



COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

JOURNAL OF BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY INDIA

THE INDIAN POST, Bombay, Wednesday May 24, 1989

Rare success for animal rights

By Nirupama Sarma

BOMBAY, May 23

The Indian chapter of Beauty Without Cruelty (BWC), an international organisation that protects animal life from being abused for purposes of vanity, has recently succeeded in getting the slaughter of Karakul lambs banned.

While the export of frogs' legs and monkeys has been banned by the Indian Government thanks to persuasion by the BWC, the new ban is a unique achievement because no other country has succeeded in banning the rearing of any species of fur-bearing animal.

In 1975, 250 Karakul sheep, bred for their fur, were im-



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 e. **SAVED BY THEIR SKI**
 Beauty Without Cruelty international animal rig movement, took steps to prevent the slaughterin Karakul lambs. The er existing flock of Karak sheep, which was with I.C.A.R. were being auctioned, but the B bought the entire flo now they are safe at animal shelter in N Gujarat. The Bhans will look after their rest of their natur
 The **FEMINA JUNE 8-22, 1989**

INDIAN EXPRESS, Pune, Wednesday, April 12, 1989

THE DAILY Wednesday April 12 1989

BWC prevents sheep slaughter

Slaughter of 'karakul' lambs to stop

By The Daily Staff

By A Staff Reporter

BOMBAY, April 11

PUNE, April 11.

In a major victory, the Bombay-based organisation, 'Beauty Without Cruelty' (BWC) saved a flock of Karakul sheep from the hands of Indian Council of Agricultural Research's (ICAR) Sheep Research Institute. The Karakul sheep were to be slaughtered for their fur.

that the slaughter of Karakul lambs be stopped, according to a report by the BWC branch.

daughter of 'karakul' lambs at its birth at the slaughterhouse and

lambs to suckle their mother first 24 hours and then lead to the slaughter house. This has been undertaken to save problem for the mothers, for it was found that milk started flowing only after 3-4 days.

मुंबई संभाषण, गुजरात, ता. २०-४-१९८९

काराकुल घेतानी कत्ल करवा
 सामे मूकयेलो प्रतिबंध

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 project.

Karakul lambs save from slaughter

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STAY ON SLAUGHTER

१ मई, १९८९

जैन प्रकाश

अवैध रूप से पशु हत्या को रोकने का दायित्व हमारा है

जयपुर के प्राणिमित्र श्री चुन्नीलाल जी ललबाणी ने हमारे कार्यालय संभाषण...

काराकुल घेयें दे...

It pays. That is what Beauty Without Cruelty has shown. In 1975 even before the Agricultural Research Institute began slaughtering Karakul lambs within 48 hours of birth, the BWC had protested

Beauty Without Cruelty

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Beauty Without Cruelty

Is a way of life
which causes no creature
of land, sea or air,
terror, torture or death.

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Karakul lambs in India will no longer be born and slaughtered within 48 hours. This is because the flock of these sheep, originally imported from U.S.S.R., is now safe with **Beauty Without Cruelty**, an international animal rights movement.

Beauty Without Cruelty has received written assurance from the Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences) Indian Council of Agricultural Research, (ICAR) that due to the various representations made by **Beauty Without Cruelty** to Mr. Bhajan Lal, the Union Minister for Agriculture, it has been decided that the slaughter of Karakul lambs be stopped.

As the project was being scrapped, the entire existing flock of Karakul sheep with the I.C.A.R.'s Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, (CSWRI) Division of Carpet Wool & Karakul Pelt Production, was recently auctioned. **Beauty Without Cruelty** did not want these sheep to go into the hands of potential commercial breeders, therefore the charity bought them. The 240 sheep including 42 newly born lambs are now safe at an animal shelter in North Gujarat. The Bhansali Trust will look after them for the rest of their natural life span.

Under the Indo-U.S.S.R. Treaty, in 1975 the I.C.A.R. had obtained 200 Karakul sheep from Russia. Over the years this flock of sheep kept by C.S.W.R.I. multiplied and thousands were slaughtered within 24-48 hours of being born.

The value of the Karakul lamb pelt depends on the tightness of the curl. The hair starts straightening after 48 hours of its birth. The scientists used to allow the lambs to suckle their mothers for the first 24 hours and then slaughter them. This was to save problems for the management in caring for the mothers because it was essential that the milk started flowing from their teats. For 4-5 days the ewes would piteously cry for their lambs.

Saved by their Skin

The Karakul lamb is not an Indian animal, nor does the wearing of a cap or coat made of such fur conform to Indian culture. However, the Government had felt research was essential with the view to export. In order to counteract this, in 1982 **Beauty Without Cruelty** undertook a Signature Campaign and collected over a hundred and fifty thousand signatures, requesting that the Government put a stop to such a barbaric cruelty. The reply received stated that the Government viewed the project as important and the research must continue.

Then **Beauty Without Cruelty**, together with 5 other like-minded organisations submitted a petition to the Rajya Sabha Petition Committee* requesting that such exploitation of innocent creatures be stopped, more so as it was in the research stags. The R.S.P.C. Members were shown the cruelty on film and also witnessed it at the site. However, their report did not recommend that the breeding and killing of newly born Karakul lambs be stopped.

The C.S.W.R.I. had planned to give out Karakul rams to be bred with local ewes so that the cross-bred lambs could be slaughtered for their pelts. Originally the research was carried out for the sake of procuring an export market but due to cross breeding and inferior quality, the need to create an Indian market was felt. This was once again exposed by **Beauty Without Cruelty** which gained the sympathy of the public, who were against one day old lambs being slaughtered.

Diana Ratnagar
Chairperson

We regret that due to unforeseen circumstances this issue has been delayed.


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

The World Council of Churches (Geneva) has concluded as follows in its report entitled "Liberation of life".

"Increasingly during this century Christians have come to understand the gospel, the Good News, the terms of freedom, both freedom *from* oppression and freedom *for* life with God and others. Too often, however, this freedom has been limited to human beings, excluding most other creatures as well as the earth. This freedom *cannot* be so limited because if we destroy other species and the ecosystem, human beings cannot live. This freedom *should not* be so limited because other creatures, both species and individuals, deserve to live in and for themselves and for God. Therefore, we call on Christians as well as other people of good will to work toward the liberation of life, *all* life."

The recommendations laid down are as follows :

"In view of the widespread maltreatment of animals throughout the world and in view of the intrinsic value of individual animals to themselves and God we recommend that Church & Society take appropriate steps to:

(a) encourage the churches and their members to acquire knowledge about how animals are being treated and in what ways this treatment departs from respect for the intrinsic value to themselves and of animals as creatures of God.

(b) encourage members of the Christian community to act according to such guidelines as the following :

1. Avoid cosmetics and household products that have been cruelty tested on animals. Instead, buy cruelty-free items.

The Liberation of Life

2. Avoid clothing and other aspects of fashion that have a history of cruelty to animals, products of the fur industry in particular. Instead, purchase clothes that are "cruelty-free".

3. Avoid meat and animal products that have been produced on factory farms. Instead, purchase meat and animal products from sources where the animals have been treated with respect, or abstain from these products altogether.

4. Avoid patronising forms of entertainment that treat animals as mere means to human ends. Instead, seek benign forms of entertainment, ones that nurture a sense of the wonder of God's creation and reawaken that duty of conviviality we can discharge by living respectfully in community with all life, the animals included.

We recommend that Church & Society encourage the member churches of the World Council of Churches to involve Christians in environmental causes and to co-operate with organisations which defend ecological communities at regional and parish levels."

It is most encouraging to know that the World Council of Churches has realised the great need and called for all Christians to respect animals in their daily lives. In spite of what we hear and some times read, the trend is today (both in the West and East) towards compassion for all life including vegetarianism. "Ahinsa" or non-killing is basically what people want, but it is those with vested interests who promote "hinsak" items. Indians with their basic culture and reverence for life should have no difficulty in sticking to religious and moral principles by shunning cruelly derived products and non-vegetarian foods. And be proud to do so.

Write a Letter — Urgent Support Required *Diana Ratnagar*

It is very sad. Very unfortunate. But there is yet hope. Each and every person reading this column can help. All you have to do is care strongly enough for saving the lives of millions of cattle, sheep, goats, pigs etc. which are bound to be slaughtered in modern abattoirs across the length and breadth of our nation if enough people do not protest. All it takes is to spare a few minutes to write a letter to our Prime Minister.

The Government of India has appointed the Chairman of the Expert Committee for the Promotion of the Meat Industry as the new Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India. It could easily be likened to a brewery expert being made to head the Prohibition Committee.

