



COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

JOURNAL OF BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY INDIA



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It's a dog's life. Until, of course, the dog-catcher catches up—and then the fun begins! They are wired together in an electric cage; the switch is the signal for a collective jitterbug. The current being weak—not enough to go around—the jig keeps up for a pretty while, before partners are announced for the next dance. Why? Because what's a stray but a litterbug? And, you can make a silken purse out of a dog's ear!

Did you ever see a rabbit cry?



Rub your eyes and listen. The rabbit's head is clamped in a hutch. The eyes are pegged open with metal clips. Shampoo concentrate is dripped, drop by crystal drop, into the glassy stare. Rabbits cry out aloud in agony, even breaking their backs with the violence of their struggle. But they do not shed a tear: they have no tear ducts! Not to cry with, or even wash the blinding pain away.

Make mine mink!



A mink is a minx with a price on its head. Dead, not alive! A king's ransom and a mound of dead mink make the most enviable fur coat. With the chinchilla, just 30 down-soft centimetres long, the countdown doubles.

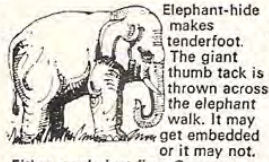
Chinchillas don't scurry any more in parts where they once ran wild. For, "What becomes a legend most?" Sable is fable. Look, mink coats and no skeletons in the cupboard!

Heard this sick elephant joke before?

Catching elephants in stockades is expensive on timber. And so unnecessary really when a bit of rough plank with a nail driven through does the needful.



Dog-gone!



Elephant-hide makes tenderfoot. The giant thumb tack is thrown across the elephant walk. It may get embedded or it may not. Either way's just fine. Gangrene sets in. Travels up. Sooner or later, the mammoth drops dead. There's an ivory lover born every minute. The rest is for the birds.

A little bird told me ...

A stitch in time, as every bird-catcher knows, saves nine. To keep caught birds from getting flighty ideas, the lids are sewn together—just needle and thread, like on any tailor's dummy! For birds of prey it's even simpler. A feather plucked from the wing is poked into the eyelids and reef-knotted—they call it

'sealing'. That keeps the birds standing nicely to attention—even the feather-brained don't fly blind.

One in hand worth two in the bush?

Not quite. The lids could tear. Or the wound could become infected, attracting flies. Flies lay eggs. Larvae hatch and feed on the rotting tissue. The bird, naturally, becomes unfit for sale. No loss. Cheep, cheap!

O brother!

Saucer eyes seem to swallow the pocket-sized creature—an innocent abroad. Doomed eyes. In India, the loris has been hunted to near extinction for its charms. The eyes and heart are torn out and ground. To make beauty and love potions!

The loris is believed to be the



missing link, brother to monkey and to man. O Lord! Am I my brother's keeper?

The games people play!



Lynx-eyed, the lynx cannot see through the cunning camouflage. An unsuspecting footfall on the trigger plate and the iron mouth of the trap snaps shut. Clink! Just like spy v/s spy!

So that the pain-crazed animal does not bite its leg off to spite his face, the trapper has a surprise ending. A pliable pole yanks the animal sky high, where it hangs by the foot until it is dead, dead, dead!

End game.

If you wish to support life against purposeless death; the life that celebrates bird and flower, the fish in the stream, the lamb in the pasture, life made articulate in a child's first words, come join the crusade of Beauty Without Cruelty. If you want to know more about what you can do personally, to choose between animal and humane alternatives, write to us at the address below. Applications for membership and contributions may also be sent to:

Beauty Without Cruelty

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Cover

Karakul Lamb

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COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

EDITORIAL

Unless a person learns to feel for things in which he has no vested interest, he can achieve nothing generous or noble. This attitude of sympathy for others puts us in communion with outsiders who may be total strangers and generates an environment binding the fragmented society into a harmonious whole. If selflessness and self sacrifice usher in a better order in human relations, it should indeed provide a juicy grist to the mill of human advancement.

