

Abrar H Alhammadi

ANR210

## WHALING

Today, there has been a rise in whaling issues. Whaling is the process by which the whales are being hunted. Whales have many advantages that have turned to be the leading cause of individuals hunting them. Whales play a significant role in capturing carbon from the air, thus helping conserve the marine environment. Whales are being hunted because of meat and blubber. Their meat is the source of protein and vitamins to the human body. The common method that is being employed in whale hunting is through the use of harpoons which are being powered by the bows. Hunting whales has resulted in many adverse effects on the environment. They supply more than half of the oxygen to the marine ecosystem; play a significant role in oxygen and carbon balance in the sea to sustain the life of other sea creatures. Amendments like the Packwood-Magnuson amendment, Pelly amendment, endangered species act, and marine mammal protection act have been put in place to help in conserving the whales from being killed or injured.

Whales are known to be the largest animals in the sea. Many individuals target them with meat. Whale meat is a source of protein; that's why people hunt and sell them to earn money for their living. Whale meat contains about 23% protein, it has minerals like iron, and it is also a source of vitamins such as vitamin E, B, D, and E. Doctors have highly recommended the unsaturated fatty acids from the whales as they are known to be a great source of medicine that helps cure cardiovascular diseases. The whales have got the blubber which is the outer cover of the whale's body. The blubber has a high level of antioxidants, acting as the source of vitamin c.

health and pharmaceutical supplements use, the blubber, wheal oil, and the cartilages (Hirasawa 100).

In this method, hooks and Shrapnel are being attached to the harpoon cable are which are then lodged into the whale's body, restricting and preventing it from trying to escape. The whale cannot get out of this harpoon when this is done. A harpoon is an instrument that resembles a spear and is usually used primarily on fishing, sailing, and whaling. These harpoons are being fired to the whaling vessel by the bow. The harpoons trap the whales. After the whale has been prevented from escaping, a cable is reeled on its body. The powered rifles then kill them.

In some cases, penthrite bombs and black powder are being used. Harpoons are being used because of their ability to penetrate through their bodies efficiently. Harpoons easily penetrate through the blubber and hold them securely like a hook to prevent them from running away (Reeves 495).

When whales are being overhunted, there is a significant interference to the biodiversity, leading to negative consequences for the environment. Whaling has resulted in a decrease in the number of whales in the sea. This has led to a significant interference to the ecology. Whales are known to make organ carbon to be accessed easily by other small organisms in the sea. They are known to supply more than half of the oxygen to the marine ecosystem, which is highly dependent on other sea creatures and helps balance carbon and oxygen in the sea that helps sustain life.

As long as hunting is still being conducted, the government has imposed various rules and regulations to help in combating these activities. Some of the acts made by the government include the Pelly Amendment, which was imposed on commerce to sanction the importation of

fish that violated the international fish conservation programs, leading to the conservation of whales. Another act is the endangered species act which was passed to protect all the endangered species. In this amendment, the whale was also identified as one of the endangered species. Therefore, it was enacted that anyone found killing, injuring, hunting, or destroying their habitats would be liable for the damage. An act of buying or selling whales was made illegal. Another act is the Packwood-Magnuson amendment. This amendment was mainly passed to ensure that all the countries being found violating the international fishery programs will have their commercial activities sanctioned. Lastly, there is the marine mammal protection act. In this act, all the residents that live in the U.S are not allowed to hunt, kill, injure or destroy the habitat as it was made illegal for them. It was also made illegal for any individual to import marine mammals' products to the U.S and could face punishment for these violations caused. Through these acts, any product relating to marine mammals, whales is being protected and conserved (Guernsey, Keeler & Julius 10).

Whale hunting leads to whales' killing, resulting in interference in the ecological system interferences. Every individual is called to act as an ambassador and help in protecting the whales, to help in conserving the environment. It is unacceptable to kill, injure, hurt or destroy the habitats for the whales. Any commercial activity that relates to dealing with whales' products should be illegalized, and the individuals found should be liable for the penalty as stated in the law. Marine mammals should be well taken care of and treated in better ways that aim to protect them to protect the environment. Ending whale hunting in the world calls for the active participation of every individual in conserving the marine environment, avoiding disposal wastes into the seas and ocean that can cause the death of whales or in any way injures them. Any act of

whale hunting should be banned, and anyone who is found violating the set rules and regulations to protect the whales should be reported to the person in charge and face the consequences.

In conclusion, whale hunting has resulted in many deaths of whales. Whales play a significant role in supplying oxygen into the sea, thus helping the marine environment and ecosystem balance sustaining the lives of the other creatures. Whales are being hunted for meat that contains more than 25% proteins, has vitamins, and various minerals like iron. The blubber is used in health and pharmaceutical supplements. The common method used in hunting whales is harpooning, whereby harpoons are thrown by the bow to enter the fat and hold the whale, preventing it from escaping. The powered rifles then kill them. There has been amending of acts to ensure whales are protected. These amendments include; Packwood-Magnuson amendment, Pelly amendment, endangered species act, and marine mammal protection act. All these acts aim at illegalizing any activity that aims to kill, injure, hurt, or destroy the whale's habitat. Any commercial activity that deals with marine mammals is illegalized to protect the whales.

#### Works cited

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