Prof. N.S. Ramaswamy, the new Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India has been recommending increasing meat output and productivity of animals, modernisation of slaughter systems and introducing changes by setting up rural slaughter houses and meat corporations. The words and terms used are highly charged and some gullible animal welfare workers are confused, especially when reduction of cruelty to animals prior to slaughter is projected. However, now more and more people are realising that the increase in productivity or output from an animal is not at all animal welfare. It is animal exploitation and in this case certainly amounts to an enormous increase in animal killing. Also animal suffering, because modern abattoirs call for stunning which is more often than not ineffective.

There are millions of people in our nation who due to religious reasons or pure reverence for life would object to the setting up of new modern slaughter houses. More so under the guise of animal welfare. There is nothing personal against Prof. Ramaswamy who claims to be a vegetarian, but by letting him continue as Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India, in the name of animal welfare, increased animal destruction will take place — many, many more animals will be killed mainly for the export of meat. So, do join the campaign and write that letter to the Prime Minister immediately, pointing out that Prof. Ramaswamy is not at all suitable for the post of the Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board of India. His removal will once and for all make people see animal welfare in its true perspective and millions of creatures like bulls, cows, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry will be saved from slaughter. If you've written, when this happens you will get the satisfaction of knowing that *you* have helped achieve some thing truly worthwhile.



No tongue may tell of the woe and agony of animals. They are over-worked; they are whipped; they are beaten; they are tortured; they are mutilated; they are butchered; they are massacred and murdered; they are slaughtered. If we could but know the sufferings of these dumb, defenceless creatures of God!

True it is that these innocent creatures are not endowed with the gift of speech. But their souls do speak and methinks I hear them say : "O man! how long, how long, will you continue to be hard-hearted? Are we not your younger brothers? Have you ever thought of the services we render to you in various ways? Alas! you forget our goodness! Instead, you go on discovering new and quicker methods and more efficient appliances to kill us, to strangulate us, to slay us, to slaughter us, to murder us. 'O man! In order to gain your rights and ensure your security, you have law courts; you have juries; you have tribunals; you have police; you have military; you have warships; you have bombs and bullets; you have nuclear weapons; you have hydrogen gas. Have you ever thought of our rights, of our security, of our safety? O man! Thy name is selfishness!"

If animals could speak, methinks they will tell us : "You are fighting for your rights and therefore you are resorting to strikes to get better pay and better promotions; you fight for your privileges and bonuses - for your safety and security. But alas! you ignore us completely! Did you, O man! ever hear that we went on strike? Did you not know that we have always extended our co-operation? In heat and cold, in storm and rain, and in flood and fire, we have stood by you!

"O man! You have multiplied hospitals to cure you of diseases. Has the disease decreased or multiplied? Do you know the reason? Collect facts and figures and statistics. Your methods, cruel methods of vivisection will not solve your problem of ensuring health. Does it behove you, O man! that you export us to foreign countries in order to get dollars and sterling

If Animals Could Speak

Gangaram Sajandas

pounds? Do you know, O hard-hearted man! how mercilessly we are tortured? Do you know the painful process of putting an end to our life?

"Beware, O man! Beware! you are sowing a wrong seed! You *must* reap its fruit. At the bar of Eternal Justice, you stand impeached!

"O man! you boast of big and colossal inventions and discoveries. You do it all for your interest. Are we not your kith and kin? Look within! Shake off separateness. Let us come closer and work together for the highest service of the whole universe."

The feelings of animals are pent up and if they could speak, I am sure they will chastise the man and say :- "O man! you have exploited us. You have always thought of your comforts and your conveniences. You have refrigerators and radios; you have telephones and televisions. You have movies and cinemas, you have hotels and restaurants; you have saloons and clubs; you have parks and promenades; you have gardens and playgrounds; what is there that you have not? But all your pleasures and pastimes, your fun and fetes are at our cost. Little do you realise, O man! that every pleasure you are having is born of the pain we have to undergo? Do you know O man! the hardships we undergo when we are trained for circus? Have you ever thought of our agony when we are cabined and caged in zoos? Awaken early, O man! Awaken! Won't you think of our needs and necessities, of our demands and requirements ? O man! when you glutton your stomach with sumptuous suppers and delicious dinners, enjoy cocacola and other costly drinks, when you have cakes and pastries, icecreams and jellies, do we not deserve your sympathy in giving us sufficient grass to eat, sufficient shelter to take rest, reasonable hours to work? O man! Be considerate! Be cautious! Be compassionate!

"Just imagine, O man! how many hospitals and dispensaries, operation theatres and surgical homes and nursing homes and limb factories you have established for your benefit. Won't you multiply the number of veterinary hospitals properly equipped to alleviate our sufferings?"

"O man! you say you are proud of your sky-scrapers and your mansions, your air-conditioned flats and luxury apartments. Won't you care to construct simple hygienic sheds to protect us from wintry weather and icy cold?"

"O man! you emphasis the opening of Science Clubs and Dramatic Clubs and

Sports Clubs in your educational institutions. Won't you see tears in our eyes and legislate measures to start in every school, in every college, a Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals? Won't you start Kindness Clubs and Mercy Bands in your educational institutions? Won't you multiply Animal Welfare Boards and Organisations? O man! Out of our anguished, agonised, and troubled hearts goes out a cry to appeal to you to treat us like your kith and kin. Let us mingle and meet; let us come together; let us build a better world, a beautiful world, a world of peace and harmony, of love and laughter!"

Captive zebra couple end life

Sarajevo (Yugoslavia), May 29 (Tanjug) : Faced with a choice between captivity and freedom in a local zoo here, two zebras, a male and female, have chosen death. In front of her shocked keepers, the female killed herself by hitting with all her strength her head against the ground.

The male's tragedy ended with a shot in the head.

The drama started on Monday when the keepers wanted to transfer the two African - animals to a new pen similar to their natural habitat.

A wide barrier was set up between the old and new pen and the two zebras were to go through it into their new life. But the "smell" of freedom made then go berserk and they made a dash for it.

The keepers managed to catch up with them and give them food with soporific drug without any problem. After the two zebras fell asleep, the female was first led to the new pen. But as soon as she reached there she battered her head against the ground and died of a broken spine.

His mate's suicide and the sedative resulted in his thrashing about in agony. Unable to watch his throes of pain, the keepers put him to sleep.

Zebra Suicide

Sir, The news item "Captive Zebra couple end life" (I.E., May 30) will make any animal lover sad. Faced with a choice between captivity and death, they have chosen death. The female killed herself by hitting her head against the ground. Unable to bear his mate's suicide, the male was about to do the same when he was shot to death on mercy grounds.

Such episodes concerning animals clearly tell us that they are much more than what we generally think of them. We nourish a preconceived notion that they are incapable of emotion and feeling. Incidentally, this is one of the reasons why animals are ill-treated.

It is unfortunate that no serious consideration is given to such remarkable animal episodes. Those who are interested in the study of animal behaviour limit themselves to the sterile methods of laboratory psychology and study only such actions of animals as those which can be repeated as many times as they require in a laboratory. This would only keep us far from reality and the remarkable actions of animals (like this case of suicide) would continue to remain mysteries.

— K. S. Satagopan

The Four-Legged Stars of the Silver Screen

Subroto Mukherjee

We have to hand it to them—this breed of excellent performers like Brownie the wonder dog and Savitri the monkey—who are today all but carrying most of our films on their backs. Brownie is no less charismatic than the Bachchan and Savitri could easily compete with Sridevi in charms and grace.

Our filmmakers have been currently empowering themselves with this new army of animals to storm the box offices. They seem to have suddenly re-discovered what four-legged force is all about, what trained animals fused with an imaginative script can achieve for them at the theatres. Recently *Main Tera Dushman* did quite well at the box office thanks to a baby elephant's antics. Right now they're making a movie down south called *Dost* whose major stars are a clever monkey and Mithun (in that order). And Hari the monkey (who loves to sip Mangola as much as playact the daring dirt-track racer) is cast in a lead role in the underproduction *Ek Number Ka Chor*.

Several years earlier Chinappa Devar had proved himself a true animal lover as a filmmaker and he had put together such enjoyable entertainers as *Haati Mere Saathi*, *Janwar Aur Insaan* and *Mera Rakshak*. *36 Chowringhee Lane* had as one of its star attractions a cat while a chimpanzee was the heart of *Jaani Dost*.

These are wonder animals all right but we have to accede at the same time that there are certain men behind their tricks and training.

