



CARE FOR COWS

I N V R I N D A V A N



CFC Well-Wishers

New Arrivals

Miracle of Go Seva

Go Smaranam



Gauranga and Karna welcome His Holiness Bhakti Raghava Swami

H.H. Bhakti Ragava Swami visited **Care for Cows** after a fifteen-year absence from India. He has been an avid propounder of re-establishing the *varna-ashrama* social system in modern society. During his visit he mentioned that cow protection is the basis of religious life. Without milk, ghee, yoghurt, gober and mutra, proper worship of Krsna cannot be performed.



Prem Sagar is disappointed after his attempt to lick Maharaja was foiled



Vineet Narain and his assistant Rohit of Braj Rakshak Dal rescue a forlorn street calf and request CFC to give her shelter



Radha Jivan dasa is not afraid to get his hands dirty while serving cows

CFC Well-Wishers

Radha Jivan dasa has hosted Care for Cows for the last four years on his land near Sundrakh village. As an avid *go bhakta* he also helps maintain a goshalla between Radha Kunda and Kushum Sarovara on Govardhana Hill.

The delightful way he feeds the cows with his own hand demonstrates his deep affection and respect for cows.

“For members of the *vaishya* community, cow protection is not optional; rather it is one of our

primary duties,” he said.

He is training his son in the same values.

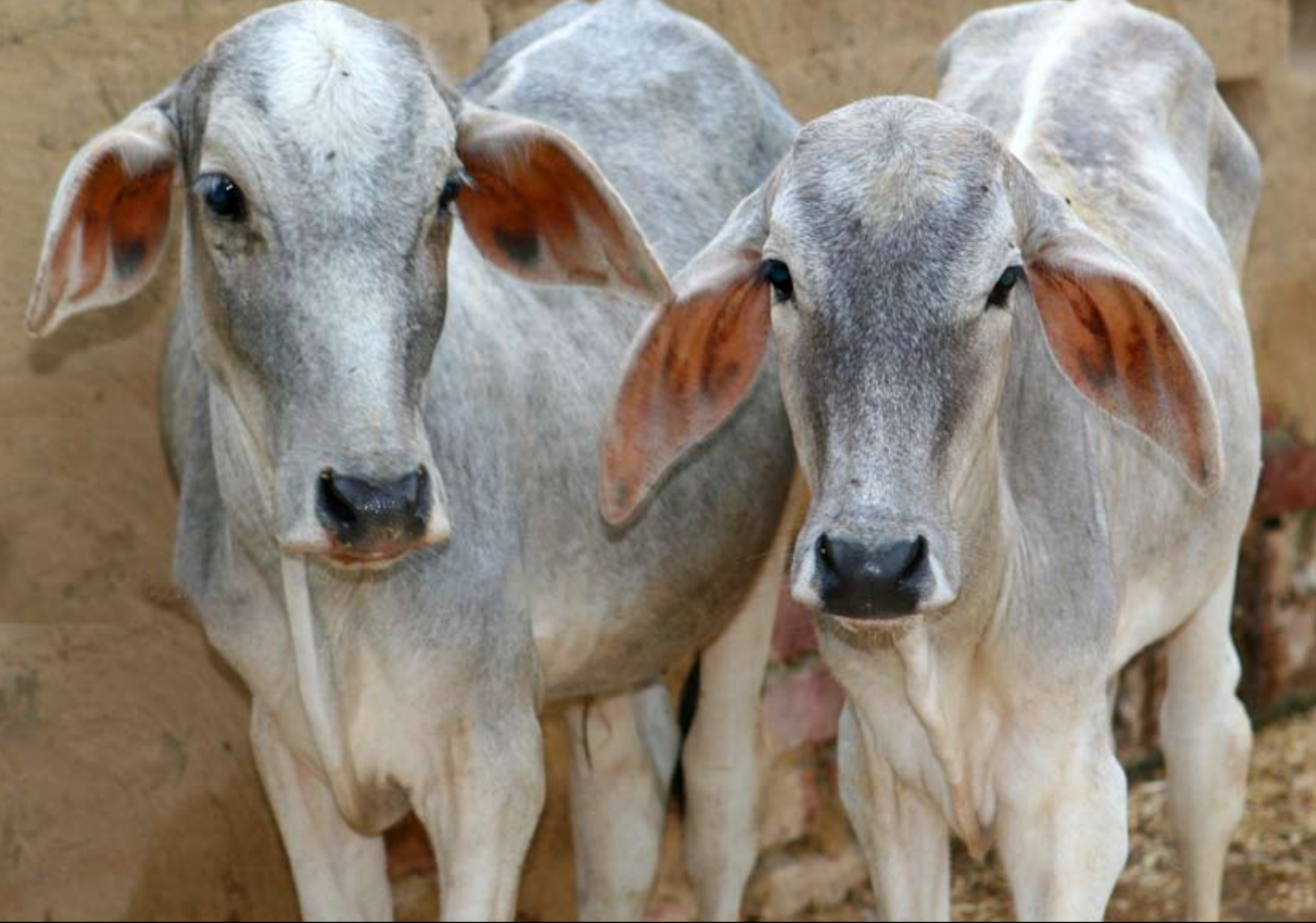
Before leaving, he surveyed his land where the cows were peacefully resting and remarked, “This is the real Vrindavan and the best use of the land.”



