

RightsNow Pakistan

human rights for all

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Long Arm of the Law.....Use it for the protection of animals, birds, trees and environment!

Advocate Kanji Mal Meghwar from RightsNow Pakistan files Petition at Session Court Mithi Against Illegal Transportation of Peacock!

Those who do not believe in the long arm of the law probably have not used it. We use it and it is very effective and useful. Recently, our representative advocate Kanji Mal from Mirpurkhas filed a petition before the Honorable District & Session Judge at Mithi who is also Ex-Officio Director Human Rights.

In this petition, District Game Warden, Mithi, The Assistant District Officer Forest, Tharparkar, District Forest Officer, Province, Tharparkar, The Station House Officer, Mithi and the Superintendent of Police, Tharparkar, Mithi were made parties. The prayer in the petition was made for the issuance of direction to respondents to ensure protection of illegal sale/transport of protected animals.



Advocate Kanji Mal Meghwar, RightsNow Pakistan, Mirpurkhas – PEACOCK – an precious and endangered bird

Petition was filed in response of news item published in the daily Kawish of 6th and 7th November, 2011 that a radio producer namely Mir Bahadur Mehar, who was taking peacocks from Tharparkar to Khairpur was left free by all the district authorities who are actually entrusted with the protection of these animals. These authorities who were deployed on the post let producer go along with peacocks when he greased

their palms and did not take any action. Our representative made a point in the court through the petition that under the Sindh Wild-Life Protection Ordinance, 1972 the respondents were not authorized to do so.



Media publishes the news (Daily Kawish 6th & 7th November, 2011 carries the story of transportation of peacocks).

After the petition, the District and Session Judge Mithi issued notices to the parties and held an inquiry for ignoring their duties and obligations of protecting wild life and environment. Our local representatives shared that local community liked the initiative and appreciated advocated Kanji Mal's efforts for using the law against the officials who have failed to recover peacocks from the radio producer.

Animals, birds, trees are also dwellers of this planet, we all share this planet, therefore, it is our duty to live in harmony. Let us join hands and resolve that we will not remain silent and raise voice against the sale/trade, hunt and destruction. We will bring deer; peacocks and other animals back from the edge of extinction and make the world more beautiful.

RightsNow Pakistan salutes Bharumal, a poet, an activist and a journalist who is educating people of Tharparkar on environment and protection of animals from the plate farm of SCOPE. This credit also goes to Bharumal who encouraged us to file the petition.



Mr. Bharumal Amrani, poet, writer, environmentalist and planet defender

Appreciations for Bharumal Amrani and SCOPE:

Hundreds volunteer, who are local residents, who love their lands beauty, are trained by SCOPE (Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE)). These volunteers play important role in fending off poachers, preventing hunters to kills these precious birds and harm environment. They are really guards of greenery as they are called “Green Guards”.

They are mostly farmers and shepherds and they wear green colored waistcoats even while carrying out their routine tasks. Whenever, and wherever they see someone trying to steal eggs or capture peachikcs, they blow a whistle provided them by SCOPE.

Role of Writers and poets in protection of environment:

RightsNow Pakistan highly appreciates the role played by the writers, poets and environmentalists in this incident. We appreciate that Mr. Haji Sand, popular local poet, Mr. Dolat Ram Khatri and Mr. Bharumal a local poet and environmentalist have collectively raised this issue in both their poetry and media. This also helped us understand that poetry is another way which we can use for the awareness and protection of wild life and environment.

Recommendations:

- Honorable District & Session Judge, Mithi within the capacity of Director, Human Rights would constitute a vigilance committee in order to keep check on the SALE, HUNT and TRADE of wild life and cutting and destruction of trees. RightsNow Pakistan recommend for including

journalists, NGOs, Lawyers and other civil society actors into that committee who could regularly meet and support the wild life and forest departments for taking strong measures against those involved in this sale/trade and killing precious animals.

- Government MUST take action against officials who are involved in this trade and supporting pouchers. Illegal wildlife trade is one of the primary threats to a large number of species including deer, peacocks, eagles and other creatures. In Tharparkar, number of peacocks have decreased because of illegal trade and hunting.
- Government, NGOs, civil society, media and local community must start awareness campaign for the protection of wild life, trees and the environment. Strengthen the efforts of **WWF**, **SCOPE**, **IUCN**, UN and other non-governmental initiatives for the protection of the planet.
- Stop pouching, hinting, illegal trade/sale and overuse of natural resources. Create safe places, habitats and sanctuaries for wild life.
- RightsNow Pakistan also calls for strong action against radio producer Mr. Bahadur Khan Mahar who is involved in trade/transportation of peacocks and destroying the environment and beauty of Thar.
- Organize seminars on protection of wild life and forests and train community on how to take action if the Government is unwilling or unwilling to act.
- Support RightsNow Pakistan, IUCN, WWF, SCOPE other organizations and individuals for actions protect wild life, environment and planet1

More details about RightsNow Pakistan's work please read at [www. rightsnowpk.org](http://www.rightsnowpk.org)

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