It is hideous to justify the killing of animals on the plea that a number of life saving drugs would not have seen the light of day, if these killings or at least the scientific experimentation in laboratories involving torture to animals were banned. Justify the killing or tormenting of other living beings for preserving our own life? Is that the law of nature? Worse still, the slaughter of animals is indulged in for the ostensible object of displaying our personal vanity — the cosmetic appliances for beautifying dusky appearances and ostentatious garments, fur coats, shampoos, face creams, etc., would be inaccessible, if complete ahimsa is practised! But certainly it will not be tragedy and life will still be worth living without this redundancy. It is clear as daylight that as our mental antenna is not properly hoisted, we remain insensitive to the sufferings of the animals. Ahimsa does not involve just a question of drumming up support for preservation of wild life or preventing cruelty. It has a wider significance in that man's soul is sublimated to play the role assigned to him by the divinity.

We cling to the hogwash of resistance to new ideas about synthetic products which

can replace those obtained with the sacrifice of poor, innocent animals. The movement to introduce substitutes in order to save the lives of animals has been a little halting, because the organisational matrix has been rather inadequate to cope with the problems thrown up. However, the move for the use of synthetic products is picking up, with the result that the antediluvian economics that a slaughtered object can yield better product than herbage or plants or other substitutes is receding in the background.

Several quality products are produced entirely free of animal content; they have not only prevented any harm or suffering to living creatures, but have also proved their utility to the increasing number of the users. To take but one instance, jojoba shrub, which is native to Mexico and some parts of California, produces a nut like seed from which is extracted an oil. This oil is a substitute for sperm whale oil and is considered as efficacious as that recovered from slaughtered whales. It is a perfect oil with a variety of potential uses. Even industries use it for lubricating machinery and for tanning leather. It is used in the manufacture of hair oils, shampoos, soaps, face creams. It offers effective treatment for burns and skin rashes. It is also an excellent agent in the production of penicillin. The Jojoba shrub provides cattle feed and zoos use it as food for animals.

“Beauty Without Cruelty” has procured jojoba seeds from the U.S. and distributed them mainly with a view to reducing the exploitation of animals by the luxury trades. It is a highly effective substitute to sperm whale oil obtained from the mass slaughter of whales, now considered an endangered species.

S.M. MASANI

This issue has been kindly sponsored by M/s. DALMIA CEMENT (BHARAT) LIMITED.

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FROM MY DESK ...

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY thanks Members, Wellwishers and Organisations for their keen enthusiasm in obtaining support for our Signature Campaign. Within a short span of two months we collected nearly 1,50,000 signatures. The Petition was submitted to the Prime Minister on Budha Jayanti — 7th May, 1982. Among the signatories were some prominent personalities including the Speaker of Lok Sabha and over 100 Members of Parliament.

As we go to the Press reply has been received to our Petition from the Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Both the establishments, that of the Karakul lambs at Bikaner as well as the rabbit one at Garsa, are managed by the I.C.A.R. It is not surprising therefore that they have stated in their reply that no cruelty is involved in specially breeding animals for slaughter. At the same time they admit that the Karakul lamb "pelts are produced either through the slaughter of lambs within 24-28 hours of birth or through killing of unborn lambs removed through slaughter or through abortion of the mother around 130-140 days of pregnancy". And that the rabbits are slaughtered when they are about 10 weeks old. So-called "humane" killing and that these are research ventures for "purely commercial" reasons have been stressed by way of justification. It is further confirmed that efforts are being made to import mink from Russia which will be bred to be killed for fur as a "commercial proposition" — not for vanity! Unfortunately an important fact has been omitted — both in the reply and in the recent newspaper accounts — a small farmer who was offered five rabbits by the I.C.A.R. could not face killing the animals for fur or even meat. There are surely many,

many more such compassionate farmers ... and compassionate Indians.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY will not give up — we will continue our whole hearted efforts to put a stop to the "animal farms" whether they be for the Karakul lambs, rabbits, mink or the recently considered venture of breeding Houbara Bustard in captivity.

Once the commercial exploitation of animals gains a foothold, it will be very difficult to turn the tide. In 1974 Argentina passed a law prohibiting the killing of penguins. But now a Japanese-Argentine firm has proposed a two year pilot project to slaughter about 48,000 penguins annually. The birds would be killed for their meat to be sold mainly in Japan and the skins would be converted into gloves. The President of the firm has stated that only widow penguins will be killed ... it seems ridiculous ... how will the expert authorities differentiate which birds are single and which have mates? And more important — who will supervise only the 'right' ones being killed?

