

ISCOWP News



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Balabhadra, president of ISCOWP and ISKCON Minister for Cow Protection and Agriculture, was able to travel to cow protection programs in Europe and India due to a budget given to the ISKCON Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture by the Governing Body Commission of ISKCON. Not only was Balabhadra given the opportunity to encourage and teach others in their service to the cows, but he was also able to gain the association of dedicated souls to the cause of cow protection. This has been inspiring and encouraging for him on his path of service to the cows.

By reporting to you, our readers, about these cow protection programs, we hope to share the inspiration and encouragement with you. We hope you may feel positive with your on-going efforts to support cow protection in the face of the continual breeding and slaughtering of untold numbers of cows.

In later issues, we will share the practical knowledge we have gained. The scientific studies and research on the beneficial use of cow urine and dung in medicine, beauty, household, and agricultural products speaks volumes for the practical benefits derived from cow protection. Holistic cow care, not just milk!



Sudevi's rescued calves

Cow Protection Around the Globe

ISCOWP Profile

ISCOWP was incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania, USA, March 1990, as a non-profit educational organization. William and Irene Dove (Balabhadra das and Chayadevi dasi) are its managing directors. They are disciples of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the Founder Acharya of the International Society for Krsna Consciousness (ISKCON). Through their spiritual master's teachings, they have imbibed the practices and benefits, both spiritual and material, of lifetime cow protection. The tenets of cow protection and ox-power are universal and nonsectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality.

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ISCOWP Editors note

Details in non-editorial articles and quoted comments by those other than the editors do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the editors.

Letters

Vishwa Gou Sammelan

From: Tattva Darshan

To: Balabhadra;Basu Gosh\(\das\)
ACBSP;Hrdaya Caitanaya Das;Bhakti
Raghava Swami;manusuta Das;Krishna
Chaitanaya;Cow Protection;Devi Deva
Prabhu;Bhaggy
Sent: 5/13/2007 2:33:19 AM
Subject: Go-Sammelan aftermath

Hare Krishna Maharaja's and
Prabhu's,
Pamho. Agtsp.

I guess you are already aware of this article copied below. This is a direct result of your preaching efforts that Sri Krishna and the Cows are honored and recognized. All glories to your service.

Your servant,
Tattva Darshan Das

World Tallest Krishna Statue to be Installed at Hosanagar

BY: STAFF CORRESPONDENT
May 12, MANGALORE, INDIA
(DAJIWORLD) — The world's tallest statue of Krishna will be installed at Ramachandrapur Math at Hosanagar, said Ragaveshwar Bharati Swamiji, here on Thursday May 10. Speaking to press persons at Peraje Math branch near here he said that the Goverdhangiri's single-stone statue will be installed on the garden of the Math and it will be made of bronze.

He also said that the decision in this regard was a result of the success of the Vishwa Go Sammelana which was held at the Math recently to transform the place into a tourist spot for especially for cow worshippers.

The statue will be installed at the cost of 2 crore and the blue print has been prepared, he said.

Every one has some thing to say about the slaughtering of cows but never got an opportunity to do so, but thanks to Go Sammelana all the cow lovers have become aware of it and they have understood what they can do for the cause of protecting cows, he said.

From: Iscowp

To: Balabhadra;Basu Gosh\(\das\)
ACBSP;Hrdaya Caitanaya Das;Bhakti
Raghava Swami;manusuta Das;Krishna
Chaitanaya;Cow Protection;Devi Deva
Prabhu;Bhaggy
Sent: 5/21/2007 4:15:09 PM
Subject: RE: Go-Sammelan aftermath

Vishwa Gou Sammelan
World Cow Conference
April 21 - April 29

We received a personal invitation to attend the World Cow Conference in Hosanagar, India. After much debate, we decided to attend. An experience of a lifetime followed. On this page we write a little about the event to just keep you informed of our activities. More information will follow in additional articles.

Shree Raghaveshwara Bharathi Swamaji, the spiritual leader of Shree Ramachandrapura Math, has dedicated himself to the preservation of the indigenous breeds of Indian cows. Part of his mission is to prevent cruelty and slaughter of cows, restore love, dignity and respect to cows, conduct scientific research on different aspects of cow rearing and breeding, educate Indian farmers and general public about the benefits of rearing Indian breed cattle, promote cow centered organic agriculture, health care and therapy, and establish of cow centered industries.

At the conference there were scientists, doctors, lawyers, farmers, cow protectors, and others from around the world presenting their knowledge and understanding of

cow protection. We felt that it was important that our spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada, be represented as it has been his long term vision of cow protection that has inspired us for years to protect cows. To this end, we were able to speak publicly of Srila Prabhupada's vision before a thousand people, many more by press coverage, and present our literature to many individuals.

We want to thank all the other devotees that attended which increased Srila Prabhupada's presence. Special thanks to Govindanandana and Radha Kanta from Hungary, and Hrimati from Mayapur for their contribution of photos and assistance in making sure the devotees had a strong presence.

