

## Captive orangutan has human right to freedom, Argentine court rules



- An orangutan held in an Argentine zoo can be freed and transferred to a **sanctuary** after a court recognized the **ape** as a "non-human person" unlawfully **deprived** of its freedom, local media reported on Sunday.

2) Animal rights campaigners filed a **habeas corpus petition** - a document more typically used to challenge the **legality** of a person's **detention** or imprisonment - in November **on behalf of** Sandra, a 29-year-old Sumatran orangutan at the Buenos Aires zoo.

3) In a **landmark** ruling that could **pave the way** for more lawsuits, the Association of Officials and Lawyers for Animal Rights (AFADA) argued the ape had sufficient **cognitive functions** and should not be treated as an object.

4) The court agreed Sandra, born into captivity in **Germany** before being transferred to Argentina two decades ago, **deserved** the basic rights of a "non-human person."

5) "This opens the way not only for other Great Apes, but also for other **sentient beings** which are unfairly and **arbitrarily** deprived of their liberty in zoos, circuses, water parks and scientific laboratories," the daily La Nacion newspaper quoted AFADA lawyer Paul Buompadre as saying.

6) Orangutan is a word from the Malay and Indonesian languages that means "forest man." Sandra's case is not the first time activists have sought to use the habeas corpus **writ** to secure the release of wild animals from captivity.

7) A U.S. court this month **tossed out** a similar **bid** for the freedom of 'Tommy' the chimpanzee, privately owned in New York state, ruling the chimp was not a "person" entitled to the rights and protections afforded by habeas corpus.

8) In 2011, the animal rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) filed a lawsuit against marine park operator SeaWorld, alleging five wild-captured **orca whales** were treated like **slaves**. A San Diego court dismissed the case.

9) The Buenos Aires zoo has 10 working days to seek an appeal. A spokesman for the zoo declined to comment to Reuters. The zoo's head of **biology**, Adrian Sestelo, told La Nacion that orangutans were **by nature** calm, **solitary** animals which come together only to **mate** and care for their young.

10) "When you don't know the biology of a species, to unjustifiably claim it suffers abuse, is stressed or depressed, is to make one of man's most common mistakes, which is to **humanize** animal behavior," Sestelo told the daily. 【Dec 21, 2014/Reuters】

**sanctuary:** 聖域、鳥獣保護区域 **ape:** 類人猿 **deprive:** 奪う **habeas corpus:** 人身保護(令状) **petition:** 嘆願 **legality:** 合法性 **detention:** 拘留 **on behalf of ~:** ~の代理として **landmark:** 画期的な **pave the way:** 地ならしをする **cognitive function:** 認知機能 **deserve:** ~に値する **sentient being:** 感覚のある生物→生きとし生けるもの **arbitrarily:** 勝手に、独断的に **writ:** 令状 **toss out:** 投げかける、提示する **bid:** 努力、企て **orca whale:** シヤチ **slave:** 奴隷 **biology:** 生物学 **by nature:** 生まれつき **solitary:** 単独行動する **mate:** 交尾する **humanize:** 人間化する

☆Ice breaker for active discussion☆

1. What did an Argentine court rule on the treatment of Orangutans? What do you think of the decision?

2. How will this decision affect others?

3. What is your understanding about a `non-human person`?

4. What kind of roles do you think zoos are playing in the society?

5. What do you think zoos must pay attention to when they keep wild animals in captivity?

6. If you were Sandra, would you like to be released? Why or why not?

What do you think is the happiness of animals?

7. Make sentences using the following words: petition: captivity: biology:

by nature: sanctuary: deprived: solitary: detention: humanize and on behalf of.

NEWS de TALK by PHILOS

アルゼンチンの裁判所が、動物園で暮らす29歳のメスのスマトラオランウータン、サンドラの「人権」を認め、違法に自由を奪われているとしてブラジルの動物保護区への移送を許可する決定を下した。オランウータンが人間と同じDNAを97%有し、深く物事を考える能力を持つとし、人間が自由を謳歌する権利を認めるという異例の判決となった。オランウータンは生息地であるアジアの熱帯雨林の消失などで、約100年前の23万頭から5万頭未満に激減。中でもスマトラオランウータンは約7500頭しかおらず、世界自然保護基金(WWF)が絶滅危機に瀕していると警告する希少種だ。