What Do Vrindavan Cows Need?

New Cowshed for Kiki Nagla

Madan Gopal Goshalla
Dear Friends,

Vedic philosophy teaches we have seven mothers:
1) the biological mother
2) the nurse
3) the wife of a brahmana
4) the wife of the king
5) the wife of the guru
6) the earth
7) the cow

Our biological mother has natural love for us; the nurse treats our disease; the wife of a brahmana blesses us; the wife of the king provides for us; the wife of the guru regards us as her own child; the Earth supplies all necessities; and the cow provides milk. All seven nourish us.

_Srimad-Bhagavatam_ refers to the cow (Bhumi) as the Earth personified. The parallel is just as the Earth supplies us all necessities, so does the cow. She provides us milk, butter and yoghurt; the bull tills the soil; their manure is used as fertilizer, cooking fuel, plaster for floors and walls, insect repellant, etc.; cow’s urine cures many diseases; ghee is used for worship, cooking and medicine. Thus the cow and the bull provide man with all things required for a healthy and happy life. Let us honor them.

_Jaya Sri Guru! Jaya Sri Gopala! Jaya Sri Go Mata!_
~ PORTRAIT OF THE MONTH ~

~ COWS RESTING AT GOVARDHANA ~
Kartika Baba (left) and his disciple Subala (above) came to Vrindavana from Kolkata more than forty years ago with their dear cow Shyamali (below) and her first calf. Shyamali lived to the ripe old-age of thirty-four and bore thirty calves during her life. The Madan Gopal Goshalla is decorated by Shamali’s Samadhi (Below).

Their present herd of one-hundred-fifty hosts Shyamali’s
descendents and boasts of having seven generations extent today.

Kartika Baba and Subala are wonderful and inspiring examples of people who have no other interest but serving cows. The love and respect they show for their herd is unique.

Kartika Baba just turned eighty-eight and has respiratory problems and consequently cannot keep up the pace he has set all these years. Whenever he loses his breath he rests for sometime on a simple wooden cot in the courtyard. Subala reports that whenever Baba has strength, he immediately begins lovingly performing menial tasks like putting feed in the feeders or picking up gober to please the cows. He cannot stop serving them as they are his life.

Subala is also not a young man and is also slowing down.
Several members of the herd exercising in the barnyard of Sri Madan Gopal Goshalla.
These two exemplary *go bhaktas* have requested Care for Cows for assistance in maintaining their herd. We are beginning by providing the fodder they require and by providing two cowherd men to serve under their guidance with the hope this will reduce their burden so that they can continue serving for many more years. They have ample room for their herd and are controlling the breeding. They take only as much milk as they require and let the calves drink to their full satisfaction. They strictly follow the principle that cow protection is for the pleasure of Sri Madan Gopal and never consider profiting in any way by serving them. Care for Cows feels honored to be of assistance to such great souls.
Subala cleaning the udder of one senior member of the herd.
A one-acre former potato field in the Vrindavan Food For Life complex in Kiki Nagla will be the site of a cowshed to host the herd that was formally in our Sundrakh facility. It is designed by Richard Bischof a mechanical engineer from Switzerland and long-time go-sevak.
The 7,250 square-foot shed will host and feed two hundred residents in ample and well ventilated areas.

The sides of the shed will be open most of the year and will provide the residents healthy circulation. The roof is corrugated metal which is impermeable to rain and the apex stands almost twenty feet above the floor giving one the sensation of being outdoors.

Safety features include metal pipe barriers which prevent the cows from pushing each other into the feeders, an action that can be fatal.

The floors are tilted so that the urine and water will naturally flow
outside into a gutter. An access road lies in the center of the shed which will permit a bullock cart to pass and be loaded with gober and waste and transported out of the shed.

The hay and grain storage is also under the same roof which means that during the monsoon the cowherd men can load the feeders without having to combat inclement weather.