So much information was made available at the conference that it will take us some time to absorb fully. It was tremendously inspiring to attend such a mega event where approximately a 1/2 million people attended to just learn, share their knowledge, and honor the cow. You can view the pics and a slideshow of the event at:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/iscowp/CowConferenceApril21April29>

From: Krishna Kirti Das
To: Iscowp
Sent: 5/22/2007 10:43:46 AM
Subject: Re: Go-Sammelan aftermath

Dear Prabhu, please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you for that brief but inspiring report. Just to think that there was a big national/international conference all about cow protection, what to speak of Srila Prabhupada being represented at it, makes me proud to be a member of Vedic civilization in general and ISKCON in particular. Thank you for representing our

society and making important contributions to this valuable institution of cow protection.

Your servant,
Krishna-kirti das

From: Sesa (das) (GBC)
<Sesa@pamho.net>
To: Iscowp Inc <iscowp@earthlink.net>
Date: 5/22/2007 1:53:02 PM
Subject: Vishwa Gou Sammelan

Dear Balabhadra Prabhu:

Hare Krishna.

Thank you and congratulations for going to this conference. I am sure Srila Prabhupada is pleased by your efforts.

Sesa das

From: Tattvavit (das) ACBSP (BBT)
<Tattvavit.ACBSP@pamho.net>
To: Iscowp Inc <iscowp@earthlink.net>
Date: 5/23/2007 5:25:02 PM
Subject: RE: Go-Sammelan aftermath

Thanks for the news and the good slide-show link.

BTG does not print news, but maybe you could write an article about the event. Since you have so many photos, BTG might go for it.

From: Jim
To: iscowp@earthlik.net
Sent: 5/24/2007 12:39:50 AM
Subject: Re: April/May ISCOWP Update Letter

Dear Chayadevi,
pamho, agtSP.

Wow! This is fabulous, thank you so much. Great pictures. I can't wait to share this with my mom. Haribol.

Your aspiring servant,
Bhakta Jim

To: Iscowp Inc <iscowp@earthlink.net>
Date: 5/24/2007 10:13:37 PM
Subject: RE: Go-Sammelan aftermath

Dandavad. Srila Prabhupada kijaya. Beautiful pictures. Congratulations and thank you for going. It was a great step forward.

Your servant,
Pancharatna dasa

Comments from the iscowp blog,
iscowp.blogspot.com;

Yes, this recent conference shows the immensity of the cow protection movement, at least in India, where it is expected that there is some sentiment for the cow. Now, we want to hear that the government of India has been moved to ban all cow slaughter. The most we can hope for in this iron age is to see Western technology and Eastern wisdom combine to turn the planet into a garden for the next 9500 years. Then the downward spiral will continue unabated to the end in 427,000 years, at which time there will be a short respite, and then the next yuga cycle will begin. Let us follow the example of simple living and high thinking afforded by cow protection and jump on Lord Caitanya's sankirtana bandwagon and taste immortal nectar even in this life.

Richard Boyden (Vaninatha das) ,

Although there is so much cow slaughter in the world and in India, we can understand that there are still many persons who believe in the spiritual potency of the cow and the benefits of protecting her. It often appears that those of us who are either actively protecting cows, or supporting those who do, are very much alone. A gathering like this gives all of us much encouragement and hope.

Chayadevi



Balabhadra, president of ISCOWP and ISKCON Minister for Cow Protection and Agriculture, speaks of Srila Prabhupada's vision of cow protection in the main pandal before a crowd of a thousand people during the World Cow Conference.

Hosanagar, India,
April 21 – 29, 2007
Vishwa Gou Sammelan

Vishwa Gou Sammelan

While Balabhadra was in Vrindavan he received an invitation to attend the Sammelan (World Cow Conference). "A man came from Delhi specifically to meet me. He had come one month ago to Devamrita about a huge cow conference that his guru and temple are sponsoring in south India. Besides doing all of the things we talk about doing, they are protecting and breeding 27 of the remaining 33 Indian breeds. Devamrita said I would be here at this time and he should come and meet with me. He said his guru quotes from our articles and uses my name as a reference to

"Absolutely extraordinary speech. First time only a speech for the spiritual aspect of cows. I feel so encouraged due to your enlightenment," said Sunil Mansingha, chairman of one of the symposiums sessions, after Balabhadra gave his second speech in the lecture hall.

