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Conceptions of the Territory and the Field Studies in Geography - interview with prof . Manoel Calaça (IESA - Environmental Institute - Federal University of Goiás)

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ABSTRACT : The purpose of the interview with Professor Mr. Manuel Calaça is build some thoughts from their research experiences about themes related to studies of the territory and specifically Brazil field and the Amazon . In July 2016 , the professor was in Macapa on behalf of the ministry of disciplines in Dinter in geography, when we had the opportunity to talk about his role as a geographer.

Concepções sobre o Território e o Campo nos Estudos de Geografia – entrevista com o prof. Manoel Calaça (IESA - Instituto Socioambiental da Universidade Federal de Goiás)

RESUMO: O propósito da entrevista com o professor Manuel Calaça é construirmos algumas reflexões a partir de suas experiências de pesquisa sobre temáticas ligadas aos estudos do território e, especificamente, do campo no Brasil e na Amazônia. No mês de julho de 2016, o professor esteve em Macapá por conta da ministração de disciplinas no Dinter em Geografia, momento em que tivemos a oportunidade de conversar sobre sua atuação como geógrafo.

Professor Mr. Calaça through his training in geography, has dedicated its research especially on issues related to agriculture in Brazil, the agrarian question and therefore the conflicts in the field, especially the formation of socio-territorial movements. Although currently its activities mainly occur in the state of Goiás, his master's and doctoral research themes were directly linked to the peasantry in the Amazon. Also at this time, we have established partnerships with researchers from northern universities in the country, continuing the discussions on the region. This allows us, together with him, talk about the expansion of the agricultural frontier and the dynamics of capital globalization process at the local level. Manoel Calaça graduated in geography from the Federal University of Goiás, master's degree in geography at the Institute of Geosciences and extas from the University of Rio Claro, PhD in Geography from the University Paulista Julio de Mesquita Filho, is currently professor of geography course at the Federal University Goiás. from 1977 to 1997 he served as professor at the Federal University of Acre, one of the first teachers of the course. This performance resulted in his doctoral thesis entitled, Violence X Resistance: Movement tappers of Xapuri and the Proposal for Extractive Reserve, theoretical stock option policy and base their research and action with the company until today.

Miss. Patricia Rocha: *Good morning Mr. Calaça. It is a pleasure to welcome you in Amapá contributing to the formation of our geography teaching staff and assisting in the studies directed to the territory monopolization process in Amapá and its contradictions. I believe that the process of academic education is fundamentally important in choosing the object / subject of research. Could you tell us a little about his career as a teacher and researcher?*

Mr. Calaça: Interesting this question, because doing geography was not a provided decision it was an option left me when I made the first unified college entrance UFG. Geography did happen, although I believe that subconsciously I had the influence of gym teachers and scientific education (high school today). So, I did the first unified college entrance UFG in 1970, started the course of geography in 1971 and finished in 1974, doing a specialization course, when I was already a professor at Rio Verde Higher Education Foundation to FESURV, which still exists today. As a teacher of FESURV, did a specialization course at the Catholic University of Minas the PREPPES (Teacher Preparation Program for Higher Education), and there I met at the time the main names of Brazilian agricultural geography Mr. Esperidião Faissol, Mr. Alexandre Filizola Diniz, Teacher Mr. Oswaldo Bueno Amorim Filho. Mr. Diniz and Professor Mr. Amorim Filho are still active. So this led me to this option for agrarian geography. I have said that this led me to my meeting with myself, because I come from a peasant, I rediscover myself in the study process. I mean, so after this course I went to Acre in 1977 by the Federal University of Acre and two years later, late 1979 I went out to the Master and that final period of the 70s, was underway the creation and implementation of projects of rural settlements. I studied in Rio Claro in school peak neopositivist geography in Brazil. And there did the masters studying the characteristics of small production Acre Farm. So that was an option for the reproduction logic of those workers who were settled in the Amazon. This did not occur only in Acre, was a process that took all the Amazon as an alternative to "conflict resolution", social tensions, mainly caused by public works. It was a way to relieve tension in the South Central and Northeast. So it was a new element in reality the extraction in Acre. And then I finished the Master, returned to Acre to university. I had to take a break there, because there were many people to qualify. But already in period of 80 years, with the intensification of conflicts, I chose to work, study the extractive reserve as an alternative for solving conflicts. They were conflicts over land between rubber tappers and farmers who were there called Paulistas (those who went to Acre, including university professors, were called Paulistas towards exploratory) then that's when I joined in the study of conflict and violence in the country, and returned to Rio Claro, the same school I did a master's degree, but with a Marxist guideline, which is the teacher Beatriz Soares Pontes to "Bia", already an Amazon experience. Then contributed a lot, and it made me approach the movement of rubber tappers, I have fol-

