



Association Barbary Macaque Awareness & Conservation
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barbarymacaque.org

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Dear Yassine,

We recently noticed that you were playing the role of a young boy with his pet, a Barbary macaque, in a serie freely inspired from the novel « Nobody's boy » written by Hector Malot.

it might seem that keeping a Barbary macaque as a pet is the same as keeping a dog. The reality is very different: do you know why macaques are not good pets ?

Unlike dogs, macaques have never been domesticated. They can not fit among humans. A macaque even tamed, will remain a lifelong wild animal. Taken from the wild when he was a baby, a macaque will never be happy with humans, even if he is adopted by a loving family. Furthermore, macaques have large teeth and can hurt badly by biting, and even transmit serious diseases, such as rabies. For these reasons, having a macaque as a pet is illegal In Morocco, the fine is 1000 €.

Do you also know also that captive macaques are unable to survive in the forest if they are released? On the contrary, they are attacked by wild macaques and starve to death or are killed by villagers because they become a public danger. It is a sad fate that awaits Raï in the story, when he is supposed to regain his freedom...

The good news is that you can act to protect the Barbary macaques. You could, for example, put the message "Having a Barbary macaque as a pet is illegal – Don't buy a Barbary macaque" on your Facebook page, especially under the photos where you pose with the monkey: it could alert hundreds of people and inform them of the situation of Barbary macaques in Morocco.

We would also like to show you the work we do to protect the Barbary macaque and on this occasion, we invite you to spend a special day with us! On this day, we will take the Monkey bus and go to Bouhachem forest. We could try to spot wild macaque groups living in inaccessible places or save baby macaques attacked by dogs ... be ready, because anything could happen! We hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you for your attention,

Kind regards,

Ahmed El Harrad,
President