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## The Pukará of Quito



English & Español

An Indigenous Self-Determination Case Study  
Un Caso Práctico de la Libre Determinación Indígena



Project for Indigenous Self-Determination  
Proyecto para la Libre Determinación Indígena

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Ryan Seelau, Laura M. Seelau : The Pukara of Quito: An Indigenous Self-Determination Case Study (English and Spanish Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pukara of Quito: An Indigenous Self-Determination Case Study (English and Spanish Edition):

The Pukar of Quito: An Indigenous Self-Determination Case Study tells the story of the Indigenous Atacameo Community of Quito and their efforts to regain control over an ancient and impressive piece of cultural property, the Pukar of Quito—a large stone fortress located in the Atacama Desert of Chile. The Atacameo Community of Quito has existed in essentially the same region of Chile for thousands of years, but after European contact, and particularly after tourism began near the end of the 20th century, their world changed dramatically. The Community began to see its cultural property vandalized and destroyed, and they knew that if they stood by and did nothing, much of what they held dear would be destroyed. Fortunately, the Atacameo Community of Quito took action. Exercising their rights to self-determination, the community found ways to regain some control over their traditional lands and property. Adopting a strategy whereby the Community exercised their rights little by little, they became one of the very first Indigenous communities in Chile to co-manage their own ancestral property. In the process, the Community has restored the Pukar of Quito, expanded its reach as a respected tourist attraction, and taken both the lessons and the profits earned from the experience and has channeled them back into the Community for future work. In short, the Pukar of Quito is a success story about Indigenous rights, and it is a story that anyone can learn from. The Pukar of Quito was written by the Project for Indigenous Self-Determination, an organization founded to promote Indigenous rights and successes. It is the first in a series of case studies designed to showcase how Indigenous rights can produce positive results in a wide range of contexts. For more information, visit: [www.projectisd.org](http://www.projectisd.org). El Pukar de Quito: Un Caso Prctico de la Libre Determinacin Indgena cuenta la historia de la Comunidad Atacameo de Quito y sus esfuerzos en re-asumir el control sobre el Pukar de Quito, una fortaleza de piedra ubicada en el Desierto de Atacama en el Norte de Chile que es un antiguo e impresionante trozo de su propiedad cultural. A lo largo de miles de aos, la Comunidad Atacamea de Quito ha existido en precisamente la misma regin de Chile, pero despues de la llegada de los europeos y de relevancia especial para esta historia—el aumento enorme del turismo a fines del siglo XX, su mundo experiment un cambio radical. La Comunidad fue testigo al vandalismo y destruccin de su propiedad cultural y los miembros reconocan la necesidad de tomar accin concreta para confrontar los riesgos de perder lo que valoraban. Afortunadamente, la Comunidad Atacamea de Quito actuaron. Ejercieron su libre determinacin, forjando un mecanismo para re-asumir control parcial sobre sus tierras y propiedades ancestrales. Su estrategia les permitieron ejercer sus derechos poco a poco y se hicieron una de las primeras comunidades indgenas en Chile en co-administrar su propiedad ancestral. Durante el proceso, la Comunidad ha logrado restaurar el Pukar de Quito y aumentar su visibilidad y inters como sitio de visitacin turstica. A la vez, la Comunidad ha re-invertido los aprendizajes adquiridos y las ganancias en el sitio mismo as como en el futuro de la Comunidad. El Pukar de Quito es una historia de xito sobre los derechos indgenas, y es una historia de la cual todos pueden aprender algo. El Pukar de Quito fue escrito por el Proyecto para la Libre Determinacin Indgena, una organizacin creada para la promocin de los derechos y xitos indgenas. Es el primero en una series de casos prcticos diseados para destacar y mostrar cmo los derechos indgenas pueden contribuir a resultados positivos en una variedad de contextos. Para ms informacin, visite: [www.libredeterminacion.org](http://www.libredeterminacion.org)