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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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THE NEW SCIENCE OF MARIJUANA

Should Captive Dolphins Be Freed?

Dry Times Are Here for the Aral Sea

Nepal's Living Goddesses



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In Tokha, Nepal, Kumari Dangol has been worshipped as a living goddess since she was a baby. She's now nine years old.



78 Living Goddesses of Nepal

In Nepalese tradition a little girl can become a living goddess—but only for so long.

By Isabella Tree Photographs by Stephanie Sinclair

30

High Science

With marijuana's rising acceptance comes more debate about its potential benefits and drawbacks.

By Hampton Sides
Photographs by Lynn Johnson

58

Born to Be Wild

Can dolphins return to the sea after captivity in a marine park? Some can—once they relearn how to be wild.

By Tim Zimmermann

98

Little Park of Wonders

Its world-renowned fossil bed and stunning vistas make Canada's Yoho National Park a standout.

By McKenzie Funk
Photographs by Peter Essick

114

Sins of the Aral Sea

Diverted to water crops, what was once a vast inland sea is 90 percent gone. Can it be revived?

By Mark Symott
Photographs by Carolyn Drake

132 Proof | Bug-Eyed

A high-powered microscope reveals insect and spider eyes as marvels of adaptation.

Story and Photographs by Martin Oeggerli

On the Cover Crossbreeding has yielded countless strains of cannabis. The flowering herb, commonly known as marijuana, can grow up to 16 feet tall. Photo illustration by Bill Merr

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