“Full Protection”

Two Bulls Rescued

Tribute to Radha
Dear Friends,

Śrīla Prabhupāda explains how transmigration of the soul and the process of evolution relate to the killing of a living being:

All living entities have to fulfill a certain duration for being encaged in a particular type of material body. They have to finish the duration allotted a particular body before being promoted or evolved to another body. Killing an animal or any other living being simply places an impediment in the way of his completing his term of imprisonment in a certain body. One should therefore not kill bodies for one’s sense gratification, for this will implicate one in sinful activity.

He further illustrates:

Just like you are living in an apartment according to your position, but if I forcibly I ask you, “Go out of this apartment,” then I will be punishable by the law. I have no right to get you out from that apartment. Similarly, every living entity by the laws of nature, all laws of nature, is imprisoned or allowed under certain apartment, either in the body of a tree or a human being or demigod or cat or dog. These are all ordained. So you cannot get out the living entity, soul, by force from that body. Then you will be punishable.

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

The CFC Staff

Care for Cows is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, and Switzerland.
Vaku, as he was affectionately referred to by his main carer Urvasi devi dasi, touched the lives of many at New Govardhana. He was not a particularly affectionate guy and his only real interest in humans seemed to be when they carried the yellow bucket with his food in it. He wasn’t so much interested in being brushed or fussed over either. However, during the time he prepared for death, Vaku allowed well-wishers to tend to all his bodily needs (even pats and brushing).

Due to arthritis he was no longer able to stand by himself. For a number of years he had been referred to as “Sitting Bull” as he would sit on his haunches as shown in the photograph above.

For the first week or so he moved a couple of hundred meters across the paddock simply by shifting from side to side on his hind quarters. This was actually a god-send as it meant that he didn’t develop as many pressure sores as would have normally been the case had he not been able to move at all. Due to the diligent care he received he only suffered minor abrasions.

The natural insect repellent
supplied by Govardhana Seva dasa and Ekadasi dasi greatly assited with the management of these wounds.

He continued to enjoy eating until the last few days. He had always been the first to recognise Urvasi’s car when she drove through the paddocks to feed the geriatric herd each day, and made a bee-line straight for the food. Even though it was very difficult for him, he had always managed to struggle to his feet each every day.

From day one of this pastime Urvasi made sure that Srila
Prabhupada’s chanting could be heard by him 24/7, as well as reading to him each afternoon.

Gandharvika devi dasi from Melbourne sat with him for many hours most days singing bhajans and reading from Bhagavad-gita. There was also a small team of dedicated WWOOFers such as Christa and Robbyn from Holland, Gordon from Macedonia, and locals Kip, Peter, Crystal, Del, Baga1 and Heidi who all came outside of their normal volunteer work hours to serve Vaku. Special thanks to Bhaktin Sharne of Port Macquarie who travelled here twice to assist and encourage us.

Thanks also go to Padma devi dasi for bringing some of Vaku’s favourite veggie scraps and reading to him, and to Gita Govinda devi dasi who assisted in so many ways, and stayed with Urvasi and Sharne for the all night vigils the two days leading up to his death.

These final days for him were very difficult. He was no longer able to sit and gave up eating and drinking, save a little of Padma’s Cow Bliss Balls, and medicine mixed with molasses and a little water. He seemed to relished the reading and chanting and especially in the last few days became agitated if the reading stopped.

On Tuesday, December 4 at 8.00 am he breathed two calm, silent breaths and was gone. The following day a burial took place and a stone painted by Christa was placed on the grave after a short ceremony with kirtana and offerings.

Iksvaku’s passing is a lesson to us all, highlighting the process of cow protection right up until the last breath.

Srila Prabhupada tells us in Krishna Book, “It is also significant that Vasudeva inquired about the welfare of Nanda Maharaja’s animals. The animals, and especially
the cows, were protected exactly in the manner of one’s children. Vasudeva was a ksatriya, and Nanda Maharaja was a vaisya. It is the duty of the ksatriya to give protection to the citizens of mankind, and it is the duty of the vaisyas to give protection to the cows. The cows are as important as the citizens. Just as the human citizens should be given all kinds of protection, so the cows also should be given full protection.”
Ganga Devi Dasi from Mumbai found the above bull-calf in the street suffering from leg injuries. She diligently tried to find a *goshalla* in Gujarat to would take him in but after several refusals, she decided to drive him all the way to Care for Cows -- a thirty-three-hour journey by car. Upon arrival the calf could hardly stand. A vet had told Ganga Devi that it may be three-weeks to a month before he would be able to walk again. With Ganga Devi’s dedicated encouragement and the help of our staff the calf got up and limped around after only three days and is well on his way to recovery. He’s named Gopal.
The above bull-calf was brought to us by Dr. Kesava who found him injured on the side of the highway cold and starving. He has two injured legs and several abrasions. He can’t get up by himself but once lifted can stand and walk. His recovery is slow. He has been named Nandu.
Gopal Bhatta dasa (left) and family have been active supporters of Care for Cows for several years. Last year he spotted a black bull in Vrindavan with an injured front leg and arranged for his maintenance (see left and CFC News February 2012). This month they had a reunion and both looked handsome and fit.

His elegant daughter Saraswati (below) is pictured with Lajjasila, a cow she adopted in December 2006. Both have blossomed beautifully.
Here Gopal Bhatta Prabhu, Sawaswati and Ekanath are shown with Ekadasi who was born here in 2006. Saraswati was present in Vrindavan two months after Ekadasi was born and sponsored her for two years. Below is a photo of her with Ekadasi taken in 2006.

This was Ekanath’s first visit to Vrindavan and he took a liking to the cows immediately. It happened that the day Gopal Bhatta and family visited a calf was born to Sadhvi, her first, and Ekanath decided to sponsor her maintenance for a year. In this way a family living in Los Angeles does their part in protecting Sri Krsna’s favorite animals, the cows.
Now order books & lecture CDs by
H. H. Mahanidhi Swami Maharaj

www.mnsbooks.com
lectures | books | articles

Key Highlights: Most recent and most popular 'complete lecture seminars' also available

- Tattva Darshan
- Caitanya Caritamrta
- Art of Chanting
- Bhakti Rasamrita Sindhu
- Vraja Parikrama
- Bhajan Rahasya & many more

www.mnsbooks.com is the Official Website of H.H. Mahanidhi Swami Maharaj
This winter was one of the coldest we have seen in thirty years. For almost three weeks we got no sunshine. On December 31st Sadhvi, who is pictured on the cover, gave birth to her first calf.
calf, a bull sporting a handsome, thick winter coat. He has been named Ekanath after his sponsor depicted left.
Above: Radha arrived with head and leg injuries.

Right: Here she is shown sitting with a bull calf directly behind her followed by her twin female calves.
Radha (left) was one of the six Nilgai or Asian antelopes (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) we have been hosting for several years. She was injured by a car on the Delhi-Agra highway and brought to us in November 2008 (left below). She was the only adult Nilgai we have worked with that was able to adapt to living in captivity.

She gave birth to three calves while with us and demonstrated exceptional maternal qualities. Above right she is shown nursing three calves at once, two were not her own. Direct right she is shown with her twin female calves who are still with us.

The cause of her death is not clearly known. She stopped eating, curled-up and left.
The cows send their heart-felt thanks to those who assisted during December 2012

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