



1703 North 4th Street
Waco, Texas 76707
Accredited by

Contact: Terri Cox - 254-750-8427
Prepared: May 20, 2014
Release: Immediately

It's a Girl!

Waco, Texas - Cameron Park Zoo is proud to announce that Mei, the Zoo's Bornean orangutan, gave birth to a baby girl at 6:06 pm Saturday, May 17th.

This is the first baby for Mei, who celebrated her 16th birthday on May 1, and Kerajaan, or KJ, who is 25. The baby and Mei will remain in the night house to give mother and baby time to bond. The zoo will announce when the baby will make its public debut at a later date.

This is a very important birth for the zoo, because orangutans are critically endangered species. Habitat loss due to deforestation primarily for palm oil production has devastated the population of orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra.

Cameron Park Zoo will ask the public to help choose a name from three Malaysian names that were submitted by the Primate staff members. The names are: Batari, which means goddess; Lestari which means eternal; and Cahaya, meaning light or radiance. Zoo supporters can vote with their dollars and proceeds from the donations will benefit the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Great Ape Taxon Advisory Group Conservation Initiative. The details for voting will be posted on the Zoo's Facebook page and on the Zoo's website www.cameronparkzoo.com later this week.