

#AWARENESS

World Dolphin Day

Promoting dolphin welfare, fostering understanding, and championing their cause for a thriving marine environment and coexistence.



Get involved with raising awareness and showing support for these beautiful sea mammals, who live at risk each day, due to human threats. World Dolphin Day provides an excellent opportunity for individuals and organizations to extend care so that these animals can live a safe, happy and long life!



History

The inaugural World Dolphin Day was celebrated in 2022 through the efforts of and support of Sea Shepherd Global. This event was established to pay respect to the world's most devastating slaughter of cetaceans (the sea mammal family including dolphins, whales and porpoises) in recorded history. On September 12, 2021, more than 1400 dolphins were killed off the Faroe Islands as part of a cultural tradition.

Since the time of that slaughter the government of the Faroe Islands has been under scrutiny for this brutal practice. While they have set provisional limits on the num-

ber of white-sided dolphins that can be killed during this 'grind' hunting tradition, the limits remain very generous and this is considered by many to be an empty gesture. Supporters of the dolphins believe that this practice is particularly cruel and outdated and should be stopped altogether. World Dolphin Day is an important time to raise awareness about the plight of these majestic sea creatures, notably because of their endangered status due to human activity. This day is slightly different from National Dolphin Day which is celebrated in April and typically only observed in the United States.



Learn More About Dolphins

Get involved with the appreciation of these incredibly intelligent creatures by enjoying World Dolphin Day. Learn more and share with others to raise awareness for the day, perhaps connecting through some of these interesting facts.

- Dolphins only sleep with half of their brains. This 'hemispheric slow-wave sleep' means that they sleep with half of their brain and shut the opposite eye, allowing them to still monitor their surroundings. Each side of the brain gets about four hours of sleep each day.
- Dolphins can be very fast swimmers. If they are in a hurry or trying to move away from something dan-

gerous, dolphins have been clocked swimming up to 25 miles per hour.

- As mammals, dolphins breathe air from above the surface of the water. But they can hold their breath much longer than humans can. Most dolphins can easily stay underwater for 8-10 minutes and some species can last up to 15 minutes before emerging to take a breath.
- Dolphins are highly intelligent, social creatures. They live in pods of sometimes thousands and often help each other when they are hunting. They also have a long-term family bond where a calf stays with the mother for up to seven years, which is rare in the animal kingdom.



Man-Eaters Of Bahraich

But what led wolves to start targeting humans? "We believe that such incidents often occur in search of easy food, especially when a female wolf is pregnant or has given birth," said Singh. During these times, the female wolf and her cubs cannot hunt, so, the male wolf ventures out in search of food. Human children, being less likely to retaliate compared to other prey, become the easiest targets. Once a child is killed, the male wolf eats more than usual, double his normal capacity, returns to the den and vomits the partially digested food for the female wolf and the cubs.



Anjali Sharma
Senior Journalist &
Wildlife Enthusiast

Another killer wolf, part of the pack that had terrorised people living in 25 to 30 villages in Uttar Pradesh, was caught by the Forest Department on Thursday. In the past 45 days, man-eater wolves have allegedly killed around eight people, including six children and one woman, and have left more than 25 people injured in Bahraich area, and have been giving sleepless nights to 50,000 people residing in these areas.

'Operation Bhediya'

Drone cameras and thermal drone mapping techniques are being used by the forest department to catch the wolves. Permission to tranquillise the animals has been granted by the Chief Wildlife Warden, according to an official statement. "As per the forest department, there is uncertainty about the total number of wolves in the area," officials said.

The Child-Killing Wolves

Four-year-old Sandhya was sleeping outside her mud hut in India's Uttar Pradesh state on the night of 17 August when a power cut plunged the village into darkness. "The wolves attacked within two

minutes of the lights going out. By the time we realised what was happening, they had taken her away," recalls her mother, Sunita. Sandhya's body was found lying next day in the sugarcane farms, some 500 metres from her home. Earlier in the month, in a neighbouring village, eight-year-old Utkarsh was sleeping under a mosquito net when his mother spotted a wolf creeping into their hut. "The animal lunged from the shadows. I screamed. 'Leave my son alone! My neighbours rushed in, and the wolf fled," she recounts. Since mid-April, a wave of wolf attacks has terrorised around 30 villages in Bahraich district, near the border with Nepal. Nine children and an adult have been carried off and killed by the wolves. The youngest victim was a one-year-old boy and the oldest was a 45-year-old woman. At least 34 others have been injured.