With Kanhaiya



Like father - like son



The Twin bulls Lava & Khus

New Arrivals



Gulabi



Janmastami



Gauri Priya



Pavan and a local farmer discuss Gulabi's fate

After twenty-one days of intensive care, Gulabi, who had been hit by a jeep, abruptly departed and left us forlorn. (See August issue)

A few days later a farmer pulled up with a 14-month-old calf and pleaded with us to take her in. Since she so closely resembled our departed Gulabi, we accepted her and gave her the same name.

Our new Gulabi is very healthy and friendly and it took very little time for her



to get settled in the herd.

Her former owner claims that she has spent several months grazing around the village but wants to leave her with us as she is getting into farmers' fields and eating their crops.

She is in perfect health and we suspect it is because she has been left free to graze as her nature directs. Most street cows are full of ticks and other parasites but Gulabi is clean and well-groomed.

Nature has equipped cows and other animals with instinct which directs them to eat precisely what they require. They only need to be free to roam in their natural habitat so they can find the herbs and grasses which keep them healthy.



Tied to the gate



Starting to warm up



Apprehensive Janmastami

On Janmastami several of us were sitting in the cowshed when we noticed a calf standing on the roadside outside our gate. Generally when cows or bulls stop at the gate we prepare a basket of grass or fodder for them and serve them outside. When Pavan reached there he noticed that the calf was tied to our gate with a short rope and was trying to get free. Apparently her owner had tied her there

and run off.

She was covered with mud and her own dung and quite distressed at being separated by from her mother and abandoned. Pavan brought her in the barn yard and we decided to name her Janmastami.

She was afraid to let anyone touch her and it was obvious that she had been brought up in somewhat of a hostile environment. We let her run free and after a while she settled down to eat.

After two days she realized that she was in a safe place and began to warm up.

She was given a full scrubbing and treated for ticks and mange. Now she is being kept in a pen with other calves her own age and is adjusting well.

The two or three-month-old calf that Rohit brought from the street is named Gauri Priya (Right). She has an injury on her right front leg that is almost healed and a



After a good scrubbing and one week of care Janmastami has improved substantially



CFC's medical staff attends to Gauri Priya's rear leg injury (above)



more serious injury on her left rear leg. Though she has arrived malnourished, skinny and neglected she is very docile and friendly. Upon arrival she began to suck the finger of a staff member so Rohit arranged for a local milk man to deliver a liter of milk for her daily. Hence, she is well on the road to recovery.