During the past few months a further awareness of BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY has been created. Programmes have been held at Delhi, Bombay, Poona and Valsad. We feel that these lectures-cum-film shows go a long way in helping our cause. Directly people know of the suffering and death inflicted on innocent creatures they switch over to using only cruelty-free items.

After persistent requests from BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY, the Maharashtra State Wildlife authorities have been successful in confiscating about 1,000 fox tails in Bombay. We hope they will keep up their vigilance.

DIANA RATNAGAR
Chairperson

**COMPASSIONATE FRIEND**

NOW IT PAYS TO KEEP VERMIN

BOMBAY, June 26 (UNI):

Want to earn some quick foreign exchange? Start collecting cockroaches dead or alive.

A large department store in Hawaii has begun holding "Klassy Kockroach Kontests" to amass huge numbers of the kitchen and attic prowlers. The company which pays more than one rupee for a single cockroach, "gold plates" the insects and sells them as brooches.

The store is now said to be doing a roaring business in giant cockroaches plated with 24 carat gold, which sell for as much as Rs.200 each.

The June-July issue of Air India's inflight magazine "Namaskar" says the "golden cockroach" craze is sweeping America.

For those with time on their hands and foreign exchange on their minds, the latest announcement of the company's chairman must surely be heartening.

"We plate centipedes, scorpions and spiders too", he says. But while the plating of these creatures is done purely for display, for some reason the roach has caught the curiosity of the public."

Hence the "Klassy Kockroach Kontests" to meet the ever increasing demand for roach brooches. "The best goes for 20 dollars each," says the chairman, and they don't break when you drop them."

THE TIMES OF INDIA

ILLEGAL TRADE OF FOX TAILS & SKINS

Members, please do not display fox tails or any article made from fox skin in your vehicles, unless you have bought these articles from an authorised dealer and have retained with you a documentary proof of having bought these articles from an authorised dealer. In case of surprise checking such documentary proof has to be produced before the authorised checking staff.

As per notification dated 27th April 1982 received by the Association from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra State, under S-49 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 it is an offence to purchase, receive or acquire articles made from fox skin from any person not authorised to sell them.

MOTORING May 1982



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KARAKUL

Fat-tailed Karakul sheep have existed in the Bukhara region of Central Asia since antiquity. Later they were introduced into Afghanistan and bred in the region around Mazar-i-Sharif. The skins were called Persian Lamb when they first reached the outside world through the Persian traders. Swakara, incidentally is the name given to all Karakul skins produced in South West and South Africa.

Karakul sheep can thrive in high, dry areas with sparse vegetation and can withstand extremes of temperature. The skin of the adult sheep carries a wool which is bright, straight and usually black, but the lamb is born with tight, lustrous curls, usually black, which remain as curls only for about five days. To produce Persian Lamb or Karakul, the lamb must, therefore be killed within five days of birth latest.

Broadtail, an Asiatic product, is the skin of a premature lamb; it is lustrous, soft and wavy with a moire effect, and usually black. It has been reported that Asiatic Broadtail is

produced by inducing abortion in ewes or by performing Caesarian section. It was explained recently to visitors at the Karakul Institute at Samarkand, U.S.S.R, that it is not economic to produce abortion artificially. The usual method of obtaining a Broadtail skin is to cut the throat of an old pregnant ewe and extract and skin the foetus. In addition natural abortions occur frequently because of the harsh conditions and extremes of temperature in Central Asia. Hence cold weather adds to the abortion risk and consequently, when the winter is particularly severe the production of Broadtails goes up.

"FACTS ABOUT FURS" Animal Welfare Institute

The word "Karakul" has its origin in the Turkish word Kara, which means black (or Kala in Hindi) and Kol, meaning hand which meant an illegible hand writing or "as scribbling" or "loosely scrawled letters" or the Karakul. The design formed by the fur of lambs really produces a picture scribbled in Urdu, that is Karakul.

Brochures on BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY **Greeting Cards** will be mailed shortly.

We request orders to be booked well in advance to avoid a last minute rush.

1982 has been pronounced 'Year of the Butterfly'.

