

# Breaking News English.com

**World's last male northern white rhino dies – 23rd March, 2018**

## Level 4

Animal lovers are mourning the loss of Sudan the rhinoceros. Sudan, 45, was the world's last male northern white rhino. He died at a zoo in Kenya after "age-related complications". Officials say his health "worsened significantly" and he was too weak to stand. His muscles had weakened and his skin had "extensive wounds". The zoo's director called Sudan's death, "a cruel symbol of human disregard for nature". He said everyone who knew Sudan was sad.

The northern white rhino have been hunted to near-extinction because of the value of their horns. There were more than 2,000 in the 1960s. The only northern white rhinos alive today are Sudan's daughter and granddaughter. They live in a zoo so they will be safe. Conservationists want them to produce young to keep their species going. In vitro fertilization could be used on them. The zoo needs \$9 million to fund the conservation project.

## Level 5

Conservationists and animal lovers are mourning the loss of Sudan the rhinoceros. Sudan was the world's last male northern white rhino. Sudan, 45, was put down at a zoo in Kenya after "age-related complications". He had been in poor health due to his old age. Officials say his condition "worsened significantly" and he was not strong enough to stand. His muscles had deteriorated and his skin had "extensive wounds". The zoo's director said: "Sudan's death was a cruel symbol of human disregard for nature and it saddened everyone who knew him."

Hunters have hunted the northern white rhino to near-extinction. There were more than 2,000 in the wild in the 1960s but their numbers continually fell because of the value of their horns. The only northern white rhinos alive today are Sudan's daughter and granddaughter. They live in captivity so they will be protected. There are hopes they can produce young to keep their species going. In vitro fertilization techniques using semen from other dead rhinos could be used with Sudan's offspring. The zoo wants to raise \$9 million to fund the conservation project.

## Level 6

Conservationists and animal lovers are in mourning today for the loss of Sudan the rhinoceros. Sudan was the world's last male northern white rhino. The 45-year-old animal was put down by his carers at a zoo in Kenya after "age-related complications". He had been in very poor health recently due to his old age. Zoo officials say his condition had "worsened significantly" and that he no longer had the strength to stand. His muscles had severely deteriorated throughout his body and his skin had "extensive wounds". The zoo's director said: "Sudan's death was a cruel symbol of human disregard for nature and it saddened everyone who knew him....He stole the heart of many with his dignity and strength."

Like many of Earth's majestic beasts, hunters have hunted the northern white rhino to near-extinction. There were more than 2,000 northern white rhino in the wild in the 1960s but their numbers continually dwindled because of the value of their horns. The only remaining northern white rhinos today are two females - Sudan's daughter and granddaughter. Both animals live in captivity so they will be protected. There are hopes that the two females can produce young to keep the species going. In vitro fertilization techniques using stored semen from other dead rhinos could be used to impregnate Sudan's offspring. The zoo is hoping to raise \$9 million to fund the conservation project.