



**SPECIAL VATAVARAN FILM SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN**  
**Venue: India Social & Cultural Centre and Kerala Social Centre, Abu Dhabi**  
July 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2006

**Wednesday, July 5, 2006**

**8.30 pm**      **Chasing Butterflies (at ISC)**  
**Hindi with English subtitles/ 26 mins – Director: Gurmeet Sapal**

This film is meticulously shot and will be one that provides a high degree of captivating detail on the life of a butterfly in the Western Himalayas. The synergistic balance between the flora and the butterflies' lifecycle vividly shows how even the smaller members of the natural world have a hectic regime of survival in nature's most extravagant show. The film, 'Chasing Butterflies', is an introduction to the dazzling beauty of butterflies in the region of Doon Valley at the foothills of Himalayas. Since the film's target viewers happen to be children, a conscious attempt has been made to explain scientific terms in an easy to access style.

**8.30 pm**      **Kanha - Protecting A Paradise (at KSC)**  
**English/ 17 mins – Director: Shekar Dattatri**

"Kanha - Protecting a Paradise" is a film on the forest guards of Kanha Reserve in Madhya Pradesh. They are the frontline foot soldiers who guard the forest, braving poachers, the elements and the wildlife that they protect.

**9.00 pm**      **The Policing Langur (at KSC)**  
**English/ 30 mins – Director: Ajay and Vijay Bedi**

In India, monkeys freely wander through cities, towns and villages. But in India's capital, Delhi, a considerable population of destructive macaque monkeys plagues the city threatening people, raiding houses, schools, offices, hospitals and even airports. Paradoxically the only remedy that has been found in dealing with the monkey menace is to engage the services of bigger, powerful langur- "Policing Langur". This film captures the colorful vista of man-monkey relationship in India that stretches from mythology to the modern and makes for a captivating tale of veneration, tolerance and co-existence.

**Wednesday, July 12, 2006**

**8.30 pm**      **The Policing Langur (at ISC)**  
**English/ 30 mins – Director: Ajay and Vijay Bedi**

In India, monkeys freely wander through cities, towns and villages. But in India's capital, Delhi, a considerable population of destructive macaque monkeys plagues the city threatening people, raiding houses, schools, offices, hospitals and even airports. Paradoxically the only remedy that has been found in dealing with the monkey menace is to engage the services of bigger, powerful langur- "Policing Langur". This film captures the colorful vista of man-monkey relationship in India that stretches from mythology to the modern and makes for a captivating tale of veneration, tolerance and co-existence.

8.30 pm

**Chasing Butterflies (at KSC)**  
**Hindi with English subtitles/ 26 mins – Director: Gurmeet Sapal**

This film is meticulously shot and will be one that provides a high degree of captivating detail on the life of a butterfly in the Western Himalayas. The synergistic balance between the flora and the butterflies' lifecycle vividly shows how even the smaller members of the natural world have a hectic regime of survival in nature's most extravagant show. The film, 'Chasing Butterflies', is an introduction to the dazzling beauty of butterflies in the region of Doon Valley at the foothills of Himalayas. Since the film's target viewers happen to be children, a conscious attempt has been made to explain scientific terms in an easy to access style.

9.00 pm

**Experiment with Truth (at KSC)**  
**Hindi with English subtitles/ 7 mins – Director: Amish Srivastava**

The film focuses on pollution that forces us to confront ourselves and shakes our complacency. It mirrors life through a ruthless experiment conducted on and 18 month old child. But is the experiment so contrived? Is it really an experiment at all? The questions remain long after the last frame has dissolved into nothingness. What remains is the truth. Just as the director intended.

**Wednesday, July 19, 2006**

8.30 pm

**The Ridley's Last Stand (at ISC)**  
**English /45 mins 30sec – Director: Shekar Dattatri**

"The Ridley's Last Stand" provides a well-informed and penetrating assessment of a tragedy that occurs on the Orissa coast every year. Tens of thousands of Olive Ridley sea turtles arrive to mate and nest - and every year huge numbers are slaughtered in the nets of trawlers and gill-netters, many of which operate along the coast illegally. A staggering 100,000 turtles have been killed and washed ashore in the past decade. Almost all of them were breeding adults. Dattatri's eloquent film portrays the problems and suggests workable and urgent solutions.

8.30 pm

**The Beauty of Dragons (at KSC)**  
**Hindi/ 25 mins – Director: Gurmeet Sapal**

This is the story of one life form that not only managed to survive, but is found even in the farthest corners of the planet today. This is the story of Dragonflies. The film introduces the viewers with the striking beauty of dragons, their role in the web of life and, why and how have they managed to be around for the last 300 million years. The film aims to stimulate the regard for all the smaller forms of life that exist around us but, somehow, fail to register their beauty and role in the minds of human beings.

9.00 pm

**Troubled Waters (at KSC)**  
**English/17 mins – Director: Mitali Dutt Kakar, Sumer Varma**

The film tells the story of the coral reefs of the Lakshadweep islands. It explains how this vital ecosystem came into being and traces the growth and diversity of the reef and the factors that contribute to its health and well-being. The main thrust of the film is to show how all of nature is inter-connected and inter-dependent. The film enjoins all people to live in a manner that will help to conserve and safeguard the world's natural resources for the future of mankind. The film was also awarded "The Best of the Festival" Vatavaran 2003.



**Wednesday, July 26, 2006**

**8.30 pm**      **Kanha - Protecting A Paradise (at ISC)**  
**English/ 17 mins – Director: Shekar Dattatri**

"Kanha - Protecting a Paradise" is a film on the forest guards of Kanha Reserve in Madhya Pradesh. They are the frontline foot soldiers who guard the forest, braving poachers, the elements and the wildlife that they protect.

**8.30 pm**      **The Ridley's Last Stand (at KSC)**  
**English /45 mins 30sec – Director: Shekar Dattatri**

"The Ridley's Last Stand" provides a well-informed and penetrating assessment of a tragedy that occurs on the Orissa coast every year. Tens of thousands of Olive Ridley sea turtles arrive to mate and nest - and every year huge numbers are slaughtered in the nets of trawlers and gill-netters, many of which operate along the coast illegally. A staggering 100,000 turtles have been killed and washed ashore in the past decade. Almost all of them were breeding adults. Dattatri's eloquent film portrays the problems and suggests workable and urgent solutions.

**9.00 pm**      **Shores of Silence (at KSC)**  
**English/ 24 mins – Director: Mike H Pandey**

'Shores of Silence' recipient of Green Oscar/Panda Awards at Wildscreen Festival Bristol, U.K., in the year 2000-01, questions the rationale behind this mindless slaughter of a special marine species already at stake because of its slow regeneration. The film is an effort to create awareness and gather support to protect and conserve this species. The aim is to eventually help create policies to ban whale shark trade in India and find sustainable alternatives for the local fishing community. 'Shores of Silence' is the first Indian film to focus on a large marine species. It was shot under difficult circumstances. Even, the crew risked all their equipment on the high seas in a small fishing boat to film the capture sequence. It took almost 3 years to complete the film. This is the first ever documentation of the massacre of whale sharks on the Indian coast.