



**AKT - AKTION KONSEQUENTER TIERSCHUTZ** gemeinnützige GmbH

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Erste Fachberatungsstelle für  
Tierschutz und Tierhaltung

INSTITUT FÜR  
MITWELTETHIK



AKT - Tierstation für  
Exoten, Wild- u. Kleintiere



- Lending our Voice to Life -

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Welfare and the Keeping of Animals

- *INSTITUTE FOR ALLCOMPRIHING ETHICS*

- AKT Animal Shelter for exotic and wild animals

Biedesheim/Germany, on Jan.20,2017

## Ref.: Life is Sacred – Globalization of Ethical Standards

Your Holiness,

As a think tank active in Germany with the focus on ethics on our part as humans towards other species, we turn to you in the hope of your understanding for our concerns as well as for the fact, that humanity is also and above all about how we act towards fellow living beings – who are in an inferior position to men – without regard to species.

Our ethical understanding, which we call “all-comprising world ethics“, reveals far-reaching convergences to the New Testament's Christianity and to Buddhism. Even if the signee is not a follower of Buddhism but has rather a more agnostic attitude in terms of spirituality, our basic attitude towards all beings is a Buddhist one, decisively affecting our daily actions, reflections, decisions and our refraining from action as well.

Belonging to a certain species is of material nature and founded on biology. From a spiritual point of view what matters are the souls immanent in all forms of life. Souls, that are in our assumption, too, subjected to a constant flow of becoming and passing away, coming and going, in order to evolve continuously from incarnation to incarnation along an evolutionary ladder. In our opinion, the phenomenon of life in our universe is very special, because it is the only form where matter merged with mind. The souls, originating from a cosmic spirit, practically are individualized parts thereof, during incarnation are subjected to multiple regulations and inconveniences – above all to suffering from hardships and distress, from pain and anxiety. In a natural order, without human influences, in principle all beings have the possibility of avoidance, of protecting themselves, defending themselves, and to adopt their species to the adversities of the world. Ultimately all this happens to minimize suffering and to

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The founder of AKT in 2002 was awarded a prize by the German **Hans-Rönn Foundation “Menschen für Tiere”** (People for Animals) for his merits in animal welfare and for his all-comprising world ethics.

In July 2004, after 15 years at Karlsruhe, Germany, **AKTgmbH**, a charitable limited company, moved their registered office to Biedesheim, where they built a top modern animal sanctuary with a **tropical hall for exotic animals and reptiles**. In 2009 the AKT Animal Protection Centre obtained the “**Animal Protection Award**” of the local rural district Donnersberg. In 2014 AKT “Action for Consequent Animal Welfare“ celebrated 20 years as non-profit organization.

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maximize content and harmony. In the wild suffering and misery do exist due to natural disasters, by eating and by being eaten, but it is almost non-existent, that individuals of one species deliberately torture and tantalize individuals of another species. This phenomenon seems to be reserved to mankind. Although humans, who deliberately, knowingly and often with a sadistic pleasure but also because of ignorance cause suffering, pain, anxiety to others, do not only harm those, who are at their mercy, but they harm themselves, too, and the social and cultural environment that participates as well.

Your Holiness, we explained the above because it is our intention to show you, that we are deeply concerned and worried – in spiritual terms, too. We turn to you full of hope and in full confidence in your capacity as an internationally acknowledged moral authority with far reaching influences on politics and the general public.

For a soul bound to an organism there cannot be anything worse than to be subjected to the arbitrariness of a counterpart who tortures both the soul's sentient body and the sensitive soul - this is, what plagues us and makes us take this initiative. Certainly, the karma of a soul can never cause or justify one's body being cut into pieces, gutted, skinned, torched, boiled, strangled or eaten, all fully alive, in full consciousness - you will certainly agree with that. The hope for a more peaceful and more just world will be in vain as long as the human society on this planet tolerates such atrocities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Following the precept of compassion this is why we are obliged to do all within our might to put an end to such atrocities against humaneness.

For that reason, please find attached our letter to the former Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, whom we informed about the worst forms of animal torture taking place mainly in China and the indo-Chinese nations. The infliction of agony is not an unintentional by-effect of killing animals for consumption there: **Instead, animals are killed wantonly and with a sadistic pleasure by methods, that cause a maximum and long-lasting pain.** Torturing animals in those countries is not only an everyday and mostly public normality, but in many places regarded as a public kind of sport, serving amusement. In part, such practices are "justified" by religious, traditional, cultural and culinary customs. Therefore, the animals are tormented in the most unthinkable ways, because the resulting stress hormone, adrenaline, allegedly would make the meat more palatable. Instead, according to scientific findings, adrenaline in high quantities is toxic and makes meat inedible. In Europe, animals who endured a traffic accident on their way to the slaughterhouse and thus were submitted to great stress, are killed and disposed of, because of the very high adrenaline level in their blood.

We shall send another letter of the same intention to the successor of Mr. Ban, to the new Secretary General of the UN Guterres and to Pope Francis as well. It is the aim of our international initiative to **globalize at UN level the ethical standards according to the latest neurobiological and ethological findings.** The UN is to urge its member states to adopt an animal welfare law which includes the minimum requirement that all living beings, who fall prey to humans, are to be killed quickly, without suffering pain and anxiety.

**Your Holiness, it would be our greatest joy, to win you as a supporter, a solidary partner and patron of our initiative.**

From spiritual point of view, we fear, that the degree of mankind's brutality will be increased by such actions, which in the age of mobile phones, smart phones, digital cameras and the internet are spread and watched all over the world - especially by children and adolescents - turning into a perpetual motion machine of horror for animals and for the human soul as well. The mental development of humans would come to a standstill. And the aim of all souls, nirvana, would thus become increasingly unattainable.

The world, which is within us and with us, is identical. Once again, our world should be turned into a sphere, in which it is worth being born into, a world which favours an optimum development and the unfolding of life and thus of souls. It is our opinion, that the unnatural torments inflicted on living be-

subsequent incarnation will adversely be affected. We fear the same for the perpetrators, their fellow men and all those who witness these brutal actions.

Certainly, it is your conviction, too, that all those people with responsibility may not falter in their endeavours to pacify our world, not only for ethical and economical but for spiritual reasons as well, and to turn against all kinds of atrocities, especially committed to defenceless, unprotected living beings.

Animals, no matter to which species they belong, in the situations described are nothing but agony and fear, nothing but pain and suffering, as they lack the capacity, to rationalize their situation (in the psychological sense), that means to compensate or make the horrors and pains more bearable for example by the creed in a higher instance. This makes the animals as worthy of protection as human toddlers.

Please help us - with all your spiritual insight and your possibilities as a spiritual moral authority respected in all the world!

***Lokah samasta sukhino bhavantu*** (May all living beings be happy and free and may all my thoughts, words and deeds contribute to that.)

Yours faithfully

***INSTITUT für MITWELTETHIK***  
eine Einrichtung der  
**AKT-AKTION KONSEQUENTER TIERSCHUTZ**  
gemeinnützige Gesellschaft mbH (seit 1994)

***AKT Institute for All-Comprising Ethics***  
an institution of  
**AKT - Action for Consequential Animal Protection**  
non-profit limited company (since 1994)

Peter H. Arras  
Founder and CEO

Encl.: Our letter to the Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-moon including exemplary commented pictures that visualize some of the atrocities committed to animals.