The Vermas specialise in training horses, conduct riding courses and own three stables situated in different parts of suburban Bombay. Whenever you see

horses gallop through a film you can be sure they come from one of these stables.

Several of their horses were transported all the way to Leh in Ladakh for the shooting of *Joshilay*. These long distance assignments can be quite risky. Once when some of their horses were being transported for a shooting schedule, the truck fell into a river, killing three of them. The shooting itself also involves quite some risk. Once one of the horses tripped into a ditch injuring itself seriously during the shooting of *Bhola Bhala*.

The risks involved can even endanger the animal's life. During the shooting of *Aakhri Dao* the dog starring in the film, owned and trained by Sudhir Khar, was made to run miles through retakes by the filmmaker. Consequently the poor dog finally collapsed from sheer exhaustion and heat! A tiger owned and trained by Govindrajan badly scorched its leg during the shooting of a film when it was required to run through a burning forest.

Jagdish Sahadevan, owner of Apollo Circus, has supplied his animals to scores of films over the past one and a half decades. About training animals, he says "You train them not through force and whip-lashes but through love, understanding and patience. It can take years and you have to put them through daily practice. It's a damned tedious and tough job. Animals under training are like young school students. Only in this case, a few pass and most others fail. It takes the trainers two to three months to tell the bright students from the dull ones. After that we work only on the former." Jagdish had said in an interview before losing his life in a tragic accident.

Brownie (*Teri Meherbaniyan*), another dog Jaani or Johnny (*Parivaar*) and Savitri (*Jawab Hum Denge*) are the megastars.


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But unfortunately while enacting a glass-breaking stunt sequence for a South Indian movie not long back, Jaani met with a fatal accident. Savitri earns as much as 1/8 lakh for a major role in a film and Brownie more or less the same for such a major assignment. Both are owned and trained by James.

Bob Hope is believed to have once refused to work with an animal because he felt it was a natural scene stealer. In fact, filmmakers all over the world have banked on this and have time and again used the innocence and the natural charm of an animal to draw and entertain the audience.

For instance, Bruno, the white labrador in *Betaab* was an absolute scene-stealer. His antics throughout the film were perhaps more refreshing than the new pair Amrita Singh and Sunny Deol, for whom *Betaab* was actually made. Quite a few people went to see the film again just to see Bruno and his endearing performance. And, mind you, not all of them were dog lovers.

Manmohan Desai's *Mard* and K.C. Bokadia's *Teri Meherbaniyan* had the same wonder dog Moti, or Brownie as he is also called, starring in them. To cash in on his popularity, both filmmakers vie with one another to release their films first. But Bokadia, whose speciality is making quickies, managed to get his film to the theatre first. *Teri Meherbaniyan* was a runaway hit. Jackie Shroff, the hero of the film, was being honest when he said that Moti was the star behind its success. "Moti was indeed the real hero of the film", he confessed.

Moti has a busier schedule than most human stars these days. And besides his astronomical price and the very high incidentals, filmmakers wanting to cast Moti in their films have to deal with another problem. Moti and his master have to be

flown in from Madras. Needless to say not all producers can afford to cast Moti in their films. Besides his owner, Moti is also accompanied by a little boy, who is his playmate in all shooting schedules. If the little boy is not present, the dog won't perform.

In *Mard* there was a scene where Moti had to jump into a pool. Understandably, Moti was afraid of jumping in and no amount of coaxing got him anywhere near the pool.

Finally, his owner had an idea. He took Moti's playmate into confidence and pushed him into the pool. The trick worked. Sure enough, Moti jumped into the pool to rescue his friend and the director got his shot.

Moti's owner is the proud possessor of not one but three cars. An indication of how much money the dog has earned for him.

In Madras lives Govindrajan, an animal trainer whose family business is to rear and train the four-legged beasts. For over 80 years now, he and before him his father and grandfather, has been making a living out of these animals. Govindrajan is 79 but still very agile. And he's very proud of the mini zoo he has in a bylane in Madras.

In fact, he's so well off that almost all the houses in that lane are rumoured to be owned by him and his family.

Uma, the 45 kilo tigress, that Dharmendra fought in *Insaaf Kaun Karega* resides here. Keeping the tigress company were two baby leopards, one of which acted with Anupam Kher in Tony-Tito's film *Insaaniyat*. There are also three serpents, three monkeys and a crocodile. the favourite, of course, is one of the monkeys—a mischievous little fellow called Raja. He was the one who stole the show in *Parivar* with his endearing tricks and mischief, but what took the cake was his actually driving a jeep. Looks like these creatures of the wilds are well on their way to upstaging man from the silver screen.


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Shot for the Scene

The film "BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY" took so long to make because not a single animal was subjected to torture or killing for the filming. But, producers of films don't all think like **Beauty Without Cruelty** ! Or like the American Humane.

The American Humane is the official organisation in U.S.A. which oversees the use of animals in films. The main guidelines laid down by them read :

- A. No animal will be killed or injured for the sake of a film production.
- B. If an animal must be treated inhumanely to perform, then that animal should not be used.
- C. If an animal is used off camera to attract the attention of an animal being filmed, used as background, or for other reasons, the same humane guidelines must apply to that animal.

Fifty-five points detail important aspects recommended so that the animals are not abused in any way.

In addition, the American Humane (A. H.) has established the following motion picture classification standards to provide a reliable and serviceable film guide for parents and others interested in assessing the impact of a given movie :

Acceptable : A. H. was on location to monitor animal action and to ensure humane treatment. Scenes appearing to endanger animals are simulated.

Believed Acceptable : A. H. was not on location to monitor animal action, but after screening or script review, A. H. representatives concluded the film producer complied with A. H. standards and intentions.

Questionable : A. H. personnel not on the scene. Animal action and treatment is in doubt.

Unacceptable : Outright cruelty to animals during production.

Unfortunately, there is no such Code for animals used in Indian films. **Beauty Without Cruelty** members may remember the sad story of Uma Devi, the old blind tigress whose mouth was stitched. **Beauty Without Cruelty** and the Blue Cross of India (Madras) fought for her in vain — when freedom for the poor tigress was just a whisker away, death claimed her. But, our campaign to help other animals does not end.

Animal actors and actresses are as important (if not more important) as human actors and actresses. Animals in films appeal to the audiences and so their use is being increased in Hindi films. It is therefore important that the Government makes it obligatory on producers of all films which include animals to let their methods of filming etc. be approved. Certain guidelines are most essential to ensure that the animals are treated with love and respect. Proper feeding, watering and housing facilities are essential for the animals. Other important aspects which should be observed are protection from climatic conditions; fires, explosives etc. should not frighten or injure the animals; animals should not be made to perform stunts; no sick or injured animals should be used and a veterinarian should be at hand; no sedation should be ever given to reptiles, or to animals for altering performances; tripping devices, wires, pitfalls etc. should be banned; animals should never be made to fight; adequate protection should be given during scenes of dust storms, rain etc. strict attention should be given to the animals' logical limits of endurance.

Cultivate Compassion While Young

Purnima Toolsidas

'The Week', Feb. 8 - 15, '89, carries a feature of Sandi Gallant, U.S.'s top voodoo buster. The worlds richest, most 'advanced' country has more than 4 million cults that worship the Devil and have gruesome rites with 10,000 human and animal sacrifices each year. There are 5,00,000 cults in the U.K., with an estimated 3 times the number in Europe, which the police try hopelessly to curtail.

The inner battle of Kurukshetra rages constantly. Evil forces try to overcome humane values, but the spirit of goodness is indomitable. Neither can evil be totally overcome, as history has proved time and again. What seems sadism or perversion to you and me, seems delectable 'entertainment' to so many. Millions of right thinking people have fought many more millions of ruthless people merely because of the force of their own higher values. And so life goes on.

It is these higher values which MUST be developed in children if it is to be worth living! Open, innocent minds are moulded by what they see and hear. Our so-called 'progress' has succeeded in creating a large number of well-to-do, unthinking, unfeeling automatons - at the cost of the simple goodness the average Indian once possessed and was famous for. Today, if an idealistic youngster tries to be upright or works for a profitless cause like BWC, his family, friends and teachers are the first to laugh at him!

How then, is the quality of mercy, the love for truth and simple goodness to be fostered? How will any child or adult find the courage of his conviction and stick to it despite the adverse forces of a materialistic society? At each stage, man has succumbed to vanity and greed, stifling the lofty values his heart recognises. Therein also lies the downfall of empires, religions and philosophies.

