

## ► Walkathon To Mark World Animal Day

**KATHMANDU, Oct 5:** Around 350 animal lovers, including some students and adults, participated in the 'Walkathon' organized by Animal Nepal. The walkathon, which was set to start at 8:30 from Lalitpur Municipality, started off at 9:00. However, the walkers reached their destination, GAA Hall at Thamel, before the stipulated time.

The event was organized to observe 'World Animal Day' raising a voice for protection of animal rights. The walkathon was apparently a walk for animals.

"We should get rid of the belief that animal issues are superfluous and stop ridiculing the ones who have love and respect for them," said Pramada Shah, the vice president of Animal Nepal. The participants and the organizers started all the way from Patan and ended up at Thamel.

In Nepal animal welfare campaigners on World Animal Day focus on the need for an animal welfare act and improved conditions for all animals, including pets, wildlife and working animals. However, due to the short notice and most of the schools having their terminal exams, many interested ones could not join the program, Animal Nepal was established in 2004 to work on the issues of animal rights and welfare. It has been organizing a series of programs associated with protecting and promoting animals.

It is coming up with yet another program called "Symbolic Sacrifice" going to be held at Dakshinkali this Thursday. The organizers will be exemplifying about bloodless sacrifices that people could make this Dashain.

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