



Manas Thepparuk
Acting Chief of the Phuket Provincial Office
Department of Livestock Development
15/6 Amphur Road
Talad Yai, Muang, Phuket 83000
Thailand

13th JUNE, 2019

Re: Death of Baby Elephant at Phuket Zoo

Dear Mr Thepparuk,

We are writing on behalf of the **Asia for Animals Coalition**, representing international animal welfare and conservation organizations.

We express our gratitude to you and your department for attempting to intervene in the case of the emaciated baby elephant, known as “Dumbo”, who recently died at the Phuket Zoo.

However, we write to you with great concern regarding the purchase and placement of any additional elephants at the zoo. The zoo has failed to meet the most basic physical and behavioural needs that are fundamental to keeping elephants in captivity.¹

Several visits to the Phuket Zoo have shown that the elephants are chained for long periods of time and forced to stand on an unsuitable surface, when not being forced to perform tricks for tourists.

Standards for animal care set out by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums require that elephants receive appropriate veterinary care and that their nutritional, social, behavioral, and psychological needs should all be met.² The Phuket Zoo has failed in its provision of these basic needs and has chosen to exploit the elephants as photo props and performers for the entertainment of tourists.

Baby “Dumbo” was severely neglected by the Phuket Zoo. He was placed in the zoo when he was too young and forced to perform tricks against his natural behaviours and instincts. The zoo then failed to seek treatment for him when he became ill, leading to his severe malnourishment and resulting in both his back legs being broken due to such neglect. We have received reports from a reputable source that these excruciating injuries went unnoticed by the zoo for three days prior to his death.

¹ GFAS Standards for Elephant Sanctuaries:

<https://www.sanctuaryfederation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/ElephantStandard2015.pdf>

² AZA Standards and Related Policies: <https://www.speakcdn.com/assets/2332/aza-accreditation-standards.pdf>

Animals confined to zoos must be treated appropriately and provided veterinary care such that they are maintained to the highest possible standard.

We respectfully request that your office:

1. does not allow the Phuket Zoo to acquire any additional elephants;
2. requires the zoo to seek expert advice and support from the Krabi Elephant Hospital by way of a veterinary assessment of the two remaining elephants at the zoo;
3. seeks independent expert welfare advice on the zoo's suitability to meet the physical and behavioural needs of these elephants; and
4. takes appropriate action if such advice deems the zoo unable to provide the elephants with the care and management they require.

On behalf of our members around the globe, we thank you for your attention to this letter and once again implore you to take immediate action to ensure that no other elephant suffers as Dumbo did at Phuket Zoo.

Sent on behalf of the following organisations:

1. Animal Concerns Research & Education Society
2. Animal Guardians
3. Animal People Forum
4. Animals Asia Foundation
5. Big Cat Rescue
6. Blue Cross of India
7. Born Free Foundation
8. Change for Animals Foundation
9. Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations
10. FOUR PAWS
11. Humane Society International
12. International Animal Rescue
13. International Fund for Animal Welfare
14. The Jane Goodall Institute - Nepal
15. RSPCA UK
16. Sarawak Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
17. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (HK)
18. The Philippines Animal Welfare Society
19. VShine Animal Protection Association
20. World Animal Protection



ANIMAL PEOPLE FORUM



HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



Please respond to David Neale, Animal Welfare Director, Animals Asia Foundation, Room 1501, Tung Hip Commercial Building, 244-252 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong dneale@animalsasia.org

Copied to;

Mr Thanya Netithamkul

Director General

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation

61 Phaholyothin Road

Chatuchak

Bangkok 10900

Thailand

rpooma@dnpp.go.th

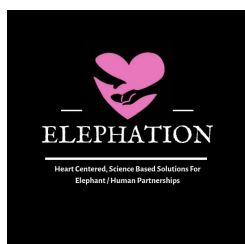
Supported by;

