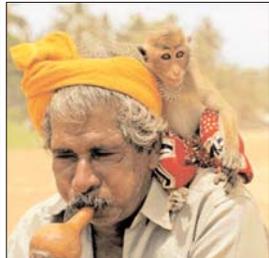




What harm could this poor creature have done to deserve this?



Do they enjoy any of this? Being dressed up and taken from place to place like a gypsy!

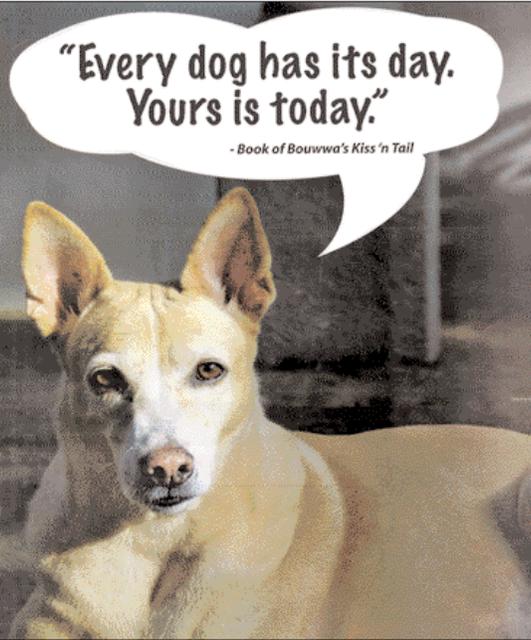
DEMI HEWAMANNA

You get a number of calls from early morning. A majority call and ask, "mey honda jathi ballekda?" (If it's a good breed). If you tell them that you found the puppies in a box by the road side or wrapped in a bag and thrown into a drain, they will be like, then it's ok, we thought it was a good breed and cut the line.

Now can someone please explain to me, the difference between a 'good' dog and dog from the streets? I may sound childish and maybe stupid asking this question, but it really annoys me when some people keep differentiating a dog from a good kind and bad kind. A dog is a dog no matter what colour, shape or size it comes in, just like a human is a human.

Basically these people now want dogs not to show love and affection or whatever, well simply they want to have one of those 'good' dogs to show off, when they old enough to

World Animals' Day October 4, 2009 Points to ponder



be crossed, they cross them and when the puppies arrive, put a big advertisement with a big price upon the puppies as well. This whole thing simply means that they want this so called 'good' dogs, simply to make money, not because they want to show love and affection or give a good name.

Why do people treat things always for a price, I mean if you care for some dog, give love and attention and a home to stay in, that's all what that animal needs, simple love and attention and it will give your more joy to your life than anything in this world.

Tomorrow being World Animal's Day, Animals all over are being treated so cruelly, that people just talk about it but take no

action. People can read the newspaper and then get together with someone and talk about the particular incident that happened to an animal but do nothing about it. They talk about cruel the world is and yet simply sit and do nothing about it.

I recently went for an event regarding the World Animals Day and I was shocked when one of the spokesperson at the head table showed an article in a leading English paper about how 200 goats were slaughtered in public at the Munneshwaram kovil in Chilaw, as police officers looked on. And the people who committed such a crime are the so called people who consider a cow a sacred animal.

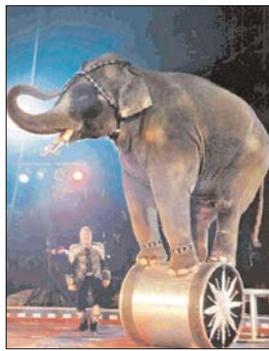
What different is a goat from a cow? Aren't there people who drink goats' milk as well? Sacrificing animals to drive away sins!

The Sri Lanka Animal Protection Association held a press conference recently and pointed out the fact that people in the rural side of the island don't know much about looking after their pet as well as being aware of the dangers a rabies infected dog can do to someone.

Dr. Nalini Obeyesekera said there are careful considerations by a group of specialist organizations combining science and welfare. To be effective there has to be sustainability which will lead to a reduction in rabies as well as the number of dogs roaming in the road. One must also place animal welfare needs at the forefront and create outcomes that result in healthier and better cared for dogs.

The principles in making this possible are to be comprehensive and holistic, be prepared and scientific, monitored and evaluated as well keep updating and revising them, if not be able to change and improve the plan. In a data collected in 2007 there were 4,837 roaming dogs and 16,000 owned dogs. Also in six years, a pair of dogs and their offspring can produce 67,000 puppies.

In order to create a permanent solution it is important to work together with the relevant Government departments, animal welfare organizations, professional veterinary and medical associations and the public.



People think its fun and wow, but what do they feel? You will only feel what they feel if you were in their paws!



If anything happens to their mum, they end up alone, hungry and sick and when people terrorize them, they become scared and to their fear attack someone which leads to that someone getting rabies and dying in the end.



If YOU could teach your children to be gentle and kind to any animal, I'm sure they will in their own way do things to prevent unnecessary killing and harm done to animals.



One of the most famous pictures that captured many hearts. Here this cow is paying respect as well as showing his gratitude to the monk who rescued him from being slaughtered.



An elephant getting a little scratch in his mouth from his mahout at the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage



No matter how many times people talk about not dumping garbage here and there, no one ever practices it. Garbage spots leads to cow, cats and dogs as well as crows to come and make a bigger mess of it.

Supiri Mal Dakma

To give a hand to self-employed ornamental plants grown as *Supiri Mal Dakma* exhibition and sale of plants will be held at the Viharamahadevi Park from October 2-4 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

A series of lectures will also be delivered as follows for those who are interested in growing orchids and anthurium.

As a hobby or self-employment.
October 2 at 2.30 p.m. - Growing Anthurium by Sunil Amarasinghe.
October 3 at 10.30 a.m. - Growing Orchids by Susila



Fernando, President Orchid Circle of Ceylon. "Supiri Mal Dakma" organised by Mrs. Punya Kathirarachchi.

Across the globe

Just in case you thought Fido's birthday was the only day to celebrate everything he means to you, there's one more day to show your favorite pet some extra love.

On October 4, countries across the globe will celebrate World Animal Day. You can join them by making your pet cat, dog, bird, lizard, rabbit or fish's day a little brighter that day.

The Bahamas Humane Society will lead the efforts in The Bahamas, as it did last year, with a church service at St. Christopher's Anglican Church in Lyford Cay. The society is encouraging all pet owners and animal lovers to join the celebration.

After all, how many other opportunities do you get to bring your pet to church?

"It's all in keeping with World Animal Day," said Stephen Turnquest, the executive director of the Bahamas Humane Society. The church service is held on St. Francis of Assisi Day, as St. Francis is the patron saint for animals.

The begins at 4.30 p.m. at St. Christopher's. "Last year about 30 persons showed up with their animals," said Turnquest. The variety of pets filling the pews included fish and birds as well as cats and dogs. The Grand Bahama

Humane Society also held a church service at the Garden of the Groves on that island to commemorate the day last year.

Turnquest said that the invitation to do something to celebrate animals on this day is extended to all animal groups within the capital and throughout the Family Islands.

"What we're doing is we're encouraging other groups like the equestrian groups we have here, they can do something with the horses, even the surrey drivers," he said. "Do something different with the animals for that day." *Thea Rutherford, Guardian National Correspondent*



Two monks spread sacred *pirith* water on a tusker at Tissa before the perehera.



This monkey mother carries her dead baby to her home after it was attacked by a dog. Pictures by Susantha Wigansekera