

June 2011



CARE FOR COWS

I N V R I N D A V A N

**NEW SHED AT
KIKI NAGLA**

**TWO NEW
CALVES**

**RESCUE AT
RAMAN PURI**

**MRDANGAS
TAINTED WITH BLOOD**





Care for Cows in Vrindavana
is inspired by His Divine Grace
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
Founder-Acharya
International Society for Krishna Consciousness

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CARE FOR COWS

IN VRINDAVANA

careforcows.org

Jaya Sri Guru! Jaya Sri Gopala!
Jaya Sri Go Mata!

Dear Friends,

That familiar apprehension has again returned. The one associated with having to leave Sri Vrindavan.

“Will I be able to return?” is the nagging question that’s plagued me for twenty-seven years.

I’m off to travel for 30 days to see old friends in New York... in Denver... and perhaps Florida. It’s hard to break the comfort of the routine, the known... and face the unknown... the unexpected.

I know I can do it as I have done it many times before. It’s not hard... once the apprehension dissipates.

Who will feed my abandoned friends? Will the heat scorch them?... will the monsoon soak them?

Leave it to the Unfailing Best Protector of the Cows.



The CFC Staff

Care for Cows in Vrindavan is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, and Switzerland.

~ PORTRAIT OF THE MONTH ~



~ ONE WEEK OLD CALF ~

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Care for Cows,
Hare Krsna. Hope you are well.

Thank you for giving such beautiful protection to the cows and by serving Lord Krishna in such a beautiful way! I was reading in Krishna Book that Lord Krsna has a *mala* and counts the cows when they return from grazing by saying each cows name on one bead.

A year ago I had spoken to you about sponsoring Gayatri and Tirtha. I hope they are both healthy and happy.

I am in prison, hopefully for a short period, awaiting trial. I do not have access to \$50 each month at this point to send for their sponsorship and it breaks my heart.

I love sponsoring them. I will definately send money when I can. Please tell Gayatri and Tirtha I said hello and Hare Krishna.

Please say hi to the Lords Krishna and Balaram for me. Would it be possible to mail me a broshure describing what activities I can donate toward for cow protection.

May Srimati Radharani, Lord Krishna and Lord Balaram always live with all joy within your hearts. Hare Krsna.

In devotional service to Lord Krishna's Holy Feet marked with a goad, flag, umbrella, lotus, etc. All glories to Sri Krsna.

Jivakan Snider



Jivakan Snider



Gayatri



Tirtha



PS. Enclosed is a check for \$18.00. Could you please use it for a special feast for as many cows as as possible on May, 24, 2011. Thank you, Jivakan.

Note: We purchased 200 kilos of watermelon and fed it to our herd of 160 at Kiki Nagla as requested by Jivakan. We pray the abandoned cows of Sri Vrindavan bestow their blessings upon him.

MRDANGAS

TAINTED WITH BLOOD

by Bharat Chandra Dasa, Hyderabad, India

I remember asking someone about where and how mrdangas were made but never got a satisfactory answer. I always thought, one fine day, I will get into the details. Surely enough, I now know, our performance of sankirtan all over the world is tainted with the blood of slaughter!

DIGESTING THE FACT

Navadwip to Mayapur via boat crossing Ganga is a beautiful short trip. My

recent shift to serve at dham was filled with these beautiful scenes until I came across something ghastly! Beautiful Cows and Bulls were transferred in

the same boat in one such trip I took in broad daylight. A bit amazed, I asked the neighbour sitting next to me, as to where the cows were being taken? The neighbour replied naively, "for slaughter"! I asked where? he replied - "near yogapitha"!

By now, my mouth was wide open and heart beating strongly. I exclaimed - "Oh Krishna, how can this be allowed in dham!". The neighbour replied - "Huh! how do you think your mrdanga is made?"

Next, my enquiry with the

Mrdanga manufacturers got it confirmed. It is a huge export business! There is a huge demand for mrdangas all over the

world, be it due to ISKCON or others, the cows are slaughtered mercilessly so that we get mrdangas to play! All this in the dham! And now, it is happening right in Vrindavan too for the same reason! These mrdanga makers are doing a booming business throughout the year and there is a huge, huge supply demand gap!

SIN IN THE NAME OF RELIGION

SRILA PRABHUPADA: If one is sinful, how can he say he is religious? Do you think a sinful man can be truly religious? Yet this is going on.

In the name of religion, people are committing sins. I mean to say, this sinful killing of animals, especially cows, is the main cause of humanity's current degradation... *veda-nisidhya-karya kare veda-mukhya mane*. As Lord Caitanya said, "People are acting against every religious principle, but advertising themselves as religious..."

DR. HAUSER: Do you use leather?

SRILA PRABHUPADA: Generally we avoid it, since at the present time people are obtaining it by sending the animals to the slaughterhouse.

DR. HAUSER: So you don't allow it?

