

## When Pigeons are Coloured Artificially

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In Bangladesh there are very few pigeons rearers who use jafran (trade name) or hena (mehedi) for yellow or orange colour and 1000 powered red and green colour (trade name) in their pigeons for identifying and they take enjoy when it flies. Mainly white pigeons are coloured in various hues. Most used colours were jafran which is used in Bangladesh in pulao (fried rice) for yellow or orange colour splashing. Red and green colour is used under the wing of pigeons for identifying their owner. Carcinogenic colour is harmful for its feather and skin. Vegetable colour is used in foreign countries and this is totally safe for the pigeons. Some rearers in Bangladesh use hair colour (yellow) for mentioning their different breed for selling. In Bangladesh, Moos-sulli (English Tippler) is shortly called Sulli Pigeon which feather is light yellow in colour. Yellow hair colour is used on white/albino pigeon and sold as Sulli Pigeon in the market. If buyers cannot understand they will fall in trap. After buying those pigeons, when moult is occurred they understand this false incident.

Colours are two types - harmful and non-harmful. In our shop, there is 1000 powered colour which is mainly red and green and mostly used. Others are cloth dyes, low priced colour, food colour (chips, mango flavor), nylon and mat colour etc. In pigeons, mainly 1000 powered colour is used and this is permanent for one year. But during moulting in pigeons, artificially coloured feathers are changed by new feathers. Vegetable colours are not harmful for the pigeons and accepted worldwide.

The colour is used in water then a paint brush or open hand is enough to rub on the white feather for colouring. After colouring within a few minutes colour dries and it looks as usual. Sometimes other pigeons get fear to see these bright or exceptional colours but within a short time they habituate with this (Plate 1-3). Some cloth dyes are carcinogenic. During pruning of the pigeons then they take it with its beak or after hatching if squab eats this coloured feather it may fatal for them. Though after moulting all feathers get into normal coloured feather. Vegetable colours are not harmful in this case. If you want to enjoy different coloured pigeons in the sky can use vegetable colours.



**Plate 1:** Carcinogenic colours in shop.



*Plate 2: Painted by 1000 powered colour.*



*Plate 3: Painted by hena (yellow/orange).*

Artificially coloured pigeons in Bangladesh are very few. Now fancy pigeons are rearing enormously in semi-intensive system and need not to mark their pigeons by artificial colour. Jafran is not harmful for pigeons so it can use for yellow or orange colour. Red, green, purple, yellow, and 1000 powered cloth dyes are dangerous for pigeons and available in our market. Mainly white pigeons are used for applying these harmful colours. White pigeons are normally looked nice and everybody likes it. In any pigeon market of Bangladesh, we have lots of natural coloured pigeons. In this regard, need not use any colours either they are carcinogenic or vegetable [1].

### **Bibliography**

1. Painted pigeons-YouTube.

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