Each of the twelve compartments can be partitioned to segregate calves from their mothers, bulls from cows, or the sick from the healthy as required. The design results from years of experience and will well serve the cows as well as their servants.
1. Pasturing grounds

Vrindavan’s pasturing grounds have been usurped by farmers and real estate developers. Today cows can graze only in agricultural fields vacated for the summer and monsoon seasons. Lack of pasture is the root of their plight.
What do Vrindavan Cows Need?

Solution: Move them to areas where pastures exist. Give them what they deserve.
What do Vrindavan Cows Need?
2. Protection from Urban Hazards

Toxic waste, wreckless drivers, predators and congestion create life-threatening dangers to the abandoned cows of Vrindavan.

**Solution:** Safely hold them in *goshallas* until they can be moved to better areas.
Abandoned cows have no choice but to subsist on refuse.

Solution: Good food is still affordable and available in Vrindavan. Let’s feed them in goshallas until we can move them to a more favorable habitat.
What do Vrindavan Cows Need?
4. Veterinary Aid

Daily cows are injured in the street.

Solution: Organize a staff of concerned care-takers to attend to casualties and supply medicine. This is perhaps the most needed service in Vraja today.
Care for Cows is dedicated to providing abandoned cows with their necessities and is increasing their activities by organizing transportation of abandoned cows to safer areas, moving cows to holding areas, providing fodder to needy goshallas and organizing veterinary aid. Kindly help in any way you can.
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 month two calves were born who are very similar in appearance.

Above is Jai Radhe’s healthy female calf who has been named Ananda by her sponsors Kalindi and Gopi from Switzerland. She is healthy and happy and spending all day with her mother. Jai Radhe was born at Care for Cows to the famous Yasoda who underwent a complete transformation.
Indulekha is known for her unpredictability… she is sometimes gentle and sometimes rough. She has now delivered her third female calf and is happy to be supplying milk to Sri Sri Krsna Balaramr and the Sandipani Muni School Nursery.
The cows send their heart-felt thanks to those who assisted during February 2011

Acyutatma Dasa
Aditi Sathye
Amit Goswami
Anada Dasi
Angelika Levina
Anita King
Ariel Telford
Arjuna Dasa
Bernard Faustino
Bhakta Vidyasagar
BJ Parker
Carl & Stella Herzig
Chandricka Pasupati
Charles Power
Christian Kastner
Dace Ezermale
Danil Kolobaev
David Marsan
Deborah Klein
Derek Carroll
Devender Kumar
Dhruva Maharaja Dasa
Dmitrijs Germanovs
Doyal Govinda Dasa
Elena Emelenko
Elena Nikiforov
Enver Ajanovic
Gaurangapriya Dasi
Hansavatar & Yogamaya
Hanul Bhandari
Hulya Erdem
Iryna Lukyanenko
Jagannath Rao
Jeffrey Wallien
Kalindi & Gopi
Kantilal Shival
Keyoor Gosalia
Lila Manjari Dasi
Luci Mattinen
Madhava Priya Dasi
Mandira Mani & Sri Govinda
Maria Larina
Mark Leigh
Mary Louise Valerio
Mayapur & Champakalata
Michael Hinchcliffe
Murlidhara Dasa
Murlimanohar Borecha
Nayan Ruparelia
Nisha Ladva
Nishant Vashisht
Podoleanu Irina
Purusottama Dasa, NZ
Purusottama Dasa, USA
Rahul Sharma
Ravi Gopal
Rohinisuta Dasa
Rose Bauco
Sacidananda Dasa
Sacimata Dasi
Samarth Chidanand
Sanjay Bhandari
Sanjiv Keswani
Sathye Milind
Satya Narayana Dasa
Shanti Green
Smruta Sawardekar
Sonia Mataji
Sraddha Rajkomar
Sravanananda Dasa
Sreedharan Prashanthan
Taruna Rettinger
Tomasz Zulawnik
Tracy Molina
Tusta & Stephanie
Venkata Venkateswaran
Vijay Patel
Vijay Sharma
Vikas Shah
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