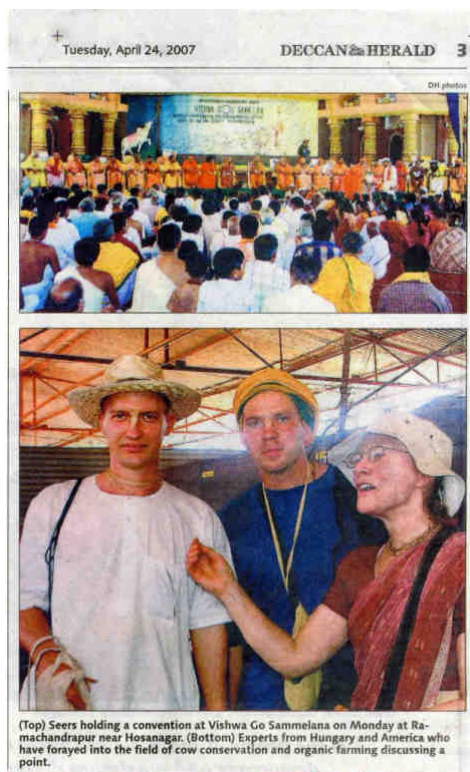


Balabhadra encouraged devotees from various ISKCON farms to attend the conference so they may absorb all the information available. Visiting the different Indian breeds at the Sammelan are Govindanandana and Radha Kanta from ISKCON Hungary and Balabhadra.

the quotes. He gave me a lot of literature and it is a nine day conference just on all aspects of cow protection. They are expecting 15-20 thousand people to attend over the nine days. Devamrita said I should present a paper at the conference and he feels that they will give all facility. He also said he will try and go for a couple of days and he feels that it would be very good if we had a strong ISKCON representation.

I'll show you the literature when I get home. The conference is April 21-29. It's not an undoable time frame and it would definitely be reaching out to a huge field of new people who are all into cow protection in a big way. I think it is worthwhile. If I go I would have to come home and then return to India in April since my ticket is unchangeable and there is much I need to attend to at home," wrote Balabhadra.

The decision was made to attend the Sammelan and it turned out to be an experience of a lifetime. We were very



Radha Kanta, Govindanandana, and Chayadevi appeared in several newspapers as, "experts who have forayed into the field of cow protection and organic farming."



Hrimati from Mayapur, India (far left in white sari), Govindanandana and Radha Kanta from Hungary, and Balabhadra inspect an ox cart in the exhibition hall. The cart, made to be pulled by two oxen, is a ground driven automobile generator storing electricity in an automobile battery.

impressed with the gracious hosting offered to all attendees and the well organized programs. About a half a million people attended the nine day conference. It was amazing to see such a large turnout for an event celebrating the cow.

Shree Raghaveshwara Bharathi Swamaji, the guru of Shree Ramachandrapura Math has dedicated himself to the preservation of the indigenous breeds of Indian cows. Not only has he inspired the organization of the Sammelan but many other social, educational, cultural, and environmental programs, many based on protection of the cow. One example is their Goubank that gives Indian cattle to people on the condition that they will not sell them, cross breed, or adopt artificial insemination. The bank accepts cattle as deposit when farmers find it difficult to maintain them. Not only does this help the rural farmer but also helps Swamaji achieve one of his objectives, which is to educate the Indian farmers and general public about the benefits of rearing Indian cows.

At the conference, there were scientists, doctors, lawyers, farmers, cow protectors, activists, and others from around the world presenting their knowledge and understanding of cow protection. Some of the topics: scientific research, analysis, and utilities of cow urine; medicinal values of Indian breed cattle related products; role of indigenous cattle in organic agriculture; relevance of bullock draught power in Indian agriculture and rural transport; and opportunities for cow related products as an industry. As you can understand, there was much information to be gleaned from the conference as well as contacts to be made with knowledgeable experts who could help the devotees establish cow protection.

(Continued on page 16)

Cow Protection Around the Globe



The Holstein on the far left was so sick that Wenda slept with him in the barn for six months. He is now quite healthy and as sweet an ox as can be. All of Wenda's thirty-four cows and oxen are rescued.

The governing Body Commission of ISKCON gave Balabhadra a budget this year to assist his services in improving, inspiring, and establishing cow protection programs within the devotee community. Through the years, we have tried to do this through e-mail, literature, and legislature. We have come to realize that often the personal interaction helps greatly to touch the heart and move people to the action of improved awareness and care of cows. Thus, this year Balabhadra traveled to various cow protection programs. The following is a report of those various projects, much of it taken from his letters home during his travels.

England, January 31, 2007

The first stop was Wenda Shehata's project in East Sussex England. We had contacted Syamasundara prabhu from the Bhaktivedanta Manor to accompany Balabhadra to Wenda's farm. Syamasundara is in charge of the Manor's goshalla and the ISKCON Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture representative for Western Europe. It was thought by all that it would be an interesting and informative visit.

Another cow protector, Labangalatika in Raigad, India, wrote us about Wenda. That's how we found out about her and decided to visit her.

"Do you know about Wenda in England who has a cow rescue place and thirty-four cows and bulls? When she was a small girl she freed some calves meant for slaughter and had to hide all night in the bushes to avoid being caught but got severely beaten anyway. She vowed when she grew up to have a place where nothing would ever be killed. When she was 35 she did this with help of Matthew whom she met after her son was grown up and on his own.

They have this place for thirteen years now and she does Agnihotra (spiritual ceremony) every morning and makes five hundred cow dung cakes a day. The two of them do all their own work.



Oxen are now employed in spiritual processions in Mayapur

She is a devotee, and uses homeopathy in treatment of cows. She also was an activist to stop the veal trucks at Dover. She came to India this year to research how to use gobar and mutri and give some talks. She went to Kurma Rupa too and she has a book contract in Europe," wrote Labangalatika.