lowed, so that's when I decided to study this issue of conflicts. After I made the contest at UFG in 1997 and decided to come to Goiás because I did not see the short-term outlook for the implementation of a Graduate program, I thought this very limited my action as a researcher, as a teacher. So I decided to make the competition at the Federal University of Goiás, and my intention was to continue studying the peasantry in the Amazon. I had even when I came to Goiás, a project that perspective to forward to the CNPq, when I arrived in Goiás as I talked to a teacher who was the teacher of agrarian geography on this project, trying to bring it the theme to study Goiás, he told me that there was no peasantry in Goiás, the Goiás was now another, it was the Agribusiness Goiás and then I in the first field work, two months after I had arrived, when I left Goiania I was faced with a MST flag, in the municipality of Guapo, Posseilândia district that was a great occupation MST. We stopped to visit, was not in our script, and this led me to a question: Are you field and has Landless! We stopped, we visited this camp and the relationship I established with him during took five years of occupation me coordinate the PPA project of this settlement and to establish a political relationship with the MST in Goiás, which continues today, including my option guidance now in Masters and PhD is militant social movements, particularly the MST, to contribute to the training of militants who become organic from that insertion at the top level and I went into a harvest of understand the dynamics of agribusiness, because everything was new to me, it was not new in theory, but was on the observation of Agribusiness dynamics.

Miss Rocha: *And why choose within the geography theories territorial approach?*

Mr. Calaça: This is important to understand its contradictions, the process of exclusion, subordination and dispossession of the peasantry and the process of organizing social movements. It was and is very important to understand this dynamic territory. That's where I come in with territorial approach, because a matter that is pending. Or we walked a bit towards sociology or move toward the economy and agronomy in the interpretation of the agricultural space, and our intention is to bring this focus on territorial analysis and there's a difficulty, because you have few researchers working with this category especially in Brazil, field of study, Ariovaldo Umbelino de Oliveira, Bernardo Fernandes Mançano. And I tried to Eguimar Chaveiro, also a professor at UFG, from a dialogue as Professor Marcos Aurélio Saquet, try to contribute a methodology from the vegetation of the Brazilian interior approach, and some years ago we came to work with our guided this perspective. Understand the territory as a relational process of production, guided by the labor relations, the class struggle and the relationship between those who we're calling hegemonic actors, which is the representation of national and international bourgeoisie. At first, at various scales have a dispute between these actors, alliances with regional and local actors, mediated by the state, by state institutions, financial sector, public sector. Understanding this dy-

namic, second time as the peasantry enters this relational system and under what conditions, or the path of integration as it was in the south or by way of exclusion or subordination as the experiences we have in the savannah areas.

Miss Rocha: *From your observations about this process in the state of Goiás can bring some reflections on the introduction of this kind of capitalist agriculture in Amapá?*

Mr. Calaça: I would say that today in Brazil, from Goiás I'm understanding this, there is a process of intense subordination and fencing of the peasantry by capital, if you look at the indicators of food production, peasant agriculture contribution in Brazil she is in a downward trend from the year 2000. So this conflict of interest for the production of goods by agribusiness has co-opted and subordinated even the peasantry. I think one of the examples is the social fuel seal of the national production and use of biofuel program. Through this policy, the Government encourages the purchase of raw materials for biodiesel production coming processing of what the government calls the family farm. This leads to the peasantry is also directed to the production of goods, Professor Ariovaldo calls it "little agribusiness" which is the perspective of public policy. Looking at it from the angle of the the vegetation of the Brazilian interior, the savannah in the Midwest is considered the major grain producer in Brazil and the major producer of soybeans, grains generally being Goiás and Mato Grosso the main producers in particular soybeans and corn, both for export and for industrial processing. And now it comes to Amapá, is not new, as recent as well, but is new to the processes that are happening in the Midwest and this has a direct connection to the objective of this type of commodity production which is the export especially to Europe and China, mainly to China which is the major buyer. As much as the areas for the production of grains here in Amapá are not as extensive, as bulky as in Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Tocantins, Maranhão, Piauí and Bahia. It's enough to motivate the migration of southern producers, already used to the soybean cultivation, and this connection to the world market especially with China, which is the main soybean buyer in the world, so yesterday I visited the municipality of Santana and I could see, despite the observation difficulties in time, the silos being built in the port area. So Amapá will become an important point (warehouse) for boarding (imagine a hypothesis) grain, that production and export commodities process.

