

NGO AND ANIMAL WELFARE: THE VISION, MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY OF UTTAR DINAJPUR PFA (PEOPLE FOR ANIMALS)

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ABSTRACT:

The Uttar Dinajpur People For Animals (In short PFA Uttar Dinajpur) is a Non Govt. Organisation, registered under the West Bengal Society Registration Act XXVI of 1961. It is the Uttar Dinajpur Unit, one of the 156 units of People For Animals that is run and chaired by India's most popular animal activist Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi. Infact, it is the first registered chapter of 'People For Animals' in North Bengal. 'People For Animals' is a charitable trust formed to curtail the cause of animals as they cannot fight for themselves. Uttar Dinajpur PFA has been in operation since 1998 and it was registered in the year 2000. They have been working for the developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare for animals and environment for the last 17 years with a group of Animal Crusaders and thus have come a long way in its zeal for the welfare of voiceless creatures and the protection of environment despite having no source of fund except our membership fees . If you too see them writhing and groaning in pain, please come forward to co-operate with us to help the voiceless animals. We believe that through the universal love for animals we will arrive at a universal love for men. The major activities include providing treatment to street dogs, cows & other animals, rescuing snakes, birds & other wild animals, organizing Anti-Rabies Vaccination Drives, Animal Birth Control Programmes, Free Medical Treatment Camps & Organizing Awareness Camps on Snakes & Environment for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare.

***Key words:** Developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare*

INTRODUCTION:

There are two forms of criticism of the concept of animal welfare, coming from diametrically opposite positions. One view, held by some thinkers in history, holds that humans have no duties of any kind to animals. The other view is based on the animal rights position that animals should not be regarded as property and any use of animals

by humans is unacceptable for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare.. Accordingly, some animal rights proponents argue that the perception of better animal welfare facilitates continued and increased exploitation of animals.^{6,7}

OBJECTIVE:

To discuss the Vision, Mission and Philosophy of Uttar Dinajpur PFA aspect of animal welfare.

METHODOLOGY:

It is based on field survey.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

Animal welfare is the well-being of animals. The standards of "good" animal welfare vary considerably between different contexts. These standards are under constant review and are debated, created and revised by animal welfare groups, legislators and academics worldwide.^{1,2} Animal welfare science uses various measures, such as longevity, disease, immunosuppressant, behavior, physiology, and reproduction.³

Sample works done by Uttar Dinjpur People for Animals



Sample study 1:

A puppy was sitting on the roadside in front of Raiganj Polytechnique College when a small pick up van, driven by some inhuman and most careless driver ran over its tail, leaving the poor pup groaning in severe pain and bleeding profusely. Arpita Path, a kind hearted teacher rescued the pup and called us for its immediate treatment. Our members Mr Somen Das, Bishal Das and Debasish Das attended the call and started its treatment. It's now out of danger and the pup is undergoing treatment. It seems that the men behind the steering have little concern for the voiceless animal for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare.⁵



Sample study 2:

This Bronze back Tree Snake (Bengali Name – Betanchra) was rescued today from D.M. Office, Uttar Dinajpur. The Snake was found in computer room, just beside the D.M.’s chamber at Karnojora. Though the Snake is non-venomous, it created panic among the staff there and so they called the office of Uttar Dinajpur PFA. Goutam Tantia went to the D.M. office and rescued it for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare and the Snake has been released in jungle.⁵



Sample study 3:

4 feet long male spectacled cobra was rescued from Hemtabad Sericulture Office Quarter. Some bamboo baskets were kept there temporarily by the house owner on the east corner of his quarter and the snake was hiding into the baskets. A continuous loud hissing sound was heard by Mr. Barman for a long period and then they started finding its source. After an hour of unflagging search Mr. Barman informed everyone that the sound came from the baskets and perhaps the suspected snake was hiding there. They called our office and reaching there we found a 4 feet long highly aggressive male spectacled cobra. We moved the baskets off one by one but the snake was so much aggressive that we faced some difficulty to rescue it properly. The Uttar Dinajpur People for Animals salute those people who actually understand the ecological values of every fauna in environment for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare.⁵



Sample study 6:

News of rescuing 5.5 feet spectacled cobra gets published in the Anandabazar Patrika , dated 7 February, 2018.. This will surely encourage us in our animal welfare work and create a great awareness among the people in general for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare.⁵



Sample study 7:

They are abandoned. They have no shelter of their own. They have been abandoned, left and sent to face danger, even death in the name of Religion! At about 12:30 p.m. at Bidhannagar More, Raiganj this calf was hit by a passenger carrying bus Mayanjali. Its left hind leg was broken. Informed by local people our members rushed to the place of incident and provided treatment on the spot. It was given necessary injection and our members Sumit Paul, Debasish Das, Subham Das and Raktim Sarkar plastered its broken leg. It has been kept on one side of the busy road as the govt vet hospitals have no facilities of indoor treatment. UDPFA have not any animal ambulance, but we'll try to take it to our temporary shelter. UDPFA will continue its treatment with the help of animal lovers, until it gets completely cured. We request all good thinking people and animal lovers for

developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare. to give us some donation for treatment of such injured animals which are the victims of cruelty and torture. ⁵



