

THE ANIMALS' FRIEND

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER-2006

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The purpose of this little publication is, and has always been, to draw attention to the cause of animal welfare, and to help create a more humane society where ethical values are upheld and put into practice. When we learn to respect,

protect and live in harmony with all life we will be helping to preserve the beauties of mother earth for the future generations to enjoy and marvel at. Let us join hands and work towards that goal.

"A UNION OF THOSE WHO LOVE IN THE SERVICE OF ALL THAT SUFFERS"

The above motto of the Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) is what inspired the creation of this little publication. In keeping with the high ideals of theosophy and its first object οf universal brotherhood. we expand brotherhood to cover all aspects of life on our planet. We strive to serve not only our fellow humans, but also the animal kingdom and nature which suffer horrific cruelty and destruction at the hands of its human brothers and sisters. Not only is the animal kingdom a victim, but our planet ...our forests and rivers, our air and seas, our land and sky, all are victims humanity's greed for material gain at any cost.

Our aim is to create awareness of this tragic and systematic

destruction of the beauties of nature. If we can sow that seed of compassion in even a few minds and inspire even a handful to take up the cause of universal brotherhood of all life, we will have achieved to some extent what we have set out to achieve.

The TOS was founded in 1908 as the service wing of the Theosophical Society. It is theosophy in action. The TOS in Karachi has been active in the field of social service since the early 1950s. Its work covers many aspects of service. Education, animal welfare, medical relief, old age and family relief are a few of its fields of activities. "The Animals' Friend" is a gift from the TOS to its fellow citizens. We hope you enjoy reading it. Suggestions and ideas from our readers are most welcome and may be sent to the TOS address.

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AN INTERESTING ANIMAL STORY

ZEBRA LOVE

A man has a farm in a rural area north of here where he keeps some exotic animals including a pair of zebras. (This would be central Wisconsin). A neighbour woman got in the habit of feeding carrots and treats to the zebras and the other animals. Well, she was gone a few days, but when she came back for a visit she was met at the gate by the man's donkeys and one of the zebras, but not the other. The one who came (the female zebra) was very agitated and kept making this awful, distressed noise. The woman went in the barn to find the male. but he was no where to be seen. The female kept acting very agitated, trying to get her attention.

The woman ran outside, and the zebra came with her and started down the path. The woman ran down the path, and the zebra kept running ahead and looking back to the make sure woman following. The zebra ran to the creek, which was mostly iced over, and started across. The woman didn't want to go out on the ice, which was sure to be unsafe, but then she saw the male zebra out there. He had fallen through and was trapped in ice about up to his chest. He had been flailing around and cut himself on the ice, and was in desperate straits.

The woman got people to come, and they attached a rope to the zebra, which fortunately was wearing a harness. Somebody got on a cell phone and got a neighbour to come out with his truck, which had a winch. They managed to pull the zebra out and get him on solid ground. He had been mired in the mud of the creek bed, so pulling him out was doubly hard. He collapsed and was able to do nothing but shake, so they had to get a second truck out there that could lift him aboard. Then they drove back to the barn another way, which really distressed the female zebra.

They got a vet there who stayed with the zebra until he warmed up and stabilized and he survived, much to the relief of the people and the female zebra, who got lots of appreciation for her role in the rescue.

What a good story about animals caring for each other, using their intelligence, and communicating with humans!

Source: sdurbin@tulsa.cc.ok.us.

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RESCUE PLANNED FOR ABUSED BEARS IN PAKISTAN, INDIA

An international charity unveiled a pioneering plan to set up bear sanctuaries in Pakistan and India as a part of its campaign to rescue captive bears from cruelty.

The London-based World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) said the sanctuaries would enable it, along with local authorities, to seize bears that had been forced to dance for money by their keepers or to take part in bear-baiting events.

It said in a statement received in Islamabad that the small sanctuaries, under construction northwest of Islamabad and near the north Indian city of Agra, would be the first ever in each country and would be ringed by electric fences to keep people out.

"WSPA believes that following the success of its Liberty campaign in eliminating the spectacle of dancing bears in Turkey and Greece, and with the cooperation of the governments in India and Pakistan, it will also be able to relegate these

cruel traditions into the history books," it said.

The Pakistan sanctuary would focus on victims of bear-baiting-- a bloodsport where pairs of vicious dogs are unleashed against a tethered and toothless bear in series of three-minute "bouts"

The charity estimated that each year, 80 to 100 bear-baiting "festivals" are held illegally in Pakistan's central province of Punjab and the southern province of Sindh.

"Several hundred bears may be involved in this gruesome fight game, with well organized events... that can attract many hundreds of spectators" the WSPA said.

It also estimated that about 1,000 sloth bears were kept in India and forced to dance for money by nomadic beggars.