Fear and hysteria have gripped the affected villages. With many village homes lacking locks, children are being kept indoors, and men are patrolling the darkly lit streets at night. Authorities have deployed drones and cameras, set traps and used firecrackers to scare away the wolves. So far, some wolves have been captured and relocated to zoos.

Such attacks on humans are extremely rare, and most involve wolves infected with rabies, a viral disease that affects the central nervous system. A rabid wolf will typically make multiple assaults without consuming the victims. A report by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research reported 469 'relatively reliable cases' of wolf attacks in 21 countries, including India, between 2002 and 2020. Only 26 of them were fatal. Around 380 people were victims of 'rabid attacks'.

"There have been only two confirmed cases of wolf-related

#GHORE-LORE



Barabanki Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Akashdeep Badhanan, the in-charge of 'Operation Bhediya,' told us that a male wolf was trapped in one of the cages set up near Sisaiya Chudamani village in the morning.

fatalities in North America over the past 50 years." Dave Mech, a renowned American Biologist, who specialises in wolf behaviour, told the BBC. This is despite a population of approximately 70,000 wolves spread across North America.

So, why are wolves attacking humans in Bahraich? Nestled between a river and forests, parts of Bahraich have long been a traditional wolf habitat. Located in the floodplain of the Ghaghara river, the district, home to 3.5 million people, is prone to seasonal flooding.

Heavy rains and flooding during the monsoons have drastically altered the landscape. The swollen river has inundated the forests, potentially driving the wolves out

of their natural habitats in search of food and water. Indian wolves prey on blackbuck, chinkara (Indian gazelle) and hare. "Climate change is a gradual process but flooding can lead to habitat disruptions for the wolves, forcing them into human settlements in search of food," says Amita Kanaujia of the Institute of Wildlife Sciences in Lucknow University.

Why would children be a target of the wolves in search of food? In these poor Indian villages, livestock is often better protected than children. When a hungry wolf, facing a depleted prey habitat and limited access to livestock, encounters such vulnerable children, they become more likely targets. "Nowhere else in the world



Programmers Day

Most people will readily admit that computers, technology and the software behind them are critical in making the modern world go around. But for every piece of clever software in existence, there is a programmer (and often teams of programmers) behind the scenes. Spare a thought for these digital pioneers. Programmers Day is celebrated on the 256th day of the year, chosen because this is the number of distinct values that can be represented with an eight-bit byte, and the highest power of two which is less than 365. And when this number is translated to binary code, it reads 1 0000 0000. Clever!

Why do wolves become 'man-eaters?' Bahraich attacks explained.

Kishore Kumar, a local, said that this was the first time such attacks had been experienced by the villagers. The International Wolf Centre (IWC) supports his statement as well. Wolves, among most carnivorous predators, are quite unlikely to attack humans, it says. According to the IWC, they live in constant 'feast or famine' mode, which means that they eat a large quantity for a while, and then do not

hunt for long periods of time. A global study by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research from 2002-2020 showed that only 26 fatal wolf attacks on humans took place around the world in that time period. Out of these, four occurred in India and were fatal because the victims contracted rabies.

In fact, the study considers the risk of wolf attacks to be 'above zero, but far too low to calculate.'

Wolf Attacks Bring Back Memories of 1996 Horror

Bahraich serves as a grim reminder of the 1996 wolf attacks in Pratapgarh and neighbouring districts like Sultanpur and Jaunpur, where more than 60 children were killed.

Though Tiwaripur Kala, a small hamlet in UP's Pratapgarh, is 227 kilometres away from the wolf-infested Mahsi tehsil of Bahraich, the fear is visible among the residents. The village, one of the worst-hit during the 1996 attacks, said that the incidents still haunt them. Many prefer to stay indoors and avoid venturing out alone after dark.

"Sahab, humein toh lagta hai yeh kuch pichhle janam ka paap raha hoga jo humein yeh din dekhna pada. (It might be some bad deeds from a previous birth that brought about the wolf attacks). Those were the most horrific times that we ever faced, when even children were not safe in their mother's lap. More than 60 children were

killed during that period," said Kanhaiya Lal, an elderly resident of Tiwaripur Kala.

Mukesh Yadav, 52, who hails from the same village and survived a terrifying wolf attack, recalled the night that changed his life. "I was 24 and sleeping in my field in the middle of the night when the wolf attacked me. It tried to grab my neck, but I managed to push the animal away before its canines could sink deep into my skin. To my shock, the wolf came at me again, this time seizing my thigh. I struggled to fend it off, but the wolf was relentless," Yadav recounted.

