The Last Offering

New Arrivals

Cows in Guatemala
Dear Friends,

The month of June I spent travelling to various places in the USA, Mexico and Central America. It was the first time I had been away from our herd in three years. I was weary from all the demands 300 cows and 200 sponsors impose on me. (Apologies to all those I snapped at while trying to juggle the many balls in the air.) Was I happy to get a break? Yes. Was I happy to get away from the cows? No. It’s not them that stress me; it is the constant unexpected interruptions that foil my hope to mindfully accomplish one task at a time...

I visited impressive pilgrimage sites of the Aztecs, Mayas and of their Catholic conquistadores in Mexico and Guatemala. The evidence of great human effort, faith, organization and commitment is inspiring. Wherever I went people asked, “How are the cows in Vrindavan? Are the butchers still harassing them? Has the monsoon come yet to relieve them from the scorching sun? I want to do more to serve them...”

Cows offer a nice example of udipana vibhava. They stimulate remembrance of Vrindavan; of devotional service to Radha and Krsna... so it is nice to be among them again.

What I missed the most is their unique fragrance. It is a soothing perfume, an antidote for anxiety.

“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.”

Kurma Rupa Dasa

Care for Cows in Vrindavan is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, Holland and Switzerland.
Last month we reported the rescue of an old abandoned dairy cow who was suffering from foot and mouth disease (FMD). Though she was cured in a few days, she was still unable to get up. We gave her glucose drips to boost her energy but still she showed no signs of improvement. It became obvious that the time had come for her to move on.

While she quietly lay on her sand bed she surprised us by giving birth to a premature female calf. The old cow was unable to stand to feed the calf so we arranged for two surrogate mothers to nurse her.

The calf was small yet aggressive enough to demand milk and in two days it was obvious she was going to survive. Yet the old cow’s health continued deteriorating and it looked certain that the calf was her last offering.

She departed peacefully and her calf Sudevi was happily adopted by Karuna and Tungavidya in the cowshed, and by Sudevi Dasi, a gosevak from Malaysia.
Cows in Guatemala

While visiting Guatemala this month we were happy to find the lush pasturing grounds filled with a variety of Indian breeds of cows.
Nature provides more than ample food and water for the many thousands of kine grazing in the verdant hills and fields of this beautiful country. It is the home of many ancient Mayan ruins which were abandoned centuries before the Spanish arrived to conquer the country. A large portion of Guatemala is mountainous and hosts over three hundred volcanoes, several of them active.

Many hundreds of square miles of the rain forests have been
The rain forests of Guatemala are teeming with copious flora and fauna as evidenced by the road signs flanking the carriageways. Many giant Ceiba trees decorate the enchanting forests.
cleared to make pasturing grounds for the cows. While the cows in the fields are healthy, they are unfortunately bred for meat and leather and are often seen packed in trucks enroute for slaughter. Consequently are not at all friendly like their Indian counterparts.
This month Yudhisthira Gaur brought us this elderly street bull from the Kosi area. He has suffered an injury to his knee which has become inflamed and full of pus.

The battered bull has obviously been fending for himself all his life and has many scars which testify to the many disputes he has had with rivals and moving vehicles.

His leg was swollen to the degree he could barely use it and at first he was not at all anxious to let us attend to it.

After watering and feeding him he understood we wanted to help and laid down and extended his leg for us to treat. Perhaps a kilo of thick pus was removed and we are cleaning the wound daily and seeing much improvement.

He has been named Babaji and is one of the seven residents adopted recently by Anil S. Parekh and family of Mumbai.
Krsna-Lila born to Ekadasi
Ekadasi was born on 11/16/06. She drank all of her mother’s milk for two years and reached puberty early. She enticed Syamalia to impregnate her and the result is Krsna-Lila born on 06/21/09. He has been adopted by Anandamayi Dasi (Canada) in honor of her newly born daughter named Radha-Lila (right). May the cows bless her.
May 7, 2009 NEW YORK (AP) — A condemned cow made a desperate bid for freedom yesterday, bolting from a slaughterhouse and leading cops on a wild chase through the streets of Queens, New York.

A 500-pound cow that nearly drove police mad after hoofing it out of a New York City slaughterhouse has been saved from a future between two buns.

The young cow, nicknamed Molly, escaped from death row at about 1 p.m., when she managed to bust out of the Musa Hala, Inc. slaughterhouse in Queens, N.Y. Emergency Service Unit cops were soon in hot pursuit. But Molly kept up her stampede, dodging the law for about an hour.

After being captured she was delivered intact to a Long Island farm sanctuary on Thursday afternoon.

Joseph Pentangelo of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals says the all-black cow seems to be enjoying her new freedom at the Calverton sanctuary.

He says: “Her future’s a lot brighter now than it was 48 hours ago.”

The spirited cow dodged cars, cops and a few irate butchers for a mile after escaping Wednesday from the Queens slaughterhouse. Police captured the heifer an hour later.

The New York Times reports that Molly was signed over to animal control services by the slaughterhouse’s owner.
The cows send their heart-felt thanks to those who assisted during June 2009

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Alfred Ford
Amit Goswami
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Anandamayi Dasi
Anatolij Dorogutin
Aniruddha Dasa
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Anymous
Argo Loopman
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Vidyasagar Lokande
Yajyavalika Dasa
Yoga For Everybody
Yogesh
Yulia Chernyaeva

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