When visiting Wenda's project, Balabhadra felt that anyone visiting the project could learn from the exemplary, loving, and efficient cow care. Soon after visiting, Balabhadra received this letter from Wenda:

"It was such an honor to meet you today. Thank you very much for taking the time to visit the cows and us and sharing with us your knowledge and thoughts. I felt so inspired listening to you and being in your company," wrote Wenda.

Dear Balabhadra Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

It was such an honor to meet you today. Thank you very much for taking the time to visit the cows and us and sharing with us your knowledge and thoughts. I felt so inspired listening to you and being in your company. I sincerely hope that it gave you pleasure to associate with the cows. To us they are so very special both as individuals and as a herd.

Thank you also for the book, the newsletters and the photograph of Krsna and Balarama. It was most kind of you. I have attached a photograph of Vrindavana Isvari, which I would like to share with you. It was taken at the time she was beginning to recover some from her ordeal and life, we believe, was becoming less painful for her to endure.

Please think of this humble place as your own, and visit whenever you wish.

I take the dust from your feet on my head.

Yours in service of the cows, Wenda

During his stay in England, Balabhadra visited the Bhaktivedanta Manor Goshalla. This goshalla has for many years engaged the oxen in service. Engaging the oxen is taking cow protection full circle. In commercial operations, the male cow is considered useless. He does not produce milk and tractors are used for agricultural work.

Therefore, he has no purpose and is only good for meat and the profit the sale of meat brings. When the male is engaged in useful service, he becomes economically viable. Thus, there is an argument to not kill him.

how many bulls are working. The agriculture department will take 6 bulls and start working them. The Mayapur goshalla will use 6 bulls for agriculture and transport, and Hrimati's bullock man will take 2 for 2 months and train them and return them trained. They have now 9 bulls trained and doing service, so if all goes according to plan, 21 will be trained and working. The agriculture department showed up bright and early the next morning after the meeting to check out all of the oxen.



Ox cart rides at the Bhaktivedanta Manor

The Manor is about to sublet 34 acres, located nearby, to be used for hay and pasture. This will allow them to grow all their own hay. "We are planning to make hay on all this land by using the oxen for cutting, tedding, rowing, and transporting. This is exciting and at the same time gives us some anxiety for the step up," wrote Syamasundara.

Mayapur, February 3, 2007

The next stop was the Mayapur cow project in India.

"Yesterday we had a 3 hour goshalla meeting. The bottom line depends on

Hrimati was there and said they were fired up about picking out their 6 oxen. Hrimati is a member of the Mayapur Animal Protection Committee. She speaks fluent Bengali and is not afraid to get involved. During the meeting, I was able to push through a lot of her proposals and projects that need done at the goshalla.

This afternoon I gave a seminar at 4 pm which was arranged by Advaita Chandra and announced during the morning announcements after Mangal Arati. I did the slide show

and there were many questions and answers exchanged.

When I first arrived in Mayapur, I went to the goshalla to check on the cows. I noticed Mahadev wasn't looking very happy. I spoke with Gour Hari who is in charge of the daily care of the cows. He told me that Mahadev had not eaten or passed stool for 4 days. I asked if Mahadev was chewing his cud and the answer given was no.

Thinking that Mahadev's stomach bacteria had gone sour, we borrowed

urinary tract to drain the bladder. They recommended three vets from Calcutta who are specialists in this area. These vets were contacted and agreed to come the next morning on the train.

The operation was performed at the goshalla. Because of the swelling at the neck of the bladder the catheter was not able to be inserted to drain the urine. After the operation, a course of antibiotics were prescribed to relieve the swelling. Because Mahadev was not eating or drinking,

the devotees in Mayapur," wrote Balabhadra.

Tirupati, February 14, 2007

Tirupati has 80 cows and oxen. They are very nicely taken care of. The devotees taking care of the cows are conscientious and thoughtful.

A new partial of land has been given for the expansion of the goshalla. Construction of the new cowshed, workers quarters, water trough, and fencing was in progress while I was there. Thirty-five cows and oxen will be moved to this facility. There was a wall surrounding the facility and in front of the wall, going all the way to the road, will be a grazing exercise area with a very big water tank. The cows will be able to get exercise and have some grass to munch on with clean fresh water available whenever they are thirsty.

The cows are taken care of just like the Deities in the temple, with love and devotion.

Hyderabad, February 17, 2007

The next stop was Hyderabad to visit Prasad and his family. He is secretary of Godhan Development Society in Hyderabad. He found out about us from our web page and came to visit the ISCOWP farm on July 21, 2005.

The Godhan Society is connected with many persons in India and the United States who are supportive of cow protection. The purpose of the organization is to promote cow-based rural development. Promoting cow dung and urine medicines is one of their activities.

