

The Alliance With Gaia

Passage Nine



Onwards...we reflect on golden sentiments loving kindness, patience, generosity of spirit amidst the din of the global shadow and the collapse of what Stuart Wilde referred to as the ivory towers.

Some of the towers are part of us, for so hidden from us has been our own darkness which we now bring into the light into consciousness to be healed.

The Alliance With Gaia is to care for the Earth, for nature, the oceans river streams and animals, such care embraces people.



Take the lowest path into softness and humility.

To be humble is to be strong, we can't master serenity and detachment by appearing to be “quiet” and yet trying to hide hatreds, anger, specialness for example and its plain to see and feel.

So we do our best to try to resolve our darkness and evolve towards being more authentic. To be more authentic means that we must accept ourselves.

Stuart Wilde gave the example of a water rat. A scruffy water rat that makes no apologies for what it is, it just is. OK so we are not perfect, we are doing our best and we are not diminished for being the imperfect humans that we are.

We have to offer compassion to ourselves and then we are able to offer it to others. This does not mean that we have to condone abuse, our journey is one of developing more awareness and balance.

Situations of imbalance are like being out at sea in a little boat sometimes. Focus, clarity and the removal of blocks and binds, emotion and mind can get us across to shore.



Animals are very sensitive to the feelings and behaviour of humans this may seem an obvious point with domestic animals but its way more subtle as you may have noticed.

They sense for example in humans issues of fear, control, silent anger, disdain, panic, “treachery emotions” They sense love, patience, stillness.

There is considerable diversity with regard to peoples sentiments for animals, nature and wild life.

We will look now at the “controversy” of birds of prey and hunting sounds familiar, well yes it is, just as we have seen with wolves.

The particular carnivore is a bird of prey the Hen Harrier- Circus cyaneus, lets find out more there are 3 parts to the exercise.

Hen Harriers eat grouse chicks amongst other food sources, so they are considered a threat to the sport.

<https://vimeo.com/179453949>

Please observe without emotional reactions and rigid ideas, watch each part carefully and see what you make of it.

Perspectives

1. Conservation “- Those who work on the land.

<https://vimeo.com/136184112>

2 “Sporting Activities”- A narrative by participants

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXv0dVFsuMI>

3. An appreciation of nature

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9re7hBXHc7s>

Questions

1. How did each perspective come across to you?

b) What feelings did you get from each perspective?

2. What did you learn overall?

3. Some Game keepers can have an understanding of ecological balance did you find any example in the first perspective video.

Meditation

Choose a Resonance Card reflect on it and go into meditation.

Try this on more than one occasion.

See what is shown.

Projects

Thank you very much re the Projects .The exercise was an interesting experience for people and much was learned. It is a process from head to heart, from concepts to feelings.

We share here two project extracts more to follow in the next Passage

The first is about the Australian Dingo, the second project the wolf in

Denmark.

THE DINGO(canis lupo dingo)



“Not long ago at my place of work, I had a great opportunity to engage with some Australian animals. They were all wonderful and unique but the one that caught my attention the most was the dingo. It was a beautiful animal with a soft and very inquisitive nature. You could easily see he loved his caretaker very much and he was also affectionate to everyone else. This dingo had beautiful dark eyes, like two shimmering pools of black water, deep and mystical. His caretaker Jamie, told us dingoes never look you in the eye and cannot be trained.

Rather than bark, dingoes howl and whimper. They have unique wrists, capable of rotation so they can use their paws like hands and turn door knobs. A dingo can also turn its head almost 180 degrees in each direction. They breed once a year and generally only the alpha pair breed and the other pack members help with raising the pups. In Australia they are the apex predators.

I did some research myself and came up with the following information: The "Wikipedia" classifies " the dingo (canis lupus dingo) as a wild dog found in Australia. Its exact ancestry is debated, but dingoes are generally believed to be descended from semi-domesticated dogs from East or South Asia, which returned to a wild lifestyle when introduced to Australia. Both the dingo and domestic dog are classified as subspecies of canis lupus in Mammal Species of the World" They arrived in Australia 5000 years ago, some say earlier. Some also believe they are descended from the Indian Wolf (canis lupus pallipes). Study of dingo skeletons suggest they are very similar to Indian pariah dogs and wolves (from Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh). Australian dingo skulls are between those of a dog and wolf. Dingoes appear to be somewhat between wolves and dogs. In Aboriginal culture the dingo is a well-known part of rock carvings, cave paintings, ceremonies (in the form of howling) and dreamt time stories passed down through the generations. The dingo is connected to holy places, totems, rituals and dream time characters.