SRILA PRABHUPADA: We don't use it. For instance, none of our shoes are made of leather. Today there are so many substitutes, various plastics and other things. And every one of them is nice. But leather, in itself, it is not prohibited, because you can get it after the animal has died a natural death. Yes. In India, those who are flesh-eaters wait until after a cow has died, and then they come and clear away the carcass. Then they eat the flesh and save the bones and horns and hooves and take off the skin to make shoes, and so forth. Since they get all their supplies for nothing, they can easily make their living.

The main idea is, sooner or later the animal will die. So let us wait for that time. Why should we kill a living animal?

DR. HAUSER: Do you use leather in your drums?

SRILA PRABHUPADA: Yes, after the cow has died a natural death, that leather can be used.

DR. HAUSER: So you have leather drums?

SRILA PRABHUPADA: Yes, that has been the way of making drums for thousands

of years. But that leather is collected only after the animal has died a natural death. Not by killing.

So our principle is mercy. Mercy. We never needlessly kill or torment any living being. The Lord is the all-merciful, and now, in this human form, we can revive our relationship with Him. After traveling through untold millions of lower forms, now we can revive our old relationship with the all-merciful. Yes. But only if we become merciful.

DR. HAUSER: Thank you very much.

SRILA PRABHUPADA: Hare Krsna.

Room Conversation, Stockholm, Sept 1973.

The above is an excerpt from a longer article. Readers may read the full article here: <http://www.dandavats.com/?p=9582>.

A related article may be found here: <http://careforcows.org/download/newsletters/CFCNewsSept2010.pdf>.

Laksmipati das and Sujal das have begun to produce ahimsa Mrdangas. Address your inquiries to ahimsa_mrdangas@hotmail.com.

If leather ahimsa Mrdangas are not available, inquire here for synthetic Mrdangas: isanah@juno.com / [facebook.com/balaram.mridanga](https://www.facebook.com/balaram.mridanga).



NEW RECUPERATING SHED

So far our stay at Kiki Nagla has been very comfortable and rewarding. Kesi Nisudana and Brajamohan designed and built a recuperating shed with four units to attend to the handicapped cows or those with injuries.

The shed was built with the kind donation from Giridhar Panjwani, Vrajmohan's father who lives in Mumbai. Mahesh dasa from Gurugaon assisted with the construction and so far it is serving its purpose well. Soon we





will add some beams so we can install our hoist to attend to ambulatory patients.

Many square meters of the compound have also been improved by laying a floor of brick and sand which will keep the area dry during the upcoming monsoon.

May has been hot and we have suffered from four violent wind storms which destroyed the roofs of one residential room and storage area.

The most popular snack for the cows this summer has been watermelon which is cut up by our staff and fed to all the residents here including the calves.



Watermelon is very cooling and the cows eat the rind and seeds without complaint.

The construction on the foundation of the new cowshed has begun and should be completed by the end of July. Then our facility will be in full operation and we should be able to again attend to emergency cases.

COWS IN THE NEWS

May 12, 2011 — LONDON, ENGLAND,
UK (DAILY MAIL)

Farmers across America ditch tractors for oxen in bid to beat rising fuel prices.

Wisconsin-based traditional farming school teaches 20 farmers every weekend from all over country.

When farmers Danielle and Matt Boerson realised they could no longer afford to run their tractors, they took the bull by the horns - and ditched them for oxen. Soaring petrol prices had become so high that the couple, who run an 80-acre farm near Madison, Wisconsin, were forced to get rid of their two tractors, hay baler, plough and rotavator. So they took a course at the agricultural institute in traditional farming techniques.

'It gave me the confidence that, yes, I could do this', Danielle told the Times. 'It just required a lot of concentration and a firm voice.' Their instructor was former peace core volunteer Dick Roosenberg, 64, who learned the trade while working for the UN in West Africa.

He took the skills he had honed back to Michigan and set up Tillers International.

At first the company was aimed at helping Third World farmers harvest in the cheapest way possible. On the side, he also helped historically-themed villages. But his specialist knowledge is now enjoying a new wave of interest with farmers from Wisconsin to Alaska now joining his courses. He is already teaching up to 20 farmers every weekend.

'People want to get away from petroleum fuels where they can, because it's getting more expensive,' he said. A pair of plough-ready oxen cost \$3,000 (£1,800) - roughly the same as a second hand tractor. But younger cattle are a snip at \$150 each. They only eat grass and can work for up to 14 years.

The only downside is that they are slow and are not viable on a large farm. They are however perfect for 'small farms, with high-value garden crops', said Mr. Roosenberg.

Todd Juzwiak, 42, bought two oxen after learning how to command them with Mr. Roosenberg. He told the Times: 'We are definitely saving on fuel. Though it's not necessarily easier. Tractors don't often jump over fences.'

