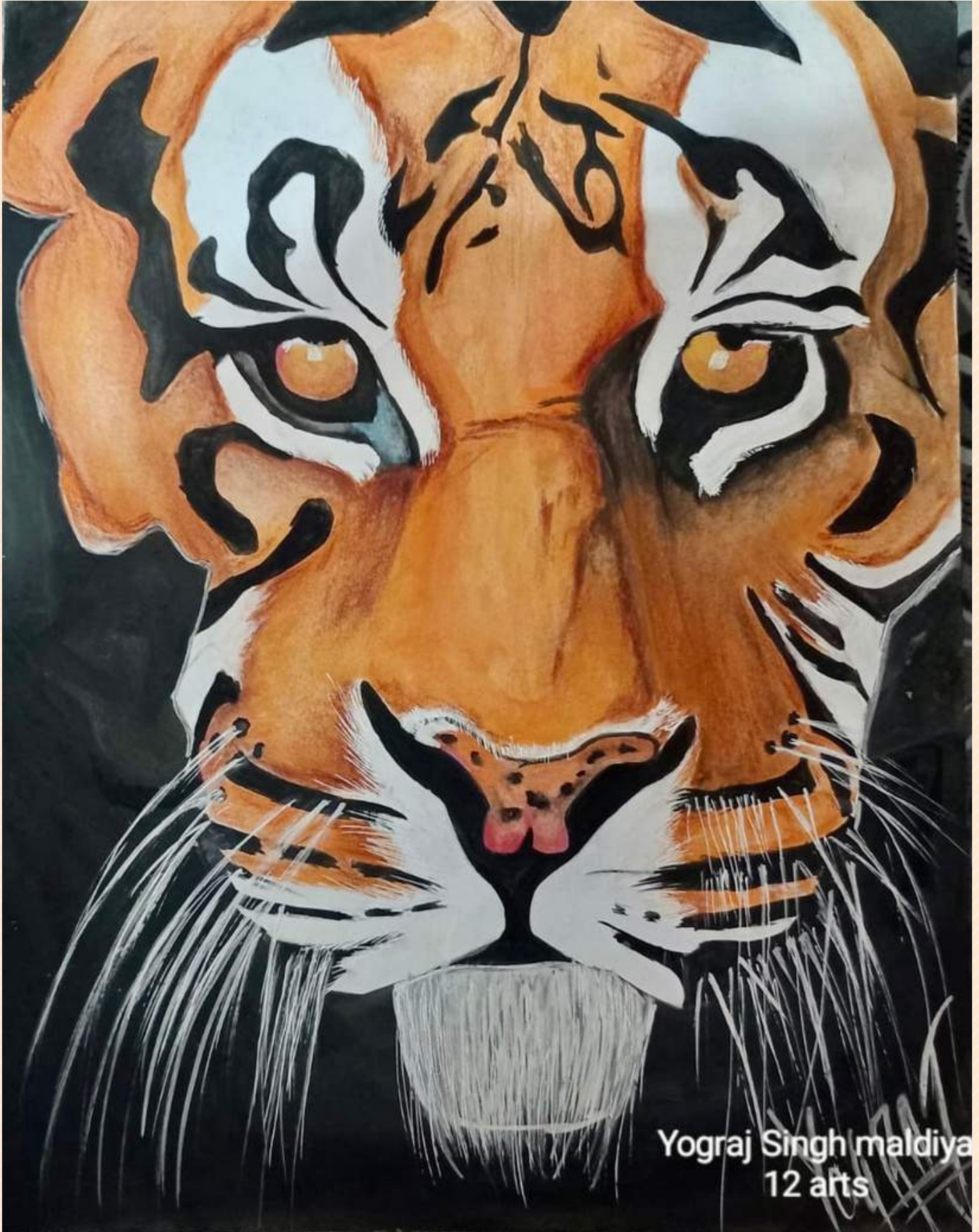


# Thinker's Leaf

An Initiative of Manava Bharati



Yograj Singh maldiya  
12 arts

## From the Editorial Desk

Dear Readers,

**Greetings of the day !** I hope you've been keeping safe. This issue of Thinker's Leaf is dedicated towards the tigers. Talking about tigers as we celebrate International Tiger's Day on 29th July there are three words that instantly come to my mind when I think of them is "fast, furious and ferocious"

What comes to your mind when you hear about them?

