

Silva's seventh place is the highlight for Cuba at the Grand Slam of Judo in Paris

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Havana, February 7 (RHC/JIT) - Ivan Silva's seventh place in the 90 kg division was the best result of the 10 Cubans competing in the Paris Judo Grand Slam.

Silva started with two very fast victories, the first one in just two seconds by ippon to the Colombian Francisco Balanta and the second one in a similar way but in 1:49 minutes against the Italian Nicholas Mungai.

Then in the quarterfinals he lost by ippon in 1:34 minutes against the Georgian Beka Gvniashvili, number 10 in the world ranking and who at the time of writing had secured one of the bronze medals.

The Antillean, at the beginning of the repechage, lost by ippon in 5:07 minutes to Turkey's Mihail Zgank. In extension to the Golden Rule, he received the third shido (warning) when both had two.

Of the other Cubans, Andy Granda, also an Olympian, in his start in class C did not advance as he was defeated by wazari against French Guerman Andreev in +100 kg.

For the girls, Idelannis Gomez in the 70 kg category only lasted 41 seconds against the experienced local Margaux Pinot, who finally won the final with Japan's Saki Nilzoe.

Thalia Nariño, also a debutant in this category, lost in her first fight to Algerian Sonia Asselah. The outcome came after 1:13 minutes of extension when the African got wazari after having two shidos and the Cuban only one.

This Sunday, the other gold winners at the Accor Arena of Bercy were the French laureate Audrey Tcheumeo (78 kg), the Japanese Wakaba Tomita (+78) for the women and the Japanese Sanshiro Murai (90), the Belgian Toma Nikiforov (100) and Tsetsentsengel Odkhuu (+100).

By countries, Japan (7-5-6) dominated widely followed by France (3-1-7), Mongolia (2-1-1), Georgia (1-1-2) and Belgium (1-0-0).

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