Sample study 8:

One baby owl was rescued by a teacher Swarnali Nag today from Kasba Mahoso Primary School near Hemtabad. She is an Asstt. teacher of the school and a real animal lover. She handed over the owl to our PFA Office as the owl, unable to feed on its own, might have died without its mother. Now it is under our care and treatment. Once the owl becomes able to feed on its own, it will be released in forest. Though UDPFA don't support this kind of rescue as this separates the baby from its mom, we have to receive the bird as its mother is no more for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare. In such cases we try to rehabilitate the animals in its natural habitat .UDPFA wants more and more animal lovers like Swarnali who will show their love and sympathy for the voiceless animals. ⁵



Sample study 9:

Two cobras, around 4ft long are rescued from TetulTala, Rupahar, Uttar Dinajpur. UDPFA members Debashis Das and Subham Das rescued them from the heap of bricks, kept for 6 months at a same place. The snakes came out when the labourers, engaged by the owner, were removing the bricks. UDPFA wants to draw people's attention for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare to few things:i) Please don't leave any unused materials, stacked at a place more than one month. It may invite snakes and other harmful

insects.ii) If it is not possible to remove the things, use bleaching powder around that stacked materials. Bleaching powder will not only keep away insects, rats, frogs but also snakes due to its strong smell. And without its prey, the snakes would not like to visit such places. Regular use of bleaching powder is very useful for keeping away snakes.iii) Don't use carbolic acid. It is very harmful for both animals and human beings. About: Spectacled Cobra is the shyest snake in the snake world because of its beautiful hood. It is highly venomous and a member of BIG FOUR snake species in India. Preventive measures: i) Use torch at night; ii) Dont tease when you see it; iii) Use foot wears; iv) Remain alert when working in the field. What should you do, in case of accidental bite? Don't go to the ojhas, babas, tantrics or snake charmers for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare. Go to hospital as soon as possible.⁵



Sample study 10:

Animal lovers Ranabir Podder and Sanjay Agarwala of Sudarsanpur found an injured Night Heron in front of Parbati Debi High School at about 10.30 p.m. They rescued the bird and handed over to our member Trisha Ghosh. The bird has a fungal infection in its right wing. It is unable to fly. After primary treatment we have handed over the bird to the forest department for its better treatment. Had the bird not rescued in time, the dogs or cats could have killed it and enjoyed a good supper. UDPFA want more and more animal lovers like them for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare⁵



Sample study 11:

This lucky street puppy has got its name and a sweet home. It was found without its mother. Perhaps it was separated by someone and dislocated from its area. Gohona Chakraborty a college student and an animal lover came forward and adopted the abandoned puppy for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare from our member Dipankar Barman. UDPFA wants more and more people to come forward and adopt such litter of puppies. If one family out of 50 families adopt a street dog, there will be no dogs in streets any more in our country.⁵



Sample study 12:

This puppy was abandoned by some cruel and coward person about two months ago near Raiganj Telecom Office at Siligurimore. Uttar Dinajpur PFA looked after it for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare., treated it and took care of it in our office room. On 21st January, 2017 it has been adopted by Madhabi Das and her family members. Madahabi Das is a Mid-Day meal cook of Sudarsanpur D P U Vidyachakra. Hats off to such people in our society. There are so many abandoned puppies in our society. They request all to come forward to adopt at least one of them. Please contact us immediately.⁵




Sample study 13:

For the past few days the villagers of Nayapara under Bahin Gram Panchayet of Raiganj Block were passing their days in panic and terror due to the spread of a rumour of a leopard's arrival. Uttar Dinajpur PFA visited the village and examined the footprints, found on the wheat fields. The footprints seemed to be that of an adult fox. Some villagers claimed that most of the footprints had washed away in rain. However only Thakur Das, a septuagenarian of the village claims to have seen the leopard three days ago.⁵ But after some days leopard was found in Raiganj and the team of Uttar Dinajpur PFA was tried to rescue the leopard from human interference for developmental Vision, awareness Mission and Philosophy of welfare..

CONCLUSION:

Respect for animal welfare is often based on the belief that non-human animals are sentient and that consideration should be given to their well-being or suffering, especially when they are under the care of humans.⁴ These concerns can include how animals are slaughtered for food, how they are used in scientific research, how they are kept (as pets, in zoos, farms, circuses, etc.), and how human activities affect the welfare and survival of wild species.

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