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Press release

New Year's Day Elephant Baby is a Boy

On Sunday evening, the elephant offspring at the Tierpark presents another surprise: keeper Mario Hammerschmidt can hardly believe his eyes, but the supposed elephant girl is a boy. "Until Sunday, the elephant baby had done its business without being seen. Only on Sunday, it revealed its little penis. Now it is obvious: It is a bull elephant," says Hammerschmidt.

"The people of Berlin love animals. Naturally, such a cute elephant baby is on everybody's lips," says the zoo and animal park director Dr. Andreas Knieriem. "Despite the icy temperatures, more than 3,000 people have already visited the little elephant baby. Now, we only need a sponsor who will choose the name for the elephant jointly with the keepers."

After approx. 22 months of gestation time, the Asian elephant lady Kewa (32 years old) delivered its sixth child on 1 January 2016.

Like every morning, the elephant keeper team greets all animals in the elephant house on New Year's Day morning. Only at about 8 o'clock, Mario Hammerschmidt, head elephant keeper, identifies a new member in the group: Kewa delivered a fragile elephant baby during the night of New Year's Eve. Without any help from the veterinarians and keepers, Kewa, surrounded by her two daughters Thuza (7) and Pantha (3), delivered a healthy elephant baby. The baby is exactly 100 cm in size and weighs approx. 100 kilos. Mother Kewa keeps nuzzling her little one with her trunk and waits patiently until her little son finds his way to the milk and starts drinking.

Bull elephant Ankhor (32 years old) is the father of the little elephant boy. Ankhor has lived in the Prague Zoo since August 2014.

Six African and now seven Asian elephants live at the Tierpark Berlin.

You are interested in the elephant sponsorship? Ms Seipel-Pogonka will answer your questions under phone number 030/25 401-290. You can also write an e-mail to patenschaft@tierpark-berlin.de.