"One day we went to the goshalla from where they are getting urine and dung for their products. They have 1000 animals and the care is so-so. The headman was very receptive to increase the standard as there is a nice little KRSNA temple at the goshalla. So, I just talked about



Mahadev was the breeding bull in Mayapur goshalla and greatly loved by the devotees.

some cud from one of the cows and introduced it into Mahadev's stomach to introduce new bacteria. However, Mahadev was still not eating. We also noticed that Mahadev was not passing urine and drinking very little water. At this time, 3 vets were called from Krsna Nagar. They determined that Mahadev was suffering from a urinary tract infection and that his bladder was holding 15 to 20 liters of urine and was greatly enlarged. They said this was a very dangerous situation and they advised Mahadev undergo an operation to insert a catheter into his

he was being administered intravenous fluids as well as several homeopathic medications.

Several days passed and Mahadev was not eating, drinking, or passing urine or stool. He finally became too weak, sat down, and was not able to get up. For approximately 5 to 6 days, he was not able to rise and finally left his body. During his whole sickness, he was listening to Srila Prabhupada chant the Hare Krsna Mantra. Mahadev was a great and gentle soul. He was loved by all



Top: Sambu is one of the injured oxen at Care for Cows founded by Kurma Rupa. He has a dislocated hip. Read article for more information on how Sambu is cared for.

Bottom: Tirupati cows resting underneath a roof insulated from the heat with rice straw.



Krsna and how He took care of His cows. He agreed to improve and I need to write things down and give them to Prasad," wrote Balabhadra.

Vrndavan, February 21, 2007

ISKCON Vrndavan Goshalla has recently purchased 16 cows of the Sahiwal breed. These 16 cows will be utilized to develop a pure bloodline of the Sahiwal breed. Along with the small herd of Thapakar already present, these two groups will be the main breeding stock. The western breeds and mixed breeds will no longer be bred.

In this way urine and dung can be used for medicine and the resulting bull calves will be able to be trained and utilized in service as they will be heat tolerant. It is a Vedic belief that only the urine and dung from Indian breeds have strong potency, because they have the hump in which there are nerves that absorb energy from the sun. An emphasis will be placed on training the bulls and engaging them in service. They have a web site selling cow urine medicines made only from their indigenous Indian breeds, www.goshala.com.

The Care for Cow program in Vrndavan is primarily concerned with taking care of neglected and injured cows from the streets of Vrndavan. As many of you know, cows in India are often left to roam the streets because their owners can not afford to feed them. Therefore, many cows become injured due to the street traffic.

Sambu, one such injured ox, has a dislocated hip and is not able to rise to his feet. Sambu has been placed on a number of cushions to help minimize bedsores. Because he is an ox, he passes urine from the middle of his body. The workers have made a channel so that when he passes urine it travels down the channel and away from his body. In this way, his urine does not pool underneath him and

create problems with his skin. He is given his medicines and cleaned at least twice a day. He does have a couple of bedsores that are attended to on a regular basis.

Every morning, about 9 AM, Syama Gauri arrives for the morning medical procedures and a look over of all the animals. After a quick check of the

There have been many cows brought to Care for Cows who were very badly abused and also those who were injured by vehicles. But, through the loving care of Kurma Rupa, Syama Gauri and the staff at Care for Cows, many of these animals have been healed and are living peacefully under the shelter of Care for Cows.



Sudevi and helper taking care of a wounded leg

herd, she starts preparing to deal with the injured and sick animals. The small ones who also can not rise up on their feet are cleaned and moved to another location in the yard to get some fresh morning sun, their morning breakfast, and medical attention.

Syama Gauri knows all of the cows by name and speaks to them in a very loving and caring fashion, just like they were her own children. Because many of the animals are injured, there is a sense of being in a hospital. However, the atmosphere is not one of despair. The mood is very upbeat and caring, with a positive emphasis on healing.

Care for Cows now has access to a facility across the Yamuna where some of their oxen have been moved. We have recently heard that the animals are taken to swim in the Yamuna everyday, as the weather now is very hot.

I kept hearing about Sudevi and her cow protection program in Radha Kund, which is located about 20 miles from Vrindavan, India. I kept asking different people who she was and how I could find her. When I visited Kurma Rupa's Care for Cows in Vrindavan, I asked him about Sudevi. He said he knew her and would take me to her place.

Sudevi is doing a similar program as Care for Cows. Injured cows are brought to her for healing, as well as cows rescued from the streets so that the nighttime trucks of butchers don't pick them up and take them for slaughter. Her main area of operation is Radha Kund and Govardhan, and her shelter is located in Radha Kund.

When I was there in the end of February, she was taking care of 100 cows, oxen, and calves. She and the hired staff cares very well for her animals. Kurma Rupa's vet, Dr. Lavania, also visits Sudevi's shelter several times a month and gives her free medical aid for her animals.

Sudevi is of German descent. In her youth, her father was a German Ambassador to India. As a young girl, Sudevi very much liked India, so when her parents were recalled to Germany she stayed on in India. She has been in India for 25 years, and for the last ten years, she has been caring for cows in Radha Kund.



