

# FACT SHEET: Shin Yang

**Shin Yang Group** hold more than 500,000 hectares of timber concessions in Sarawak.<sup>i</sup> Amongst other business interests they are engaged in logging, timber processing and pulp and oil palm plantations.

Shin Yang group has aggressively logged and cleared pristine rainforest in the Heart of Borneo, an international biodiversity hotspot an proposed by the Malaysian authorities for national park status. This includes instances of illegal logging on steep slopes and along river banks.

Local communities and ex-staff of Shin Yang have independently alleged the company hires armed gangsters to intimidate and assault those who voice concerns or act against the company's interests.<sup>ii</sup> <sup>iii</sup> In 2009 Shin Yang were investigated by the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM).<sup>iv</sup>

In 2017 the discovery of Shin Yang plywood on the construction site of Tokyo 2020 Olympics was publicised in Japan and internationally as a matter of concern<sup>v</sup> as it illustrated the utilisation of tropical plywood of dubious origin and weak sourcing guidelines that did not even require that plywood used on site be legally obtained.

The Headman of Long Jaik, a Penan indigenous village that has been fighting Shin Yang for 2 decades issued this statement in September 2017:

“Shin Yang have been logging very aggressively in the area of our village. When their tractors extract a log, they just bulldoze everything around... Shin Yang has been logging our ancestral forests without our permission or consent. They have never asked us for our opinion or needs.” Matu Tugang.

Prepared November 2018 by Peg Putt.

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.themalaymailonline.com/malaysia/article/blame-big-6-timber-firms-for-deforestation-not-illegal-loggers-sarawak-dap>

<sup>ii</sup> Global Witness. Two Worlds Collide

<sup>iii</sup> Global Witness, In the future there will be no forest left. 2012

<sup>iv</sup> Daniel Faeh, *Development of Global Timber Tycoons in Sarawak, East Malaysia*, Report for Bruno Manser Fund, (2011), p. 55.

<sup>v</sup> *'Media Release: Tokyo 2020 Olympics Complicit in Climate Destruction: Confirms Using Rainforest Wood From Unknown Sources - Makes No Commitment to Stop, Media Release: Global NGOs 'Appalled' by Massive Use of High Risk Rainforest Wood for Tokyo 2020 Olympics Construction*, [https://www.ran.org/press-releases/tokyo\\_2020\\_olympics\\_complicit\\_in\\_climate\\_destruction/](https://www.ran.org/press-releases/tokyo_2020_olympics_complicit_in_climate_destruction/)