

MELCA Mahiber

Cultural Biodiversity and "Mountain Nyala Day" November 4th 2007

MELCA with collaboration Saint Louis Zoo and SOS-Sahel-Bale-Eco Region Project had conducted the second cultural biodiversity and Mountain Nyala day celebration on November 4th 2007 in Dinsho town, Bale District, Ethiopia.

The main aim of the celebration was to create opportunities for schools Nature club and youth groups to present their works on cultural biodiversity and Mountain Nyala conservation. On this opportunity, students and their families were able to exchange ideas about the importance of traditional ecological



knowledge for the conservation of their ecosystem. The occasion was a good opportunity to transmit messages about the need for conservation of Bale Mountains National Park in general and about conservation of Mountain Nyala



and its habitat in particular. The key participants of the celebration

were ten Primary and Secondary schools and two youth groups from Dinsho (Around Bale Mountains National park HQ) areas. On the celebration, each

school and youth group has presented drama, poem, drawings, traditional music and exhibition. In almost all schools, the main theme of their presentation had focused on the need to conserve the endemic and endangered Mountain Nyala and its ecosystem, and the need to conserve their culture and biodiversity for their sustainable life. More than 3,000 audiences took part on the celebration. It was colorful, educational and also entertains all the participants.

Next to the celebration and remark, all the participants the exhibition which was and with a lot of cultural collections. On the exhibition, different wild animals, (Mountain Nyala), different



medicinal plant specimens, different varieties of crops, cultural dressings, cultural food stuffs, different activities photographs and drawings were presented.

closing went to visit marvelous biodiversity sculpture of dominantly types of

The celebration was broadcasted through the Ethiopian Television “Akababiyachin Program”