1. Act Asia for Animals, CHINA
2. Action for Dolphins, WORLDWIDE
3. Active Environments, WORLDWIDE
4. All Life In A Viable Environment, JAPAN
5. Alliance for Earth, Life, Liberty & Advocacy, HONG KONG
6. Andhra Pradesh Goshala Federation, INDIA
7. Anima-Society for the Protection of Animals, CHINA
8. Animal Advocacy and Protection, EUROPE
9. Animal Defenders International, LONDON
10. Animal Friendly Alliance, HONG KONG
11. Animal Friends Croatia, CROATIA
12. Animal Friends Niigata, JAPAN
13. Animal Nepal, NEPAL
14. Animal Protection and Environmental Sanctuary, SOUTH AFRICA
15. Animal Protection Network, SWEDEN
16. Animal Refuge Kansai Japan, JAPAN
17. Animal Rights Action Network, IRELAND
18. Animal Rights Center Japan, JAPAN
19. Animal Sanctuary Trust Indonesia, INDONESIA
20. Animal Welfare And Anti Harassment Society Nashik Maharashtra, INDIA
21. Animal Concepts, WORLDWIDE
22. Australians for Animals, AUSTRALIA
23. Bali Animal Welfare Association, INDONESIA
24. Ban Animal Trading, SOUTH AFRICA
25. Behavioural & Environmental Solutions, USA
26. Bharatiya Prani Mitra Sangh, Hyderabad, INDIA
27. Blue Cross Youth Seva Sangham - Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
28. British Hen Welfare Trust, UK
29. Captured in Africa Foundation, AFRICA
30. Catholic Concern for Animals, WORLDWIDE
31. Causes for Animals (Singapore) Ltd, SINGAPORE
32. Centre for Orangutan Protection, INDONESIA
33. Changsha Small Animal Protection Association 长沙市小动物保护协会, CHINA
34. China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation, CHINA
35. China Farm Animal Protection Coalition 中国农场动物保护联盟, CHINA
36. China Zoo Watch, CHINA
37. Coexistence of Animal Rights on Earth, KOREA
38. Compassion in World Farming, WORLDWIDE
39. Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, INDIA
40. Compassion Works International, USA
41. CPR Environmental Education Centre, INDIA
42. Darjeeling Animal Shelter, INDIA
43. Djurens Ratt (Animals Right Sweden), SWEDEN
44. Djurrättsalliansen (The Animal Rights Alliance), SWEDEN
45. Djurskyddet Sverige (Animal Welfare Sweden), SWEDEN
46. Dobro Surtse, BULGARIA
47. Dogstop, ASIA
48. Dzīvnieku Draugs, LATVIA
49. Elephanatics, CANADA
50. Elephant Asia Rescue & Survival Foundation, HONG KONG
51. Elephant Reintegration Trust, SOUTH AFRICA
52. Elephation, THAILAND, NEPAL, INDIA
53. Environment Films, UK
54. European Animal Protection Foundation / Europäische Tierschutzstiftung, SWITZERLAND
55. FAADA, SPAIN
56. Finnish Federation for Animal Welfare Organisations (SEY), FINLAND

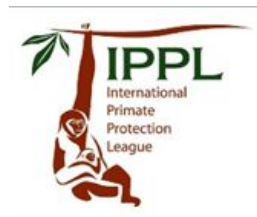
57. FLIGHT, INDONESIA
58. Franciscan Order - Hong Kong, HONG KONG
59. Friends of the Orangutans Malaysia, MALAYSIA
60. Future for Elephants, WORLDWIDE
61. Giving a Future Animal Aid, MYANMAR
62. Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, USA
63. Global Sanctuary for Elephants, WORLDWIDE
64. GREY2K USA Worldwide, WORLDWIDE
65. Greyhound Compassion, EUROPE
66. Grupo de los Cien, MEXICO
67. Help Animals India, INDIA
68. Himalayan Animal Rescue Trust , NEPAL
69. Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society, HONG KONG
70. Human Behaviour Change for Animals, UK
71. Iceland Animal Welfare Foundation, ICELAND
72. In Defence of Animals USA, KOREA, INDIA
73. In Defence of Animals, India, INDIA
74. International Animal & Birds Welfare Society , INDIA
75. International Otter Survival Fund, WORLDWIDE
76. International Primate Protection League, WORLDWIDE
77. IQRA Foundation, INDIA
78. Jakarta Animal Aid Network, INDONESIA
79. Japan Anti-Vivisection Association, JAPAN
80. JBF (India) Trust, INDIA
81. Jinchuan Society for the Protection of Stray Animals 甘肃省金昌市金川区流浪动物保护协会, CHINA
82. Karuna Society for Animals & Nature, INDIA
83. Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre, NEPAL
84. Korean Animal Welfare Association, KOREA
85. Landmark Foundation, SOUTH AFRICA
86. Lanta Animal Welfare, ASIA
87. Life Conservationist Association, TAIWAN
88. Lifelong Animal Protection, HONG KONG
89. Light of Life Veterinary Clinic, SINGAPORE
90. Liuzhou Small Animal Protection Association 柳州市小动物保护协会, CHINA
91. Love Wildlife Foundation, SE ASIA
92. Melbourn Dolphin, AUSTRALIA
93. Mind Life Foundation, INDIA
94. moonbears.org, KOREA
95. National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, SOUTH AFRICA
96. Navale Consulting Group, INDIA
97. Neotropical Primate Conservation, SOUTH AMERICA
98. Noahs Ark Ipoh, Malaysia (Ipoh Animal Welfare Society), MALAYSIA
99. NY4Whales, USA
100. Orangutan Aid, NEW ZEALAND
101. Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, AFRICA
102. PAWS Bangkok, THAILAND
103. People for Animals, Odisha, INDIA
104. People for Animals, Trivandrum, INDIA
105. People social service and education development society, INDIA
106. Performing Animal Welfare Society, USA
107. PETA Asia 亚洲善待动物组织, HONG KONG
108. Pit-Track K9 Conservation and Anti-Poaching, AFRICA
109. Plants and Animals Welfare Society (PAWS Asia), ASIA
110. Qingdao Society for the Protection of Animals 青岛爱护动物协会, CHINA
111. RAKSHA, INDIA
112. Rattle the Cage Productions, THAILAND
113. Rimba Satwa Foundation , INDONESIA
114. Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia), MALAYSIA
115. Sahayog Organisation, Andhra Pradesh Goshala Federation, Hyderabad, INDIA
116. SAI (Save Animals Initiative) Sanctuary Trust, INDIA
117. Sanctuary for Health & Reconnection to Animals & Nature, WORLDWIDE
118. Save The Asian Elephants , ASIA
119. Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, KENYA
120. Showing Animals Respect and Kindness, WORLDWIDE
121. SJZ One Meter More Love stray cats rescue group 石家庄一米爱流浪猫救助团队, CHINA
122. Society for Animal Welfare and Management, NEPAL
123. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - Penang, MALAYSIA
124. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - Selangor, MALAYSIA
125. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Singapore, SINGAPORE
126. Society for the Protection of Animals Ljubimci, SERBIA
127. Society for Travelers Respecting Animal Welfare, WORLDWIDE