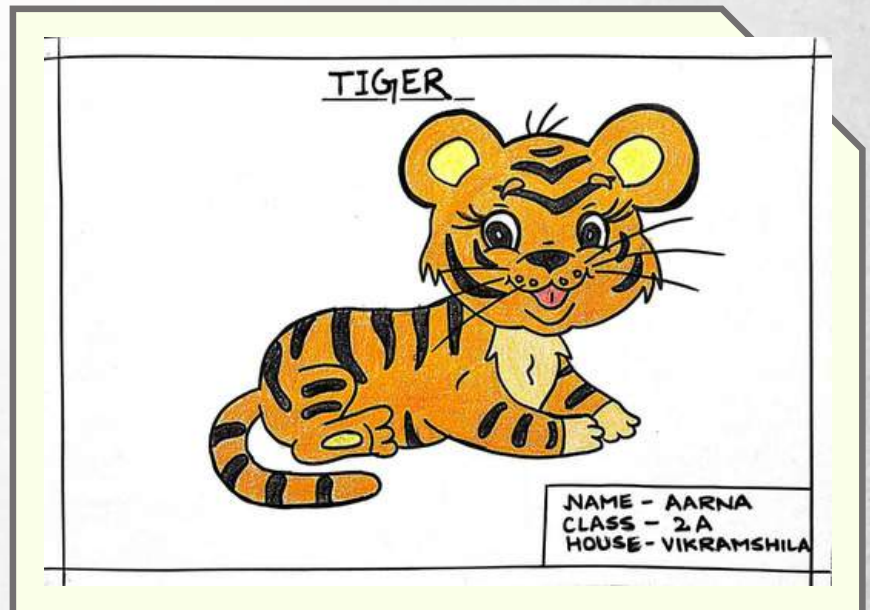
- National Animal of India
- One of the endangered species
- Powerful and
- Magnificent

The tiger is the largest living cat species and a member of China's Panthera. It is an apex predator, primarily preying on ungulates such as deer and wild boar. It doesn't depend on smell for hunting rather on sight and sound.

The Bengal Tiger is primarily found in India was marked on the endangered animal list back in 1969 and has been on decline ever since.

However, there is a remarkable rise in the population of other tigers all over India.

The Bengal tigers are also spotted in other Asian countries like Nepal, Bhutan and China. Poaching and habitat loss are the main reasons for the decline in their population. Their skin and body parts are sold for fashion and medical uses.



In some areas, including much of Southeast Asia, they are still in crisis and declining in number.

As humans, it is our duty to protect the wild and preserve them for our generations to come.

We should do our best in whatever way possible to conserve the forests, so that their home is protected and the animals can live a life they deserve.

We cannot let our forests burn and cut them down for the sake of our hunger and greed. Else, that day is not far when these beautiful creatures who roam around wild and free will be extinct.

Lastly I would like to conclude by saying that as a child, I was always fascinated by tigers but never had a chance to see them in real. I still earnestly wish to see them roaming wild and free one day!

With that I hope you've an amazing week ahead.

**Kind regards,  
Jasleen K**



## Tiger

Tiger, (*Panthera Tigris*), is the largest member of the cat family (*Felidae*) rivaled only by the lion (*Panthera leo*) in strength and ferocity. The Siberian or Amur, tiger (*P. Tigris Altaica*) is the largest, measuring up to 4 meters (13 feet) in total length and weighing up to 300 kg (660 pounds).

