Care for Cows in Vrindavan

Development in Rajasthan

India’s New Hope, Pink Slime
Dear Friends,

Recently a newspaper article appeared attributed to New Delhi (CNN) that announced: India aspires to become the world’s third largest beef exporter; there is concern that Hindu-mandated bans on beef could hamper the industry’s growth; and that states that outlaw cow slaughter force the trade underground.

CNN holds up ruthless, merciless, profit-mongering butchers as heroes; religious, compassionate, law-abiding Hindus as villains; and blames Indian states (not uncontrolled greed) outlawing cow slaughter for turning profiteering citizens into criminals.

The underlying assumption is that profiting from cow slaughter is desirable... a sign of progress... a virtue India should aspire for... and those who stand in the way are ignorant and backward.

Nice twist, eh?

In Kali Yuga the mass media is used only to exploit and manipulate the citizens.

Don’t trust it.

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Laksman Dasa congratulates Ananda Gopal Maharaja for his dedication to Go-Seva.

Only four years ago Ananda Gopal Maharaja took a bold step to create a cow protection facility in an arid area of Rajasthana within Vraja Mandala. He started with practically nothing but because of his determination and sincerity he gained much support and today is able to maintain a herd of more than 600.

In March 2009 CFC News featured an article announcing his intentions and later the next year, when we had problems with flooding and had to vacate our facility in Sundrakh, we moved more than eighty cows to the ten
acres the villagers had alloted Maharaja for cow protection. (See CFC News Oct. 2010).

His facility near the village of Seo Gao borders 2,500 acres of state land designated as *gochar bhumi* (pasturing grounds).

Since 2010 we have been supportive of his efforts and have regularly visited his herd. Recently Ananda Gopal Maharaja acquired thirty *bhigas* of land in an even more remote area which also borders a vast expanse of hilly land with shrubs and trees. It is a natural habitat filled with *neel gai*, deer and thousands of peacocks.
The first investment Maharaja has made on the new property is to make three eight-inch borings. Each time he has struck perfectly sweet and cool water. He has moved a generator to power one of the wells and is leveling an area for the first shed to host more cows.

We plan to continue to report on his progress.

**Above:** Ananda Gopal Maharaja shares his plans to develop his new facility with Laksman Dasa and Puri Maharaja of Care for Cows.

**Below:** Two members of the herd at Seo Gao.

**Below right:** The rolling hills which will pasture his herd during most of the year.
Above and right: A beautiful area on the new property graced by large *pipal* and *neem* trees bordering a sunken water-catch which becomes a pond after the monsoon.
New Delhi (CNN) -- When 33-year-old Ashoo Mongia visits the supermarket it’s rarely for stocking up his fridge for the week. As head of a cow protection enforcement team, he regularly scours Delhi grocery stores and outdoor markets for food products containing cow beef.

For the last 15 years, Mongia and his team of 120 Delhi-based volunteers have thrown themselves in a battle that pits India’s billon-dollar meat industry and growing underground beef trade against Hindu traditionalists keen on preserving the holy status of cows.

“The cow is our mother, it’s our duty to protect her,” said Mongia, who monitors and raids hundreds of stores, butcher shops and slaughterhouses suspected of carrying, selling or slaughtering India’s blessed bovines. “We do this because we believe in what the cow represents in our country, our culture and in the Hindu religion.”
The majority of India’s 24 states outlaw the slaughter of cows, yet the Indian government aspires to become the third largest beef exporter in the world.

It means greedy, corrupt politicians ignore state laws and encourage illegal theft and slaughter of cows.

This year, India will displace the United States as the world’s third largest beef exporter, behind Brazil and Australia. In just the first half of 2012, India exported $1.24 billion worth of meat, and a 30 percent growth in revenue from 2010 exports is projected by the end of the year, according to a U.S. Beef Export Federation study.

While the bulk of Indian exports is buffalo meat bound for Middle East and Southeast Asian markets, the growing middle class in Arab countries has sparked a new craving for cow beef. The rise in demand could make India the world’s king beef exporter by 2013, according to USDA estimates.

Relied on by generations of Indians for tilling fields, dairy products and dung fuel, the cow is regarded by Hindus as gau mata, or maternal figure, and has had a long-standing central role in India’s religious rituals. Those religious attitudes, however, are viewed by some Indian business leaders as a major hindrance to their religion -- Commerce.

“Cow beef could be a very lucrative business in India,” said Dr. S.K. Ranjhan, the director of Hind Agro Industries Limited, who believes that religious attitudes may stand to change once the extent of business opportunities are realized. “I think five-to-10 years from now,” (when we hope people will regard Profit as god) people won’t be so scandalized by the sale of cow beef.”

