

## Contents

<i>List of figures, maps, and tables</i>	x
<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvi
<i>Note on orthography</i>	xviii
<b>1 Purpose and organization of the book</b>	<b>1</b>
Social identity	2
Regional perspective	5
Fluidity	8
Ideal and real	9
Final remarks	11
<b>2 Introduction to the Central Northwest Amazon</b>	<b>13</b>
Ecological setting	13
The population	17
Language and linguistics	19
Ethnic history	21
Early explorer and missionary efforts	22
Early and recent ethnographic descriptions	23
The Makú	24
A note on acculturation	24
<b>3 The longhouse</b>	<b>26</b>
The setting	26
The people of Púmanaka buro	26
The longhouse structure	30
Outside the longhouse	31
Inside the longhouse	33
Significance of the longhouse	36
vii	

*Contents*

<b>4 Economic and political life</b>	39
Daily patterns	39
The river	42
The forest	46
Cultivated foods	50
Exchange in general	59
Property	62
Leadership	65
<b>5 Vaupés social structure</b>	69
The settlement	69
The sib	71
The language group	77
The phratry	86
Regional integration and interaction between settlements	96
<b>6 Kinship</b>	105
Kinship terminology	106
Expectations and behavior	108
Specific kinship roles	117
<b>7 Marriage</b>	124
Principles of marriage	125
Marriage behavior	138
Conclusions	147
<b>8 Tukanoans and Makú</b>	148
Background to the Makú	148
Tukanoan attitudes toward the Makú	151
Interaction between Tukanoans and Makú	154
Makú as symbol to Tukanoans	158
Conclusions	161
<b>9 The role of language and speech in Tukanoan identity</b>	164
Vaupés language and speech as badges of identity	165
How Vaupés languages assume features of the nonlinguistic environment	171
The importance of language in Tukanoan culture	177
viii	

*Contents*

<b>10 Male and female identity</b>	179
Relations between men and women	181
Conclusions	192
<b>11 Tukanoans' place in the cosmos</b>	195
Shamanism	195
Festivals	202
The Tukanoan world	204
Conclusions	208
<b>12 Tukanoans and the outside world</b>	211
Extractive industries	215
Homesteaders	217
The Colombian government	217
Missions	218
Mitú	223
Conclusions	224
<b>13 Conclusions: themes in Tukanoan social identity</b>	227
Types of comparisons	227
Themes associated with social identity	231
A note on types of evidence	239
<i>Notes</i>	243
<i>Glossary</i>	256
<i>References</i>	259
<i>Index</i>	273