

Hypocrisy

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I believe god created this world, rich in animal and plant life. I also believe that such a supreme power made this effort with a purpose, not for his recreation on self satisfaction. Since every living thing is created by Him, each one has its purpose, each one has a right to be, and no one thing has a right any greater than any other thing. It is understandable that every living thing does not have the same degree of intelligence, thinking ability, and understanding. It is reasonable that parasites will live at the cost of other living things, and predators will live on their prey. They do this by a biological instinct, and cannot do anything else because they know no other way and lack the ability to think of some other way.

But the human beings are different. They do things by intention rather than by instinct. They know what is right and what is wrong. If they do things in a particular way because they have seen their elders do things that way, they can still change because they have an ability to think. However, human beings are smart. They know what they want. In order to get what they want without appearing to violate the equal right to survive of other organisms, they pass laws and make moral and ethical rules. According to the law, it is a crime to kill another human being. It is morally unthinkable to eat another human being. It is a crime to kill an animal in the forest, because the wildlife is protected. Hunting is a crime and eating what you hunted is also a crime. But it is not a crime to eat chicken, sheep, pig, cow or camel (different animals in different countries, not necessarily all of them in the same country).

It is a crime if one kills these animals in a place not approved for that purpose. It sounds as if the crime has something to do with the place where the act is committed, not with the act of killing. Catching fish in sea-water or fresh-water is not a crime, if one has the permit to do so. Showing cruelty to animals is a crime. It is a wonderful thing that one is prohibited by the law from kicking a dog or a cat, from caning a donkey that is slow at work, or making animals perform for a movie film. But it is not cruelty when one slaughters an animal for food or for religious rituals (surprisingly called a sacrifice). It is not cruelty to take live fish out of water and let it jump about seeking air till it dies of deprivation of oxygen. It is not cruelty to select a particular live fish or crustacean in an eastern hotel and have it cooked for lunch or dinner.

Man has passed such hypocritical laws so that his actions are self justified, as well as are justified in the eyes of others around him and the law too. He ignores the fact that the animals he kills for food have heart and blood just like other animals which are protected, or just like he himself. They feel pain just like the others, and they want to live just like he does.

It is cruelty to animals if one performs scientific studies on them for betterment of life of man. Those activists who fight for preventing such studies on animals should themselves be totally vegetarian, and they should fight to convert all non-vegetarians into vegetarians before fighting to prevent scientific studies on animals. I am not professing scientific studies on animals. I am just trying to get these activists to do better work.

These activists moved court to have a decree preventing stray dogs from being put to rest, even if they are dangerous to human beings. Rabies is an illness that has no cure. It is caused by the bite of a stray dog. Rabies kills, and very painfully. Even if the stray

dog is not rabid, injuries caused by its bites can be very serious, one has to take a number of injections To avoid catching rabies, if bitten by a stray dog. The solution permitted by the law for stray dogs is to have them sterilized. I can see that when all of them are effectively sterilized, they will die of old age, there will not be any fresh stray dogs, and their menace will be no more. But what seems to be totally ignored is the fact that till that time the dogs will continue to bite people, and continue to keep barking at night and deny peace to the citizens. I wonder if sterilizing them and depriving them of their ability to procreate is not cruelty to them. I cannot see the logic behind killing other human beings under the guise of a war, but not killing stray dogs even if they harm people.

I think we are hypocrites, permitting things that suit us, and not permitting similar things that don't suit some of us.