The majority of India’s 24 states outlaw the slaughter of cows except under extenuating circumstances: to stifle contagious diseases, prevent pain and suffering, medical research, etc. And several states -- including Delhi and Rajasthan, among
others -- ban the sale and 
slaughter of cows altogether.

The strict laws against cow 
slaughter in the majority of India’s 
provinces have forced the lucrative 
cow beef trade underground. 
An estimated 1.5 million cows, 
valued at up to $500 million, are 
smuggled out of India annually, 
which some analysts say provide 
more than 50% of beef consumed 
in neighboring Bangladesh.

“When you consider just 
how much money is made from 
underground cow smuggling, it 
becomes clear that not only is 
there a huge amount at stake, but 
a huge demand that butchers and 
slaughterhouses are catering to,” 
said Dr. Zarin Ahmad, a fellow at 
the Centre de Sciences Humaines 
in New Delhi, who has extensively 
studied the work and trade among 
India’s butcher communities.

Working with Mongia’s 
enforcement team is Parmanand 
Mittal, a cow-advocacy lawyer 
who works from a home-office on 
the outskirts of Delhi. Throughout 
the day, Mittal fields a stream 
of phone calls -- tipsters who 
have caught wind of illegal 
slaughterhouses and owners of 
gau shalas, or cow sanctuaries, 
concerned with unexpected 
expenses associated with new 
rescues.

In Mittal’s office hangs a 
painting of Lord Krishna — one 
of the most revered divinities in 
Hinduism— with his arm resting 
affectionately on a white calf. 
While Mongia’s crew breaks up 
the slaughterhouses, Mittal builds 
a legal case for prosecution. His 
backlog of casework extensive, 
Mittal says.

While there might be money to 
be made from adding cow beef to 
current exports, India would incur 
costs elsewhere, Mittal says.

“Cows have long been the 
source of fuel, manure and 
fertilizer, among other things. 
These animals are revered 
because they’ve played a large 
role in the welfare and livelihood 
of all Indians,” Mittal said. 
“Take away the cow and the 
repercussions will be huge.”

**Those who are demoniac do not 
know what is to be done and what is 
not to be done. Neither cleanliness 
nor proper behavior nor truth is 
found in them.** *Bhagavad-gita 16.7*
They believe that to gratify the senses unto the end of life is the prime necessity of human civilization. Thus there is no end to their anxiety. Being bound by hundreds and thousands of desires, by lust and anger, they secure money by illegal means for sense gratification. Bhagavad-gita 16.11-12

The demoniac person thinks: “So much wealth do I have today, and I will gain more according to my schemes. So much is mine now, and it will increase in the future, more and more. He is my enemy and I have killed him; and my other enemy will also be killed. I am the lord of everything, I am the enjoyer, I am perfect, powerful and happy. I am the richest man surrounded by aristocratic relatives. There is none so powerful and happy as I am. I shall perform sacrifices, I shall give some charity, and thus I shall rejoice.” In this way, such persons are deluded by ignorance.

Bhagavad-gita 16.13-15
By Miranda Leitsinger, msnbc.com

A young steer who broke out of a slaughterhouse in northern New Jersey, swam across a river and ran through city streets, was being taken Wednesday to an animal sanctuary in New York where a "comfy straw bed" awaited him.

The black-and-white steer was rescued by a volunteer with the Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary who picked him up Wednesday morning after tracking down the slaughterhouse, said Jenny Brown, a co-founder of the nonprofit center in south-central New York.

The animal appeared to be a cross between an Angus and a Holstein, and a veterinarian, who was required to inspect the steer so he could be legally transported across state lines, gave him antibiotics, she said. He seemed to be shaken up and was pretty banged-up from his escape, including having a problem with his back leg.

"We can give him a comfy straw bed and put him in a safe place where he is going to be loved and respected," Brown said, noting that he was likely being used as a beef cow and would have ended up as steak on dinner plates.

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The steer’s adventure began late Tuesday night, when he fled the slaughterhouse and navigated the streets of Paterson, said the city’s chief animal control officer, John DeCando.

‘Mike’ the steer escaped a New Jersey slaughterhouse. “It was unbelievable. It was like ‘Dodge City,’” he said, noting that after escaping, the steer came across
basketball courts, where he “stopped for a minute,” then he jumped into the Passaic River and swam across to the other side.

“You had to see the spectators -- people were rooting for the cow,” he said.

As police and animal control attempted to corral him, the steer escaped once more. At one point, he ran into a police car, but no one was injured.

Finally, DeCando managed to tranquilize him, and within four minutes the animal was asleep and snoring like a “newborn.”

It’s not clear how the steer got out, but DeCando said the animal sensed what was in store for him.

