

# COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

JOURNAL OF BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY INDIA



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## BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY

AN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CHARITABLE TRUST

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## Cover

Leopard

*Courtesy : M. Krishnan*

Your questions will be  
answered by :  
NISCHIT  
Beauty Without Cruelty  
( India Branch )  
4 Prince of Wales Drive  
Wanowrie  
Poona 411001

## EDITORIAL

In an acquisitive society, people have a craving for all sorts of things which go to enrich them materially. But the most heathenish lust is to acquire objects which beautify them physically or which inflate their gaudy collections, irrespective of the amount of sacrifice of living creatures involved in the process. People gloating with tinsels do not stop short of activities, however unhealthy aesthetically they may be, to satisfy their fashionmongering. Such persons whet their curiosity and selfish ego, perverting the very essence of beauty under which they wish to glorify themselves. Fortunately there is a section of the cultured class, actuated by milk of human kindness, who have not hesitated to throw a spanner in the works of those obsessed by the thought of securing personal pleasure at any cost.

The common belief is that man's elegance, education and enlightened opinion serve as a brake on vandalism. But what we see is that the purpose of genuine education, as is being understood more or less from the time of Aristotle, is marred by non-recognition of true values in life. In fact the standard of education is undermined by the utilitarians who are concerned with their own happiness without regard to beauty, truth and goodness.

In quite a number of cases, suffering to the innocent birds and animals is caused without any purpose – there is no underlying idea to eke out any benefit or acquire any advantage. It is sheer indifference, lack of responsibility and imprudence which goad people to disregard the norms of a dignified existence for themselves and those they come in contact with. If a start is made with young impressionable children to imbue them with kind and benevolent thoughts and deeds for the entire creation, a great stride will have been taken in the direction of our cherished objective.

S. M. Masani

( This issue is kindly sponsored by dawood & co. )

## FROM MY DESK . . . 31202

Our Get-together in Bombay was a rich and gratifying experience for all of us. It provided a unique opportunity to meet many of our Members for the first time and to know their impressions and views on various B.W.C. activities. The couple of hours spent together generated considerable enthusiasm and involvement on the part of those present. This strengthens my belief that B.W.C. has indeed a bright future in this country.

You will be pleased to learn that the Animal Welfare Board (Government of India) has granted recognition to us. This newly acquired affiliation will assist us in diversifying the sphere of our activities.

In order to encourage the use of products of non-animal origin, we are constantly approaching manufacturers and consumers to produce and use synthetic items. Up to now it was difficult to obtain non-leather foot-wear of a good quality; however, M/s. Dawood & Co., Bombay, makers of wellknown shoes have recently come out with a wide range of attractive non-leather foot-wear for both men and women. Further, they have offered a discount of 20% on the value of these goods purchased by our Members. I would earnestly appeal to all of you to take advantage of this generous offer and encourage your friends also to use synthetic products.

Wanton killing of Seals by the Canadian and Norwegian Governments during this season will continue to be a source of anxiety and despair to all of us. A total quota of 1,70,100 Harp Seals has been set for the 1977 kill. Our Executive Director, Mr. D. M. Whiting, visited Norway in mid-March to participate in a protest campaign against the inhumane and senseless killing of innocent Harp Seals. Last year, our Branch collected over 15,000 signatures to strengthen international efforts to discourage this commercial exploitation. For those of you who wonder whether the signatures have had any value, I quote from Mr. Whiting's letter "...at my meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Oslo, Norway, the million signatures collected for the occasion proved a most successful point for television news." Let us sincerely hope that the efforts of animal lovers and conservationists the world over, will bring, if not total relief, at least some relief to these innocent mammals.

**Diana Ratnagar**  
*Chairman*

# JOSIE

"I heard that a trapper caught his hand in his own trap, he spent an uncomfortable evening in the woods with some pain, and the hand healed completely in a couple of days.

