



By Shi Peng

Witness Longest Total Solar Eclipse of 21st Century

On the morning of Jul. 22nd people in Hangzhou who were worried about possibility of missing the long-expected solar eclipse due to the poor weather were very happy to see the longest total solar eclipse of the 21st century, with just a pair of sunglasses.

The weather forecast in the early morning Hangzhou TV News stated that there were possible thunder showers on Jul. 22nd. Much to their disappointment, not a few citizens decided to watch the solar eclipse on TV. However at around 9am a slight sun shine appeared through the clouds.

Many people rushed outdoors looking for the sun, which was veiled with a light cloud. Even

though they don't have professional eclipse glasses, the clouds which were evenly arrayed on the sky played a perfect role of shades. With a pair of sunglasses, one could witness the whole progress of the eclipse.

Though the total event once in a 500-year's for the region only lasted for over 6 minutes, every one was head over heels to have got the chance to experience it in their life time.

One of the eclipse chasers in Qianjiang New Town said, "I saw the diamond ring with a shiny star above it. This was what we call a shine-together of the sun, the moon and the star. I am so thrilled....."

Another citizen remarked, "When it got to-

tally blackout just now, I saw someone play fireworks in the neighborhood. It is the most amazing spectacle I have ever seen in my life."

At 9:35am, when the sun totally disappeared the animals in Hangzhou Zoo reacted differently as well. Introduced by Assistant Breeder Mr. Wang Hongbo, elephants were the smartest among all the animals. When it became totally dark, elephants stepped indoors; when it became brighter gradually, they walked outside as normal. The birds were ready for a nap when it got dark and became active again when it turned bright. The giraffes in the open air, however, out of possible horror, gathered together when it turned dark all of a sudden.

(Translated by E.C.Hick)



People were using all kinds of ways to take photos of solar eclipse. By Gu Hongfei