

《双语：保护穿山甲 刻不容缓》

Chinese people ' s appetites have been guided by pragmatism, rather than food taboos. As Taiwanese academic Kung Peng-cheng puts it after exploring the eating habits and cultural restraints of Chinese people, "they eat almost anything."

??"????????"



Besides the reputation of the Cantonese for eating wild animals and the controversy over the Yulin dog meat festival in South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in recent years, the pangolin, a strong-looking creature, has been revealed as a dish served in some restaurants, despite the fact that pangolin is on China's list of endangered wild animals.

??

Earlier this month, a set of pictures taken in 2015 of what appears to be a lavish Chinese banquet were again circulated online. Some images show a cooked pangolin, served to a Chinese official from Guangxi. It aroused a public outcry, which prompted authorities to launch an investigation.

This week, Google's Valentine's Day doodles featured love-themed pangolins to raise awareness of the endangered species in the animal's natural habitats, including China. This might serve a reminder to China of its difficult task ahead in preserving the pangolins.

??

In Beijing's subway stations, one can see advertisements featuring Chinese celebrities advocating for the ban on ivory purchase. But we must also act now to ban the trade in pangolins before it is too late.

??

