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Bun-snatching festival held in Hong Kong

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Chicken larb bursts with flavor

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Baby panda born in Malaysia zoo makes her public debut



PRECOCIOUS PANDA. A new baby panda is seen at the Malaysia Zoo in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on May 26, 2018. Born at the Malaysian Zoo five months ago, the female panda, which has not yet been named, made its first media appearance last month. The baby is the second offspring of giant pandas Liang Liang and Xing Xing, both of which are on a 10-year loan to Malaysia that began in 2014. (AP Photo/Vincent Thian)

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — A baby panda born in a Malaysian zoo five months ago has made her public debut.

The female, which has not yet been named, is the second offspring of giant pandas Liang Liang and Xing Xing, both of which are on a 10-year loan to Malaysia that began in 2014.

The first cub, a female called Nuan Nuan born in August 2015, was sent back to China last November as part of a deal with Beijing to return cubs born in captivity at age two.

Members of the media watched and

filmed the cub in an air-conditioned enclosure at the national zoo through a glass shield. Zoologists said the healthy cub weighs 19.8 pounds.

Zoo officials say the giant panda pair broke the world record for a second baby in four years via natural reproduction. Malaysia's national zoo has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars on a panda complex, including bamboo trees mimicking their natural habitat, after China loaned the cub's parents to mark 40 years of diplomatic relations with Malaysia.

According to WWF, there are 1,864 giant pandas in the wild, living mainly in bamboo forests high in the mountains of western China and subsisting almost entirely on bamboo.

The pair arrived just weeks after a Malaysian plane carrying 239 people, mostly Chinese citizens, disappeared in March 2014 while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Chinese media at the time criticized the Malaysian government and Malaysia Airlines over their handling of the tragedy. The jet still has not been found.




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