



Humane Society International

# Uncaged:

## Taking dog meat off the menu

Imagine if your family dog was stolen, forced into a wire cage and transported hundreds of miles without food or water in the blistering heat or freezing cold - to be beaten to death for someone's dinner plate. Unbelievably, that's what happens to millions of dogs throughout Asia in the brutal and largely illegal dog meat trade.

Humane Society International is a leading force in China, South Korea and other countries in the fight against this cruelty.

We're rescuing dogs, shutting down dog meat farms, and lobbying governments to end the cruelty for good. It's an immense task but, with your help, we'll stop the barbaric dog meat trade.



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## Unimaginable cruelty

In countries such as China, the Philippines and Vietnam, stray dogs are poisoned or grabbed from the street, and companion animals stolen, to be killed for their meat. Hundreds of dogs are crammed together in cages unable to move, and driven - sometimes for days - to their deaths. They are often sick and injured, and many animals die from shock, suffocation, dehydration or heatstroke long before they reach their destination. Those still alive at the end of their journey face a brutal and terrifying ordeal being beaten to death, and sometimes even boiled alive.

In South Korea dogs are bred on thousands of farms, some of which hold more than 1,000 dogs. Our rescue teams have exposed appalling conditions - dogs locked in small, barren, filthy wire cages their whole lives without adequate food, water, shelter or veterinary care; they suffer appallingly, both physically and mentally.

## Cruelty is not culture

Cruelty to animals – dogs, pigs, whales or any species - can never be justified, under 'culture' or any other excuse. Opposition to the dog meat trade is growing in many Asian countries. In China, most people don't eat dog meat, and the dog meat trade is more to do with profit than tradition; the infamous Yulin dog meat festival is a recent invention to boost flagging dog meat sales. In South Korea, dog meat is increasingly being rejected by young people, and is mainly eaten as a delicacy by an older, male population in the mistaken belief it has medicinal properties.



Yuhire & Yi Shan



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## Human health risks

The dog meat trade isn't just bad news for animals, it's also a serious health risk for people who expose themselves to disease through catching, killing and eating dogs. The trade has been linked to outbreaks of trichinellosis, cholera and rabies.

The World Health Organisation warns that the dog meat trade helps spread the cholera-causing bacteria, and estimates that eating dog meat increases the risk of contracting cholera 20-fold. The rabies virus, which kills around 39,000 people across Asia annually, has been found in dogs traded for human consumption in China, Vietnam and Indonesia, and has been linked to recent rabies outbreaks. The trade breaches rabies control measures and impedes local efforts to eliminate this killer disease.

## Yulin dog meat 'festival'

China's annual dog meat event in Yulin in June has become a global symbol of the immense cruelty of this trade. It's estimated more than 10,000 dogs and cats, many still wearing their collars, are crushed into cages and driven to Yulin by traders, to be brutally killed and eaten.

Thanks greatly to campaigning by HSI and our Chinese animal group partners, this event has reduced in size, but we are determined to end it for good. Some 20 million dogs are killed for their meat across China year round, so Yulin is one part of a much bigger trade we're working to shut down.



Yuhire



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# Campaigning for change: saving lives

Humane Society International is committed to ending the cruel dog meat trade, and we're making progress.

In China we've helped establish and train *China Animal Protection Power*, dedicated Chinese activists who intercept illegal dog meat trucks and negotiate with the dog traders to rescue and provide first aid to the terrified and exhausted animals. Through CAPP we've helped rescue thousands of dogs so far, and we've exposed the cruelty through Chinese and global media coverage. Together, we're calling on the Chinese authorities to clamp down on the criminal gangs who underpin this cruel and illegal trade.

In South Korea, HSI works with dog meat farmers to close down farms, rescue hundreds of dogs, adopt them into loving forever homes, and help the farmers start new, cruelty-free businesses instead. As South Korea prepares itself for the global spotlight of the Winter Olympics in 2018, we're campaigning for a government-led nationwide buy-out of dog meat farms.

## TAKE ACTION

- 1. WRITE to the Chinese Ambassador to support our call for an end China's Yulin dog meat festival.** Write to: His Excellency Mr Liu Xiaoming, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Kingdom, 49 Portland Place, London W1B 1JL.
- 2. DONATE to help us save dogs.** Your donations help us train more Chinese rescue teams, buy life-saving veterinary medicine, fund safe shelters, and shut down Korean dog meat farms. **Donate at [hsi.org/helpdogs](https://www.hsi.org/helpdogs)**
- 3. SHARE our campaign with others on social media.** Find us at @HSIUKorg and [facebook.com/HSIGlobal](https://www.facebook.com/HSIGlobal) as well as on the web at [hsi.org](https://www.hsi.org)