

Monkey selfie: Court rules macaque cannot own photo copyright, PETA says case 'exposes hypocrisy'



Animals rights group PETA has lost a legal bid for a monkey to own copyright to selfies it took, in a case the organisation says exposes "the hypocrisy of those who exploit animals".

- 1) In September last year, PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) filed a lawsuit asking the US federal court in San Francisco to declare male crested macaque Naruto the author and owner of the famous photographs he took of himself.
- 2) At the time Naruto was living freely in a group in Indonesia. He picked up a tourist's unattended camera and began taking photographs of the forest floor, some of other macaques and several of himself.
- 3) On Wednesday, a federal judge in San Francisco ruled the monkey could not be declared the copyright owner of the photos.
- 4) Jeff Kerr, general counsel for PETA US, said the organisation would continue fighting for the monkey's rights.
- 5) "Despite this setback, legal history was made today because we argued to a federal court why Naruto should be the owner of the copyright rather than been seen as a piece of property himself," he told the ABC.
- 6) "This case is also exposing the hypocrisy of those who exploit animals for their own gain."
- 7) According to PETA, the US Copyright Act grants copyright ownership of a "selfie" to the "author" of the photograph, and there is nothing in the law limiting such ownership on the basis of species.
- 8) PETA said on its website before the case: "As 'next friend' to Naruto, we're seeking the court's permission to manage the copyright of the photos, license them for commercial use, and use 100 per cent of the proceeds to benefit Naruto and his community, whose habitat and very existence are under threat."【Jan 7, 2016／ABC】

selfie:自撮り macaque:マカク (マカク属のサルの総称) PETA: 動物の倫理的扱いを求める人々の会 expose:一目にさらす hypocrisy:偽善 (的行為) exploit:利用する、搾取する crested macaque:クロザル crested=トサカのある、羽飾り (紋章) のある unattended:付き添いのない、無人の setback:後退、敗北 property:資産、初級物 species: (分類上の) 種 US Copyright Act:米著作権法 grant:認める next friend: proceeds:近友 (未成年や精神異常者等の代理人として訴訟行為を行う人) 収入 habitat:生息地

☆Ice breaker for active discussion☆

1. Do you have a selfie stick? Would you like to buy one? Why or why not?
2. These days, many foreign tourists are taking selfies. What do you think about it?
3. Do you think animals should have the right to own copyrights?
4. What do you think about PETA? How do you value their activities?
5. What's your idea about harmonious existence of human and wild animals?
6. Make sentences using the following words: selfie, exploit, hypocrisy, setback, habitat and copyright.

インドネシア・スラウェシ島に生息する 6 歳のクロザル、ナルトの「自撮り」写真がメディアを賑わせた。PETA はナルトの著作権が侵害されていると主張したが、司法はサルに著作権はないとした。2014 年、米著作権庁は「人間以外の動物による作品は著作権の対象にならない」との判断を示し、カメラの持ち主によるウィキペディアへの画像削除の申し出を退けている。