We, the clan of animal lovers, can be justifiably proud that our higher instincts have overcome our baser instincts and that we have the courage to speak up on behalf of the dumb, the helpless and the innocent. Yet we must increase our rank and file, if we are to be really effective. The best way to do this is through children who, for all Sigmund Freud may have to say, do have a clean heart and are quick to be kind if shown the way. Moreover, the best way to lead them towards this is to develop their faith in the essence of GOODNESS which is above all the epitome of kindness and love.

A small effort towards this end has been made in the creation of '*Anand Hi Anand*'. This is a 90 mts. audio cassette in Hindi, with 5 stories of a religious nature, set to music, shlokas and bhajans. I must say it is the most impressive value based mode of entertainment I have ever encountered! The children love it! It contains all the magic of a fairy tale with all the wisdom of Solomon! Indian culture, mythology and values are presented delightfully along with the fact that plants and animals have life and feelings too. Even the staunchest communists, who once tried to develop a Godless ideology, are beginning to realise that humans NEED to believe in the source of Goodness and Goodwill - name it what you will! No amount of policing can force people to be kind, helpful or law-abiding. The evils of retrograde religious practices must be exposed and the essence of philosophy brought out for the essence of goodness to be developed. '*Anand Hi Anand*' does just this, and though it is claimed that the cassette is for children, I at 45, was thoroughly entertained and moved each time I heard the children play it. I strongly recommend it to all who wish to promote communal amity and a simple goodwill towards all creatures. Since it has been produced by some charitable trust, it is not freely available and has to be ordered from Saurabh, 20, Lansdowne Rd., Calcutta 7000200, at the cost of Rs. 30/-, postage extra.

Welcome Announcement

REVLON INC., a leading cosmetic manufacturing company of U.S.A. has announced that it will no longer use animals for testing the safety of its products or in researching ingredients in developing new formulae. The cosmetics company said that instead, it will rely on the judgement of scientists, non-animal testing methods and well established information on ingredients safe for people to use.

REVLON's announcement on 30-6-89 at New York marks the completion of a programme aimed at eliminating the use of animals in all phases of research, development and manufacture of its make-up and toiletries.

The maker of the world renowned beauty products is amongst the first of the U.S. Companies to proclaim it would eventually stop tests on animals. They closed down their animal testing laboratory in 1986 and reduced its animal testing requirements by more than 90% prior to the announcement. And now, they will not ask independent laboratories to conduct any tests on animals.

Cosmetics maker AVON PRODUCTS INC., also recently announced that they will stop animal testings after ensuring the safety of its products through alternative means.

Using animals to test toiletries and cosmetics has raised a storm on both sides of the Atlantic. Opinion polls have shown that the public is becoming concerned about testing "non-essential" products on animals, especially when some of the tests — like the Draize test, in which concentrated products are poured into an animal's eyes resulting sometimes in blindness — are cruel.


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

From Beauty Without Cruelty, Printed in India, January - Sept. '89

Jojoba - A Promising Humane Alternative

Jojoba (pronounced Ho-ho-buh) is the name of a little known shrub (*Simmondsia chinensis*) native to Mexico, Arizona and some parts of California, the female plant of which at maturity, produces a nut like seed from which can be extracted an oil. This oil is a substitute for sperm whale oil and is considered equal and even superior in many respects to that recovered from slaughtered whales.

Conclusive research indicated significant breakthroughs proving Jojoba to be a highly important and economically feasible agro-industry, with limitless commercial potential.

It is very nearly the perfect oil with a variety of potential uses. It never turns rancid, has virtually no odour, contains no hydrocarbons and burns with a clean, bright smokeless flame. It is nonpolluting as well as non-toxic. Crude oil contains no fats, has a high viscosity index and very high flash and fire points which are important industrial parameters. It accepts large amounts of sulphur, does not darken on sulphurisation and the highly sulphurised oil is liquid whereas sperm whale oil when highly sulphurised requires additions of mineral oil to remain liquid. An important property to both conventional and space age industry is that jojoba oil remains undamaged by repeated heatings to high temperatures and the viscosity of jojoba oil does not change with temperature changes.

1. Lubrication : Superior lubricant for high speed, high temperature machinery, cutting and grinding and transformer oil — substitute for sperm whale oil. In addition to which it aids in the tanning of leather.

2. Cosmetics : Hair oils, shampoos, soaps, face creams, lipsticks, tanning lotions, insect repellants, cure for acne, aids hair growth, stops itching, offers

effective treatment for burns and skin rashes.

3. Pharmaceuticals : Excellent agent in the production of penicillin and increases antibiotic yield considerably. Carrier coating for medicinal preparations, foaming agent, stabiliser of penicillin products, potential treatment for skin ailments. In addition to which it is tumour reductive and anti-viral.

4. Manufacturing : Potential in linoleum manufacture of printing ink, varnishes, chewing gum. Polishing waxes - for automobiles, floors, furniture, vinyl. Hydrogenerated solid jojoba wax is miscible in all proportions with polythene and polypropylene and is crystallographically almost identical to polyethylene indicating wide commercial uses as an ingredient in plastics, detergents, resins, candles, crayons. It also serves as a solvent of polyethylene.

5. Food : Low calorie salad oil, cooking oil and shortening. Fruit and food coating. The jojoba nut when eaten whole inhibits the appetite. Further tests might open up a wide range of speculation for use e.g. the first natural "diet-pill". The nut meal-cake after oil extraction has potential use as a 35% protein cattle feed and high nitrogen fertilizer. The hull could be used as mulch. In addition the jojoba shrub is excellent for browse for cattle, sheep, goats, deer etc. It could also be used as a natural food source in zoos. The jojoba tap roots make an excellent soil erosion control with the added benefit of providing an income while saving the soil.

Apart from industrial applications the odds definitely appear to be in favour of the increased number of cultivators. Jojoba grows on soils with marginal fertility. Can be cultivated on unproductive, semi arid lands - providing a rare opportunity to establish a wide and viable economic base for an agro-industry.



The plants are easy to raise, require little care, a minor amount of water (brackish) and no pesticides, herbicides or even fertilizer.

It will thrive in deserts and on hill sides where no other money crop can survive. Domestically cared for plants grow faster and produce more seed than wild ones. Jojoba requires less attention than any other money crop.

Jojoba is perennial (100 years +) and is resistant to pests and disease. Moreover it is cultivated and processed with conventional equipment.

With research underway development of higher yielding strains and better cultural techniques should lead to higher yields and lower cost of production per acre.

Jojoba has in recent years attracted world wide attention. **Beauty Without Cruelty** having procured seeds from the U.S. and in view of being a charitable trust working for animals exploited for the luxury trades, is giving seeds for initial experimentation.

Jojoba with its immediate market potential, miraculous natural benefits and future possibilities remains a highly effective substitute to sperm whale oil obtained from the mass slaughter of whales, now considered an endangered species. Current research holds further promise.

Beauty Without Cruelty

INTERNATIONAL CHARITY - REGISTERED NO. 222884

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The President
The International Olympic Committee
Chateau de Vidy
CH-1007 Lausanne
Switzerland

19.6.89

Re: Cruelty to Animals at Spectacles, Sports and Fiestas

Your Excellency

The Charity, Beauty Without Cruelty International, was founded in 1959 in order to campaign for an improved understanding of man's treatment of animals. We fundamentally believe that all animals are born with an equal claim to life and to the same rights of existence as man enjoys. Further, it is the duty of man to use his accumulated knowledge for the welfare of all animals.

Europe has undoubtedly had a crucial and historical role in formulating legislation for the protection of animals, albeit that some countries have pursued this more vigorously than others. The outcome has been a steady improvement in the conditions and treatment of animals as well as a recognition of their rights.

Unfortunately, today in Spain, there are a number of distressing examples of man's hideous capacity to inflict cruelty on animals at spectacles, sports and fiestas. This is often done in the presence and with the active participation of, children who thereby ensure the future of these ugly rituals. The most notorious example is of course bullfighting. Moreover, children are taught the skills of bullfighting at the 'Escuela Nacional de Tauromaquia'. The attached list of Fiestas demonstrates where some of the present acts of cruelty and violence to animals are committed in Spain today.

Indeed, the abandonment of the gladiatorial games of the Roman era are a good example of how man has evolved and adapted his own values down through the ages. All of us should condemn such extreme acts of the past and ensure that they cannot occur again today. And yet, such acts of suffering and cruelty to animals do continue today in Spain. The Charity, Beauty Without Cruelty International, must therefore denounce these and other such acts of inhumanity, which belong to the past and not to our contemporary lives.