Two of Sudevi's calves

Sudevi's shelter is run with love for the cows but is seriously under financed. She does not have a computer and relies on donations to keep her cow care project funded. Anyone wishing to place donations to her project can do so through

ISCOWP and we will make sure she receives them. It is a very worthy project to help.

Hungary, March 1, 2007

The second driving force is Gaura Sakti Prabhu who is a very deep thinker and planner. Over the last fourteen years the community has grown from four devotees to close to

Prabhu and each department head and department staff is always thinking and planning how to reach the community's goal of depending on Guru and Krsna based on the



"There will be a Cow Protection Conference at the Krsna Valley community next year. It will mainly focus on the development of the European countries' cow protection and farm projects and will be in March, around Gaura Purnima (Lord Chaitanya's birthday). Stay tuned," said Balabhadra.

Gaura Sakti showing Syamasundar, from Bhaktivedanta Manor in England, some of the products from the farm.

Visiting Krsna Valley (New Vraja Dhama) in Hungary has been a desire of mine for many years. Finally the desire manifested in a visit to Krsna Valley in Early March 2007.

The 33 cows and oxen are treated with love and devotion and are one of the focal points of the community. The oxen are being engaged in many different services daily so that their usefulness is appreciated and respected by the devotees. The barns are clean and hay and other feed for the cows are grown and offered with love and devotion

The cow program in Krsna Valley is very carefully thought-out in regards to the growth of herd in relationship to the carrying capacity of the land, available labor force, and long term (15-20 year) planning.

The driving force behind Krsna Valley is two fold, spiritual and practical. The first driving force is Sivarama Maharaja who is pushing the community to actually live a lifestyle depending on the cow/human/land relationship with all of the fruits of labor being offered with love and devotion to Lord Krsna.

one hundred and fifty devotees who mostly live directly on the farm. Some live in the nearby village.

A strong Krsna Conscious presence and practical, grounded, and well thought out planning are evident at every turn. There is a board of directors assisting Gaura Sakti

cow/human/land relationship. Spiritual purity, and careful, thoughtful planning are proving to be key ingredients in the successful development of the Krsna Valley community. A few programs that are a product of this development:



Delivering hay to the barn by ox cart.

Currently the community is totally self-sufficient five months of the year,

The spiritual program, held in the morning, is daily attended by more than one hundred devotees,

The grounds are clean and well maintained,

There is a 1 1/2 hector garden including vegetables and flowers,

There is need of five hundred cubic meters of wood for heating. One hundred is produced at Krsna Valley,

There are well over six hundred fruit trees growing at Krsna Valley providing 16—18 varieties of fruit,

Hundreds of trees have been planted. The result is that many species of birds have been brought back into the local eco system. These species have not been seen in the area for decades,

There is a one hundred and seventy-five colony apiary producing first class honey bearing the Krsna Valley label. This honey is becoming famous throughout Hungary,

A first class art department has created one of the most beautiful temples in all of ISKCON,

There is a first class restaurant,

The community is currently hosting 25,000 visitors a year with many returning visitors bringing friends and family,

The cow protection and maintenance of the cows and oxen is first class and carefully thought-out,

Their school program is well thought-out and developing nicely,

There is continual development of cottage industry based on agricultural products.

There will be a Cow Protection Conference at the Krsna Valley community next year. It will mainly focus on the development of the European countries' cow protection and farm projects and will be in March, around Gaura Purnima (Lord Chaitanya's birthday). Stay tuned for the announcement of actual time.



Hauling manure from the barn to one of the fields

I look forward with great anticipation to again visit the Krsna Valley community so that I may have their association and learn more from them. Anybody traveling close to Hungary please make Krsna Valley a part of your travel plans. Krsna Valley is a must go to destination for any traveling Vaisnava," wrote Balabhadra.

Czech Republic, March 6, 2007

The farm temple in Czech Republic is a very old farm homestead. When the devotees received the property it was in very bad disrepair. The temple

building itself has recently been refurbished and serves as an asram for fifteen devotees as well as serving as a temple for beautiful Gour Nitai deities. There are thirteen cows and oxen and two horses. Four cows are milking including one cow by the name of Rasa Lila who has been milking for seven years without having had a calf.

On the property, there is an old grain mill. The devotees support themselves by grinding grain. They have a cookie, and flour business, and a trail mix type of product called chidwah. They have 62 agricultural acres of land. On this land they grow all the food for the cows, plus the grain and peas for their products.

The devotees are very humble, austere, and work very hard to maintain their farm and temple. Their cows are treated with great love and devotion. The cows know they are being taken care of nicely, therefore they have no fear.

Raigad, India, April 27, 2007

We visited the Govardhan Charitable Trust after attending the Vishwa Gou Sammelan. Labangalatika and her husband Prakash, the founders of the Govardhan Trust, are a continual inspiration. Labangalatika is approaching seventy years and her husband is in his seventies, yet they are continually active in caring for the 52 cows and oxen in their herd. They do have hired help, but like in all areas of the world, "Good help is hard to find," says Labangalatika.