The steer’s ordeal had a “happy ending,” DeCando said.

“The owner of the slaughter house guaranteed me, and also the officers, that that cow deserves to live, and, yes, he does. So the cow is going to a farm he said, adding that was why the slaughterhouse owner was not charged in the incident.

Under an intense media spotlight, such escapees can often end up going to a farm only temporarily or even be sent off to another slaughterhouse, said Brown, noting that was why they wanted to reach out to make sure the animal has a good home.

“The irony is that people cheer when an animal escapes being slaughtered yet they go home and eat steak never understanding their complicity to the cruelty. Brown’s group rescues animals that have escaped abuse, neglect or the food industry. “What’s wrong with our industrialized food system is that the slaughter and cruelty is completely out of sight and thus out of mind.”

The steer has been named Mike, after the volunteer who rescued him, Brown said.
Cow’s Milk

NATURE’S PERFECT FOOD

Next to air and water food is indispensable for physical existence. It is as necessary for a body as fuel for an engine. From the earliest dawn of human history, great thinkers and scientists have been endeavoring hard to find out an ideal fuel—the most perfect food for the human engine.

The human body in its simple construction consists of bones, muscles, fatty tissues and the enveloping skin. Within some of the cavities of the body are the various special organs such as heart, brain, lungs, stomach, etc. All these parts of the body possess different functions and need different nutrients for their maintenance and growth. Bones need mineral matter for their daily waste and protein is required to repair the wear and tear of the muscles and other nitrogenous tissues. Fats and carbo-hydrates are used to maintain the body temperatures and to give energy to different organs such as heart and lungs to carry on their proper functions. Fat in addition stores up the fat in body. Vitamins are equally necessary for health and growth.

Thus mineral matter, protein, fat, carbo-hydrates and vitamins are the real agents to keep up the human body. But their presence alone is not sufficient and they may harm or fail to fulfill their functions so long as they are not present in proper quantity and of right quality. Since milk is Nature’s first provision of food for the young, it is reasonable to believe that it contains elements necessary to sustain life and that these are in proper proportion. The very fact that a child when delicate and quite helpless thrives well and accumulates strength on milk shows the perfection of it. Thus Thomas Alva Edison, the great scientist, truly said, “Milk is the only balanced ration—balanced by the great Chemist who is far away.” He further remarked, “I came in with milk and I guess I’ll go out with it.” And that is only possible with cow’s milk, which is the best natural substitute for mother’s milk.

INGREDIENTS OF MILK

Milk contains all the ingredients necessary for all the functions of the body. It is composed chiefly of water, protein, sugar, fat and mineral matter. Some objection is raised about the high percentage of water in milk. But nature intended milk to function as a perfect food, so she must add to it the requisite amount of water to meet our body requirements. Moreover, water serves an important purpose in holding the solids of milk in solution or suspended in the form of minute particles and also diluting the milk to make the solids easily digestible and immediately available for the nourishment of the young babe, the sick and the old with their low vitality and weak digestion. The protein of milk, which is present in the form of casein and albumen, builds and repairs muscles and other tissues. There are different kinds of protein, which are made up of many amino acids, and all these are needed to form the protein of the body. Practically all foods lack in one or the other amino acids and thus would not help for perfect health and normal growth. The protein of milk is the only exception, because it is very complete and supplies all the different amino acids in the required proportion.

Thus milk furnishes protein of a quality quite superior to that of all other foods and is further considered the most valuable because it is easily digested. Milk sugar (carbo-hydrates of milk) provides heat and energy to the body. Its composition is different from all other sugars of the vegetable kingdom and is most easily assimilated by the body. Hence it has been of special use in medicines. Mineral matter has many import-
ant functions in our body. It is found in all the vital parts and more or less controls all the life processes. The life centres of all the cells are rich in phosphorus and the skeleton is largely composed of calcium (lime) combined with phosphorus. The newly born baby, growing rapidly in skeleton and tissues, needs a more liberal supply of mineral matter, especially calcium and phosphorus. But these are not always sufficiently abundant even sometimes in mixed diet. The ash (mineral matter) of milk however, is present in a sufficient quantity and is of the right quality and is particularly rich in the lime content. There is more lime in a pint (½ quart) of milk than in a pint of lime water.

