

THE CONSORT OF SPRING: BIRDS CHIRPING AMONG FRAGRANT FLOWERS

When the azalea blossoms wildly around the TKU campus, diverse birds start their first movement of the Spring Consort. At this moment, the punky singer with its prominent red beak, the Black Bulbul, outshines the frequent fellows—Chinese Bulbul, Japanese White Eye, and Sparrow.

Occupied on most of the trees of TKU Campus are “The Three Musketeers of City” --Chinese Bulbul, Japanese White Eye, and Sparrow. Thousands of them sing vociferously together, squatting on the stick or flying among branches. The vehement of the spring concert often attract the attention of curious students and teachers. With surprise, along with their vigorous singing there is “Gold” falling on. Experienced students would try everything they can to prevent from the solid waste from the birds.

Transferring from the high mountain, the Black Bulbul is the newcomer to the campus tree concert. The characteristics of this group of visitors are red beak and claws. Chang Wen-hua, leader of the Wild Bird Club, informs us that the Black Bulbul is a sacred bird in Taiya Tribe myth. According to the legend, once the Taiya Tribe village suffered from a great flood. The villagers were moved to the highland. When the water receded, the villagers send the Black Bulbul to investigate whether the flood was all gone. In order to prove that the flat land was safe, the commissioned bird fetched a fire with its beak and took it to the highland. This explained why its beak and claws were red. Intertwiningly, when we observe closely, we can find the crest of the Black Bulbul, which is uplifted and punky, looks like burned.

The Black Drongo, which inhabits on the trees beside the Palace Styled

Classrooms, become actively at this season. Because it often attacks male students walking among the trees at this area, there is a romantic tale about this bird—the bird that attacks the heartless male lover as revenge. It is nicknamed as the Bird of Palace Styled Classrooms.

If you hear the “H00—H00—H00” sound near the Songtao Girl Dormitory, you might mistake the source as some kind of insect. It is actually a small sized owl-- Eastern Screech-Owl. The characteristic is its red eyes.

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