Miss Rocha: *You just mentioned that the activities, products which are activities of peasant agriculture has systematically reduced over the subordination of the peasantry by agribusiness. In this context, how do you see the role of social movements in the fight against the outbreak of these reporting processes and peasant expropriation? As they have been manifested and resisted? How is the issue of peasant recreation over this subordination to the activities of capitalist agriculture?*

Mr. Calaça: I would say to you that making a more general analysis of the national political situation, I see a breakdown of this organizational model for the social, trade union movements, political parties, then a rethinking of the actions of these movements is necessary because as acting as act to prevent the expansion of agribusiness? Because there is an illusion that soy provides an income to the peasant and is true it provides only that becomes a producer of goods for which it has not sufficient capital, so he submits part of its surplus of their income, their work, which is appropriated by the capitalist agriculture in this process. Now the big question is how to act to prevent this from happening? I consider symbolic prisons that are happening in Goiás because the MST, especially, occupied important areas in the heart of Goiás agribusiness. So if today we make a polygon of the main occupations that the MST held, it bothered the agribusiness leaders and that, I think it's a difficult strategy but efficient in this fight, this contention agribusiness. Now of course it is an attempt to stop this action, but what are the other movements in Brazil that has this condition to confront agribusiness? Because it is an unequal fight, that class struggle is an unequal struggle. So I see that yes even the MST, with this kind of action brings discomfort to agribusiness. I want to believe that the repression that is taking place in Goiás, it is strategic, so it is Goiás from the point of view of its geographical location, its importance on the national scale, the movement of goods. Then the combat in Goiás to the MST, despite saying that there is a breakdown by the difficulties of mobilization, leadership training framework. But there is a resistance, as is the CPT level of complaints, guidance organizations, data collection. But it takes that process to expand the scale of the whole of society. I recently heard from Joao Pedro Stedile in Goiânia, the following, "does not help us to stay on top of sound cars talking, you need to go to the body to body" means a change in strategy, having to leave the more general discourse, capilarizar to our action on the scale of the families, the school, the people, in short, we need to mobilize many, many, that capillarity in the urban periphery. About what could happen here in Amapá, which is already occurring, which is the migration process, ie the farmers, coastal communities are being gradually expelled from their areas to the city. Of course, here it is a completely different picture, with their specificities, with other problems, such as mining, eucalyptus. Eucalyptus where I saw the harbor is transformed into chips for export, did not see the data, but do not know where it goes, whether it is for Jari, whether it is for the international market. Eucalyptus itself has been a major problem which settles this commercial scale for the production of cellulose.

Miss Rocha: *Professor, we currently have a major concern with the results of capitalist reproduction of the territory in Amapá. In his classes at Dinter you showed Goiás data. According to these data there is this reduction in production of farming activities in peasant farming, however, looking at the map of social subjects actions in the*

conflict in 2015 in Ariovaldo teacher's article, published in Conflict notebook in CPT field, we can see that the MST, especially in Goiás has been quite active, that is, is conducting the struggle for land. Amapá, in recent years has shown a rising curve in numbers of conflicts over land, second only to the state of Pará, which is obviously the most contentious of all the states of the Amazon. However, until then we have social organizations that purport to deal with this fight strategically, such as the MST. What we could actually think about it? Social movements that are born linked to party politics are not autonomous character, the link with this type of policy has a strong presence in various sectors of society descaracterizando social struggles in the various labor and civil layers, especially in the rural unions. So there is this concern on our part, we made the decision to act together with these classes and societies struggling for land and territory. How we geography and other social sciences could contribute to build another thought, whether ideological or utopian to strengthen the actions of social movements, as you have done in Goiás and other intellectuals who do the theoretical struggle from from the point of view of the emergence of a geopolitics of people?

