

and one hundred and twenty cats he has collected, (we have no accurate count of the numbers) and yet he claims to be an **animal lover**. People think of him as such and in a steady flow condemn their unwanted pets to his camp of death.

This place mirrors hundreds of tiny ghettos all over Japan where animals are collected, kept by lonely old people because they originally feel sorry for them and are against killing. Certainly the inhuman brutal methods employed by local authorities to kill and catch animals makes people seek any alternative (except euthanasia). But when numbers build up and these 'Samaritans' reach the limits of their economic and physical ability to cope, kindness turns into cruelty. Dog pounds are paradises in comparison to these hell-holes.

A greater tragedy however, is the unbelievable fact that there is nothing that can be done to stop this man keeping his hell-hole of misery nor in taking in more if he pleases. There is no law in this country to protect animals from lunatic torturers like this. The Hokensho in Tenri has been there many times, not to save the animals, but from the hygiene point of view - Even though it must break every hygiene code in the book, no action has been taken.

Nara Prefecture must stand out in shame for allowing this place to exist let alone expand. The local government, central government are equally apathetic - Japanese seeing the video actually sympathize with the old man having to cope with so many animals - they send him donations and /or more animals. Those initially shocked by the plight of the animals soon forget - everyone prefers to ignore or block out the memory, because it is an easy way out.

I believe that outside pressure is the last resort - There is no organization, no-one, nothing in Japan that will put a stop to this pattern of cruelty. For every one that dies off there are others to take their place. I appeal to those abroad to highlight the hidden shame of an affluent country. To save other countless innocent animals from a similar fate.

Note: The second part of the video deals with animal experiments in Japan, and show the activities of JAVA (Japan Anti Vivisection Association). Since there are no proper laws for the protection of animals in general, this organization is growing steadily but has an uphill struggle. There is no transcript for this section but one can be prepared if requested.