



## CHEETAH



### **Description of Cheetah:**

It's an animal that gathers in its general features the qualities of the dog and those of the cat. Its size is medium between the dog and the tiger. Its body resembles the dog's except for the head. As for the head and the tail, they are like cat and tiger together.

The colour of the cheetah's fur is sandy yellow. It has near dots but they are not gathered as they are in the tiger. It has short round ears, the outside end is black and its tail ends with a black part.

### **Its places**

Not very long ago, cheetah was extremely found in the area stretched from the south and the east of Africa, the Arab Peninsula, Iran and India. It was also found in deserts, of Egypt, Libya, Algeria and Morocco.

Its number has been greatly decreased later, and that led to the decrease of its rates and numbers.

### **Its condition in Egypt :**

In an early time of this century, cheetah has dwelt vast areas in the coasts of the Mediterranean in the Egyptian desert, Kattara lowland, Siwa, and near the unpopulated oases. One of the studies conducted in 1993, denoted that cheetah is in a critical condition in Egypt and it is on the verge of dying out because of being hunted excessively. Another study has pointed out that if we don't take prompt measures to pro-

tect and keep cheetahs, they will die out.

Reports concerning the cheetah's condition in Egypt indicate that a reasonable number of cheetah has been recently killed by Egyptian and foreign hunters. It is said that five cheetahs have been lately killed and two of their furs have been got and placed in Faculty of Science, Al Azhar University in Cairo. A foreign hunter has killed the third. Then he embalmed it and sent it to his country. As for the other two cheetahs, some Arab hunters killed them but we know nothing about them up till now.

### **Protecting Cheetah in Egypt:**

A ministerial decree has been issued prohibiting hunting cheetahs in Egypt, but the places of its existence haven't been considered as protected areas for protecting them.

This threatens cheetahs to die out in the



near future. Another reason which may lead to the dying out of cheetahs is the movement of desert reclamation which neglects the environmental effects of the reclamation process.

It has been discovered that reclaiming the desert in Siwa for cultivating it threatens the most important existing resorts of cheetahs in Egypt. It's worthy to point out that great efforts have been exerted to hunt a male cheetah to seminal some female cheetahs as a way of protecting cheetahs from extinction.

### **Do you know... ?**

- Dears are the best pray for cheetahs, thus searching for cheetahs always takes place in dears places.

- The number of cheetahs is estimated to be from 1500 to 2500 in Africa.

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**Realised by :** Prof. Dr. Mohamed SABER SELIM  
Prof. Dr. Kamal El-Din Hassan EL-BATANOUNY  
Academy for Scientific Research and Technology,  
Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt.  
Tel and Fax: (202-5) 71 58 85  
E-mail: batanouny@frcu.eun.eg



Ain-Shams University



Academy for Sc. Research  
& Technology

**Coordinateur Régional :** Prof. Dr. Abdelhamid BELEMLIH  
Société Protectrice des Animaux et de la Nature «SPANA» 41, Résidence Zohra, Harhoura  
12 000 Témara - Maroc - Tél : (212-7) 74 72 09 - Fax : (212-7) 74 74 93 - E-mail : spana@mtds.net.ma