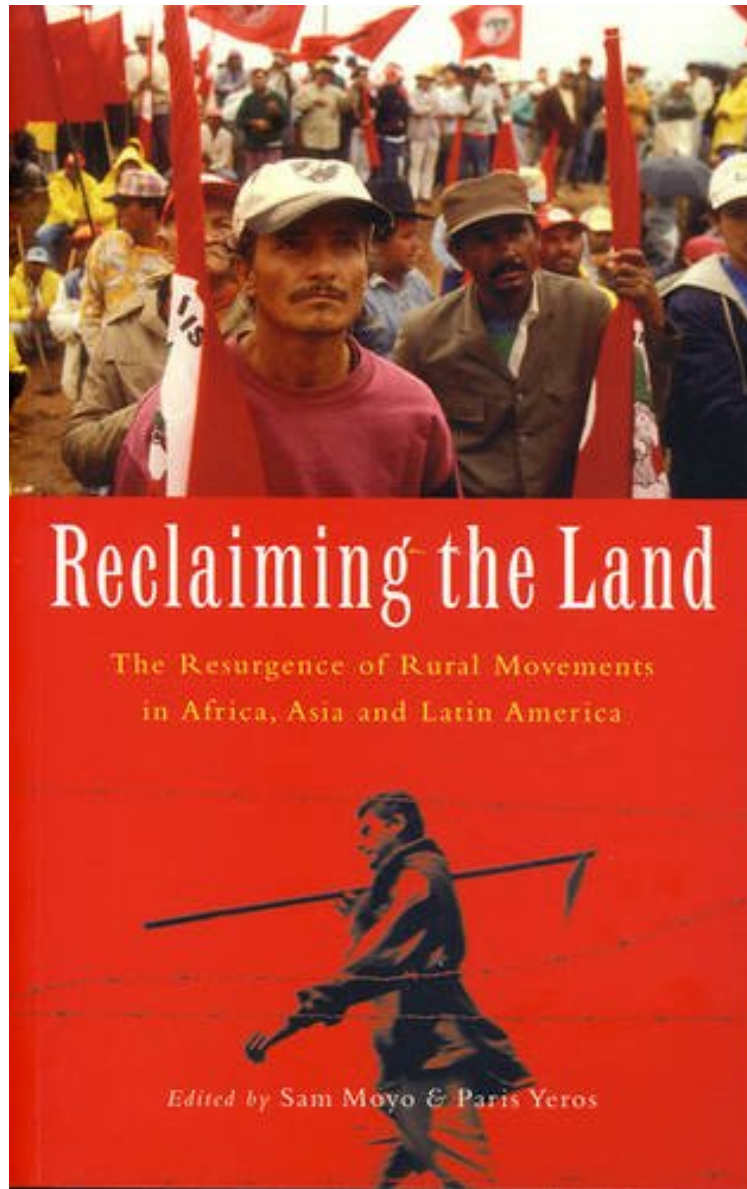


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Reclaiming the Land: The Resurgence of Rural Movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America

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the Land: The Resurgence of Rural Movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America:

Reclaiming the Land brings together original investigations of the new generation of rural social movements in Asia, Latin America and Africa. Dispossessed peasants and unemployed workers of diverse political and ideological orientation have used land occupations and other tactics systematically to confront the neoliberal state. This book provides both national and micro-level case studies of these movements. They seek to identify their social composition, strategies, tactics, and ideologies; to assess their relations with other social actors, including political parties, urban social movements, and international aid agencies and other institutions; and to examine more closely their most common tactic, the land occupation, as well as the responses of governments and landowners.

'This is a very important book which rows against the current. According to the dominant liberal paradigm, capitalist expansion has already abrogated (or is abrogating) the agrarian question, organising the transfer of labour to urban activities and modernising the rural sector, such that land reform programmes have become obsolete. The cases precisely studied in the book, covering Africa, Asia and Latin America, show that actually it is not so. On the contrary, imperialism appears thoroughly unable to resolve the agrarian question and to respond to the challenge of growing social dislocation. That structural failure is one of the major sources of growing poverty, as well as progressive political mobilisation in the countryside.' Samir Amin, director, Third World Forum, Dakar

'This remarkable book is a much welcome contribution to our understanding of the nature and dilemmas posed by recent capitalist development in rural areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The essays collected in this volume combine in-depth analyses of the political dynamics unleashed in the countryside by a host of very powerful social movements with a careful survey of the cleavages and ruptures produced by the harsh introduction of neoliberal policies. The reader will gain access to a wider and deeper understanding of all the complexities of the agrarian question under the impact of neoliberal globalisation from an analytical perspective in which sound social science research fruitfully combines with the impassioned visions of rural activism.' Atilio Boron, executive secretary of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences, Buenos Aires

'This book is a good read for anyone interested in understanding how rural social movements are organizing, evolving, and changing in the current global neo-liberal context.' Isabella Kenfield, University of California

About the Author Sam Moyo is Director of the newly founded Pan-African research organization, The African Institute for Agrarian Studies (AIAS). Paris Yeros is a Greek social scientist.