



NAKED ANTIFUR ACTIVISTS chant "We'd rather go naked than wear fur" Tuesday outside Yokohama's Landmark Tower. TOSHIKI SAWAGUCHI PHOTO

Fur activists bare fair gripe

YOKOHAMA — A group of female animal-rights activists staged a naked rally Tuesday against a three-day international fur fair being held here.

Members of the Tokyo-based No Fur Fund stripped down to their underwear outside Landmark Tower near Pacifico Yokohama, where the "Fur and Fashion Japan Messe" opened in the morning.

Founded in 1990, the citizen group has about 600 members across the country. It has presented photo exhibitions throughout Japan, featuring graphic depictions of slaughtered animals.

The protesters were incircled by a large banner that read: "We'd rather go naked than wear fur!"

They shouted such messages as, "Please don't kill animals for people's luxuries," "We never buy fur," "We never wear fur," and "Fur products are bloody clothes."

"I can't stand looking at them. They look so cold," said a female passerby.

"I was totally surprised," a 30-year-old businessman said. "It's true that killing animals is pitiful, but it's difficult issue because some people make a living with these products."