

Taxidermy of Last Male Northern White Rhino Displayed in Museum



PHOTO BY KWS

The taxidermy of ‘Sudan’, the last male Northern White Rhino (NWR) known to the world, is now on display for public viewing at the National Museums of Kenya in Nairobi.

Taxidermy is the process of preparing, stuffing, and mounting the skin of an animal in a lifelike way so that it can be displayed or preserved for decorative, scientific, or educational purposes.

Sudan, the world’s last male Northern White Rhino, died at Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya on March 18 2018 at the age of 45.

His taxidermy was presented to Kenya’s Cabinet Secretary for Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage, Peninah Malonza by the Czech Republic Ambassador to Kenya, Martin Klepteko, on March 28. The laborious work and expertise to piece together the taxidermy was done in the Czech Republic. Through a multilateral agreement, Zoo Dvůr Králové organized the building of *Sudan’s* taxidermy for scientific and educational purposes. The taxidermy was finalized in 2021 and has been



on display in the National Museum in Prague, Czech Republic.

In 2022, Kenya Wildlife Service and Zoo Dvůr Králové entered into a Donation Agreement that concluded how the taxidermy of *Sudan* would be donated and transferred to Kenya.

Speaking at the grand reception of the taxidermy, Malonza said though a sad moment that Kenya was receiving the taxidermy of *Sudan* “it will be a constant reminder that we will be

TOP

Acting Kenya Wildlife Service Director General Erustus Kanga and school girls view the taxidermy of Sudan, the last male Northern White Rhino, displayed at the National Museums of Kenya on March 28, 2023.

BELOW

***Sudan* the last male Northern Rhino.**

judged by future generations if we don’t take the necessary efforts to save the species from extinction.” She added, “While *Sudan’s* taxidermy is a prized wildlife memorabilia, it also serves as a constant reminder to the government and partners that supporting the conservation of our keystone species remains at the apex of our mandate.”

Touching on efforts to fight against the possibility of having Northern White Rhino species being extinct, Malonza said Kenya will continue to partner with BioRescue consortium of local and international scientists and conservationists to save the Northern White rhinos from extinction using novel technologies. ●