As Gauri Priya has spent time begging in a crowded local vegetable market she is comfortable being around people. We have given her the privilege to roam freely in the barnyard and consequently she is quickly becoming the favorite of all visitors.

Whenever a guest arrives she greets them and begs for snacks and



Gauri Priya mesmerizes all visitors with her enchanting, affectionate gaze



She is bottle-fed one liter of cow's milk daily

has already successfully trained three regular visitors never to come to Care for Cows empty-handed.

She has taken a liking to Gauranga who is similarly friendly and who already has many followers and admirers. They make a good team and we are hopeful that Gauranga and Gauri Priya will accept the responsibility of becoming the official Care for Cows receptionists.



The twin bulls stay together most of the time

On August 20 a farmer from about 12 kilometers away stopped at our front gate with a full-grown cow and two twin bulls in the back of his vehicle. He unceremoniously unloaded them and drove off. The cow bolted toward the direction from whence the vehicle had come and the two calves ran into the field across the road.

At feeding time the two bulls approached the gate but would not come in.

We placed a large basket of fresh grass outside for them which they ate with great appreciation.

After that they returned to the field across the street and rested for the night. In the morning they returned and gradually moved in.

Both are healthy and free from injuries. One is slightly larger than the other which is typical for six-month-old twins. They are quite shy and skeptical.

In August the most popular service was feeding the herd for a day.

Feed them on your birthday; your anniversary; your child's birthday; or in memory of a loved one.





Life on the Streets

For several years we have been aware that cow rustlers are operating at night in the Vrindavan area. They round up street cows and bulls and even break into goshallas to fill their trucks with victims for slaughter. We have found four street bulls like this one with their front legs injured. Some say the injuries occurred while butchers try to load them on their trucks; others say that if a bull is strong enough to resist or over-power the rustlers, they deliberately slash their legs to weaken them so they will be more manageable on their next visit.

Abandoning a cow or bull on the streets of Vrindavan today is tantamount to sending them to the slaughterhouse.

DONATE TO THE CARE FOR COWS LAND FUND




“A person who daily touches a cow after taking bath becomes liberated from all sinful reactions. Those who smear themselves with the dust from the hooves of the cow are said to have taken bath in all holy places. Such people become free from all types of sin.” — *Padma Purāna, Śṛiṣṭi Khaṇḍa 57.165*

Did You Know?



Cows serve as heaters to birds in winter



"You never care for us.
You only care for your own
eating and sleeping!"

Serving Mother Cow

An Excerpt from *Go Seva Camatkara*, Gita Press

In our village my forefathers were always rich and my father also had a good life. He used to spend four to five hours in the service of the Lord and rest of the day in his seed selling business and in farming. He liked his

work a lot. He had a lot of land and had an improved way of farming. He had a good influence on the villagers and they were very happy with him. After my father passed away, the responsibility for the business and the farming

fell on my shoulders. Unfortunately we began to lose our property and in a short time I had lost half of the property. The farming work stopped and the seed business dropped off. Eventually all income was stopped. The farm

produced fewer grains and most of the land turned barren. In just a short time everything was destroyed. I began to worry day and night. Any work I had started ended in loss. It was as if my fortune had left me.

I have two younger brothers and by their choice we divided the property into three parts. Four years passed and my condition worsened. I accumulated more debts and the villagers began to call me lazy. The situation became so bad that I had to beg grains from others. But I didn't lose patience as I had faith in Lord.

One day I was laying on my bed worrying I fell asleep. In a dream I saw my cows and bulls chasing me saying, "You never care for us. You only care for your own eating and sleeping. You never come to the *goshalla* and check our condition. Have you checked if we are lying in dung and urine or in a

clean place? You suffer for your sinful neglect. You can still wake up and change your attitude, otherwise eventually you will be ruined."

Hearing the cows and bulls chastise me, I suddenly awoke and felt guilt. I knew it was only a dream but I immediately picked up the lantern and went to the *goshalla*. There I saw all the cows tied to stakes and obviously very hungry. They didn't even have straw to eat and there were piles of garbage around the *goshalla*. I began to repent. I started cleaning the *goshalla* and kept on cleaning until ten o'clock in the morning.