128. Soi Dog Foundation, THAILAND
 129. Southern African Fight For Rhinos, AFRICA
 130. Stiftung fuer Baeren / Foundation for Bears, SWITZERLAND
 131. Stray Relief and Animal Welfare, INDIA
 132. Sun Bear Centre - Kalimantan, INDONESIA
 133. Swiss Animal Protection, CHINA
 134. Taiwan SPCA 台灣防止虐待動物協會, TAIWAN
 135. Thai Fund for Elephant Foundation, THAILAND
 136. Thane Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, INDIA
 137. The Cattitude Trust - Chennai, INDIA
 138. The Corbett Foundation, INDIA
 139. The Home of Love (The Salvation Centre of Animals), CHINA
 140. The Humane Education Trust, SOUTH AFRICA
 141. The Kerulos Center for Nonviolence, USA
 142. The Welfare of Stray Dogs - Mumbai, INDIA
 143. The Winsome Constance Kindness Trust, AUSTRALIA
 144. Tree of Compassion, WORLDWIDE
 145. Unexpected Wildlife Refuge, USA
 146. United Against Elephant Polo, INDIA
 147. Vegan-It, SOUTH AFRICA
 148. Vervet Monkey Foundation, SOUTH AFRICA
 149. Voice for dogs abroad, ASIA
 150. Voice for Zoo Animals, JAPAN
 151. We Animals, CANADA
 152. Wild Futures, WORLDWIDE
 153. Wildlife Alliance, CAMBODIA
 154. Wildlife in Need, PHILIPPINES
 155. Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, INDIA
 156. Wolf Watch UK, UK
 157. Working for Animals , AUSTRALIA
 158. World Animal Net, WORLDWIDE
 159. Xi'an Grenadine Companion Animal Rescue Center 西安红石榴伴侣动物救助中心, CHINA
 160. YeuDongVat, VIETNAM
 161. Zimbabwe National SPCA, ZIMBABWE
 162. Zoocheck Inc., WORLDWIDE





SEY
SUOMEN ELÄINSUOJELU





Lifelong Animal Protection Charity
保護動物慈善協會



LOVE WILDLIFE
FOUNDATION, THAILAND



National Council of SPCAs
South Africa



NPC
Neotropical Primate Conservation



Pan African Sanctuary Alliance



PEOPLE FOR ANIMALS



PERFORMING ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

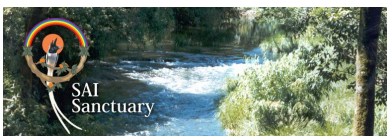
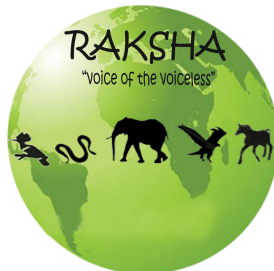


pawsweb.org

PETA ASIA



www.pawsasia.org



SHARAN
Sanctuary for Health and Reconnection to Animals and Nature
www.sharan-india.org





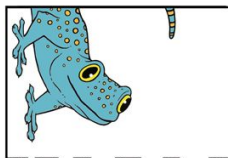
Unexpected Wildlife Refuge



VOICE for zoo animals



JO-ANNE MCARTHUR WE ANIMALS



WIN WILDLIFE IN NEED