Mr. Calaça: I think the first way of our professional obligation is the study and understanding of these processes and the training and qualification of social subjects of leaders who can contribute to this process. Now the social movement results in a contradiction of the capitalist expansion process in the field. I have analyzed that this process of capital territorialization, it culminates in the conflict. The conflict leads to a process of dispossession and resistance to this process of dispossession and therefore this is what will lead to the organization process. Social movements are the result of the fight, he is led from the inside out, from that contradictory movement of the expansion of capitalist activities deployment, which here should be guided by a bias where the agricultural frontier has the conflict to its essence, because it is a process of capitalist appropriation of land that are still available, those that have not yet been appropriated by mining and those that were not appropriate for eucalyptus. Therefore, I believe that our first action is to understand this process and promote a debate in society about what is actually happening. Now, in a border area, where there are great interests of large companies is a much more complex situation, because of the violence that ensues. The university (I do not believe in the university's point of view it as an institution, I believe in the action of researchers, people who are organized and ideologically they are willing to this understanding and to report this violent process that certainly affects these rural communities, riparian and maroon. We saw in the field work, by speaking of his Alexander (leader of the quilombo Mel da Pedreira), said that "the arrival of soy can already achieve the production of honey." This is just one aspect. The expropriation of the property may, I do not know the reality of Amapá, but should reach for sure the peasantry.

Miss Rocha: *On the other hand, we have public and government policies that affect those communities directly, as is the case of that program of the "My House, My Life" in the quarry honey, as we have seen.*

Mr. Calaça: There is a model that bothered me a lot because it's you remove the community of their place of residence, which has a whole set of relationships established with water, with natural air conditioning of the room, with access to fishing, with its way of life itself. Suddenly, we saw a housing project from my home, my life without trees, without an architectural design suitable for an equatorial climate without the yards without the place of living. So, that will culminate in the transformation of the region in a recreation area. But I envision a great disarticulation possibility that quilombo and ownership, perhaps in the future for other purposes other than reproduction of that quilombo there's quarry honey.

Miss Rocha: *You mentioned that has been devoted to study the integration of dynamic in Latin America, specifically in the Amazon. What results have produced your research? These results the outlook for the Amazonian populations?*

Mr. Calaça: I'm finishing up a job with a postdoctoral fellow at the Federal University of Acre, studying these axes of South American integration. The conclusion reached those it studies, Silvio Simeone. It is related to the axis of integration by Peruvian Carretera giving access from the BR 317 and BR 364 to Peruvian ports in the Pacific. Noting the South American integration map has a connection shaft here in this arm of the Amazon River and BR 156. Brazil turns with various corridors of export goods produced by agribusiness and I believe that also for mining, not now the Atlantic but the Pacific and the Caribbean. So, for the local population will be only the crossing point, no, I do not think no prospect of improvement for the local population. Perhaps some market niches you can use these channels to flow. But what sets the flow is large-scale and I believe that may reside in the interest already some companies in the grain sector and possibly other segments of agribusiness in settling from the soybean production here in Macapá. And this is a study that needs to be done. Soybean production in and perceptibly will consolidate over time a certain type of production, that needs to produce species and soybean varieties adapted to the physical aspects. But I want to believe that is the principle that easy flow to the ports, both via the Panama Canal to China, not only here in Amapá, but also for the southwest region and especially of Mato Grosso BR of asphaltting 163 and access here to the Atlantic Ocean and from there to the world. The BR 156 asphaltting, I imagine that it will be important in the composition of this axis that is not yet fully implemented in the axis of the mouth of the Amazon to the Atlantic Ocean and is the axis of the Guianas. If you look at the map of this South American integration, this is one of the flow axis same as a waypoint as to Acre as it is for the ports of the Atlantic, as Santos,

Paranagua and Vitoria. For local people maybe some jobs in very precarious conditions.

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