"My little sister, Josie, had a similar experience. We had taken our nap and it was dusk. We walked into the woods and I heard Josie scream. She had put her hand in a trap. The trap had broken the bones in her hand and it was bleeding. By this time it was dark, and she started to cry. I couldn't get her hand out of the trap. The more she pulled the more it hurt. Her cries changed to sobs. She was cold. I lay close to her trying to keep her warm. Her sobs changed to moans. I thought daylight and help would never come. Daylight came, but no help, and then the bright sun. Josie was hot with fever. I brought her some wet leaves. The darkness of night came again. It seemed forever until morning. Josie's moans became fainter. When morning finally came again, I heard a noise in the woods. At last someone would help. A man came up. Josie quivered, and he hit her over the head five times with a club, and Josie didn't quiver any more. The man tossed his trap and Josie over his shoulders and walked out of the woods. I took my last look at little Josie. I thought I saw her tail wag, but I guess it was the wind - because Josie doesn't hurt anymore.

"I won't sign this letter because I can't write. I am only two years old. I am a little racoon, and my name is Joe - my sister's name was Josie - and I hope you have a nice day."

Miss Freda Dewson  
*Courtesy, Animal Citizen*

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## HUNTING DOWN THE HUNTERS

Beauty Without Cruelty International's Executive Director, David Whiting's campaign to protect fur-giving animals from unnecessary cruelty is a controversial one in the trade. Alan Spence asked him :

**What effects do you think your campaign is having on demand for furs ?**

You have only got to see how much money the traditional fur trade is having to spend in the glossy magazines to counter the work we are doing to dissuade the public from contributing their "blood" money towards cruel trapping. Conservation has become a very popular issue, but 20 years ago, when we were trying to put over our point of view, it was a very difficult fight. More people are realising that animals also have a right to live on this planet.

**What are the worst examples of cruelty you have witnessed?**

In Canada, a particular problem is the casual weekend hunter who may not go to check his trap lines for one, may be two weeks. We know that the

Arctic fox caught in the "leg-hold" traps, which were banned in England in 1958, can lie there struggling with cold, pain, terror and thirst for 10 days before it is released by death. Trappers openly admit that two out of every three animals are thrown away as trash, because a trap does not discriminate. So out of four million animals that are caught in Canada every year, two-thirds suffer and die needlessly.

Living with the nomads on the border of Iran and Afghanistan I filmed how the karakul (Persian lamb) is taken from its mother up to 24 hours after birth and then, with a rusty pen-knife, how they hack through the throat of the animal and let it bleed to death before skinning. The reason for killing the animal so early is that the tight curls, so highly-prized by the fur industry drop out into a normal fleece. I also found evidence that on certain occasions they kill the mother and cut out the unborn lamb, which is highly-prized under the term of "broad-tail".

### **What sort of problems do you encounter on your travels?**

Every mission we undertake has its difficulties. We work as best as we can with the organised government, where one exists. But there are cases where there are commercial interests with a lot of capital behind them and we have to go in under cover. A good instance of this is the evidence we gained on the killing of Canadian Harp Seals, where the Canadian Government has a ruling that you may not land with a helicopter within half a nautical mile of a herd of seals on the drifting pack ice off the coast of Labrador. Nor may you fly over a herd at an altitude of less than 61 metres. This stops us and the press from witnessing the horrific spectacle of 10-day-old pups being quite needlessly battered by such implements as the Norwegian baseball bat. Sometimes we have opposition from official bodies. In England I don't think I would be particularly popular in getting into mink or fox farms, for instance.

I've had my life threatened by sealers in Canada and while trying to get evidence of seal killing in South Africa. The latter's seal slaughtering is particularly brutal. When I was there in 1975, I witnessed the complete lack of control of the way in which the seals are beaten to death. In this case they are not young pups, but yearlings, between eight and ten months.

