



May 28, 2024

Robert Mount
Potentate
Yaarab Shrine

Dear Mr. Mount:

I'm writing on behalf of PETA and our millions of members and supporters globally, this time to thank the Yaarab Shrine for leaving wild animals out of its circus shows this year. We applaud this step in the right direction, but we urge you to take it further by committing to leave *all* animals out of future events. PETA would wholeheartedly support an animal-free Yaarab Shrine Circus.

As you know, elephants and other wild animals used in circuses are torn away from their mothers as babies and forced to spend most of their lives chained or caged, living under the constant threat of being attacked with weapons such as whips, electric prods, and sharp steel-tipped bullhooks. But wild animals aren't the only ones who suffer for entertainment: Camels, horses, dogs, and other animals are carted around from city to city in cramped trailers. They're compelled to perform dangerous tricks and subjected to blaring music, bright lights, and unfamiliar surroundings day in and day out.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus returned to great success *without* any animals. The Hadi Shrine Circus just ended its use of elephants, and the Moolah Shrine Circus stopped using elephants, big cats, and bears. Shrine circuses in Canada haven't used wild animals in years, and the Bahia, Jerusalem, and Melha Shriners discontinued their animal circuses entirely. Hundreds of venues and dozens of communities prohibit or restrict traveling animal acts—a list that will only grow. The public and sponsors alike are cutting ties with cruel animal acts, including previous Yaarab Shrine Circus sponsor GLOCK.

Will you please continue the progress you have already made by making the Yaarab Shrine Circus animal-free permanently? Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tracy Reiman
Executive Vice President

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Washington
1536 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323-644-PETA

Norfolk
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA

Info@peta.org
PETA.org

Entities:

- PETA Asia
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