



Hebrew title:

שיחה עם נינה נייטלסון, מנכ"ל עמותת "הכל חי".  
קול ישראל באנגלית, 26.05.12

English title:

**A discussion with Nina Natelson, director of Hakol Chai  
Kol Israel Radio- English broadcast, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Newscaster:** Nina Natelson founded the animal rights organization CHAI in the United States, and Hakol Chai in Israel, to spread animal rights education. She recently visited Israel together with Rae Sikora, a humane education specialist who taught courses to Christian Arab educators on how to teach animal rights. They spoke to reporter Jackie Beecham.

**Nina Natelson, CHAI founder:** It's CHAI, Concern for Helping Animals in Israel, the US branch, and Hakol Chai, meaning Everything Lives, is the Israeli branch of the charity. We have been interested in education since the beginning, in 1984, when we started out helping animals in Israel. And the reason is that education gets to the root of the problem, so that it's important to do rescuing, and it's important to do all the other, pass legislation, etc. And we work on all those areas. But if you don't get to the roots of the problem, you're never going to solve it. You'll always be sort of chasing your tail, you'll always be doing rescues. What you want is to get the information out to the community, so that you could have many hands helping rather than one.

**Newscaster:** And CHAI has been working in Israel for quite a few years. Have you seen any improvement in education about animals?

**Nina Natelson:** Oh, a vast, vast improvement, no question about it. There are better laws now, better enforcement of the laws. For example, just yesterday I saw an abused horse. I've been working in the Galil, and I saw over there an abused horse. I made a phone call to someone I know, she spoke to her veterinarian, who spoke to the person in the government in charge of abused horses, and that person sent out a veterinarian to check the situation. And he will report back to her, and by noon today we'll know whether the horse needs to be immediately seized or whether the horse can be treated and returned to the owner. So that's within 24 hours, I was able to get somebody to go and see the horse, make a decision about what is to be done, the outcome. So I think that's a vast improvement.

**Newscaster:** You've been on the scene, as I said, for many years, and you know what it's like here in Israel. Do you think the improvements come because of the large immigrant population from the Soviet Union, who generally like and care about animals, or do you think there are other reasons?



**Nina Natelson:** Sure. Well, there are so many reasons, you know. Every problem needs help from all angles. So it's all of the tourists who came to Israel and wrote letters to their editor of the local newspaper, saying "I've been in Israel, I've seen the situation, it's terrible," you know, "something needs to be done." It's charities from other countries who have donated money so that something can be done. It's all the charities, like ours, that have done work all these years. It's the Anglo-Saxons who've come to Israel to stay, immigrated, and may have had their opinion presented. It's so many different factors. It's also the internet, it's also young people reading about animals, animal welfare and animal rights going on around the world, and wanting to bring that to their own country. So it's many different factors. But definitely, there's been an improvement. And there's much more to do, a long way to go, but there's definitely been vast improvement.