《悲报！熊猫宝宝出生四天即猝死》

导读:2016年中国第一胎熊猫宝宝不到4天就早夭了。公众悲痛之余，愈发关注大熊猫低生育率和野外栖息地保护问题。

The panda cub was confirmed dead at around 5 am on Tuesday at Chengdu Research base for Giant Panda Breeding in Southwest China’s Sichuan Province, according to the base’s website.

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An autopsy showed the baby’s organs were all in good condition. The panda cub’s sudden death makes it a rare case among its captive family.

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Human babies sometimes fall victim to a similar phenomenon named sudden infant death syndrome, the cause of which is still unknown.

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Further analysis of the cause of the cub’s death is underway at the base’s lab.

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The panda cub was born live at 6:06 am on May 6, and the condition of the baby had been carefully tended and stable from day one.

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The cub’s 9-year-old mother, Aibang, who had been on a diet for over 20 days, appeared to be entering labor on May 4. A global live broadcast of the birth on pandapia.com and other websites started at 7 pm that day and lasted about 35 hours, reaching a peak audience of over 1 million viewers worldwide.

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A similar live broadcast of Aibang giving birth in August 2014 ended in disappointment for audiences and researchers, as her pregnancy was false, and no baby arrived.

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Though rare, the sudden death of the newborn renewed public concerns over captive pandas’ low birth rate.

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Sun Quanhui, a senior scientific advisor at international NGO World Animal Protection, told the Global Times that there are many impact factors differentiating captive pandas’ behavior and physical conditions from those of wild pandas, noting that many factors including diet can contribute to the low birth rate.

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"Artificial assistance to panda breeding is indeed an important strategy," Sun added. "However, more attention could be paid to a new form of protection through restoration and maintenance of a proper habitat." Sun also quoted the research of Peking University professor Pan Wenshi, who found that pandas, a relict species, have actually proven to be more capable of breeding than human beings when they are in the wild.

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简答网 —jiandongshicai.cn—