There are stories that dogs can see the supernatural and are guard dogs and warn against evil powers. There is evidence that dogs have been buried together with their owners to protect them against evil even after death. (Koli E. 1978) There are other stories about dingo-people, myths about shape shifters (human to dingo or vice versa). Depending on the region, dingoes can be associated with good things and not so good things. In some myths the dingo is responsible for death, they kill and eat humans. Koli E. (1978) writes:" Other stories tell of a giant devil dingo, from which the real dingoes originate. The dog is thereby depicted as a homicidal, malicious creature that apart from the lack of a subtle mind is similar to a trickster, since it plays the role of a mischievous adversary for other mythological beings. Many of them fall victim to blood thirsty dogs or escape them. Here individual beings have a significant meaning too or sometimes become part of the landscape. Even the actions of these dogs result for instance to the creations of stones and trees from flying around bones and meat or ochre from the spilled blood."

Dingoes are now threatened by persecution, (They were regarded as pests since the start of the European livestock industry). In 1946 thousands of miles of dingo fences had been erected in several areas of South Australia to keep them out. They are also threatened by habitat loss and wild domestic dogs."

Written by S. Australia

The Wolf in Denmark.



“I chose this project because for a long time the wolf has been appearing in my daily life through dreams, pictures, movies, articles etc. I have been taking this as a sign to write about the wolf.

In 2012 I had a dream about wolf cubs born here in Denmark and I felt a welcoming feeling. A couple of months later October the 14th on my birthday, the first observation was made.

One male wolf was observed and photographed in the National Park Thy in the north of Jutland. A couple of months later in December it unfortunately was found dead but then the researchers had something to work on. The genetic research showed it to be a German wolf from a pack living near the Polish and the Czech border. The wolf had wandered about 530 miles and was 4 years old.

The last wolf in Denmark was shot in 1830 and the wolves were exterminated in the Western Europe between 1700 and 1900. A few were left in Spain, Portugal and Italy. The last wolf in Britain was killed in 1680.

The wolves were mainly killed because of their attacks on smaller domestic animals. Their attacks increased because of the wars between the countries in Europe. The armies had to hunt to get food for the soldiers. They were hunting exactly the same prey as the wolves did rabbit, hare, roe deer and red deer. There for the wolves had to attack domestic animals to survive and that was why they were all killed. How many wolves there are in Denmark is a question? At first the researchers meant there were 40 but they had to downgrade the numbers to about 20 individuals because some samples of feces and saliva from investigations were from foxes not wolves. There is not any proof of how many there are. Some wolves have maybe only been visitors and went back to Germany. Most of the wolves which have been observed are males but probably there are females too and we don't know if there

already are cubs here.

The wolves are only observed in Jutland not on Funen and Zealand. The wolves can't swim to the islands because of the strong current in the sea surrounding them.

Why we should have wolves in Denmark is because the wolves regulate the numbers of deer. They kill and eat the weakest and keep the population healthy and strong. They are an original part of the Danish and European nature. They are a threatened species and it's our responsibility to keep them alive in nature. Researchers are claiming the Danish nature is able to feed about 100 wolves but we don't necessarily need that amount. The wolf was protected by the EU in 1992.

People have different opinions on wolves. Opinion surveys have shown that over half the people questioned would like to have the wolf in Denmark.

Many hunters are against it because they feel the wolf is a competitor to their interests and they don't want to share their prey. The fact is that hunters shoot the biggest and healthiest animals and the wolf kills the sick, old and weakest. They keep the populations strong.

The rumour tells that at least 3 wolves has been killed and buried by hunters. It's an illegal action because the wolf is protected. The hunters risk spending up to 2 years in prison and losing their hunting license. You need an official permission to shoot a wolf.

The hunters spread a rumour that the wolves were transported from Poland and set free in the Danish nature, just an excuse to kill them.

The farmers who have smaller domestic animals like sheep, goats etc., aren't happy about the wolf either. The Danish Government is given them a compensation if they lose animals to the wolf.

They can protect their animals against the wolf by secure fences and guardian dogs like the Pyrenean sheepdog which are bred to protect sheep from the wolf. The farmers can also keep their animals inside a barn or stable in the night.

Potato farmers like the wolf because they keep the deer away from their fields because of the damage they make. Deer loves potatoes and they dig them up and eat them.

The deer also make a lot of damage on new planted trees because they eat the buds. This is a battle between humans and nature because humans need to control everything around them. In this case I hope the wolf will win in the end.”

Written by Susanne DK

Nature works. ..

“Everything in the Universe has a nature...
trust your own nature.”

Lao Tzu

*Written by Wendy Datta with
contributions by Alliance With Gaia course members
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