WITHOUT



INTERNATIONAL


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

From Beauty Without Cruelty, Printed in India, January - Sept. '89

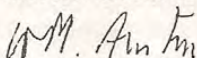
We totally condemn bullfighting and formally request that whilst these spectacles, sports and fiestas continue unchecked in Spain, that the Olympic Games should not be held in Barcelona in 1992. We feel that the essential spirit of the Games, of fairness and sportmanship, are in direct contrast to these current atrocities.

Many of our activities today have their origins in barbaric and ancient ceremonies, which are now in total conflict with the reasoning and thinking of the twentieth century. Indeed, if we are to acknowledge that man's attitude to his environment does change with the passage of time, as witnessed in Europe today, we must surely address with real insight and understanding any of our actions that need to be updated or altered in order to be compatible with our own contemporary thinking.

This century in particular has seen many dramatic changes, which can deeply affect the National Consciousness and thereby activate a misplaced sense of pride, ego and tradition. This is perhaps a somewhat understandable reaction by any nation or people, who essentially want to preserve and protect their inheritance. However, this reaction can often result in an entrenched attitude of hostility and over-protectionism.

We sincerely hope that the committee members of the International Olympic Association will earnestly contemplate the contents of this letter and your response to it. We are all confronted with fundamental issues in our rapidly changing world and individually or collectively we all have a duty to contribute to the future of our planet. We hope that you will all take an active and responsible role and help continue to change the attitudes and behaviour of man towards all animals in our shared environment.

Yours sincerely



Miss W M Austin
Chairman

FORM IV

Statement about ownership and other particulars about the newspaper entitled COMPASSIONATE FRIEND as required to be published in the first issue every year after the last day of February.

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I, Diana Ratnagar, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated 31st March, 1989

Sd/- Diana Ratnagar
Signature of Publisher

COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

How would you like to hear that every time you use a cream, lipstick or skin-care product, you might unknowingly be smearing animal fat on your face and lips? And did you know that perfumes, especially the high-quality, long-lasting ones, could contain sex-gland secretions from various animals?

If you don't believe that, consider this: when you read the list of ingredients on a cosmetic pack, you find items like stearates, stearic acid, oleic acid, glycerine, glycerol, gelatine, oestrogen, musk and ambergris. Each one of these is derived from animals. However, Indian cosmetic manufacturers (unlike some foreign ones) are not bound by law to print the lists of ingredients, and thus many Indian consumers remain unaware that several animal-derived ingredients are used in cosmetics.

Tallow, obtained from the carcasses of goats, sheep and cattle is processed to obtain glycerine and crude fatty acids. The fatty acids are further processed to yield stearic acid (a solid) and oleic acid (a liquid).

These tallow-derivatives and others like glycerol, stearates and oleates form the base of most cosmetics and toiletries, especially those in cream or paste forms like cold cream and vanishing cream. So even shampoos, lipsticks, toothpastes and soaps could contain animal fats, which could be either beef or mutton tallow.

Feel Guilty, not Pretty

Zarine Arya

Fragrances and perfumes are an important group of beauty products by themselves. The long-lasting quality of certain expensive brands of perfumes and colognes, use 'fixatives' which are traditionally of animal origin.


Musk is obtained from the gentle Asian musk deer found in the Himalayan areas of Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan and China.

Captive musk deer have their grandular secretions scraped out regularly. The timid and traumatised animals often die of pain and fear.

A fixative for perfumes is also obtained from the civet cat found mainly in Ethiopia and also in India, Malaysia, China and other parts of Asia. Civet is secreted in greater quantities when the animal is excited to aggression, so the wild creature is imprisoned throughout its productive years in a small cage, regularly teased and stimulated and the civet painfully scraped out from a pouch near the genital organ.

Ambergris is a grey waxy substance formed in the intestinal tract of the sperm whale. It is used in many perfumes because of its unusual bouquet. The best quality ambergris is that which is coughed up by the whale, matures in the sea and sunlight for weeks as it floats around, and is then harvested. But since this source is insufficient to satisfy the demand, sperm whales are hunted and killed for this and other products. Many countries have now banned whaling after pressure from animal welfare groups, but some countries like Japan continue to hunt whales.

Castoreum is an odorous mammalian secretion which helps in the blending of perfumes. The Canadian beaver is trapped and killed for this substance.


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

From Beauty Without Cruelty, Printed in India, January - Sept. '89

It is a pity that manufacturers continue to exploit these traditional animal sources in the perfume industry, when several cruelty-free alternatives exist. Man's commercial greed has now endangered the very existence of some animal species.

Apart from fragrances based on musk, there are many floral perfumes as well which are guilty of using animal substances. That is because abroad, the flowers are sometimes macerated in beef or pork fat to extract the essences.

Many other cruelly-derived animal products are also used in the cosmetic industry. The base of the perennial favourite - lipstick - is beeswax. This is a substance secreted by honey bees from their bodies to build their honey combs. The best quality beeswax in India comes from wild honey combs : a fire is lit under the comb, the bees driven away, then the comb is crushed alongwith all the eggs, larvae and trapped bees. The honey is squeezed out and strained, then the crushed comb is heated, cleaned and purified. For every honey comb used to make beeswax, 5,000 to 35,000 lives are destroyed.

The pearly glow in products like nail polish, eye-shadow and lipsticks especially those manufactured abroad, comes from powdered fish scales. These are obtained in large quantities from fishing trawlers when the caught fish thrash about in the nets.

Sperm oil and Spermaceti (a white waxy solid from the head of sperm whales) are also used in cosmetics, creams and toiletries especially those manufactured abroad.

Shaving brushes and cosmetic brushes with 'natural' bristles have another gory tale to tell. For 'natural' does not mean non-animal. Hogs-hair is the most

common, though sable and camel hair is also used. For this, pigs are held down, squealing and thrashing about, as handfuls of hair are pulled out from the roots. Shaved or cut hair is useless, as the roots are required to make better brushes and to ensure that the next 'crop' of hair grows with a natural point. Only the tear-filled reddened eyes tell the tale of the creature's agony, for a steady foot pressing its throat stifles the amazingly human cries. This procedure is repeated as soon as the hair grows again, that is roughly every six months. The animal is not murdered - but perhaps it would prefer to be - but who's asking its opinion?

'Art sable' or 'Indian sable' is a euphemism for the hair of the mongoose—and this wild creature does lose its life, to provide the 'natural' bristles for lip-brushes and blusher brushes, apart from artist's brushes.

Estrogen, used in rejuvenating skin-creams as well as various medicines, is the female sex hormone. It is obtained from the urine of pregnant mares, or from slaughtered female animals.

Hair-sprays and lacquers may contain the sticky substances obtained by killing the 'lac' insect.

Gels can contain gelatine, obtained from boiling the horns, hooves and bones of slaughtered animals. Lanolin too, is of animal origin, though not so 'cruelly-derived' It is the natural secretion found mixed in sheep-wool and is separated when the wool is cleaned.

Testing on Animals

It is not enough that creatures, big and small, are brutally and painfully kept captive or killed for commercial exploitation. The gentlest of them suffer further in the name of cosmetic testing, apart from pharmaceutical research.

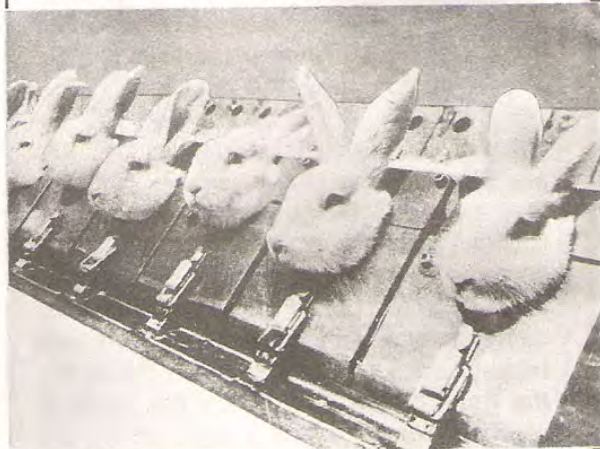
Rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, mice and monkeys - all are laboratory favourites. Big business houses may have their own laboratories; others send their products elsewhere for testing.

It is true that high safety standards should be maintained in all cosmetic and pharmaceutical products for human consumption and certain companies wish to guarantee safety through extensive testing on animals. But some questions remain - Are these tests truly valid for humans? Why do results differ so much even for the same chemical and identical procedure in different laboratories? Haven't some of these tests been labelled by toxicologists as being 'of little value'?

