



KANCIL GAZETTE

KEEPER INFO



The elephants at Zoo Negara are being taken care of by Abdul Nabi Bin Ahmad. He started working at the elephant section 10 years ago when he was just 19. He was initially motivated to join this line of work because he loved animals. Later on he realised that he had a special connection with these gentle giants. After working hard for 10 years he now holds the position of Animal Trainer at the zoo. Come meet Nabi and our elephants at Zoo Negara!

GENTLE GIANTS AT ZOO NEGARA



Liyana Amir

Three Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus hirsutus*) Sibol, Siti and Teriang have made Zoo Negara their home. Sibol and Siti are females, and they are older than the male Teriang. He is only 28 while Sibol is 31 and Siti is 29. These elephants live together peacefully in the enclosure. Currently we have a 10sen campaign to collect money for the renovation of the elephant enclosure so that our Asian elephants have a nicer home.

There are two main breeds of elephants in the world which are the Asian and African. The two main differences of these breeds are the body size and ears. African elephants are bigger than their Asian relatives and their ears are bigger too. Male Asian elephants have tusks. These tusks are actually their front teeth which makes them the biggest teeth in the world!

The elephants at Zoo Negara are fed sugarcane, guinea grass, napier grass, bananas and occasionally other types of fruit. These giants also need a lot of fluids to keep them hydrated. They will drink up to 200 litres of water a day!

The average lifespan of an Asian elephant that lives in the rainforests of Southeast Asia is 60 years. Elephants in captivity can live up to 80 years!



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These magnificent creatures are now listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List. What we must do to conserve these animals is to maintain their habitat. We must also do our best to prevent human-elephant conflict as many elephants die at the hands of farmers guarding their crops. Let's all unite to save these amazing animals.