



# Falconry



- Falconry is a hunting tradition defined as 'taking quarry in its natural state and habitat by means of a trained birds of prey.'
- It is not known where in the world falconry began
- Falconry may have started in the Middle East or on the steppes of Asia or both at the same time
- Falconry is believed to have began four or five thousand years ago

# Falconry



- Falcons are not the only birds of prey used in falconry
- Eagles are used to catch large prey
- Hawking is another term for falconry – often used when a hawk is flown

# The Falconer



- It takes many years of practise to become a skilled falconer
- The falconer trains a bird of prey which forms a close bond between falconer and bird.
- Falconry is a humane way for hunting



# Equipment



# The art of falconry



- This photograph shows a falconer using a lure
- A lure is an imitation of a bird or animal that the bird of prey hunts in the wild
- A lure is swung around the falconers head, the bird will swoop to catch the lure
- The lure can be used for exercising the bird or to call the bird of prey back to the falconer

# Falconry today



- Falconry is now a popular pastime in many countries
- Falconers from all over the world attend the International Festival of Falconry

# Falconry today : UNESCO



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

- In 2010 falconry was officially recognised by UNESCO as part of worlds intangible cultural heritage of humanity

Intangible Cultural Heritage is sometimes called *living cultural heritage* and consists of

Cultural heritage

Performing arts

Social practices

Rituals and festive events

Traditional craftsmanship





# Falconry today : UNESCO



- World Falconry Day is celebrated throughout the world by falconers young and old.
- Taking place on the 16<sup>th</sup> November each year, to celebrate the anniversary of the recognition of falconry by UNESCO as part of the worlds intangible cultural heritage

# Falconry today : United Nations



- United Nations have 17 sustainable development goals to make the world a better place for future generations
- Goal 11.4 :preserve heritage and pass it down to subsequent generations

**“protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage**



# Information about your club



# IAF School Links Programme



- The ISLP offers your school the opportunity to link with other schools in the world and learn more about falconry and raptor conservation
- Join today 😊



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