Since that day, I milk the cows in the morning and evening and made sure they had good water and fresh grass. When the bulls and the cows went to graze, I cleaned the *goshalla* with my own hands. I threw away the garbage and piled up the dung, which soon turned

into good compost. They began to live happily and became healthy and strong. Now there was plenty of milk and ghee and due to the improved health of the bulls, my farming increased and I began to produce five to six times more grain than before. My interest in farming increased and my distress disappeared. Most of my debts were paid off and my situation changed dramatically. Those who used to call me lazy now began to praise me.

This is a true story. In my greediness I lost almost all my properties, but by the mercy of the supreme Lord and by the blessing of go-mata, I began to care for the cows with my own hands and my condition turned around. If any farmer who has cows has become a poor soul, then he should follow my path. I can guarantee that with faith in God and by serving mother cow, the worst of the worst condition will turn into a good condition.



Madri smooching Sakhi Vrinda

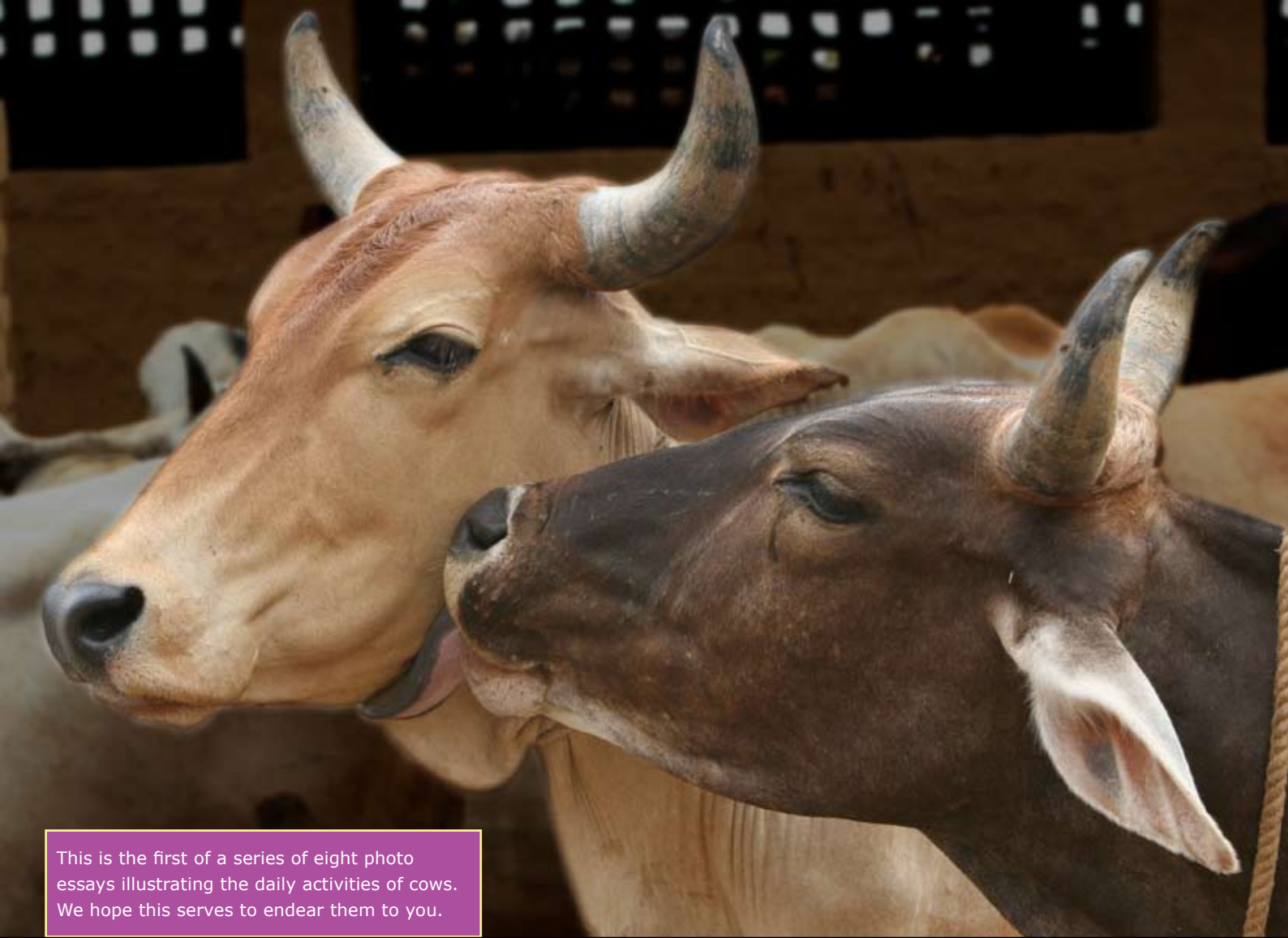
Astha-kaliya lila

Go Smaranam

Meditating on the eight-fold daily pastimes of cows



Euphoric Pradyumna being smooched by Giriraj and Kirtiraja



This is the first of a series of eight photo essays illustrating the daily activities of cows. We hope this serves to endear them to you.

Rama smooches Chandan

The morning feeding begins around five o'clock and goes until almost seven. Thus the herd spends about two hours packing in their share of wheat hay garnished with a tangy chutney of compressed mustard seeds, barley flour and chick pea husks. After being packed tight they generally drink

several gallons of water and check to see if any visitors are handing out left-over *chapatis*, *kitcheri* or peelings of vegetables and fruits. Then they prepare to either walk 600 meters up to a four-acre field or to the adjacent one-acre plot next to the cowshed.