TWO JAPANESE HELD

Two Japanese tourists were arrested near Port Blair on May 24 on a charge of catching rare butterflies, according to a Press Note issued by the Press Information Bureau of the Central Government in Calcutta on Wednesday. Chidiatpur, where the two were arrested, is a tourist spot known for different types of rare butterflies.


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THE ANIMAL PREDICAMENT

PRIYA SINGH

A description of a fur farm during killing time reads "a peep into an animal Auschwitz". But where prolonged "human sufferage" has proved a veritable assault on our sensibility, and years after still provides invaluable material for books and the cinema - the relentless attack on animals, a purely commercial pursuit, in appalling evidence, even today has oftentimes passed unnoticed. The public remaining oblivious to the concealed facts. Where being "dressed to kill", with passive overtones of beauty, fashion, glamour serve a hallmark of "class", a slight semantic error - "killing to dress" might evoke a far from favourable response in the ethical context.

The fur industry in India as we know it, is not well established compared to the other well developed countries of the world. The internal consumption of fur being restricted to the Northern states - fur breeding is a potential earner of foreign exchange. It has been rationalised by some that as a natural consequence of a ban on killing, and for the sake of preservation of wild-life these alternative "breeding farms" are to be made available. In accordance with this, The Division of Fur Animal Breeding at Garsa (H.P.) and the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar (Rajasthan) - under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, has launched research projects. Initial experimentation is being carried out with rabbits and Karakul lambs. In the former case dislocation of necks with bare hands is a commonplace procedure ensuring death.

On the one hand, for those engaged in the fur trade - once bushy tailed, bright eyed, mild animals connote the latest "trend" of a capitalist economy and material benefits further lend credence to a scheme of deliberate, "discriminate", systematic extermination. On the other hand are a number of dedicated people, a rearing prosecution against such intentions, defying every moral instinct.



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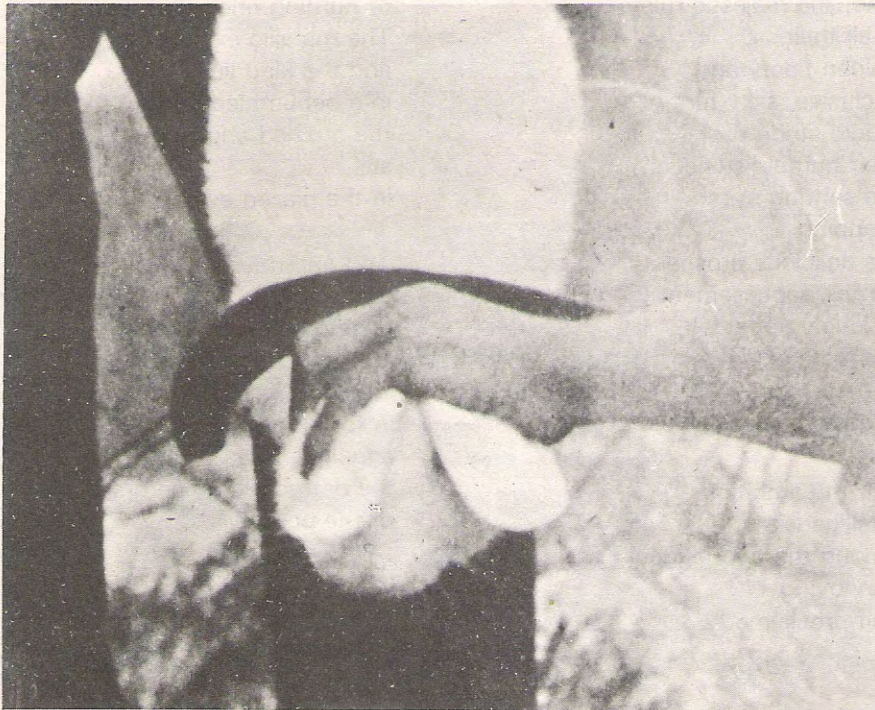
Pelt production in India is assuming a significant importance with the importation of Karakul lamb, from Russia under the Indo-Soviet Collaboration. The Karakul lamb, prized for its coat of tight, lustrous curls is either slaughtered within 48 hours after birth or can even be aborted mercilessly from the mothers' womb at around 130-140 days of pregnancy. In a report of Pelts from Bikaner, out of a total number of male Karakul lambs 78% were slaughtered within 48 hours of birth. With the prevailing demand and assured International market giving impetus to this obnoxious "fur harvest" a singular lack of reverence for life - the future of the fur bearers is seriously jeopardised. Unless stringent protective laws with proper limitations are made effective.

