chest, while Dom was shot only in the chest.

Both disappeared while traveling along the Itaquaí River, on the edge of the Vale do Javari indigenous land in the Amazon. Ten days later, the Minister of Justice and Public Security, Anderson Torres, assured on social networks that human remains were found. Official versions say that the bodies were dismembered and buried.

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