Let's see what these tests are. **The LD 50 test, or lethal dose 50%:** The test is so named because 50% of the animals must die before the testing is stopped. This supposedly enables researchers to learn how many milligrams of a substance it takes to kill a certain amount of weight. Since the animals won't eat vast quantities of lipstick, mascara or hair-dye voluntarily, these LD 50 tests take an extremely nasty turn. If the animals refuse to eat, painful stomach tubes are used to push the chemicals down their throats into their digestive systems.

The test proceeds for 14 days, assuming that the animals have not already died. Common signs of poisoning include 'unusual vocalisation', tears, diarrhoea, discharge and bleeding from the eyes or mouth and convulsions. No pain relief is given. For relatively harmless chemicals, it is necessary to give huge quantities, thus overloading one or more of the body's organs and finally causing death, a situation wholly unrelated to human experience.

The draize eye test (Eye-irritancy test) : This is a typical test used for shampoos and other hair and face products. In this test, undiluted versions of the product are placed in the eyes of animals to observe and record the damage done. The animals usually suffer swelling, redness, blistering and discharges from their eyes, and even ulceration, haemorrhaging and blindness.



Rabbits are usually used for this test, as they have no tear ducts to flush away the burning chemicals. So wild is the animal's struggle to be free that it has to be confined with neck and body clamps, and the eyelids held open with metal clips.

With increasing public awareness and the pressure from animal rights organisations, a major foreign company is now funding research on alternatives for this eye-irritancy test. But others continue their tests, often duplicating experiments conducted in other laboratories and regardless of the fact that there are already several safe and previously tested chemicals available.

The draize patch test (skin-irritation test) : In this test, the hair or even some layers of skin are first removed. Then cosmetics and chemicals are applied and pressed in with paddling for varying periods. The animals are held tight in restraint devices for as many days as required. Then the reactions are compared with those of a group of untested animals.

COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

If found lacking, the tests are repeated again and again on the same animals. This method is used to test astringent preparations such as aftershave lotions.

Humane Alternatives :

After such blood-curdling sights, it is a relief to know that there are alternatives that are free of cruelty, pain and death. Animal welfare organisations like **Beauty Without Cruelty (BWC)**, a charitable organisation, have always tried to spread awareness so that the alert and caring consumer knows exactly what he is using and can choose wisely from among the many products available.

For example, animal fats and tallow-derivatives can be substituted by non-edible vegetable oils in many cosmetics plants. Animal sources are often interchangeable, but the animal fats are sometimes cheaper, and therefore remain the favourites of cost-conscious manufacturers. However, expensive sperm oil has a cheap, commercially exploitable alternative : Jojoba oil.

Jojoba (pronounced ho-ho-buh) has recently attracted worldwide attention. This shrub (*Simmondsia Chinensis*) can be easily grown in the arid and semi-arid regions, and its nut-like seeds yield a very high-grade oil equal or even superior to sperm oil. Conclusive research indicates significant breakthroughs proving jojoba to be a highly important and economically feasible agro-industry, with limitless commercial potential.

Apart from cosmetics and toiletries, jojoba seed oil can be used for lubrication, medicines, cooking oil, and in the manufacture of products as diverse as linoleum and detergents.

The pursuit of beauty need not lead to animal-based products. India has a

heritage of traditional beauty recipes, many of them based on simple ingredients available in any kitchen. The appreciation of such simple home recipes and a fondness for herbal cosmetics has led to many articles in women's magazines encouraging Indian women to use their own home-made cosmetics which are cheaper, safer and more humane than the chemical ones.

A word of warning, though: commercial preparations of 'herbal' cosmetics are not automatically free of animal ingredients, nor does the user know whether they have been tested on animals or not.

A simple alternative to using hog's hair and other 'natural' (i.e. animal!) bristles is to use the excellent quality of nylon and synthetic bristles now available.

The perfume industry too has many cruelty-free alternatives to fixatives like musk. What is required is a willingness to move away from the traditional animal sources and use more modern discoveries. In this land which has the tradition and culture of ahimsa, consumers would certainly appreciate knowing exactly what goes into the cosmetic preparations they use. A manufacturer who brings out a range of cruelty-free or 'ahimsak' items would find a ready market.

Governments and manufacturers do respond to public pressure, and enact suitable legislation or use humane alternatives. Those who care for the welfare of animals, or abide by vegetarian principles, or are simply sensitive enough to pain and suffering not to want to inflict it needlessly on any creature, should exercise the consumer's right to information: that is demand that manufacturers of cosmetics should print the list of ingredients on the package. Then the consumer gets his right to choose, to select the product that matches his life-style.

Courtesy : Economic Times

Murder Most Foul

Christine Krishnasami and M. Shafath Ali Khan

When you go up in an aircraft over the ocean and look down, sometimes you can sight a group of whales floating along in the currents, flippers by their sides, looking like snow-white angelic martyrs, crucified. And that is exactly what they are.

According to **Beauty Without Cruelty**, an international animal welfare organisation, more whales were killed between 1960 and 1970 than during any other decade in the history of man and animal. During the so-called whaling season of 1977, at least 27,000 whales (just under half of them being sperm whales) lost their lives.

John Gordon Davis in *Leviathan* (Pan Books Ltd., Great Britain, 1977) describes the methods of slaughter.

Modern whaling ships sight the whales on radar long distance. When a whale is targeted about fifty yards away, a gunner aims his harpoon gun and fires away. There is the thud of cannon, and the hundred-pound steel shaft with vicious hidden barbs flies in a murderous arc towards the victim. When the harpoon is embedded in the whale's flesh, the grenades carried in the weapon's nose explode—perhaps smashing the great whale's ribs or tearing the intestines apart. The harpoon is attached to a long nylon line. When the whale, stricken with terror and agony, wrenches around and tries to flee, the hidden barbs spring out, hooking into the tortured body and dragging the victim towards the ship.

The wounded whale gives out screams that only other whales can hear and respond to in their own unique way. Whales have no vocal cords, but communicate in other ways. It can take up

to nine explosive harpoons and five hours or more for a whale to fight his or her losing battle to the finish.

Meanwhile, the electric winch on the catcher pulls the nylon line tighter. Blood gushes out from the many wounds of the dying whale. The thrashing and wrenching grow weaker. Finally, the mercy of death—not of man—settles upon the scene of heaving, bloodied horror while the other whales mourn the death of a mate, a child or a comrade.

A towing boat drags the great carcass towards a factory ship to be butchered and broken up. By means of cable and winch, the body is dragged up the slipway to the cutting decks.

"The reeking butchery. One hundred yards of bloody deck, with the pot holes five feet wide belching the fumes of boiling whale oil, and between the pot holes, the carnage. The reeking carnage, a quagmire of blood and flesh and fat up to the whalemen's shins, blood cascading. Mountains of animal, twice the height of a man, being torn and ripped apart, and hacked and sawed up."

(Ibid., p. 278)

Steel cables peel off the great fatty skin. Long, sharp flensing knives, slash into muscle. Hooked cables take apart the jaws, wrenching bones and sockets. Thigh-booted men and women in oilskins, standing in a row hack into the carcass. With each swipe of the cutting instruments there gushes the thick red blood on to the deck from veins thick as an athlete's arm. Pieces of bloody fat and flesh are dragged off to the vats. The intestines of the whale spill out, over a thousand feet long, thick as a man's leg, together with partly digested food.


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

From *Beauty Without Cruelty*, Printed in India, January - Sept. '89

Perhaps it is a female whale in an advanced state of pregnancy which has been thus tortured and slain. No problem. When the belly of the mother whale is slit, the perfectly formed foetus whale comes crashing down, eyes closed in death. Even the baby whale is too strong for four or five people. It takes swipe after swipe of the long broomstick knife, plunging through spine and guts, to take the baby whale apart until it is hacked in two. And then it is tossed in two pieces back into the sea.

If the above grisly but true description sickens you, may one ask why? Are you shocked by the following products: soaps, lipsticks, face cream and hair oils, powders, pastes and perfumes, the lubricant used in precision instruments in the motor industry and for long distance ballistic missiles; by the consumption of whale meat by humans and by processed pet food? It is the torturous slaughter of whales that gives rise to these whale by-products unless otherwise specified by manufacturers.

Before the invention of the diabolic harpoon gun in 1864, ten mighty species of the whale lived in relative safety in the oceans : the Blue, and Humpback, the White, the Bowhead, the Grey, the Finm the Sei, the Minke and the Bydre; and the heavily exploited Sperm whale. Of these, the Blue is the largest and ranks as the biggest mammal in creation, measuring about 30 metres long.