The I.C.A.R. has been involved in

intensive research of Karakul lamb, already in possession of the basic stock. With a view to extending the area of collaboration to other types of fur bearing animals. The principal ones being - Mink, Beaver, Fox, Lynx, Squirrel, Wolf, Chinchilla, Otter, Muskrat, Nutria, etc.

In the light of this investigation, with its inevitable consequence of mass slaughter by the I.C.A.R., Beauty Without Cruelty had recently launched a Signature Campaign, inviting further legislative protection and a proposed ban on such abhorred activities on humane grounds. The Campaign, a nation-wide attempt which drew to a close in May, in addition to quantity signatures of nearly 1,50,000 persons also includes "quality" signatures.

Rabbit being slaughtered. The fur to be converted into garments and toys.



DETHRONED EMPERORS

Once, theirs was a
dictatorial reign
over the green kingdom;
the mystery of the
vast, lush expanse
undiscovered even by the
peeping, prying sunray
that would just
bounce back
suffering the humiliation
of an ambassador
from a universal
aid giving ace-land
refused entry in the
heavily-guarded
green kingdom
with its thick,
lustrous, leafy roof.

And, the majestic rulers
in all their
golden finery and
exclusive, silky furs
would stride past
their humble subjects,
fire-spitting eyes
scanning
the delicious prosperity
for the appeasement
of kingly appetites,
the taste of power
in their
mighty mauls.

Till, the ambitious
intelligensia
among the two-legged
fun-loving
self-proclaimed

rulers of the
earth and sky
decided they
did not have all
and adequately armed
launched the
grand invasion.

Today our merchants
also deal in
expensive hides and furs
for our perfumed queens.
Today the prying sunrays
view the attack
of the armoured, armed
hidden adversary.
The fire-spitting eyes
glare, with puzzled anger
at the snouts
of hunting rifles.
The metallic explosions
and the king lies
in a behumbled heap
the puzzled anger
still
in the glazed eyes.

And our little princes
gaze through
rusting iron bars
into tiny, stinking cells
wherein, pace about
in tortured, helpless
anger
the dethroned emperors
of the open wilds.

ROOMA MEHRA
1979

NEWSPICK

CRUELTY TO DOGS

International attention to the inhuman treatment of dogs in the Philippines occurred as a result of widely publicised photographs showing dogs being sold for human consumption, which were taken in 1980 in Cagayan — a rural province in northern Luzon. Ever since, highly emotional articles depicting the gross suffering of the animals have appeared in newspapers the world over.

Dog meat has been eaten for hundreds of years throughout Southeast Asia, and in the Philippines this practice originated and takes place principally in the cold, mountainous regions of the northern area of the island of Luzon, where it is believed that eating dog meat has a warming effect on the body. The blood is also often consumed because it is thought to have medicinal and healing qualities. Dog meat is considered a delicacy and is more expensive than either beef or pork. Dogs are specially bred for the purpose of human consumption, although dog-napping of pets for food does take place.

In some areas the dogs are very cruelly trussed, having their forelimbs forced and tied behind their backs, with a tin used as a muzzle. The usual method of holding and of transport is in cages, and the dogs may travel considerable distances by road, sea and rail in cramped conditions for several days.

Dogs are usually killed by cutting the blood vessels in the throat and may or may not, be clubbed over the head before exsanguination. Killing takes place either at the time of purchase and in the sight of other dogs, or at the home of the purchaser.

It is inaccurate to brand all Filipinos as "dog-eaters", as has been implied by many of the Press accounts. The majority of the Filipinos do not eat dog meat; and the abundance of healthy pet dogs observed during the investigation, as well as the vocal abhorrence of the practice by many local residents, bear this out.

WORLD SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.



In Madras dog leather goods are becoming popular. They are sold as just "leather". "Dog leather" did not sell.

