

VANDANA SHIVA

Dr. Vandana Shiva is a philosopher, environmental activist and eco feminist. Born in India in 1952, she is one of the Third World's most eloquent and passionate voices on the environment, women's rights, and sustainable development.

She is trained as a Physicist and did her Ph.D. on the subject "Hidden Variables and Non-locality in Quantum Theory" at the University of Western Ontario in Canada. She later shifted to inter-disciplinary research in science, technology and environmental policy, which she carried out at the Indian Institute of Science and the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, India. In 1982, she left to set up her Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy in her home town of Dehra Dun in the foothills of the Himalaya.

She is author of numerous books including, *Soil Not Oil: Environmental Justice in an Age of Climate Crisis*; *Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply*; *Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace*; *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology, and Development*; and *Biopiracy: The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge*. Vandana Shiva is also a contributing editor to Third World Resurgence, a leading journal of opinion from Malaysia.

Vandana Shiva has supported grassroots organizations in India and around the world in their struggles against clear-cutting of forests, large-scale dams, the industrialization of aquaculture, and the invasion of multinational agribusiness. One of the first she was involved with was the Chipko movement, a group of women who were defending their forests with acts of civil disobedience. Her recent work in India has focused on the protection of farmers' rights to their own seed stock.

Dr. Vandana Shiva has served as an adviser to governments in India and abroad as well as NGOs, including the International Forum on Globalization, the Women's Environment and Development Organization and the Third World Network. She also serves on the boards of many organizations, including the World Future Council, the International Forum on Globalization and Slow Food International.

She has received numerous awards, including 1993 Right Livelihood Award (Alternative Nobel Prize) and the 2010 Sydney Peace Prize.

Time Magazine identified Dr. Shiva as an "environmental hero" in 2003, and Asia Week has called her one of the five most powerful communicators of Asia.

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