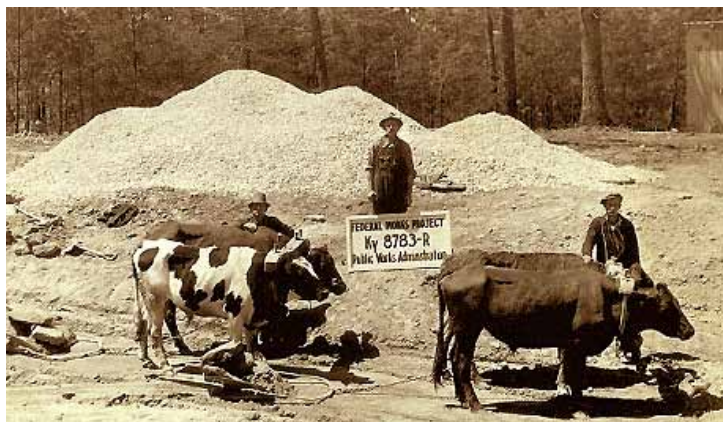


Cheap: A pair of plough-ready oxen cost \$3,000 (£1,800) - roughly the same as a second hand tractor

Best machine: Oxen only eat grass and can work for up to 14 years. They are also a handy source of fertilizer



Old times: Two teams of oxen dig ground for the foundation of a school in Whitley, Kentucky, in the early 1900s





RESCUE IN RAMAN PURI

The phone rang at 11:30 p.m. Balam Dasa's voice was full of alarm informing me of a cow laying in a puddle unable to get up surrounded by hungry dogs.

I wish we had a staff on call 24/7 but we don't. I wish we had a full-time vet but we don't. I wish we had an ambulance but we don't. I wish I could conquer sleep but I haven't yet.

They warded off the dogs and stood guard until we arrived the next morning. Turns out the patient is a one-year-old bull, dehydrated and so weak he can't hold his head up.

He's in the recovery ward being administered a drip. Maybe he will make it... maybe he won't.

I wish I had four hands, but I don't.



TWO NEW CALVES



Lilavati was rescued from the streets about twenty months ago. (See CFC News November 2009) She suffered a fractured pelvis but is able to walk by herself. She managed to get pregnant and has given birth to a healthy bull calf. There were some complications during delivery so she is weak but seems to be recuperating well.

The bull is healthy and happy.





Hansini joined us as a calf in 2007 and has always been a delight to serve. She is healthy and has a warm personality. Since she has been well-fed all her life we suspect she will be a good milker. This is her first calf, a female who is healthy and bright.



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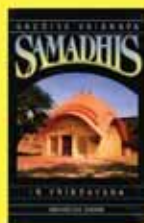
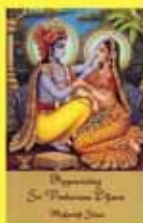
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Thank You From the Cows



The cows send their heart-felt thanks to those who assisted during May 2011

Abhirama Dasa	Iryna Lukyanenko	Radhapati Dasa
Aditi Sathye	Jagannath Rao	Radha Caran Dasa
Amit Goswami	Jason Hopkins	Rahul Sharma
Anonymous	Joaquin Jorge	Rajeev Bharol
Ariel Telford	Castillo Palacios	Ramesta Dasa
Artem Polygalin	Jorgine Jensen	Rasamandala Dasi
Carl & Stella Herzig	Kamala Melzack	Ravi Gopal
Chandricka Pasupati	Kantilal Shivilal	Rohinisuta Dasa
Christian Kastner	Karina Vorobjova	Rose Bauco
Dace Ezermale	Kitri Waterman	Sacimata Dasi
Derek Carroll	Luci Vieira Da Costa	Sanjiv Keswani
Devala Dasa	Madhava Priya Dasi	Smruta Sawardekar
Devender Kumar	Madhavi Guntupalli	Sraddha Rajkomar
Dhruvaraja & Samapriya	Mandira Mani & Sri Govinda	Sravanananda Dasa
Dina Sarana Dasa	Maria Larina	Srinivas Bhat
Dmitry Abaryshev	Mark Leigh	Srinivasan Ganesan
Doyalgovinda Dasa	Mary Louise Valerio	Svetlana Sanatina
Elena Emelenko	Mayapur, Champaka & Padma	Tracy Molina
Elena Nikiforov	Nayan Ruparelia	Venkata Venkateswaran
Emily Jiminian	Olga Plchov	Vijay Sharma
Enver Ajanovic	Pankaj Garg	Vijay Sharma
Gaurangapriya Dasi	Pannirselvam Kanagaratnam	Vikas Shah
Giridhar & Kaivalya Sundari	Podoleanu Irina	Viveck Baluja
Giridhar Panjwani	R. Meager	William Yeung
Hulya Erdem	Rachel Borsch	Yajnavalkya Dasa

May cows stay in front of me; may cows stay behind me; may cows stay on both sides of me. May I always reside in the midst of cows. —Hari Bhakti Vilas 16.252