### **How much importance would you attach to the ecological implications?**

Trapping and the fur industry were responsible for the extinction of the European beaver and the very serious decline of the Canadian beaver. If it had not been for the successful efforts of the conservationists, the beaver in Canada would also have been wiped out. The beaver plays a vital ecological role in holding back some of the winter's floods when the snows melt by building dams and also in producing a high water table to maintain moisture in the soil during the dry summer months. All creatures contribute a vital role to the ecology of this planet. The ranching of animals has had indirect ecological side-effects. In Britain, wild mink are a major problem. The only predator the mink has is the red fox, so I hope the fox hunters don't wipe that animal out or we are going to be absolutely overrun with mink. This predator has now reached pest proportions - thanks to the fur trade.

Courtesy To The Point International

## OUR GET-TOGETHER IN BOMBAY

The Bombay Natural History Society Hall, Hornbill House, was the venue for a Get-together of BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY Members and their guests on 21st January 1977.

The function commenced with a welcoming speech by Miss Diana Ratnagar, Chairman, BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY, India. This was followed by an informative talk given by Mrs. A. B. Singh, Advisory Director, ISPA, and Committee Member of B. W. C. Giving a brief resume of this world-wide organization since its inception in 1959 by Muriel, the Lady Dowding, Mrs. Singh went on to give instances of the obnoxious cruelties to which innocent creatures were subjected. Inner sensibilities were aroused on hearing that rabbits, for example, were held down firmly with their heads imprisoned by wooden clamps. Their eyelids were held open with clips or adhesive tape. Shampoos under test were then dropped into their eyes over a period of a day or two, and then the eye examined for reaction. Common results from this painful test were swelling, discharge and damage to the eye.

It was pointed out that though well known firms tested their products on animals, yet the manageress of one of them admitted to trying out new lipstick shades on herself and her staff **before** the lipsticks went for laboratory testing on animals. This in itself proved that testing was unnecessary. Mrs. Singh went on to say, "In cosmetic testing no medical advancement is involved. We cannot claim that these tests are essential to prolong life. The only reason for this testing is competition with other companies in bringing out a new product, increased profits and curiosity. These reasons do not justify cruelty." BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY had a List of Honour giving names of those products which have not caused suffering to any creature and are free of animal ingredients. This list was freely available to all those interested.

Mrs. Singh also spoke of another aspect of B. W. C.'s work, the killing of animals and reptiles for their furs and skins. For the sake of luxury items such as handbags, wallets, watch-straps, etc. animals died horrible deaths. Snakes, for instance, were skinned alive - because the skins came off more easily that way. And since hunting of big cats was banned and poison was found to affect the fur, poachers were coming up with ingenious ways of killing these fur-bearing animals internally - without leaving a mark on the skin. In shocked silence the audience heard that one of the ways in which tigers and leopards were killed in India was by the use of a spiked ball on the end of a long pole. The animal was teased with this, until he bit the ball and the spikes went through the roof of his mouth and caused a haemorrhage.

In order to wean the fur-wearing away from these furs which have caused such dreadful carnage, B.W.C. England, manufacture their own range of simulated fur coats and jackets. These were so well made that it was difficult to tell which was real and which the imitation.

In conclusion, Mrs. Singh said that there were many ways in which people could actively support the society. One simple way in which all could assist - without having to spend extra time or effort - was by buying only those products conforming to the principles of BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY.

After the conclusion of Mrs. Singh's speech, the Meeting was open to discussion. The Chairman suitably answered the questions.

Due to illness, Mr. J. N. Mankar, President of B. W. C. India Branch, was unable to attend. Miss Diana Ratnagar therefore released the new quarterly publication, "Compassionate Friend". This first issue had been very kindly sponsored by Tata Enterprises and with the help of a couple of advertisements, it had paid for itself. Miss Ratnagar said "Compassionate Friend" belonged to the Members of the India Branch and with the support of all those interested, the BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY message would spread throughout the country. Articles, information and suggestions for improving the magazine would always be welcome.

Mrs. Perveen Sisodia, Vice President, thanked the Chairman, Mrs. Singh and all those who had attended and helped to make the function a success.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY pictures, charts and literature were on display in the hall. B. W. C. recommended products such as synthetic wallets, belts, shoes, silky polyester brocade, soap and detergent were likewise displayed; some of these items were sold during the coffee-break.

