

19 Nov 2013

Cruel protests by Korean bear farmers:

G. Moon the founder of <u>moonbears.org</u> today condemned the recent protest by bear farmers in Seoul on November 15, 2013.

In this protest the farmers actually brought 3 bears in cages, no doubt, to call attention to themselves. They are opposing the cessation of bear farming and the environment ministries plan to slaughter the bears freed.

"What many people do not realize is that bears actually spend their whole lives in such cages in Korean bear farms" G Moon said. "This was not just a cage to bring the poor animal to the protest but where it lives while it's gall bladder is inhumanly extracted by the farmers".

The bear farmers are demanding that bear farming come under the responsibility of the agriculture ministry rather than the environment. They say a bear is no different to a cow or a pig.

"This is nonsense" said G Moon, "not even pigs or cows, which are also often treated very badly in Korea, are kept in cages where they cannot move and have a tube in them that constantly and painfully take their bile."

"This protest exposes the farmers for who they really are. It exposes their cruelty and also the fact they want to see Koreans eating bear meat just so they can increase their profits". "However it is fair that they should get reasonable compensation when the bears are taken as the government originally fostered bear farming in Korea", she said.

moonbears.org is urging the government to ban bear farming, to buy the bears from the farmers and then to establish sanctuaries so the bears can spend the rest of their lives in comfort and peace.

Email: g.moon@moonbears.org Tel: (HKG) 852-90370612 (SEL) 8210-47350363