

MAD COW DISEASE - BSE - ITS ORIGIN AND INVASION ON THE HUMANS

THE PROPOSED SAVAGE SLAUGHTER OF THE SELFLESS FOR THE SINS OF THE SELFISH

NOT THE BRITISH BEEF ALONE, BUT MAN'S OWN LUST

AND GREED TOO DEGENERATE HIS BRAIN

It is said that man has within him a cow and a wolf. The cow depicts selflessness, love towards all creation, and a craving to give away. The wolf signifies utter selfishness, lust and greed, and a voracious craving to snatch away. The present times belong to the wolf. The poor cow is mercilessly repressed.

The Daena of Asho Zarathushtra declares that the cow in man has its physical manifestation in the animal cow trotting on the surface of the earth. Bahman Ameysaspand has His dominance on both.

When the wolf in man is on a rampage, he mercilessly oppresses and tyrannises not only the cow within, but also the nourishing and innocent animal, the cow, which is God's wonderful gift to him. He mercilessly slaughters billions of cows for yummy yummy beef plates. He does not stop at this. He uses the beef extracts for his self-decoration in cosmetics, creams, shampoos, lipsticks. He kills a newly-born calf before the open eyes of its mother-cow, because the tremorous perspiration which oozes out of her skin on seeing her infant being slaughtered, provides a luxuriously soft skin garment for man's self-decoration. Mother is slaughtered when the perspiration is fresh. Is this not taking a wolfish advantage of such a divine thing as mother's love? Pooh! There is no "mothers love" on Darwin's survival of the fittest or Newton's Godless laws of motion or Adam Smith's amassing of wealth at any costs. That is the scientific culture of the west. It is the West which strengthens, braces up and hardens the wolf in man.

Look at the way the sophisticated West milks its cows - those who are not marked out for beef. They are fed and injected with all kinds of things which increases the quantity of milk in them. This makes their milk-bags so heavy that it becomes torturous for them even to walk, and the thigh often bleeds due to the friction caused by the heavy bag. The process of milking them is still more agonising. Some 10 or 20 or more of them are cruelly cramped in a narrow lane of some kind of rods and the milk is extracted by some painful electric gadgets. If you want to understand the difference between the west and east, see this barbarous way of treating a cow in America and the tender affectionate way an Indian villager milks a cow. He treats the cow as his mother and she looks at him with the loving eyes of a mother, breast feeding her child.

The more ill-fated beef cow has obviously more massive agony in store. But before the cruel slaughter, they are to be well-fed with such foods as would produce more beef per cow. After all the "scientific" culture is based on more meat and more money. So the cow which the mother nature has made strictly vegetarian is made to eat meat by man. Are you surprised? Please don't! This was happening since decades, particularly in the country of our past rulers, Britain, where the cow-feed was enriched with sheep offal made up of liver, tongue, heart, brain. This adds protein to the feed and the quantity of beef per cow as also the profits increase.

This has now suddenly and sharply reacted on Britain in particular and mankind in general. In March 1996 it was revealed that ten Britons had died of a disease transmitted from the British beef. The disease in ordinary language is called **MAD COW DISEASE**, and the whole beef-eating globe has gone mad with intense panic. The British beef is banned by European countries. One country has even massacred the calves imported from Britain. The scare has gone as far as South Korea. Egypt has declared British beef a dangerous intake. Japan has ordered the beef shops to display on the beef packages its origin. In fact the Japanese were wise enough to ban British beef as early as in 1951 "for health reasons". Britain is trying to restore confidence by all kinds of the usual verbal juggleries like, "there is enough scientific evidence to show that "beef is safe if certain conditions are carried out, which we do purpose to do" etc. The words thrown out in huge quantity in the British Parliament during the debate on the mad-cow disease sounded like a herd of mad wolves. The people in Britain have silently discarded their own beef and instructed their children not to eat beef given at schools, caring a hoot for their usual GNP - gross national pride.

Not Only Food but Beauty - Products Too

The humans are not only eating cows; they are using the beef extracts and cattle tissues in cosmetics like skin creams, shampoos and lipsticks. As Britain is worried about its beef industry, France is worried about its cosmetic industry, although it was one of the first countries which banned the British beef. France is trying to tell the world "Oh! Don't worry! we are taking all precautions, given our scientific understanding". It is not clear what the French mean. It is "their" scientific understanding; if somebody else's understanding is different, are they French not responsible? There is a Cosmetics Industries Association having a nickname "Colipa" which would ask its members to withdraw from the world market high risks products containing "cattle brains, eyes or central nervous system". There is medical evidence that the disease can be transmitted through scratches, cuts and sores. So the users of the cosmetics and the persons touching them both are at high risk. (Significantly, a touch through lipstick may be dangerous.)

Proposed Mass-Slaughter of 47 lacs Cows!

Now here is the most gruesome part of this tale of horror. A plan has been approved by the European Union, under which Britain will mercilessly slaughter 47 lakhs cows **over a period of six years at the rate of 15000 cows per week!! And the mass massacre will be duly televised!**

Stunned?

Who have gone mad, cows or humans?

The aim of this cruel blood bath is stated to be to "stamp out" the mad cow disease and to restore public confidence in the British beef;

This is just because a handful of the humans of one of the affluent countries have died of the disease transmitted - presumably - from the British beef. Nobody thought of eradicating the industry, which killed and agonised thousands in the Bhopal gas disaster, because they were Indians.

