

# World's oldest male giant panda dies at age 35 in Hong Kong

By Zen Soo  
The Associated Press

**H**ONG KONG — The oldest-ever male giant panda in captivity has died at age 35 at a Hong Kong theme park after his health deteriorated.

An An lived most of his life at Ocean Park after he and a female panda were gifted to Hong Kong by China in 1999. The female panda, Jia Jia, died in 2016 at age 38, making her the oldest-ever panda in captivity.

Ocean Park mourned An An as a family member who grew with the park and built bonds with locals and tourists.

“An An has brought us fond memories with numerous heart-warming moments. His cleverness and playfulness will be dearly missed,” Paulo Pong, chairman of Ocean Park Corporation, said in a statement.

An An had high blood pressure, a common condition among geriatric pandas.



**LONG LIFE.** Visitors write notes to mourn the death of Chinese giant panda An An at Ocean Park theme park in Hong Kong, on July 21, 2022. The old-est-ever male giant panda in captivity died last month at age 35 after his health deteriorated. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

He was euthanized to prevent further suffering after veterinarians from Ocean Park and government authorities consulted the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda, Ocean Park said.

“An An lived a full life that ended at the respectable age of 35 — the equivalent of 105 years in human age,” the statement read.

Hong Kong was given another panda pair — Ying Ying, a female, and a male, Le Le — in 2007 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the city’s return to China.

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**H**ONG KONG — A falling video screen struck and injured two dancers on a concert stage as Cantopop band Mirror was performing last month in Hong Kong.

Video clips circulated on social media showed Mirror members Anson Lo and Edan Lui performing with a dozen dancers when one of several suspended LED screens crashed down onto the stage.

## Falling screen hits 2 dancers on stage at Hong Kong concert

The falling screen appeared to directly hit one dancer on the head and body before toppling onto another performer as the audience screamed in horror. The rest of the performers on stage rushed to help those hit by the screen, the videos showed.

Police said the two male dancers were conscious when they were sent to Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Local media reported that the hospital said one of the dancers was in serious condition while the other was stable.

Police said three audience members

were also taken to the hospital, one who felt unwell and two others in a state of shock, but they required no medical treatment.

The concert was halted after the incident, which occurred during Mirror’s fourth of 12 scheduled concerts at Hong Kong Coliseum.

At another concert, band member Frankie Lui appeared to lose his footing and fall off the edge of the stage while giving a speech, according to clips on social media.

An online petition about safety issues of Mirror concerts was launched the same night and has garnered thousands of signatures. The petition urged organizers to ensure safety for Mirror and its dancers and refrain from using unnecessary stage mechanisms or raised platforms.

Viu, the company that created and manages Mirror, did not respond to an e-mailed request for comment.

The 12-member band has skyrocketed in popularity in Hong Kong and has been credited with the revival of Cantopop.

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