

# Red Panda, Lesser Panda

Lesser Panda (in Japanese pronunciation)

## Scientific name

*Ailurus fulgens*

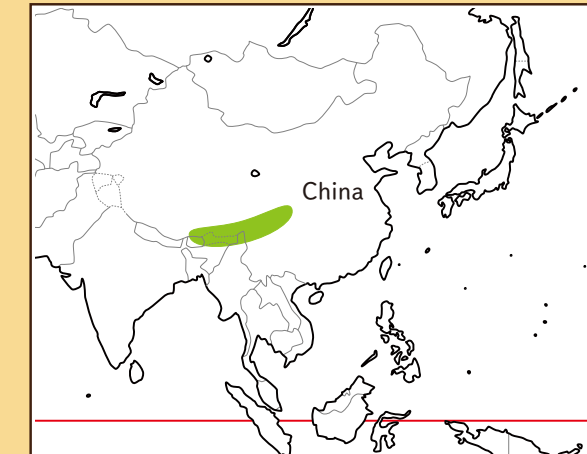
## Classification

Carnivora, Ailuridae

## Distribution

This species is divided into two subspecies.

One of them called the Himalayan red panda (*Ailurus fulgens fulgens*) is distributed in the Himalayan region from Nepal to Assam. The other one called Styan's red panda (*Ailurus fulgens refulgens*) is distributed from northern Burma to southern China. They prefer bamboo grove, which is located in a remote and high altitude area.



## Feeding Habits

It usually eats bamboo leaves and shoots, occasionally fruits, bird eggs.

## Characteristics

The tail is long and covered with long hair, and the soles of the feet also have hair. Like the giant panda, the forefoot has a thumb-shaped protrusion. It has a round face, large ears, and is sharp. The body length 50-60 cm, the tail length 30-50 cm, the body weight 3-8 kg.

## Behavior and ecology

The adult forms its own territory and live solitary in that. For appealing the presence of itself in the territory, it makes a scent marking with the secretion from the anal gland on the object such as tree trunks or rocks in the boundary of its territory, or defecates in a certain place. The both of the subspecies is endangered because the population is drastically decreasing due to the habitat destruction or illegal trade so, it is listed on the Appendix I of the CITES. (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). We make efforts that the exhibition, scientific research and captive breeding of this species for the purpose of "Species Preservation"