"Over 100 cubs are illegally taken from the wild every year and sold at village markets to be 'trained' as dancing bears through a brutal regime of pain and starvation," it said.



VEGETARIAN CORNER:

Count Leo Tolstoy had invited to dinner a non-vegetarian lady who had stipulated that meat must be served. As he escorted her to the dinner table, she found a live chicken tied to her chair. When asked the meaning of this, the great man replied, "My conscience forbids me to kill it, as you are the only guest taking meat, I would be greatly obliged if you could undertake the killing first". It is reported that the meal was strictly vegetarian.

RECIPE:

Stuffed capsicum Ingredients:

4 large capsicums

1 large potato

9 oz (250g) peas

1 oz (250g) cheese

3 oz (75g) oil

4 to 5 green chillies

(serves 2)

¼ bunch coriander leaves

(hara dhania)

a pinch of haldi (turmeric powder)

½ lime

1/4 tsp rye dana (mustard seeds)

salt

METHOD:

Slice the top of the capsicums. Remove seeds, wash and apply salt inside and keep upside down on a rack. Boil peas and set aside. Boil and dice potatoes. Mix together diced potatoes, peas, rye dana, chopped greed chillies, coriander leaves, haldi and salt to taste. Stuff

the capsicum with this stuffing and top with cheese. Heat oil in a frying pan. Place capsicums carefully in the pan, cover and cook on a very low heat till the capsicums are soft or place in a greased dish and bake till the capsicums are done.



ANIMAL QUIZ

- 1) To what family does the flying fox belong?
- A) Fox
- B) Bat

C) Squirrel (answer: B)

- 2) Which Animal is the ancestor of the dog?
- A) Wolf
- B) Dhole

C) Dingo (answer: A)

- 3) Birds recognize each other initially by one sense alone which is it?
- A) Sight
- B) Smell

C) Sound (answer: C)

QUOTATION:

"Not to hurt our humble bretheren is our first duty to them, but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission- to be of service to them whenever they require it".

St. Francis of Assisi.





DON'T LET THIS ANTELOPE GO FOR A SHAWL

By Chandrikan Mago

If anyone needed another reminder that shahtoosh shawls are to be found aplenty in collections of the rich, it came just three days back during a raid on the home of a well-known Dehli - based builder. At least seven shawls, woven from the wool of the Tibetan antelope, were allegedly found. The possession of and trade in shahroosh is an offence.

The seizure left Asian delegates gathered here for a regional consultative meeting of the IUCN (the World Conservation Union) deeply concerned about the survival of the *chiru* (the Tibetan antelope). On the final day of the conference on Saturday, delegates pressed for a major programme, in tanden with the present ones, to pull the *chiru* back from the brink.

Their recommendation: Bring together all stakeholders to evolve a long-term strategy, offer incentives to communities living in areas where the *chiru* is found, address the issue of those involved in weaving shahtoosh shawls, and draft policy instruments, where necessary. It's something IUCN is already considering.

A delegate from China - Tibet is home to this endangered species - put the species-at-peril issue in perspective. *Chiru* numbers, he said, are dropping at an alarming pace. From about 200,000 of these animals in the wild 10 years ago, just under 30,000 were left today. China, he said, needs the assistance of the international community in fighting this threat.

Wang Sung IUCN's China regional councilor and senior biodiversity advisor to his country's government says China has proposed to IUCN a long-term programme "to survey, monitor, manage and conserve the *chiru*". Maybe, even consider captive breeding.

As IUCN director-general Maritta Koch-Weser put it, it's a transboundary issue that China alone cannot handle. The "pull" factors - the demand for the highly-prized and highly - prized wool - are in countries like India and parts of Europe. The trade routes involve neighbours like India, Pakistan and Nepal.





SCRAMBLE TO SAVE TREES

Unscramble the words in each sentence to complete these facts about trees. Write the unscrambled words in the blanks.

	Millions of trees are cut down each year to make a-p-p-r-e. Almost all kinds of paper can be l-c-r-e-y-d-e-c.
۷. ع	The average American family buys 700 bags of each year
	g-r-s-i-o-c-e-r-e.
4.	If everyone used canvas shopping bags instead of paper ones, we
	could save s-i-i-m-l-l-o-n.
5.	More than 500,000 trees are chopped down each week to make
	Sunday w-s-e-p-r-a-n-p-s-e.
6.	Each year, the average American w-t-r-s-o-h away a stack
	of newspaper 20 feet high.
7.	Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees and 7000 n-a
	-g-l-o-l-s of water.

Earth tip: Recycling paper saves trees, water, and energy. Start recycling today!



How would you feel if a cow ate you?
Caught you and bopped you
And chopped you in two,
Fried you or broiled you or put you in stew
With carrots, potatoes, or onion or two?

So some time at dinner when you're starting to chew,

Put down your steak and ponder this through,

How would you feel if a cow ate you?