This event generally

sparks some intermittant play and exercise before they settle down to find a choice spot to sit and ruminate.

It is during this time that they usually begin their daily routine of smooching. What seems to initially inspire smooching is the search for breakfast morsals stuck on the

Smooching

Activities performed during the second part of the day



One nonchalant lick



At least three well-placed licks



Evidence of repeated licking

noses, chins or coats of the nearest resident. But after these are long gone, smooching can continue for one hour or more. Some say the smoochers like the taste of salt on their neighboring residents; others say it is the smoocher's way of

expressing affection.

In any case, both the smoochers and the smooched take pleasure in the activity and it is sometimes seen that when two or three smoochers find a qualified resident, their smoochnig makes him euphoric and wobbly.

After prolonged observation of this habit cows are seen to smooch calves, cows, bulls and humans; calves are seen to smooch cows, bulls and humans; but interestingly enough, bulls are seen to smooch cows, bulls and humans but not calves.



Although smooching is generally performed on another cow or bull, some residents find humans to be suitable candidates. Prem Sagar (left and above) is by far the most persistent and aggressive smoocher in the herd.



Vanamali and Yasoda



Giriraj and Pradyumna



Dharma and Balaji



Jatila and Kanhaiya



A little
CARE
works wonders



CARE FOR COWS
IN VRINDAVAN

V A N A M A L I 2 0 0 6



VANAMALI 2002



VANAMALI 2005



In The News

Amara Ujala, July 9, 2004

Miraculous Cow Cures Disease

Nom Pengh, Cambodia

Nowadays huge crowds are flooding the village of Fung Trapiyang Chum in Cambodia to see and touch a miraculous cow which is said to have the power to uproot all dreadful diseases by its touch.

