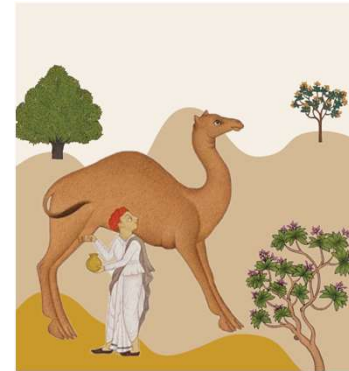


Experiences of Camel Charisma in India

- Webinar on Ethical Camel Dairying
- World Milk Day
- **1 June, 2024**



Camel Charisma



Social enterprise set up to create income for Rajasthan's herding community and conserve Rajasthan's state animal



Based on long-term work with Raika camel pastoralists since early 1990s under aegis of NGO Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan (LPPS)



Incubated as start-up in 2018, support through loan and mentoring



Principle 1. Maintenance of traditional nomadic system,
grazing on natural vegetation. No stall-feeding!



Principle 2: No separation of mother and calf,
ensuring adequate milk for baby:



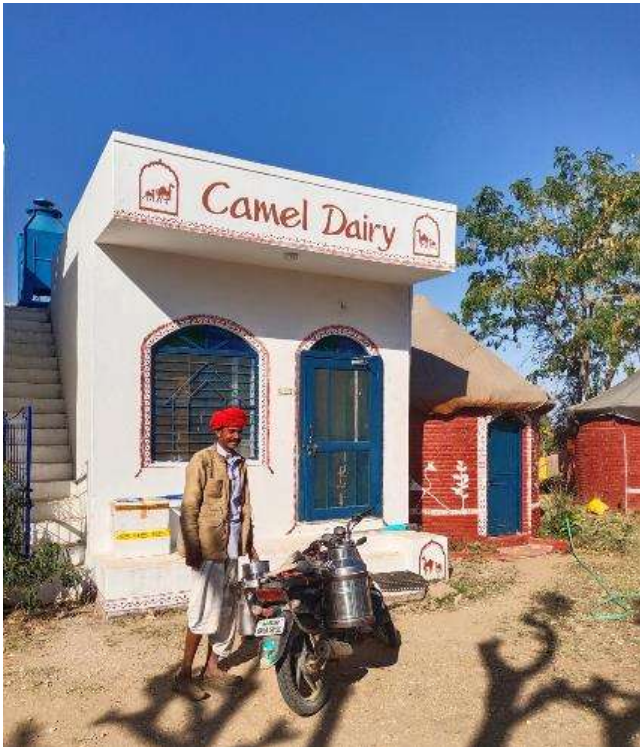
Principle 3: Milk accepted only from registered and trained herders



Principle 4: We combine traditional knowledge with modern hygienic requirements



Kumbhalgarh Camel Dairy



Included in the „Ark of Taste“

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the page <https://www.fondazione Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity.com/en/ark-of-taste-slow-food/kumbhalgarh-camel-milk/>. The page features the Slow Food Foundation logo and a navigation menu with links: HOME, ABOUT US, WHAT WE DO, OUR THEMES, GET INVOLVED, MULTIMEDIA, and CONTACTS. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

Raika Camel Milk

[Back to the archive >](#)

The Raikas are a specialized caste of pastoralists from northwestern India, particularly the arid and semi-arid parts of Rajasthan. Although they also raise goats, cattle, sheep, and water buffalo, the most important animal for Raika cultural identity is the camel (*Camelus dromedarius*). Traditionally, the Raikas gained much of their income from the sale of male camels as draft animals; camels (the “ships of the desert,” as they are often called) are essential for transporting people and goods in arid regions. Unlike all other camel pastoralists in the world, the Raikas have a strict taboo against killing camels and eating their meat. They also do not traditionally sell camel milk, which is considered a gift from God: If there is a surplus of milk, it should be given away for free, and selling it is sometimes equated with selling children.

According to Raika traditional knowledge, camels feed on 36 different plants (mostly trees and shrubs), which affect milk yield and flavor. The majority of these plants are known for their medicinal properties, many of which are likely retained in the milk of camels that feed on them. The Raikas use camel milk to treat various diseases, including tuberculosis. It is consumed fresh or used to make tea, and can also be turned into *kheer* (rice pudding). Raikas traditionally drink camel milk from a folded *aak* leaf; *aak* (*Calotropis procera*) produces a milky resin and, sometimes, the tip of the leaf is broken so that this resin will mix with the camel milk, improving its health effects. Raika herdsmen may subsist on camel milk for weeks at a time during long

The map shows the state of Rajasthan in India, with a red pin indicating the location of Kumbhalgarh. Other cities shown include Jaipur, Ahmedabad, and Surat. The map is titled 'Territory' and 'State India'.

State India

Cookies help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies. [Ok](#) [Learn more](#)

The 36 plants that camels feed on in Godwar: Many of them have been analysed scientifically for the presence of pharmacologically active or phytomedical substances.





CAMEL MILK

Rajasthan's Heritage Health Food

- Cruelty-free
- Strengthens your immune system
- Good for lactose intolerance

www.camelcharisma.com - #7340633437



Long-term goal



- Daily collection of 35,000 l camel milk in Rajasthan thru a network of micro-dairies
- Provide sustainable livelihoods to 2000 rural families
- Provide a nutritional source of high value protein, iron, Vitamin C to 70,000-100,000 people per day
- Insure Rajasthan against climate change

It can be done, if there is a combination of public and private enterprise

We distribute camel milk for free to poor people with health problems and tribal children through our Community Camel Milk Health Centre



Impact

Case Studies relating to

- TB
- Diabetes/gangrene
- Cancer
- Asthma
- Liver problems
- Undiagnosed weakness



Case Studies have been compiled by Rosamma Thomas – are available on request.

Conclusion:

Camel milk could address major public health issues:

- With its very high iron content it could be the ideal natural remedy for treating **anaemia** – prevalent among almost all women and many children
- Camel milk could be used as supportive treatment for **TB**
- Possible value for cancer treatment requires medical monitoring



Thank you!

www.camelcharisma.com

info@camelcharisma.com