Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**ANIMALS BEING USED IN PUBLIC AND STREET PERFORMANCES**

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Use of animals in public or in street performances, should be condemned by one and all. This is not only barbaric but also goes against the laws of nature. Animals just like human beings are born free and have just as much right to live as we have. It is indeed very painful to see a man exploit these animals to fulfil his greed for wealth. In his own self-interest, he subjugates them for his aggrandisement. In my opinion this is an evil practice that should be done away with immediately.

Animals like monkeys, snakes, bears, elephants, etc. are captured from their natural surroundings and then subjected to inhuman torture in the process of their training. This is done so that they can perform completely unnatural tricks which can be later encashed from the public for profit. The training schedules are at times so stringent that quite a few perish in the process. Those that survive the ordeal are just not their normal self. The animals in captivity gradually lose their natural instinct. The effect of the artificial surroundings and diet is so profound that it also has an adverse effect on their health and lifespan.

Like the Homo sapiens, animals too have an important role to play in the universe. It would be difficult to imagine our world without them. In fact scientist will authenticate the fact that without some of these animals, the food cycle itself would not be complete. Consequently life on earth itself would be endangered. The Almighty bestowed man with intellect so that he is able to utilise the resources of nature. This he effectively does, by harnessing the natural and the animal resources so as to make his life comfortable. However, exploiting animals just for the sake of his delight is an unpardonable sin, which he must avoid.

The realisation of this has dawned on some of the advanced countries like America and the United Kingdom who have banned use of animals in public and for street performances. This issue has been taken up by many Non-Government Organisation, including the SCPA. The results of their efforts are not encouraging yet. This is so because it is still the source of livelihood for some people.

What is therefore required is public education and awareness of the ill effects of this practice. This can be done by creating strong public opinion, for which the Government as well as the NGO’s should rise to the occasion. If required, laws should also be enacted, so that this cruelty perpetuated on animals is stopped forthwith. This is a noble cause, for it is our moral duty to preserve the earth and its species for our children.