

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAMELIDS 2024 ANNOUNCED THE WINNERS OF THE PHOTO CONTEST

May 2025

The Food and Agriculture Organization [announced the winners of the Photo Contest organized at the conclusions of the International Year of Camelids 2024.](#)

The Photo Contest invited professional or amateur photographers or simply passionate about camelids to join the International Year of Camelids (IYC) 2024 Photo Contest and help spread the word about the importance of these heroes of deserts and highlands.

FAO received hundreds of great photos from nearly 70 countries around the world demonstrating the cultural, social and economic importance of camelids to communities worldwide. The jury of the Photo Contest, charged to select the top five photos and comprised of an independent group of individuals with different areas of expertise in photography, science and scientific communication, faced a difficult task in selecting the first prize winner and runners-up, given the exceptional quality of all entries.

[The winners of the Photo Contest were the following actors:](#)

The first prize goes to **Lhais Oliva Huanca Vargas from Bolivia for her photo "Jisk'a Anata"**

During the Jisk'a Anata festival, participants engage in the "llamerada" — an autochthonous Bolivian dance that represents the ancestral herding of llamas in the Andes, with roots in indigenous cultures such as the Aymara.

**Denish Ochieng, from Kenya**

"Wealthy woman owner of camels in Kenya" depicts Qura Laana, a nomadic woman from the Gabra Community in Marsabit County as she walks with her dromedary camels towards water springs in North Horr during a drought.



International Year of Camelids photo contest



### **Battulga Purvee, from Mongolia**

In "They lead the mountain with a rope", a four-year-old stands firm, holding the Bactrian camels for his father and brothers during a "camel gathering", traditionally held after heavy snowstorms.



### **Uriel Montúfar, from Peru**

In the district of Cojata, over 4 000 meters above sea level, "Alpacas and woman herder in the snow" shows an increasingly frequent snowfall — an uncommon but growing impact of climate variability.



### **Osama Awad Elfaki, from Sudan**

"Camelids economic growth" represents a herder leading his dromedary camels and other livestock across Sudan, a testament to the camel sector that supports livelihoods across the region.



The first prize winner of the Photo Contest will be invited to a camelid event at FAO headquarters in Rome (Italy) and travel expenses will be covered for the winner, according to FAO rules. All the Winners, announced on the International Year of Camelids website in May 2025, will be promoted on FAO social media, by FAO offices around the world and partner websites. All winners will receive a certificate of recognition.

[A series of events published in the International Year website in 2025](#) will continue to highlight the lasting importance of camelids, furthering the legacy of the International Year. These events will showcase their vital role in livelihoods and encourage investment in the sector.





## To know more

[Photo Contest in the International Year of Camelids website](#)

[International Year of Camelids \(IYC\) 2024 website](#)

[Events in the International Year of Camelids website](#)

[Stories and local heroes in International Year of Camelids website](#)

A photograph of a man wearing a red turban and a white shirt, holding the head of a camel. The man is looking at the camel with a gentle expression. The background is a dry, hilly landscape.

**LPPS**  
Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan

**INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAMELIDS**  
2024

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*How to ensure their conservation and well-being*

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**27 February 2025**

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