

PET'S POINT of VIEW

Stages of physical dying from the Tibetan Five Element Perspective which refers to the active dying process of the final shutting down of all body functions

First stage:

EARTH element dissolving (spleen/stomach meridian)

It is ruling the body's solid parts, they become less solid, for example:

- **Weight loss** affects the bones, teeth, nails, and skin
- **Appetite** might diminish, no use for fuel
- Loss of muscle strength

Conclusion of earth phase:

Dying animal remains in a resting position, this can take days, weeks but also turn around again.

Each stage is shorter than the previous one.

Second stage:

WATER dissolving (kidney/bladder meridian)

- **Body fluids dry up**, urine, saliva, blood, lymph, (scum on teeth, crusts on eyes)
- The animal may withdraw from environment, not listen to name, disengage from stimuli
- There is often a **PREVIEW** internally
- The animal may not be interested in food, drink much anymore
- **LAST BLOOM** suddenly coming back to life. The animal is using up its remaining life force, final moments of connection.

Third stage:

FIRE dissolving (heart/triple heater meridian)

Warmth of the body fades, digestion fades, diarrhea for example, respiration can get more rapid, animal takes shorter breaths.

Fourth stage:

AIR dissolving

Breath changes, twitching of limbs, shorter phase most often a few minutes.

Fifth stage: Death of the physical body

There are variations to the theme.

According to the Tibetans, there are also stages after the physical body has died.