



July-August Newsletter



The New Residents of Yerevan Zoo



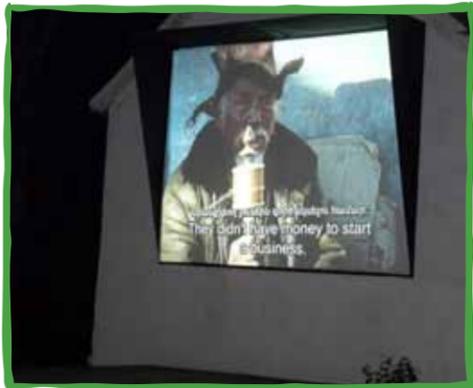
This year Yerevan zoo became home for 106 new animals: 17 mammals and 89 birds. The first birth was the little Syrian Brown Bear cub, born on January 7th, 2012 and the latest one was the Fallow Deer, born on June 28th, 2012. All the newborn animals are adapted to our climate conditions. It is a pleasure to note that compared to last year, the number of birds in the zoo has increased significantly, which cannot be said about the mammals, because currently the zoo does not have enough space to keep them. For this reason, this year breeding was not

planned among the canids and big cats. It is worth mentioning that the zoo is now expecting a baby llama to be born in November.

Open-Air Film Screenings in Yerevan Zoo



It is already the second year that Yerevan zoo is organizing open air environmental film screenings. The environmental films have participated in the SunChild International environmental film festival. They have an educational purpose and ensure not only good time for the visitors in the zoo, but also a stronger connection with animals and nature. This year's open air film screenings were launched on June 30 with "Baboon Bandits - Monkey Alert in South Africa", followed by "Bama and the Lost Gorillas", "Poppy's Promise" and "Wild Faces of the Andes". All the films are translated into Armenian and have participated in the 3rd SunChild International Environmental Film Festival.



Program Director of the SunChild International Environmental Festival Barbara Seibert thinks, that environmental and social issues are closely interconnected. Armenia has a lot of social and health issues, which are caused by environmental issues. The Program Director says that the Armenian audience is quite specific. Armenians like feature films more than environmental films. "Even if only 2 or 3 people come to watch an environmental film for the first time in their lives and like those films - it is already a great success. Anyhow, it will take a long time until people learn to watch environmental films", Barbara Seibert says.

You can watch the following environmental films in Yerevan zoo, each Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

- July 28th: "Wild Hungary – A Water Wonderland"
- August 4th: "The Eagles Return"
- August 11th: "Finlandia"
- August 18th: "Radioactive Wolves"

Yerevan Zoo Offers New Opportunities to Observe Animal Feeding



Yerevan zoo has been organizing animal feeding presentations for already a year now. This kind of presentations is a common practice in foreign zoos as well. The new feeding time table is now implemented. From now on, while observing animal feedings, the zoo visitors will also have an opportunity to learn some interesting facts about the animals they observe.

One of the main purposes of such presentations is to imitate the natural way animals hunt or search for food. "We're trying to ensure the natural movements of animals. In the past, zoo visitors were quickly passing by cages, where the animals were either sleeping or lying. Today, the visitors have an opportunity to observe the animals' feeding", says Manuk Manukyan, Vice-Director of Yerevan zoo.

Besides observing animal feedings, zoo visitors will also have an opportunity to talk to zoo specialists and ask questions about the animals.



The Changing Relationship of People and Animals



The connection between humans and animals has acquired a new quality in Yerevan zoo. Many things have changed, but the most important change that has taken place is the change in the human's attitude towards animals. Now, children and adults no longer just look at the animal behind the bars. People now talk to the animal, listen to them and even share their thoughts and mood with them. Besides, zoo visitors are now involved in animal care activities as well. Even feeding the animals with your own hand has become a good tradition in the zoo. All of these changes have come to life thanks to a program which is called "Animal Adoption". Any zoo visitor can adopt an animal for one year, by making a symbolic donation and contributing to the welfare of animals and the upkeep of the zoo. The first adoption was registered last year on May 26th. Today the zoo has over 40 good friends. June and July were full of new adoptions: The Bactrian Camel, the Yellow Baboon, the Hippopotamus, the Bengal Tiger and the African Lion have new adopters now. New adoptions are expected to happen in August also, creating new relations between humans and animals.



If you wish to become a friend of the zoo and adopt an animal, you can write to us at animaladoption@yerevanzoo.am

For more detailed information, please visit www.yerevanzoo.am