The result is that often much of the work has to be covered by them. Regardless of hired help or not, Labangalatika is up early to check on all her cows and administer homeopathic medicines to those who need medical attention. She has had great success with this form of medicine curing many ills for which allopathic medicine has no cure. They also feed the village cows every day out side their gate. Usually fifty cows



Two of the beautiful cows at Govardhan Charitable Trust in Raigad, India.

come every day. Many of them are quite thin and depend greatly on this mercy. Often, they will take in an injured cow from the village and cure it with homeopathic medicine.

productive days. Due to previous management and the debt they incurred, activity has slowed. However, the farm has been maintained in working order.

Labangalatika is up early to check on all her cows and administer homeopathic medicines to those who need medical attention. She has had great success with this form of medicine curing many ills for which allopathic medicine has no cure.



Shanti is seventeen years old and lives at the ISKCON farm in Germany.

They have nicely organized their project into the Govardhan Charitable Trust. Funds are put aside for the care of the cows and the future of the project. By remaining actively engaged in cow protection, they are both an inspiration to all of us whose bodies are growing old.

Germany, May 1, 2007

Dina Sharnam, the GBC of Germany, asked Balabhadra to come and analyze the possibility of expanding the cow and agriculture program at the ISKCON Nrsingha Ksetra farm in Bavaria, Germany. This farm has been in existence for twenty-five years and has seen some very active and

One hundred and fifty fruit trees grace the property from which the devotees make jam and preserves. There are twelve to twenty bee hives. Three green houses contain Tulsi Devi (sacred plant) and assorted vegetables. There is facility for twenty-seven cows and oxen with pasturing land. Presently one cow and 2 horses are kept on the farm's seventeen hectors of which sixteen is workable. Shanti, the one cow remaining on the farm, is 17 years old and in very good shape. She is friendly and well cared for.

Indian Cow Breeds

For many years within India, the western breed of cow has been introduced into the cow population with the hope of increasing milk yield for more profit. The result has been disastrous. The western breeds have great difficulty adjusting to the Indian climate and therefore disease has been common amongst them and in the resulting crossbreeds. After experiencing the result of western breed introduction, there has recently developed, amongst some Indians, a revived respect for the indigenous breeds of India.

Unfortunately some of the indigenous breeds have become extinct within India with thirty-three breeds remaining, as against a diverse range of 70 breeds a few years ago. Although these breeds have not been valued highly in India for many years, the Indian cow has attracted attention in other countries. "The superior value of the Indian native breeds has attracted worldwide attention and people from all continents have carried these breeds to their native lands and successfully re-bred them there. Brazilians have raised hundreds of thousands of cows from the 'Ongole' breed Andhra Pradesh and similarly, New Zealanders have redeveloped the Indian 'Vechur' breed, and Americans and Australians have raised a whole new generation of cows called 'Brahman' from an Indian breed." www.vishwagou.org

One of the most distinctive characteristics of the Indian breeds is their back hump. It is believed that within the hump are nerves, often referred to as the "solar pulse," which draws the energy from the sun. Therefore, their urine, dung, and milk are more potent than that of the western breeds. It is claimed that the milk from an Indian cow has less cholesterol than that from a western breed. "Indian cow's Panchagavya (milk, ghee, curds, urine, and dung) has many medicinal properties which can cure ailments like cancer, arthritis, diabetes, stomach disorders and skin disease." Shree Ramachandrapura Math booklet

There is much proof that medicines made from the urine and dung of the Indian breeds are effective. Hospitals and clinics all over India utilizing this medicine can give testimony to cures achieved with many patients. Plus, scientific studies and surveys have been done that show positive results from using this form of medicine. Some of these scientific studies were presented at the Vishwa Gou Sammelan that we attended (page 4).

"In spite of all their value and virtues, and ironically enough, Indian cow breeds are still being criminally



Dangi



Gir



Nimari

ignored inside their own native land, owing to lack of awareness on the one hand and craze for hybrid and foreign breeds on the other. Little realizing the purity and distinctive nature of each individual breed, the local people are indiscriminately intermixing the breeds, and much to the horror of all right-thinking citizens, they are allowing cow slaughter at an alarming rate of 20 cows per minute. While only 236 slaughterhouses existed in India prior to independence, today there are 36,000 such killing fields, leading to the virtual extinction of several irreplaceable breeds."

www.vishwagou.org

Characteristics of Cows Shown in this Article

Dangi:

Type: Medium to heavy size, known for excellent working qualities in heavy rainfall areas

Color: White with red or black spots over the body, shiny coat

Muzzles: Large

Horns: Short and thick

Ears: Small

Hooves: Black, flint like, very hard

Skin: Exudes oil secretion which protects from rain

Gir:

Type: Milch breed known for its tolerance to stress condition, exported to USA, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela.

Best milking breed of India

Color: Red, Speckled red

Head: Broad convex forehead

Eyes: Partially closed appearance

Ears: Long, pendulous, folded like a leaf, notch at the tip, and again upward. Half moon appearance

Muzzle: Broad

Sheath: Large and pendulous

Tail: Long

Skin: Loose and pliable

Hooves: Medium size and black

The cow pictures were taken during our visit to the Vishwa Gou Sammelan.



