Chung, Hsiu Mei, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Asian Peasant Women's Network for Alternatives: Asian Peasant Women Rewrite Politics of Livelihood and Ecology

Social movements of peasants and landless workers have been mobilizing since the WTO of 1995. Organizations such as La Via Campesina is representative of small farmers, indigenous people, landless people, women and rural workers in the third world. It targets on food insecurity which is caused by the expansion of agrofuels and monoculture projects and the growing power of corporate transnationals over food systems. It represents more than 1 billion hungry people in the world, and believes the future of food production is in the hands of women and children. This paper will discuss how the Asian Peasant Women's Network is organized and how it rethinks its strategies from the perspective of Asian peasant women's practices. The paper will also examine how the Asian Peasant Women's Network challenges developmentalism and neo-liberalism, which have caused catastrophes of their livelihood and environment. More importantly, how the network has developed different perspectives from eco-feminist points of view in the 1990s.