If the Field Cannot Feed the Farmer, then Burn the Field: The Thirty-Ninth Newsletter (2018).

celina · Friday, November 23rd, 2018
Dear Friends,

Greetings from the desk of the agitation. His — Chile under Pinochet. In the imagination of the country. In September, 200,000 farmers and workers came to Delhi to put pressure on the right-wing government that has destroyed the basis of their livelihood. As IMF policies that destroy community life — including state support — adversely impact women of the working-class and peasantry. That's the bottom line. All the pabulum about gender sensitivity that we hear from the IMF and the World Bank is to the murder of the Movement of Rural Landless Workers (MST) militant Márcio Matos, murdered in January.

If the field does not provide food for the peasant, the peasant destroys the field. Zilda dedicated her whole life in defence of the people of Brazil against the oligarchy and its imperialist partner. It is government policy masquerading as market forces (the ‘invisible hand’) that creates impoverishment. In a society thrown into poverty, the absence of state institutional support forces threadbare familial and community institutions – the invisible self-interest).

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The title for this newsletter comes from a poem by Mohammed Iqbal (1877-1938), one of the great poets of South Asia. In his poem, Farman-e-Khuda (1938), he writes:

If the field does not provide food for the peasant, the peasant destroys the field.

The following is a brief version of the points covered in the Aracne Amazone (Masson & Associates) March for land rights in 2018. You can watch it below:

The Agitation.
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