Puch Peech, the farmer who owns the cow, claims that while his wife Cong Meech was suffering from an incurable disease, the cow attempted to lick her hands and feet but he interfered and pulled her back. But the cow persisted and when she succeeded in licking the farmer's wife, she experienced a miraculous recovery and has since been

living a normal life. Puch Peech said in wonder, "How could I have known that the cow's divine impulse would heal my wife? "

After the news hit the front page of the newspapers people from many different regions of Cambodia began to visit the village. Puch Peech declares that at least five hundred people arrive daily to see the cow and that within the last fifteen days perhaps ten thousand people have touched her. Even very heavy rains have not discouraged people from traveling to see the cow. Puch Peech now charges the visitors five hundred reals (about seventeen cents) which they happily give to touch the cow. He has become a rich man.

Ross Sath, 68, said that he had been suffering from weakness but since the day he touched the cow, he has recovered his strength. "It was difficult for me to walk even two meters" he said, "but now I can walk three or four hundred meters without stress, difficulty or exhaustion".

To test the cow further, Puch Peech and his wife took her to visit a blind woman. They claim that after the cow licked her, the woman regained her vision.

So thousands of people are crowding Fung Trapiyang Chum to visit the cow who can uproot all disease. Visitors feed all kinds of delicacies to this holy cow and have named her Priyaha, which is a name of God.



If an eye-cup is not available, cool, soothing tea can be gently applied with the hand

Eye Treatment

Ordinary black tea makes an excellent eye rinse for sore red eyes.

Tea contains mild antibiotic and anti-inflammatory properties and is very soothing when applied cool.

Boil until water is dark, strain and allow the tea to cool. Now it can be used to gently flush sore eyes. 100 ml is enough to treat the eyes of a calf.

Cold tea can be used as an eye rinse offering pain relief for eye problems like styes, conjunctivitis, dust, debris and general irritation.



Thank You From the Cows



The cows send their whole-hearted thanks to all of you who assisted during August to feed, sponsor, contribute to the Life-Long Maintenance Fund, donate medical supplies and offer good advice.

Radha Jivan dasa, USA
Suresh Vagjiani, UK
Pranil Bharath, South Africa
Amy Larmer, United States
Nalini Gogar, Netherlands
Daniel Laflor, Denmark
Birgit Stubenhofer, Germany
Jai Simman, Singapore
Pranil Bharath, South Africa
Rayan Koendjibharie, Netherlands
Igor Drljevic, USA
Pradipta Chatterjee, USA
Arjuna dasa, UK

Vineet Narain, India
Hanni Wienkoop, Finland
Dina Sarana dasa, USA
Shiv Sharma, Canada
Katyayani dasi, USA
Joris Maas, Netherlands
Indra Barta, USA
Bhawani Sinanan, Canada
Enzo Mulas, Italy
Barry Wilcox, Kerikeri NZ
Victor Epand, USA
Rajagopal Kaliyurmannar, USA
Ananda dasa, Guatemala
Vraja Kumar and Rangavali, USA
Radha Caran and Krsna Mayi, India
Bruno and Momoji, India
Radha Mohan, USA
Kaumaudaki dasi, Canada
Perdeep Kumar, India

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



PUSHPA

**From Letters to the Editor
of Back to Godhead Magazine**

By the kindness of the devotees of ISKCON Scotland inmates in North America receive Back to Godhead magazine and write to me regularly to express appreciation for your transcendental magazine. One prisoner called BTG "a jewel in a dungeon." Articles such as "Until the Cows Come Home" (July/August)

affect them profoundly and they are inspired to fight for a vegetarian tray so they can lead a violence-free life even in prison. To hear of the rescue of Pushpa, the chocolate-covered calf" and to see the transformation of Yashoda touches the hearts of even formerly hardened criminals. With legal action, these men and women have forced the Federal Bureau of Prisons to provide adequate vegetarian meals in all of

it' ninety-seven institutions nation-wide.

We thank BTG for covering so many stories of ISKCON projects of caring all over the planet, and we thank Braja Sevaki Devi Dasi, the author of the article, and Kurma Rupa dasa, the director of Care for Cows in Vrindavan, for their compassionate work. May Govinda bless you all!, Candrasekhara dasa, ISKCON Nashville, ISKCON Prison Ministry