Fortunately, a local villager spotted the animal and quickly raised an alarm. "The forest department team rushed to the site in no time and the wolf fled upon seeing them. I truly feel like I was given a second birth that night," he said. "I'm thankful to the foresters who saved my life. Without them, I wouldn't be here today."



Villagers stand on guard.

FOREST DEPARTMENT STEPS IN

UP's former Wildlife Warden of Prayagraj region, V. K. Singh, described the operation to trap the man-eater wolves in the 1990s as the most gruelling in the history of the state's forest department. Singh said that over 100 foresters were involved in the operation, which lasted around eight months and concluded in the woods of Jaunpur. During this time, approximately 42 children were killed, and the forest department managed to gun down around 13 man-eater wolves to finally end the menace.

Singh explained that the operation to capture the wolves took place along the Sai river, which borders Jaunpur, Pratapgarh and Sultanpur. Both wolves and jackals inhabited the fringes of villages in this area. But what led wolves to start targeting humans? "We believe that such incidents often occur in search of easy food, especially when a female wolf is pregnant or has given birth," said Singh. During these times, the female wolf and her cubs cannot hunt, so, the male wolf ventures out in search of food. Human children, being less like-



ly to retaliate compared to other prey, become the easiest targets. Once a child is killed, the male wolf eats more than usual, double his normal capacity, returns to the den and vomits the partially digested food for the female wolf and the cubs.

"After consuming the human flesh, maybe accidentally or knowingly, the pack becomes accustomed to it and develops a preference, leading the wolves to continue hunting children. This dangerous cycle turns the wolves into persistent threats as they start seeing human children as their primary food source," he added.

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#TETE-A-TETE

PAINTING THE PINK CITY 'TANGERINE'

Hair and beauty expert, Natasha Singh was one of the pioneers in bringing luxury well-being and personalized care in Jaipur's beauty scene. As she expands with the second branch in Pink City of the homegrown beauty brand 'Tangerine,' her commitment to sustainability and maintaining high standards continues to set the brand apart, blending world-class services with a conscious approach. Let's delve into her journey.



Tusharika Singh
Freelancer Writer
and City Blogger



Founder of Tangerine, Natasha Singh, with her family.

In a city where beauty and heritage are intertwined, Tangerine stands out as a homegrown brand that has been redefining beauty and well-being for Jaipur's elite. For over a decade, the founder, Natasha Singh has built a brand that's synonymous with elegance, attention to detail, and a personal touch. As Tangerine opens its second branch in the Pink City, Natasha Singh reflects on her journey and the secret behind her success.

Standing out in the Crowd

Natasha's path to creating Tangerine began with her training at renowned institutes like BBlunt, Fat Mu, and Vidal Sassoon in London. Returning to Jaipur in 2014, she saw a gap in the market. "I sensed a void of premium salons in Jaipur and decided to open Tangerine," she says. "I wanted to give people here a luxury salon experience where they feel truly cared for." Today, with a decade of expertise, she's expanding her reach while ensuring the same level of personalized service that her clients have come to expect.

While many new salons have sprung up in Jaipur, Natasha took her time to grow Tangerine. In 2014, she opened her first salon in Civil Lines and also has a set up at Mayo College Girls' School in Ajmer. After 10 years, she has opened her second salon in Jaipur. "I didn't open multiple branches for years because I wanted to focus on personalized attention," she shares. "It's non-negotiable to maintain the same standards across all branches." With her mother, Nanda Singh, managing operations and a well-trained team by her side, Tangerine now offers world-class services that keep its clientele loyal.

A Continuous Learning Curve

To keep Tangerine at the cutting edge, Natasha travels regularly to research trends and attend training. "I hold regular sessions for my staff to stay updated on the latest technologies," she explains. Sustainability is also a priority, with workshops on eco-friendly practices and mindful water usage. "It's about more than just beauty," Natasha says. "We aim to be responsible in our work." Natasha has tapped into Jaipur's growing reputation as a style hub by collaborating with fashion photographers and designers. "We regularly do hair and makeup for leading magazines and shoots," she notes. This strategic positioning has helped Tangerine become a fixture in the city's luxury landscape.



A glimpse of Tangerine salon.

