

PREGNANCY AS AN AMAZING PHENOMENON

Pregnancy is the most beautiful period in a woman's life. Once you're pregnant, you are full of joy, hope and anxiety. People shower you with blessings, advices and that extra attention that makes you feel special. You have nine months of real happiness. And at the end of nine months, most women are more than happy to get their new little one out into the world. But sometimes Mother Nature has her own ideas.

The record for *the longest pregnancy* that resulted in a live birth belongs to [Beulah Hunter](#), a 25-year-old woman from Los Angeles. When she delivered a daughter, Penny Diana Hunter, in 1945, the child appeared absolutely normal. This shocked her doctor, who stated that Hunter's last menstrual period had been a staggering 375 days ago. An average pregnancy is 280 days, making this an extra three months that Hunter carried her daughter in the womb. [1]

An Indian woman thought to be *the world's oldest mother* has given birth at the age of 70. With her 79-year-old husband, Daljinder Kaur welcomed a son into the world after two years of IVF treatment. Kaur told, that they had started to lose hope of ever conceiving. She said: “God heard our prayers. My life feels complete now. I am looking after the baby all by myself, I feel so full of energy. My husband is also very caring and helps me as much as he can.”[2]

[Lithopedion](#), or a stone baby: is a rare phenomenon which occurs most commonly when a [fetus](#) dies during an [abdominal pregnancy](#), is too large to be reabsorbed by the body, and [calcifies](#) on the outside as part of a maternal [foreign body reaction](#), shielding the mother's body from the dead tissue of the fetus and preventing [infection](#). Lithopedia may occur from 14 weeks gestation to full term. It is not unusual for a stone baby to remain undiagnosed for decades, and it is often not until a patient is examined for other conditions or a proper examination is conducted that includes an [X-ray](#), that a stone baby is found.

The longest a woman was pregnant with a stone baby was 65 years. Huang Yijun, of the People's Republic of China, was 92 when she was diagnosed.

Patient was informed that the fetus had died inside her in 1948, but she did not remove it earlier for lack of money. [3]

The youngest mum ever is reported to be a five-year-old girl in Peru called Lina Medina who gave birth to a baby boy by C-section in May 1939. Her father took her to hospital with an abnormal growth to her abdomen and tests found she was seven months pregnant. The father was arrested for incest and the baby survived. Medical history revealed she'd been having regular periods from the age of three. [4]

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, *the biggest baby* ever born weighed 23.12 lb and died 11 hours after birth. The baby was born to Canadian Anna Bates in 1879. [5]

The smallest surviving baby ever born is tiny Rumaisa Shaik. She weighed just 8.6 oz and was only 10 inches long when she was born on September 17, 2004.

Rumaisa and her twin sister Hiba were delivered by C-section 14 weeks early at just 26 weeks' gestation after their mother, Mahajabeen Shaik, developed pre-eclampsia, which caused her dangerously high blood pressure. [5]

A Russian woman who was known only as 'the wife of Feodor Vassilyev' from the village of Shuya, reportedly *gave birth to 69 children* in the 18th century during 27 pregnancies. She popped out 16 pairs of twins, seven sets of triplets and four quadruplets.

Tomas, *the world`s first pregnant man*, was born a girl, Tracy Lagondino. The thirty-four-year-old man-mum had a sex change 10 years ago, receiving hormone treatment and getting his breasts removed. He kept his reproductive organs because his wife Nancy had a hysterectomy in the 1980s. [6]

Giving birth and being born brings us into the essence of creation, where the human spirit is courageous and bold and the body is the miracle of wisdom.

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