The evening ended with the screening of a short, coloured film, "Ivory Poachers", which had been loaned through the kind courtesy of World Wildlife India. Though the film was shot in Africa, it had much bearing on India, in as much as this country imported 2,350 kgs. of ivory, valued at Rs. 4,38,738 from Africa alone during 1975-76. The shots showing the slow, agonizing death (through poisoned arrows) which the magnificent monarchs of the forest undergo for the sake of their tusks, was a real eyeopener to those who unthinkingly go in for ivory crafts. It would seem that only the most insensitive would dream of purchasing anything made of ivory after seeing "Ivory Poachers" ... No one can fool himself into believing that the large quantities of ivory goods sold in shops have been obtained from elephants which have died natural deaths.

Pilu Dady  
*Hon. Secretary*



## NEWS PICKS

**The Christian Science Monitor - 18th October 1976**

### **SELLING OF ENDANGERED WILDLIFE - By Clayton Jones, Washington**

Despite agreements to ban illegal imports of exotic and endangered wildlife, world trade in these pets and products continues to expand.

By the end of 1976, only 25 nations are expected to have signed a three-year-old treaty limiting imports of endangered species, says F. Wayne King of the New York Zoological Society.

And the U.S., the largest importer of wildlife products, along with the United Nations, aids developing countries who want to make a profit on their wildlife, Dr. King told fellow U. S. wildlife experts at a conference sponsored by the President's Council on Environmental Quality.

A sea turtle factory in Nicaragua, funded partly by the U.S. Agency for International Development, and crocodile harvesting in Botswana under U.N. supervision were cited by Dr. King as examples of ventures which assist many developing nations. Sale of a single tiger, leopard, or jaguar skin might yield more income to a local hunter than he could otherwise earn in six months.

France and Japan are the leading consumer nations which have refused to sign the 1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. That agreement prohibits imports of wildlife exported illegally.

France is the world's largest consumer of reptile leather and one of the largest markets for wild-cat fur. Japan imports whale, crocodile, tortoise shells, fish and other wildlife trinkets.

In August, Singapore switched from being one of the major shippers of illegal animals to abiding by rules requiring export permits from countries that allow animal shipments. Before, Singapore acted as "the country of origin" for many illegal shipments, thus bypassing the convention.

Tightening of import and export rules for wildlife are also seen in Thailand and Britain, says Dr. King.

**Times of India - 29th January '77**

### **MUSK DEER PARK :**

A musk deer park has been opened by the Kedarnath forest division in Nanda Devi wildlife sanctuary in the border district of Chamoli to preserve this rare and valuable animal, it was announced in Srinagar on Friday.

## LIST OF HONOUR

We are happy to include the EYE MAKE UP Section of our All-India List of Honour which is entirely free from animal ingredients. These products have not been tested by means of experiments on animals.

We feel that given the choice, thoughtful people will prefer to buy these listed items which have not brought terror, torture or death to any living creature.

### EYE MAKE UP

Aravind Laboratories Madras	EYETEX	Kajal
Kamal Products, Bombay	KAMAL	Kajal
Lakme Ltd. Bombay	LAKME	Mascara (2 shades) Eye Pencil Eye Liner (3 shades) Eye shadow (4 shades)
Lion Pencils Pvt. Ltd. Bombay	GLAMOUR EYEBROW	Pencils
Rambir Co. Bombay	DARBAR	Kajal
Simla Laboratories, Bombay	SIMLA	Kajal
Western India Chemical Co. Bombay	JAI	Ayurvedic Medicated Kajal

### NEW PRODUCTS

Charkha Soap, Delhi	FARISHTA	Toilet Soap
Lakme Ltd. Bombay	LAKME	Nail Enamel Remover

Free LIST OF HONOUR sent on request.

Please address all correspondence to:  
BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY (India)  
4 Prince of Wales' Drive  
Wanowrie,  
Poona 411001.