

Mourn Jackson by helping big cats: actress

女星呼籲：幫助老虎 緬懷麥可

Actress Tippi Hedren, who adopted Michael Jackson's two tigers at her Los Angeles area preserve, is urging animal lovers to **mourn** the late King of Pop by helping captive big cats.

Hedren, best known for her roles in Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* and *Marnie*, took in Jackson's tigers Thriller and Sabu in 2005 as the pop icon's life unraveled and he gave up his private zoo at Neverland.

Hedren said she broke the news of Jackson's death to the tigers at her Shambala Preserve, which is home to 68 tigers, lions and other big cats retired from the entertainment industry or unwanted as pets.

"I went up and sat with them for a while and let them know that Michael was gone," Hedren told AFP.

"You don't know what mental **telepathy** exists from the human to the animal," she said. "But I hope they understood."

Hedren said Jackson had treated the tigers "beautifully" at Neverland.

But she hoped his death would lead fans to donate to her preserve and help build **momentum** for a bill she is seeking in Congress that would ban the breeding in the US of big cats to be pets.

By her calculation, captive big cats have killed or permanently maimed nearly 600 people in the US in the past five years.

"You're taking an apex predator and saying, 'Let's make a pet out of him.' It's insanity," she said.

"We're hoping very much that people will wake up and say, of course, it's nonsense to keep these animals as pets," she said.

Hedren pressed for a bill approved by Congress in 2003 that bans the interstate trade of big cats as pets.

But she said efforts to ban the breeding of the big cats entirely was a **bone of contention** with the circus industry.

Michael Jackson's private zoo has been **dispersed** to sanctuaries and individuals since his financial problems multiplied.

His beloved chimpanzee, Bubbles, is living at the Center for Great Apes, a Florida sanctuary which is also appealing for donations from Jackson fans.



女星蒂碧·海德倫收養了麥可·傑克森的兩隻老虎，並將其安置在她位於洛杉磯的保育區內，她極力呼籲動物愛好者把對這位已故流行樂天王的懷念化為實際行動，幫助受圈養的老虎。

二〇〇五年，傑克森的生活瓦解後，他放棄了「夢幻莊園」裡的私人動物園，因演出希區考克電影《鳥》和《豔賊》而走紅的海德倫便領養了這位流行偶像的兩隻老虎「顫慄」和「薩布」。

海德倫說，她把傑克森逝世的這個消息告訴尚巴拉保育區的老虎們，這裡總共收留了六十八隻從娛樂產業退役或遭棄養的老虎、獅子和其他大型貓科動物。

海德倫對法新社表示：「我到牠們身邊坐了一陣子，然後才告訴牠們麥可過世了。」

她說：「你不知道人類和動物之間會有什麼樣的心電感應，但我希望牠們能理解。」

海德倫說，傑克森在夢幻莊園裡把這兩隻老虎照顧地「非常好」。

但她希望他的辭世能促使歌迷捐款給她的保育中心，進而帶動氣勢幫助她正極力爭取的一項法案在國會過關，該法案旨在禁止美國境內養育大型貓科動物作為寵物。

她估計過去五年來，被圈養的大型貓科動物已在美國境內造成近六百人喪生或終生殘廢。

她說：「你看著一種極兇暴的掠食動物說：『我們把牠當成寵物吧』，這根本就是荒唐至極。」

她說：「我們非常希望人們可以覺悟地說，把這些動物當成寵物來養根本是異想天開。」

二〇〇三年，海德倫催生國會通過一條禁止州際買賣大型貓科動物當作寵物的法案。

但她說，她和馬戲團產業互不相讓，極力爭取徹底禁止人工繁殖大型貓科動物。

麥可·傑克森的財務狀況吃緊後，私人動物園中的動物便被分送到動物保育區安置或由私人領養。

他心愛的黑猩猩泡泡目前住在佛羅里達州的「大猩猩中心」，這間動物保育中心也正呼籲傑克森的歌迷捐款贊助。

(法新社/翻譯：袁星慶)

Above left: Carlene Trimarchi, of Seldon, Long Island wears a glove and holds a Michael Jackson poster outside the Apollo theater where a tribute to Michael Jackson was held, in New York on June 30, 2009.

PHOTO: AP

Above right: A young female white tiger cub at the zoo in Aschersleben, Germany, on June 27, 2009.

PHOTO: EPA

上方左圖：六月三十日，在紐約阿波羅劇院舉行的麥可·傑克森紀念會場外，來自長島薩爾登的卡琳·崔瑪琪戴著手套拿著一張麥可·傑克森的海報。

照片：美聯社

上方右圖：六月二十七日，德國阿瑟雷本動物園的一隻母白老虎幼虎。

照片：歐新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **mourn** /morn/ v.

哀悼 (ai1 dao4)

例：A week of mourning was announced to mark the passing of the former president.
(政府宣佈全國將為前總統的逝世哀悼一週。)

2. **telepathy** /tə'leɪpəθi/ n.

心電感應 (xin1 dian4 gan3 ying4)

例：Though scientifically unproven, many people believe in telepathy.
(雖然未經科學證實，但許多人相信心電感應。)

3. **momentum** /mo'mentəm/ n.

氣勢 (qi4 shi4)

例：Support for the proposal seems to be losing momentum.
(支持該計畫的氣勢似乎消退了。)

4. **disperse** /di'spɜ:s/ v.

散佈 (san4 bu4)；安置 (an1 zhi4)

例：The crowd dispersed after the police fired plastic bullets.
(警方發射塑膠子彈後，群眾便分散開來。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

bone of contention 意見不同點

When two people disagree about something, there is a **bone of contention**. In the article, Tippi Hedren disagreed with the circus industry about banning the breeding of big cats. The idiom derives from the way dogs fight over bones.

Examples: "It's still a **bone of contention** whether to sell off the remaining assets," or "Working conditions were a constant **bone of contention** between Denzil and his staff."

當兩人對某件事的意見不同時，就會有「bone of contention」。上文中，蒂碧·海德倫和馬戲團產業對禁止人工繁殖大型貓科動物這件事持相反意見。

例如：「各方仍為了是否該變賣剩餘資產爭論不休」，或是「丹佐和他的員工之間一直為了工作條件爭執不休」。