

**Greetings from Asian Elephant Support!** 

## HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING!

The holidays are just around the corner. How did that happen so quickly? Life is often more chaotic and busy around the holidays and trying to find thoughtful gifts can be a challenge. To make your holiday shopping easier, Asian Elephant Support would like to introduce our new Gift Giving Program, a feature which is coming soon to our website. Make a donation to AES in honor of a friend or loved one and then send them one of our fun customized elephant e-cards! There are a variety of images to choose from and you can even personalize your message.

Most people want to make a difference in this world. Certainly there are people in your lives who would be happy to know that a donation made in their name helped support the care and conservation of elephants in Asian range countries.

The process is easy! All you have to do is visit our <u>Ways to Help</u> page, select "Gift Giving" option and follow the simple instructions. You will be asked to make a secure PayPal donation, then you can create an e-card that will be emailed to your friend or loved one. (Whew! That's one less thing on your 'to-do' list!)

We will send out a notification when this feature is available on our website in early December.

Thank you for considering AES for your holiday gift giving! Your donation allows us to continue our work of conserving and caring for this magnificent species.

Happy Holidays! Wishing you and those dear to your heart, both the peace of this holiday season and the warmth of a safe and secure place to call home.

# HOOF KNIVES FOR INDIAN MAHOUTS

The Elephant Managers Association (EMA) is an international non-profit organization of professional elephant handlers, administrators, veterinarians, researchers, and elephant enthusiasts. The EMA is dedicated to the welfare of the world's elephants through conservation, husbandry, research, education, and communication. As elephant managers, the members believe the elephants in our country are ambassadors for their wild counterparts. As elephant caretakers, they also believe they are ambassadors for the people who care for elephants in range countries. In Asia there are a significant number of captive elephants in communities with little resources to provide all the supplies for the mahouts to

properly care for their elephants. The EMA's Conservation Committee Sponsorship Program was designed to support their counterparts, the mahouts, in elephant range countries. In 2009, the EMA initiated "Hoof Knives for Mahouts", which raised enough funds to provide approximately 200 hoof knives to mahouts in Sumatra-Indonesia.

Asian Elephant Support (AES) has been working with a veterinarian in northeastern India to help improve the care of the elephants in this area. AES and EMA are combining forces to continue the "Hoof Knives for Mahouts" program to raise enough money to purchase 100 local traditional knives (khukri) for mahouts in Assam (northeastern India). These knives are an integral part of the mahouts' daily lives as they use them to cut fodder for elephants and trim the elephants' nails or pads. Many mahouts cannot afford proper tools and use crude handmade knives. The knives will be distributed during veterinary visits to privately held elephants in Assam, a project initiated and supported by AES. Depending on the success of the program, it may be expanded to include the donation of other much needed items such as rubber boots and raincoats for the mahouts.

Asian Elephant Support is delighted to be collaborating with the Elephant Managers Association on this important fundraiser. All of the AES directors are active members of the EMA and we encourage everyone who cares about elephants to become a member. Please visit <a href="https://elephantmanagers.com/">https://elephantmanagers.com/</a> for more information. However, you do not need to be an EMA member to participate in this program and you can donate through AES. Please note on your electronic donation or check that you wish the funds to go to "Hoof Knives for Mahouts-India".

With your help, we are improving the lives of elephants and mahouts across Asia.



Footwork discussion at a Veterinary Workshop in India

## YOUR CONSERVATION BARGAIN OF THE DAY!

55 CENTS! A POSTAGE STAMP! IT'S THAT SIMPLE!



This is not any ordinary postage stamp! This special *Save Vanishing Species* Stamp sells for only a dime (10 cents) more than a regular stamp and allows you to participate in wildlife conservation. That extra dime directly benefits the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife Without Borders – Multinational Species Conservation Funds.

This program has funded more than 1800 grants for Asian elephants, including some of the work Asian Elephant Support has supported. It is also supporting conservation efforts for African elephants, great apes, rhinoceros, tigers, and marine turtles. Since September 20, 2011, more than 14.9 million stamps have sold, raising over \$1,580,000 for these conservation efforts.

Please click <u>here</u> to purchase the Save Vanishing Species stamps from the United States Postal Service. We hope all your letters will arrive at their destination bearing one of these special Amur tiger cub stamps, sending the message that you care about wildlife.

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#### **THANK YOU**

We at AES wish to extend a very sincere thank you to each donor who has voted their support with a financial gift. We value that confidence and will always do our best for the animals we all care for so deeply.

Please visit our website (<u>www.asianelephantsupport.org</u>) and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> (Asian Elephant Support). If you have questions, please <u>contact us</u>. We appreciate your support. Please consider a <u>donation</u> to help Asian elephants and those who care for them.

### ASIAN ELEPHANT SUPPORT

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Asian Elephant Support is a U.S. 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax-deductible.