

COMIC STRIP ON CONDITION OF LAKES IN BANGALORE

By Samantha Wishnak



I wonder why there
is such a big fence
around this lake?
Why can't we go
inside?

Haven't you heard? The state
has leased the lake to a private
company. Now they want to turn
the lake into a big entertainment
park to make money! Follow me!

Well that sounds like fun! Don't you know that everyone loves going to entertainment parks?



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But you will have to pay money to enter the park, and many people who used to visit the lake will be unable to afford those costs.





For example, many people use our lakes for daily household chores, like washing clothes and bathing, and can not afford to buy other water supplies.




Many people also depend on our lakes for their livelihoods. If there is a fee to enter the lake, fishermen will no longer be able to support their families.





Well it doesn't seem fair to only let some people enjoy the beautiful lake, which is a space for everyone.

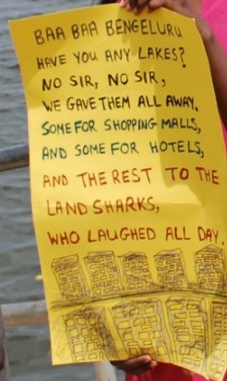
You're right, and we've only seen the human side of the problem. Our lakes are home to hundreds of fish, amphibians, insects, and microorganisms that are disturbed by these motorboats and water sports provided by the entertainment park.



New buildings, bright lights, and noise from water sports and music also scare away animals like me. Once our lakes are privatized for profit, migratory birds stop returning to these lakes to nest and raise their young.

Wow, it sounds like we should keep our lakes open to the public, so that all humans and other creatures can use them! But what can we do to stop this from happening?

You can organize protests, write letters,
and engage your community to place
pressure on your local government to
protect our lakes as public commons, not
give them out as private playgrounds.
We all have the right to access our
natural environment.



Illustrations

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