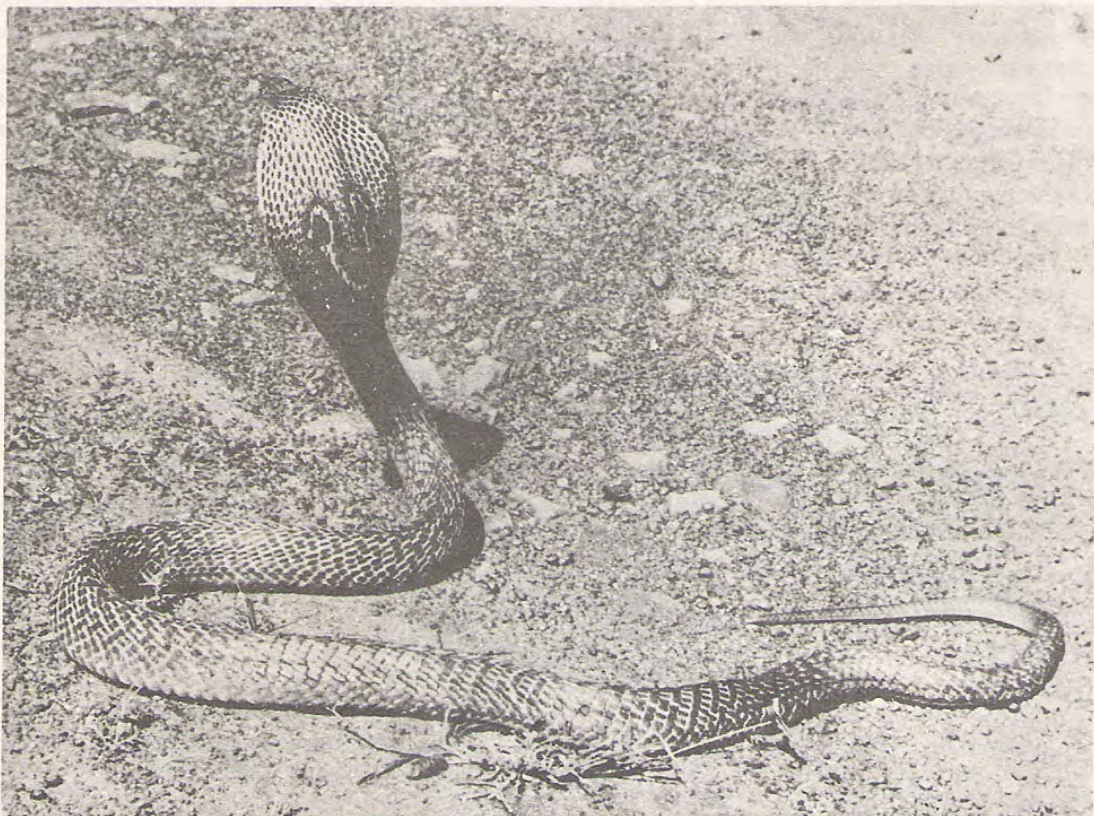
THE DAY OF THE COBRA

This year celebrated on the 25th of July...

Clods of earth flew as the shovel relentlessly pursued the retreating burrowing cobra, digging up its home - a hole in the base of a mound at the edge of the field. We watched fascinated as the cobra was eventually flushed out, and trying to escape was pinned down by a stick and whipped up by the tail, its hood wide-spread, hissing aggressively. Its captors, farmers from the village Battis Shirala carried it away in a sack to await its special day.

Situated in the Western Ghats in Maharashtra lies the sleepy little village Battis Shirala - which comes to life once a year on 'Naga Panchami Day' the Day of the Cobra.

Legend involves the nine Dattagurus, the disciples of the Lord Shiva, one of whom Goraknath, used to live and preach in Shriavala (from which the modern name is derived). Soliciting alms, he arrived one day at the house of a Mahajan family, where he ultimately met an old woman worshipping an earthen cobra. He duly gave it life by throwing ashes onto it, thereby enabling the woman to worship the living one. Later, on the woman's enquiry as to how she could



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worship a living cobra for the years to come, he ordained a nearby farmer by the name of Kodhvan to secure a cobra every year for that particular day. The farmer fulfilled this obligation.