A New Chapter in Vaishali Nagar

The newest branch of Tangerine in Vaishali Nagar reflects Natasha's commitment to sustainability. "The salon is designed to harness natural light, reducing energy consumption," she says. With eco-conscious practices like optimal air conditioning settings, Tangerine not only reduces overheads but its carbon foot-

print as well. The salon offers a wide range of services, from hair styling to skin rituals, all aimed at providing clients with a holistic beauty experience. As Natasha Singh looks ahead, her goal remains clear, to continue offering the best in beauty and wellness, while staying true to her core values of luxury, care, and sustainability.

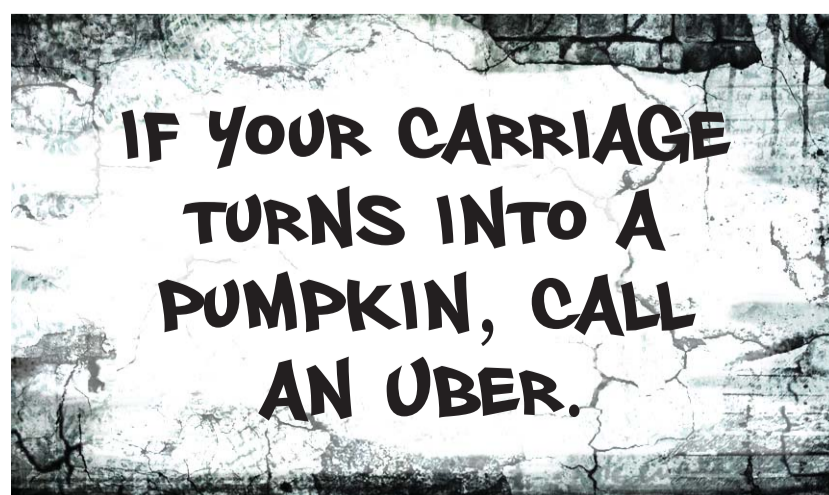


The newly opened Tangerine salon in Vaishali Nagar.

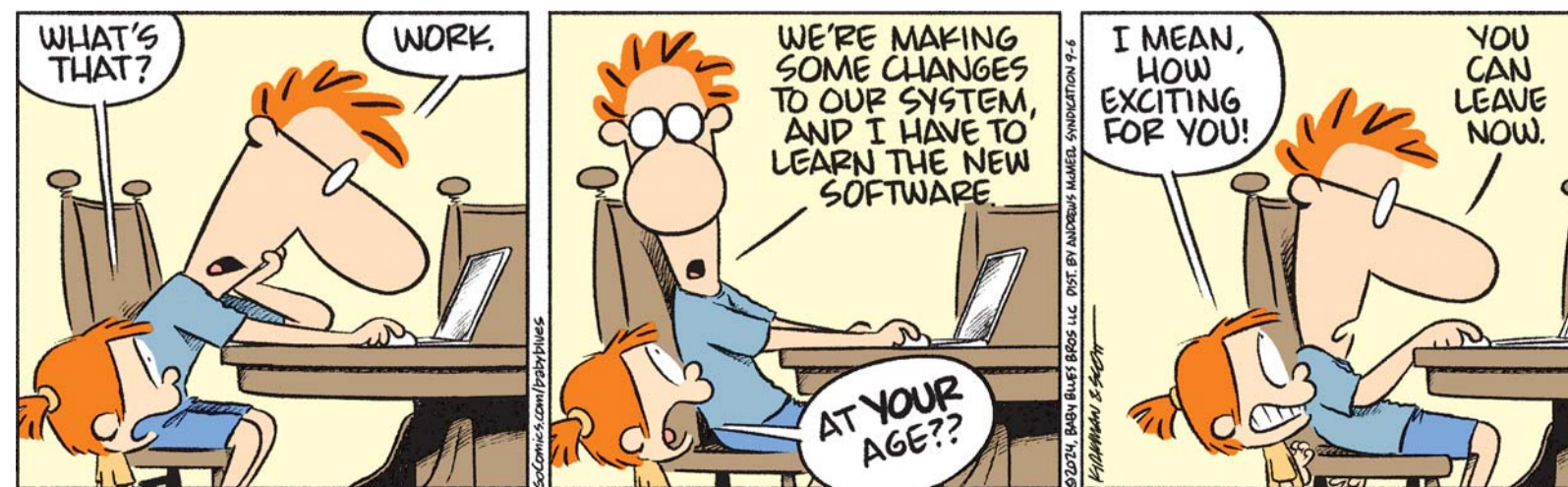


A glimpse of the newly opened Tangerine salon.

THE WALL



BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman