



THE SEEDS OF VANDANA SHIVA



*Food is a weapon.
When you control seed, you control life on earth.*

How did the willful daughter of a Himalayan forest conservator become Monsanto's worst nightmare? The Seeds of Vandana Shiva tells the remarkable life story of Gandhian eco-activist Dr. Vandana Shiva, how she stood up to the corporate Goliaths of industrial agriculture, rose to prominence in the ecological food movement, and is inspiring an international crusade for change.



WHY MAKE A FILM ABOUT VANDANA SHIVA?

- Vandana is a pioneer and heroine of the modern seed saving and organic food movements
- She was a key to the launch of the international tree-hugging movement, which originated in India
- She built the resistance to the Green Revolution that has failed on its promise to feed the world
- She mobilized hundreds of thousands of Indian farmers to protest against multinational control of agriculture
- She blew the whistle on hundreds of thousands of farmer suicides in India
- She took her custody case to the Indian Supreme Court and the law was changed to allow rights for mothers
- She's the author of more than 25 books and her talks have had millions of online views
- No-one has told her life story on film until now.



ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

We are Becket Films, an independent production company based in California and Australia. Previous to The Seeds of Vandana Shiva, we made Sons of Africa, a documentary about the sons of Idi Amin and Julius Nyerere who climbed Kilimanjaro on a historic peace climb between their two nations. Before that, we produced nine films for the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox Church (The Green Patriarch) who brought together religious leaders, environmentalists and scientists to focus on ecologically threatened water bodies around the world, including The Amazon, The Arctic, and the Mississippi. We're proud to say our projects have won many awards, including two Humanitas awards and a George Foster Peabody Award. The Seeds of Vandana Shiva is our fifteenth and most ambitious project to date.



DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

We were first introduced to Vandana Shiva almost twenty years ago. And like most people on their first meeting with her, we realised immediately we were in the presence of an eco-activist rock star.

Her life has embodied the notion that “one person can make a difference”, and so we asked if we could capture her journey on film. She agreed. *The Seeds of Vandana Shiva* is the result.

Through Vandana’s evolution as an activist against the global Goliaths of food and farming, the film also aims to shine a light on where we are today—industrial food accounts for

up to 40% of carbon emissions, while pesticides destroy soils, water systems and biodiversity, and harm human health. Contrary to the spin that industrial food is essential to feeding the world, today more than two billion people face food insecurity across the globe.

Vandana speaks for an ecological vision for food and farming in which we can regenerate the environment and human democracies. Our hope is that Vandana’s extraordinary story will act as a catalyst for greater awareness and inspire people to be part of the change.

THE CRISIS

- Industrial agriculture is large-scale, intensive food production involving mono-cultures, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and genetically modified seeds
- This system degrades soil, depletes water resources, pollutes the environment, contributes to biodiversity loss and climate change
- A handful of multinational corporations now control most of the world’s seed supply – resulting in food insecurity and loss of food sovereignty

THE SOLUTION

- Ecological food and farming is holistic, biodiverse, protects ecosystems, mitigates climate change, and produces nutrient-dense food
- Regenerative farms support the livelihoods of small farmers and food producers, and support local communities
- The FAO of the United Nations has endorsed regenerative food and farming as best for the climate, the environment and human communities.

IMPACT GOALS

- Build awareness around the social, climate and environmental costs of industrial agriculture versus ecological agriculture
- Inspire people to get involved with the movement and ‘vote with their fork’
- Empower women to lead for the environment, the climate, and food justice

FILM DETAILS

Documentary Feature | Runtime: 1.21.41 | Language: English

vandanashivamovie.com