In an optimistic editorial in the "Deccan Herald" of 21 March, 1987, it was stated that during the middle of the last century, blue whales in the Antarctic numbered around 200,000 but had been hunted down to a "shockingly paltry 2000 by 1965, which works out to a mere one per cent of the earlier figure".

In 1964, the editorial went on to state, the International Whaling Commission (IWC)

was formed, representing 18 countries, with the intention of restricting the number of the Blue and other species being slaughtered.

In reality, every whaling nation joined the IWC because, under the charter of this club, every member had the right to veto the Commission's regulation. For instance, in 1978, the total Sperm whale catch quota in the North Pacific was 6444. This target was set by the IWC with a total disregard for the plea of conservationists to cut down the figure to 763. Several of the IWC's decisions have thus benefited the commercial interest of the member nations. The above-mentioned quota, to mention only one example, included 5105 males and 1339 females. This decision of the IWC represented a victory for the Soviet Union and Japan, which account for approximately 90 per cent of the global whaling massacre.

During the entire period when the IWC knew that whales were being "shot out of existence", they did nothing other than hire independent "statistical experts" to advise them to Blue whale stocks. The experts told the IWC that the Blue whale would soon be extinct unless protected, and the IWC took another five years to implement the advice

When the Blue whale was 'commercially extinct' (that is, not worth hunting any longer), then the Soviet Union and Japan withdrew their veto on the quotas. The IWC also created a so-called whale sanctuary - in an area not exactly known for a preponderance of whales. The statistical experts had also advised IWC that the Blue whale could not reproduce itself until it was eighty-four feet in length, and yet the Commission ruled that the Blue could be shot down when only seventy-four feet long: that is, while still sexually immature!

The root cause for the IWC's ineffectiveness to protect whales lies in its origins.

After World War II, there was a global shortage of oils and fats. In 1931, a surplus of whale products on the market had sent many small companies out of business. Therefore, the member nations of the IWC were mainly interested in what they referred to as "stabilising" the whaling "industry". Rather as a group of "gentlemen" and officers" might sit around discussing "the final solution".

Over the past couple of decades, however, the style of functioning of the IWC appears to have been changing. Viable substitutes for whale products have been discovered, for one thing. Jojoba (pronounced "hohoba") seeds, for instance discovered in Mexico and now grown extensively in North America, contain about 50 per cent weight of an odourless and colourless, oily liquid which is "a natural alternative to whale oil". It has even been suggested that jojoba plants can be grown in the arid regions of India to great benefit, but the authorities here have not so far taken the suggestion seriously.

Most IWC members these days have few whaling industries to protect. Britain gave up whaling in 1963 and the U.S. in 1972 — even if for economic reasons and not compassionate ones. Countries such as South Korea, Iceland and Norway engage extensively in coastal whaling, which has been classified by the IWC as commercial and, as such, subject to a five-year ban agreed in 1985. Demand for whale products within the last two decades has spurred smaller countries such as Peru, Brazil and the Philippines to engage in indiscriminate and illegal whaling, using methods banned by the IWC.

In October 1979, the IWC declared a ban on whaling for ten years in the Indian Ocean, upto 50 degrees south. At a conference held in March 1987, at the Seychelles, over 20 scientists from IWC agreed that the area in the Indian Ocean

prohibiting commercial whaling should be extended beyond 55 degrees south to include the Antarctic. This is because whales generally breed in the tropics but feed in the Antarctic. It was also suggested at this conference that the ban on whaling should be extended for another 20 years; but that, as they say, would denote triumph of hope over experience...

In January this year, when Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi took a laudable personal interest in rescuing a whale about to be stranded at Agatti, the issue of whales getting stranded around the Lakshadweep came into sharper focus. Whales get trapped in the shallows around the islands or are washed ashore at Kadamat, Chetlat and so forth.

In late 1987, when a ten-metre long whale was washed ashore at Kadamat, it was buried by the Fisheries Department for the sake of its skeleton, which would be featured in the local fisheries museum ("The Hindu", 4 January 1988). This newspaper account also mentions that local fishermen also cash in on any ambergris they find in the seas and have, besides, developed a taste for dolphin meat. Ambergris, found in the innards of whales, fetches up to Rs. 40,000 per kg. Officials of the Fisheries Department do not appear to have given much thought to the conservation of whales and dolphins around the Lakshadweep. When will they begin to do so - when these mammals become practically extinct?

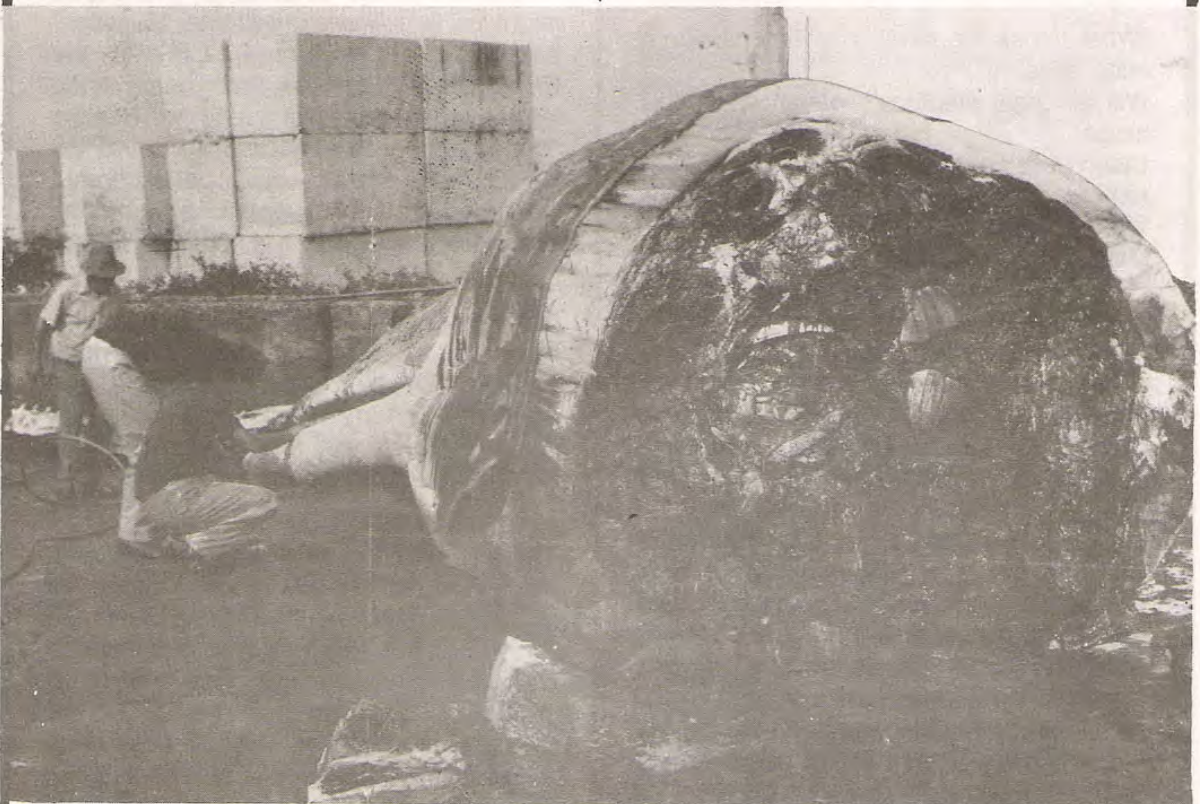
To get back to the international scene, which looks unpromising as ever as far as whales are concerned. Article 8 of the IWC convention allows members to issue special permits for whaling in the name of "scientific research". Iceland, South Korea and Japan have been making a mockery of the scientific rationale by using this permit to get around the ban. Japan plans to slaughter 825 Minke whales and 50 Sperm whales a year for a period of at least 12 years more.

According to the WORLD SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS, an international animal welfare body, on 22 December 1987, "two vessels slipped quietly from their moorings, tracking to the ends of the earth the 300 Minke whales they intended to kill. The glaring scientific shortcomings of their 'research' programme were of course rejected, and in open violation of an international agreement, they began firing their grenade-tipped harpoons almost immediately." (Animals International, Vol. III No. 25, Spring 1988)

The United States, to its credit, announced the imposition of a 50 per cent cut in Japan's permitted fish catch in U.S. waters. Significantly, a call to order meeting was held in Reykjavik, Iceland, on January 21 - 22 this year to discuss the "management and rational utilisation of marine

mammals". Representatives from Norway, Japan, the Faroe Islands, Canada and the U.S.S.R. participated in the conference. South Korea, Denmark and Alaskan Eskimos, although invited, did not attend the conference. The United States, the WSPA journal mentions, being concerned about the protection of the endangered whales, "was pointedly not invited". At this conference of the dedicated killers of the whale species, the Icelandic Government expressed sharp dissatisfaction with the IWC as also with the desirability of continued membership in the IWC on account of the latter's "protectionist principles in disregard of scientific facts..."