What would be the thoughts of the poor, helpless, innocent cows taking their last journey to giant incinerators?

Destroy them! Annihilate them completely! Ensure that no trace of them remains. Burn away every cell of their bodies. That is the demand of the mighty European Union of 14+ 1 countries. (That 1 is U.K.)

What Is This Mad Cow Disease?

Its history goes back more than two centuries. Somewhere in the 18th, it was found in Iceland that flocks of sheep were dying of a bizarre disease. They first staggered, then trembled and then started to scrap terribly on trees and rocks, due to intense itching, until the locks and locks of wool fell to the ground. And then they died. The disease was named 'Scrapie'. It became rampant in Scotland and parts of Northern Europe. But it bothered only sheep and no other animal (including man), and only the veterinary doctors were interested in it. In the present century, it was identified as a virus disease. The weird feature about the virus was that it was elusive, slow acting and so very hardy as to withstand high temperatures and survive for years in the soil. Bjorn Sigurdsson, a virologist from Iceland named it in 1954 as "Slow Virus". It is 'slow' because it remains in the animal for years before starting to show its deadly symptoms. Does this sound familiar? Yes, **HIV does the same. It remains silent in the animal, named man, for ten years, before showing the horrible AIDS symptoms.** What a poetic coincidence? A qualification viz 'slow' given to an animal-disease virus is now applicable to the human virus. It was the animal who declared to man the existence of such slow but surely fatal virus. And today it is rampant in both.

The virologists found that scrapie was a brain disease. It turned sheep's brain to a sponge. Would it do any damage to the masterly human brain? The answer came: Yes.

The Rotting Brains of the Humans!

Papua New Guinea is an island in the Pacific, at the North of Australia, above its highest point on the map. As the first half of the present destructive century was coming to a close, reports arrived in the medical circles that a tribe in the isolated highlands of that island, was passing through a fatal epidemic. A young American virologist D. Carleton Gajdusek had an itch to find out what it was. He went to the habitats of the tribe (called Fore tribe), walked a total distance of 2000 miles from village to village and collected data and samples.

Gajdusek found that the disease struck mostly women and children. They first lost their coordination, then got tremors and paralysis, and died within a year; Gajdusek suspected that the disease was connected with the brain. It was quite a task for him to collect brain samples from the dead victims. To get them he traded axes and tobacco with the relatives of the dead. He found that the brains had degenerated to sponges. Investigating the food habits, he made a horrid discovery that the rituals of the tribe required their women to eat the pieces of the dead people's brains, which carried the virus. Not only those women but also their children caught that "Kuru" disease (as the tribe called it). The virus could have entered through scratches, cuts and sores on the skin and even by mouth, and remained in the person for years before developing the symptoms.

It was then revealed that Kuru resembled 'Scrapie' of the sheep and another 'CJD' of the humans. **CJD is "Creutzfeldt-Jacob-Disease"** so rare that it was supposed to strike one in a million. One well known choreographer. George Balanchine, died of CJD in 1983. Autopsy revealed that his brain had turned spongy like scrapie sheep and the human Kuru. They were classed as slow virus brain diseases.

Gajdusek won Nobel prize in 1976 for his exertions and discovery. Rarity of CJD in humans led to the wane of interest in the spongy brains.

Arrived 1986, and the interest was frighteningly aroused. Cows in Britain were dying of **Bovine Spongy Encephalopathy (BSE)**, also known as **MAD COW DISEASE**, and it resembled CJD, Scrapie and Kuru. Cows first tumbled, then became irritable and aggressive, and ultimately died. By 1994 tens of thousands of cows had died or have been slaughtered. The customer countries of Britain were aware of this. Post communist Russia had in 1994 returned a free gift of British beef, untouched. It became known that BSE was caused by the sheep-offal fed to the cows. Although offal was banned as cow feed, cows did not stop going mad. As usual, the humans were complacent. The virus has not reached the humans. But in March 1996, 10 Britons were reported dead due to BSE and the scare has reached a feverish height. Those who died must be carrying the slow virus in them for years. That means like HIV, people will have to be tested whether they are "BSE or CJD positive". As Kuru suggested, BSE can be well transmitted from humans to humans, from women to their children and even through the scars and cuts and sores on the skin.

"Time" magazine in its 1 st April issue quotes the poet Leveridge (1670-1758):

"When mighty roast beef the English-man's food.

It ennobled out hearts and enriched our blood.

'Time' then cracks a nice shot: "It may now be killing - not ennobling hearts - but rotting brains".

What is a Virus?

By 'Virus', we normally understand some very small particles, which carry and transmit a disease. Actually, a virus operates by invading a living cell in the animal or human body and uses certain materials in the cell to reproduce itself. This strains the host cell to a bursting point. An average virus is around 50 millionths of a millimeter i.e. 2 millionths of an inch. A human body has its own defensive mechanism against viruses. It can prevent the Virus from spreading to the adjacent cells. But certain viruses react by 'mutating' themselves i.e. by changing their inner structures. The war between man and microbes is incessantly going on and the ways and life style of the present day humans help the microbes to win. How they are winning, we will some other time tell you in this humble Parsi Pukar.