The fat of milk or commonly called butter fat supplies heat and energy like sugar and is also used for making up the fat in the body. As milk fat is the most important constituent of milk, its quality is superior to all other fats of the animal as well as the vegetable kingdom. Butter fat is present in milk in the form of very small globules and thus is capable of assimilation by the newly born baby or the sick whose power of digestion is extremely weak. No other fat can take the place of milk fat. Prof. E. G. Hopkins of the Cambridge University during his experiments on the nutritive value of different foods found that lamp, cottonseed oil and vegetable fats altogether failed to keep up the health and growth of the animals. Milk also contains practically all the vitamins so far discovered. The vitamins are the vital food elements otherwise known as ‘accessory food factors’, the chemical composition of which is not fully known yet. But by feeding experiments it has been definitely proved that they are most necessary for health, growth and protection against certain diseases; low vitality, grave depression, stunted growth, beri-beri, paralysis, scurvy, rickets, weak vision and general disorders—all are the outcome of vitamin deficiencies. Most commonly every food lacks one or the other vitamin and no single diet except milk contains all of them in a fair quantity and of the proper quality. Milk, being rich in all the important vitamins, serves as the best protective food against common disorders and various troubles of the mind and the body. Charaka, the founder of Indian Materia Medica, has remarked in his book: “Milk in general is essential for the health and growth of man and all four-footed animals. Cow’s milk is the best of all. It is ‘life’ for children, ‘health’ for youth and ‘strength’ for the old. It is very tasteful, has a pleasant odour, is easily digestible and maintains the equilibrium of the four humours.” In many verses of the Vedas it has been said that milk is the ideal human food and is referred to as the true elixir of life. (Romance of the Cow)

A Peep into the Illustration

The picture shows Emperor Dilipa, an ancestor of the divine Rama-chandra, offering his own precious life as a ransom for his preceptor’s Cow, who has fallen into the clutches of a ferocious lion. The incident is related in the celebrated Ragaṇasāga of Kalidasa, how the pious emperor had been tending his preceptor’s cow Nandini by name, as an act of devotion with a view to obtaining the boon of a son from her. The cow who was a celestial being possessing occult powers, in order to test the devotion of her royal attendant, created out of her own form a fierce lion who pounced upon her and was ready to devour her. The emperor took up his bow and tried to pierce the lion with an arrow but could not. The arrow would not leave the hand and stuck to it. The lion then spoke to the emperor in human accents and asked him to desist from his vain attempt as no earthly weapon could avail against him. The emperor understood that the lion was no ordinary creature and begged him to spare the life of his holy charge taking his own life in lieu thereof. Immensely pleased with the fidelity and devotion the cow withdrew the form of a lion and granted the boon of a son to the devout emperor.
FDA, USDA say ammonia-laced ‘pink slime’ is safe for children

(NaturalNews) After garnering nationwide attention for being secretly added to processed hamburgers and beef products, including those served in school lunchrooms, “lean finely textured beef,” aka “pink slime,” is reportedly on its way out from the menu offerings of McDonald’s, Taco Bell, and Burger King. But according to Mother Jones, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to keep ordering this imitation, ammonia-laced product for use in its National School Lunch Program (NSLP), a taxpayer-funded government food program that serves low-income students.

Pink slime gained much notoriety after being featured in the acclaimed 2008 documentary Food Inc.. Robert Kenner, the film’s director, revealed an inside look into Beef Products International (BPI), a South Sioux City, Neb.-based processing plant that produces most of the nation’s supply of pink slime. The product, which is composed of bovine connective tissue and beef scraps doused in ammonia and formed into a paste, is commonly used as a beef filler because it is low-cost and supposedly less risky compared to conventional ground beef.

You can watch a disturbing clip from Food Inc. featuring footage from the BPI plant and commentary by BPI founder Eldon Roth on YouTube.
Though BPI claims that pink slime is safer than conventional ground beef because of the ammonia treatment, tests conducted by NSLP between 2005 and 2009 have revealed that the meat-like matter routinely tests positive for salmonella at four times the rate of conventional beef. Ammonia is also a highly-corrosive poison that is known to cause respiratory illness and lung damage, liver problems, and cancer. The Chemical Encyclopedia says ammonia is “highly toxic” if swallowed (http://healthychild.org/issues/chemical-pop/ammonia/).

And yet both the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the USDA insist that pink slime is safe, even though there
is absolutely no evidence to prove this. And now the USDA’s NSLP is reportedly ordering seven million pounds of pink slime to serve to students, a shocking move that even the nation’s most notoriously unhealthy fast-food chains are unwilling to make. Reports indicate that top USDA officials have routinely ignored all data showing that pink slime is a “high risk product,” and have instead continued to endorse the product as safe for human consumption. And the worst part about the situation is that, just like with genetically-modified (GM) products, pink slime is secretly added into raw ground beef without being properly labeled.

“They’ve taken a processed product (ammonia), without labeling it, and added it to raw ground beef,” said microbiologist Gerald Zirnstein recently to The Daily. “Science is the truth, and pink slime at this point in time is a fraudulent lie” (http://www.takepart.com/article/2012/03/05/pink-slime-still-menu).
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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