

# **Draft Manifesto number one**

## **Nature is of such great value that it cannot be quantified**

### **We do not have ownership of land, the land owns us**

*While we might not be aware of we actually can achieve, though acutely conscious of what we do not want, we still enjoy the luxury of dreaming, and the need to organise. We would like to propose a few ideas, in the context of overriding productivism and commodification.*

### **Power**

Currently, the term power implies economic or corporate power which controls Government. We would like to shift our focus to power in relation to our environment: social and natural. We would also like to bring forth the idea that power should be generated by the people and derived from the consensus of the collective. Ultimately, we would like to see power as a tool to empower.

### **State**

The State is dictated by the corporate powers, as mentioned above, and centralised decision-making. We believe that the nature of the State, similarly to the nature of Power as defined above, needs to change to the Collectivity, where decision-making is locally made, and different efforts and interests are represented, versus captured by Corporates. Decisions made by the collective must be based on real needs and serve the people. Interdependency must prevail over competition.

### **Gender**

Patriarchy has made it such that one gender has been oppressed for centuries if not millennia. This has been exacerbated by Capitalism whereby the commodification of nature increased the discrimination made against women. Labour in the current system is alienating us and is linked to gender inequality.

It is essential to redress the disparities in equality and violence that has been perpetrated against women, and in the process of moving away from a binary construct of gender towards more inclusive definition of humanity based on dignity, love and respect.

### **Interdependency of Nature & Humanity**

The traditional or capitalistic “means of production” is depleting nature, the system has been using it as a commodity, creating the ecological crisis we are at now. We need to move towards a more natural way of living: the interdependency of humanity and nature must be at the heart of all decision-making by the Collective. Nature and land do not belong to anyone. Based on the premise that we do not have the ownership of land and that the land owns us, the way we use nature to sustain our livelihoods must be collectively defined. Whatever we are taking out of nature should be done so that others and the future generation can enjoy.

*While dreaming of what we ultimately want to achieve, we are aware that in order to reach this ideal, we need to think of transitional measures which will help us achieve this ideal.*

### **Transitional proposals/measures**

#### **Power, State and Interdependency of humanity & nature**

- Create cooperatives and showcase the advantages attached versus standard employment
- The means used for sustaining livelihoods should be commonly owned
- We do not need the current State’s money: we can use the skills within the community
- Try to regulate ourselves at the community level – community-based economy
- Buy private land for collective/public use/social purpose. However, we need to redefine the price

of land and engage landowners in the conversation.

- Occupying land- produce what we eat
- Redefining the curriculum – recognise that capitalism/productivism is threatening nature – all propaganda should be criminalised since it is endangering lives
- Recognise the value and value what people do, but not in terms of the market value. We do not need to put a price-tag on things
- Education geared to unveil human value that is compatible with nature

## **Gender**

- Taxing existing entities which are discrimination against and oppressing women
- Rebalance payment for women: compensation for all the years women worked at a lower pay compared to man and give equal pay for equal work. Women must be empowered
- Empower women- recognising the value of work they do at home
- Giving incentives for representation of women in all workplaces and decision-making institutions- move towards a 50-50 representation

**This proposal is an ongoing process to which we want every generation to contribute.**

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