Today snake-catching generally commences 10 to 15 days before the festival that follows from the fable on Amavasya the moonless day in the Hindu calendar. Most catchers are farmers, in keeping with the legend. Different Camps of snake catchers (each group is called a Camp) spread out along the mounds that separate the fields in search of the prospective holes where the spoor is fresh. On locating one digging commences. As the snake emerges it is caught in the manner explained earlier. Contrary to popular opinion the fangs and the venom are not extracted, nor are the snakes fed any milk, or food. Only cobras (Nanja-nanja), Dhaman or rat snake (Pytas mucosus), Naikul and Monitor lizards (Varanus bengalensis) are caught. Yet while the rest are exhibited, the cobra is worshipped. Others, specially the poisonous ones like the krait or viper, if found, are instantly clubbed to death. On their return the snake catchers transfer the snakes to earthen pots, allotting each its special home, generally after performing a private devotional Pooja ceremony. Just before dawn the pageantry begins. Festivities begin and the Ambabai temple gradually comes to life with watchers and worshippers alike. The Camps arrive one by one and the first and most important Pooja is performed in

the courtyard before the diety separately by each group. The earthen pots containing cobras are placed abreast in a line and sacred ash thrown over each pot, just as Gorakhnath had done. After a ceremonial display of respect, suppliants bow to the cobras with folded hands and ritual climaxes with a rousing cry, Ambabai-Ki-Jai.

After leaving the temple, a further Pooja is held privately by camp members in which their women actively participate in the acts of worship. The brave among men mark the cobras foreheads from the back with a red kumkum paste, with quick jabs usually with their middle of index fingers. Then a procession begins. Bullock carts numbering around 20 to 25 at the most take part in the colourful procession — the cathartic entertainer of the day. Revellers from near and far swell to over one hundred and fifty thousand and practically jam the streets. The cobras are continually displayed on the bullock carts in rotation, usually one at a time. If sunny, water is sprinkled on the cobras when it gets too hot, lest they die as their body temperatures, become too high from prolonged exposure to the sun.

The next morning a private Pooja is performed after which all the snakes are released at the exact spot where each was found. They will have their day again — a year later.

From an article by **RISHAD NAOROJI** written for **SWAGAT**

WHAT MAKES A CATS' EYES GLOW IN THE DARK ?

Cats' eyes appear to shine in the dark due to the reflection of light by the 'Tapetum lucidum'. Tapetum are iridescent membranes in the eyes between the retina and the pupil that cause certain animals' eyes to glow in the dark.

NEWSLETTERS

AHMEDABAD CENTRE:

C/o Nishit Marketing Corporation,
Savita Darshan, Ashram Road,
Ahmedabad 380 009
Tel. 79237-8

In the month of June, 1982, a large rally was held and over 5000 youths assembled from different parts of the country. Organised by 'Akhil Bharatiya Sanskriti Raksha Dal', the rally emphasised the importance of upholding our ancient values, which strongly advocate ahinsa etc.

Beauty Without Cruelty was allotted a special position and carriages were

decorated with exhibits suggesting the use of Ahinsa products and also an appeal was rendered to the public to fight against the cruelty to animals. Ahinsa products like soaps and shampoos were displayed in the rally, in addition to informative, photographic charts. Newspapers carried the name of Beauty Without Cruelty as one of the many sponsors of the rally.

Over 3 lakh people were witness to the rally, throughout the city of Ahmedabad.

BHARAT SHAH,
Director

BOMBAY CENTRE

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Ruby Auto Eng. Compound,
43, Queen's Road,
Bombay 400 002.
Tel. C/o 256038

The main objective of the Bombay Centre is getting together members in Bombay so that they can jointly make B W C a larger and better known organisation.

The Executive Committee held its first meeting where tentative plans for the current year were drawn up.

The Centre is at present on the look out for suitable personnel to work on a salary basis.

1. Office Manager to supervise the general administration. The job will entail travelling within the city to meet people, to tell them about B W C objectives and activities, arrange screening of films, handle membership renewals etc.
2. General Assistant knowing typing, to work in close coordination with the Office Manager. This job will also involve some travelling within the city.

Those interested should send their applications - specifying age, qualifications, experience, hobbies and extra-curricular activities. Applications should be sent to the above address. Candidates will be called for an interview, if their applications are considered.

SHEELA DANDEKAR
Director

**COMPASSIONATE FRIEND**