Amrit Mahal



Rathi



Kankrej

Nimari:

Type: Draught, breed originated from Gir and Killari

Color: Red with large patches of white

Horns: Emerge in backward direction, occasionally copper colored, long

Muzzle: Copper, or red colored

Tail: Long, black switch

Amrit Mahal:

Type: Draught, known for its power and endurance, developed by the rulers of Mysore State between 1572 – 1636 AD mainly for transportation of army equipment
Skin: Generally grey, white, and black is also seen. Cows are white, bulls dark

Head: Long and tapering, forehead is narrow, furrow in the middle

Horns: Long, emerge from the top of poll, close together in a backward and upward direction

Ears: Small, horizontal

Hooves: Hard, close together

Rathi:

Type: Milch breed originating from Sahiwal, Sindhi, Tharparkar breeds, Sahiwal blood is more seen

Color: Usually brown with white patches, completely brown or black coat with white patches also seen.

Muzzle: Black

Eyelids: Brown or black

Horns: Short

Ears: Moderate

Dewlap: Voluminous

Tail: Long, switch is black

Kankrej:

Type: Dual, heavy breed, one of the oldest breeds in India

Color: Grey or steel black, males have black hind, fore quarters, and hump

Face: Short, nose is slightly upturned

Ears: Long, pendulous

Horns: Strong, long, lyre shaped

Dewlap and Sheath: Pendulous

Gait: Head is held high, smooth

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Vishwa Gou Sammelan (World Cow Conference)

(Continued from page 5)

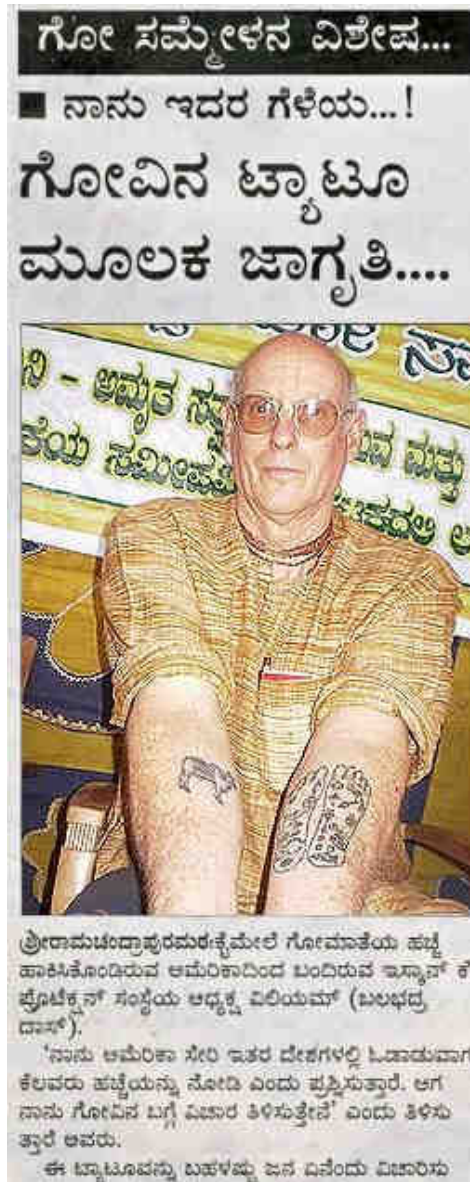
Vishwa Gou Sammelan

Approximately 200 acres housed the Sammelan in which there were not only scholarly presentations on many aspects of cows, but also a display of all the 27 Indian breeds that they are protecting and breeding in an effort to preserve the Indian cattle. Besides this were displays of; ox powered machines and equipment, household items run on cow urine, cow urine and

"Cow Protection, ISKCON fully behind," translated title quote of one newspaper article. Most of the articles were in the local Karnataka language. If anyone would like to donate their translating time, please contact us. We would love to know what many of the articles say.

...dung medicinal and beauty products, art work about the cow in the form of paintings and sculpture, plays, music, and other forms of entertainment centered on the cow.

We found most fascinating the many different breeds of cows with different body sizes, coloring, and markings. They were all friendly which gave



testimony to the loving care they were receiving. Cow urine medicines, beauty products, and household cleaning products were on display and for sale. Such a wonderful testimony to the usefulness of the cow!

Balabhadra gave two lectures, one before a thousand people, and one that received acclaim. He emphasized Srila Prabhupada's vision of cow protection.

"Absolutely extraordinary speech. First time only a speech for the spiritual aspect of cows. I feel so encouraged due to your enlightenment," said Sunil Mansingha, chairman of one of the symposium sessions. Later, Balabhadra received an award for his contribution.

He and the devotees accompanying him also received much press coverage like the one opposite of Balabhadra showing his tattoos of an Indian cow and Lord Nityananda's lotus feet. This was published in several newspapers. We even had persons coming up to us reporting they had seen us on TV and asking for our autograph! We were pleased to be representing Srila Prabhupada and Lord Krsna.