In other words, if the nations which met at Reykjavik early this year have their way and form their own separate club (for "scientific reasons", no doubt), there will be no whales at all anywhere in the world.




COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

From Beauty Without Cruelty, Printed in India, January - Sept. '89

Once every ten minutes, a great whale is dying in indescribable agony somewhere in the world. The nervous system of whales is comparable to ours. But in many other ways, whales are different.

Whales are gentle and non-aggressive, unlike sharks. Whales are sensitive and intelligent in the extreme, kind and outstandingly loyal to one another. One sentiment that runs constantly through Davis' book *Leviathan* is that "the miracle of their creation will never be repeated."

Scientific "research?" Rather, give me Shakespeare any day :

"O, it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is
tyrannous
To use it like a giant."
(Measure for Measure, Act II Scene 2)

"What hands are here? Ha! they pluck out
mine eyes.
Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this
blood
Clean from my hand? No, this my hand will
rather
The multitudinous seas incarnadine,
Making the green one red."
(Macbeth, Act II, Scene 2)

The whale is indeed a giant in strength and nobility, beauty and dignity. It is puny man who uses his artificial weapons tyrannously, turning ocean and earth into sad, monumental graveyards for the beauty and purpose of creation. They tell me that Shakespeare has been translated into most of the languages of the world. I wonder what the above quotations would sound like in Japanese. Or, for that matter, whether Iceland, Canada, the U.S.S.R. and many other whaling nations would give credence to the language of credence and moral authority, as distinct from sterile "scientific reasons".

Alaskan oil spill effects may last a decade

Philip J. Hilts

Environmental Damage from the oil spill at Valdez, Alaska, is likely to last a decade. The cleanup efforts do not cause more lasting damage, experts said after studying the effects of other large oil spills. In two of the largest spills, animals and plants had largely recovered about a decade later, although the number of species changed somewhat.

The tanker 'Exxon Valdes' has dumped more than 10 million gallons.

"If this is like the other spills, the effects might be largely gone in 11 to 15 years," said John Farrington, Director of the Environmental Sciences Programme at the University of Massachusetts in Boston. "But remember this is Alaska. It could last longer, the effects could be different," because cold tends to preserve oil and the environment may be more easily damaged.

"Nature will do the job of cleanup naturally, much better than we can" said John Robinson of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "But 10 years is a long time to wait for that to happen. A lot of harm can happen in 10 years."

There are numerous tanker accidents every year, and an average annual total of 123 million gallons of oil is dumped into the sea. The immediate impact is catastrophic; birds, fish and the small creatures they eat are killed by the thousands within days. But far more oil is released into the ocean from normal tanker operations such as flushing tanks, and from city waste and runoff. Together, these put 770 million gallons into the world

ocean annually. Another 62 million gallons come from natural spills that seep up from inside the earth.

Crude oil is a mixture of many compounds from the light and more poisonous chemicals such as benzene and toluene, which evaporate quickly, to the heavy tars that are less poisonous but which can cause trouble when they stick to an animal or are eaten.

The light compounds act quickly; within days they can kill fish and other large animals as well as the small crustaceans and plankton that fish eat. The toxic compounds may also cause diseases and damage reproduction for several generations.

In the first days after many spills, one-third to two-thirds of the oil evaporates. Only 15 per cent of the Alaskan crude evaporates. The rest floats, ultimately breaking up into globules. Whipped by wind, the globules can create a brown foamy mat referred to as "chocolate mousse". The spilled Alaskan oil remained a thick, waxy mat for several days.

In warm waters and sunshine, the oil can be broken down relatively quickly by sunlight and bacteria. In Alaska, the degradation is expected to take much longer.

After the immediate poisoning and coating, the chief problem is that the thick oil that does not evaporate washes ashore and coats rocks and beach muds. This oil and mud combination creates a long-lasting reservoir of toxic chemicals that will continue reaching out into the environment over many years.

Indians lend helping hand

A Toronto-Based Indian-owned company, Glopelot Trading Corporation (GPTC), has won a multi-million dollar contract for cleaning up the disastrous oil spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound.

To mop up the oil spill, GPTC President Captain C.M. Karunakar is reported to have requisitioned a Soviet cleaning and skimming vessel, 'M.V. Vaidagulsky', through the USSR Trade Commissioner in Bombay, and sought specialised skimmed equipment on loan from the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

India Abroad weekly suggests that a technique evolved by another Indian could help disperse the oil spill far more efficiently than conventional chemical methods.

The technique that makes use of a non-toxic and bio-degradable substance, has been developed by Dr. Anand Chakravarty, who in 1980 became the first microbiologist to be given a patent for a living organism.

Dr. Chakravarty, who lives in the US, claims that a chemical obtained by him from living microbes could efficiently mop up the oil spill.

The clean-up operations in Alaska are being hampered by high velocity winds. The spill has reportedly spread to nearly 25,000 km, prompting environmentalists to describe it as an unprecedented ecological disaster. They fear that a wide variety of fish, otters, seals and other marine animals, besides birds, will be wiped out.

— The Guardian

Every Dog has his Day

Bunny D'Souza

Some time ago a very eminent personage referred to his opponents in very derogatory terms. He compared them to barking dogs. Our canine friends were very agitated by this and came panting to me.

"He can't give a dog a bad name" they yelped.

"You are feeling insulted because he also referred to his opponents as dogs?" I asked "You resent being grouped with the likes of them?"

"No. Its because he shamed us." they whined, "just because we are dogs you can't treat us like dogs."

"I don't think he meant to humiliate you," I said.

"My paw," one snarled, "Remember. Every dog has his day".

"What are you planning on?" I asked.

"A non-cooperation movement to start with," they growled, "from now on you won't find us as domestic pets. A man who gets fired by his boss won't be able to come home and take it out on his dog anymore. He will have to kick a substitute. His wife or child maybe."

"You want to encourage child abuse and break up marriages." I cried, "That's being vicious."

"We will also stop being public watch dogs." they snapped. "Even if we spot something fishy going on we won't bark. The crime rate will climb steeply and the police will be unable to nab a single criminal. Unless they learn to track on all fours with their noses to the ground."

"You are supposed to be faithful," I mourned.

"Forget it" they yapped. "We further vow never to catch rats. They shall multiply a hundred fold, roam fearlessly all over the countryside and ravage your crops."

"A famine we don't need." I pleaded, "And women will be forced to stay indoors."

"What good will that do" they yipped. "Houses will be so infested with rats that even cats will be scared to live in them."

"You can't do this to us," I shuddered, "We'd much prefer to get rabies."

"That's not all" they howled. "Dog shows will be out. You can have rat races in lieu."

"Think of the dog lovers," I begged.

"Did even one of them come out in defence when that remark was passed?" they barked. "May they be bitten by their own canine teeth. Lastly, our scavengers will go on a diet and avoid garbage dumps completely. Let garbage pile up higher and deeper."

"You want the whole country to smell like an overripe sewer." I appealed.

"It doesnt smell exactly like a rose at the moment" they bayed.

"Is every dog behind you in this?" I asked.

"With hind leg raised," they hooted. "We dogs stick together. Do people sniff strangers? Or friends even? Look at us. We sniff every dog we see with feeling, whatever their pedigree. That's the extent of puppy love. We aren't class conscious like you."

"Something was said without malice," I stated in exasperation. "Is that any reason for you to get your hackles up and ruin the country?"

"Why not?" they growled. "Who started this dog eat dog business in the first place?"


COMPASSIONATE FRIEND

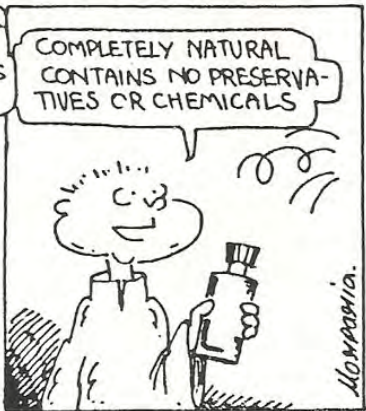
PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



THE 21ST CENTURY

Morparia



does not limit itself to mankind" • "the human spirit is not dead. It lives on in secret. It has come to believe that compassion, in which all ethics must take root, can only attain its breadth and depth if it embraces all living creatures and



albert schweitzer



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