Wild tigers live in Asia. Larger subspecies, such as the Siberian tiger, tend to live in northern colder areas, such as the eastern Russia and Northern China. Smaller subspecies live in southern, warmer countries, such as India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia.

**Vaamika Baswan, 9 (A)  
Vikramshila House**



## Extinct Species of Tigers

**The Caspian Tiger** = These tigers became extinct in the 1970s. They were found in Turkey, Armenia, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Iran, Mongolia and Georgia. These tigers DNA have almost identical to the Siberian Tiger. The Caspian Tiger was the second largest of the tiger species. They had a bigger, muscular body and had long strong legs. They were the furiest of all the tiger subspecies.



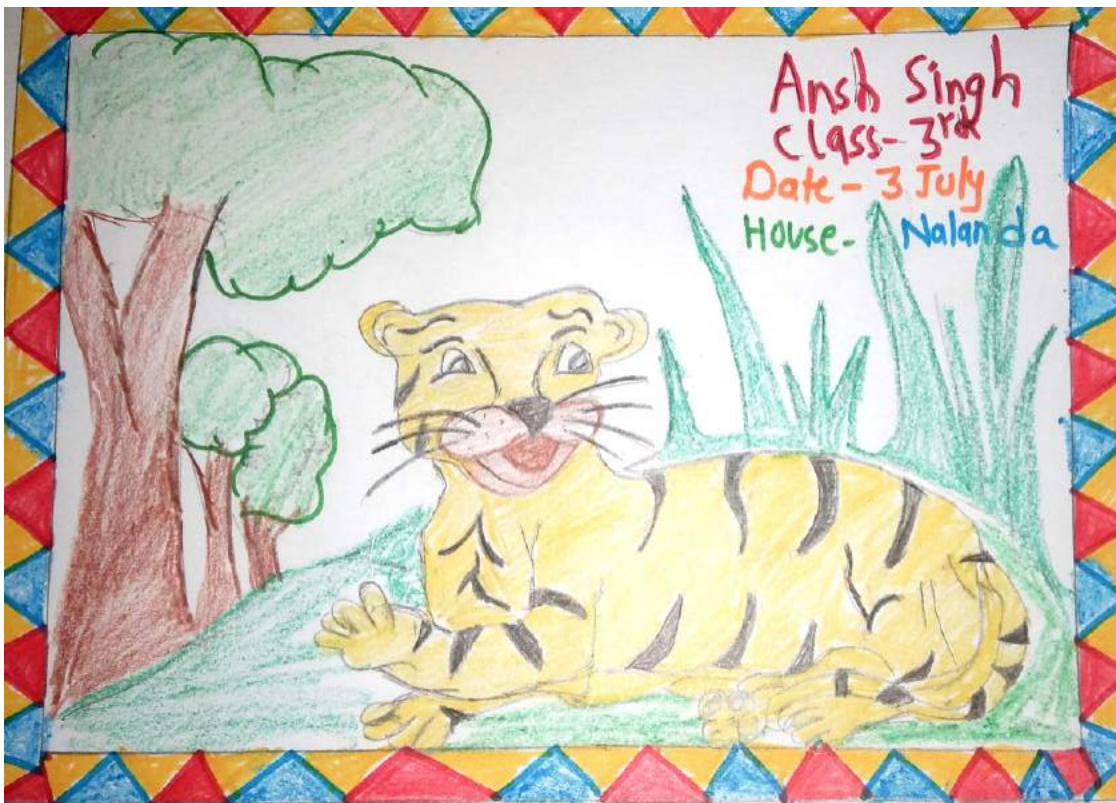
**The Javan Tiger** = These tigers lived on the island of Java in Indonesia. It became extinct in the 1970s-1990s. The Javan tiger was said to be strong enough to break legs of horses and water buffaloes with their paws. Once they were the dominant predator on the island of Java but in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Dutch colonizers rewards on the head of the animals to encourage their killing.



**The Bali Tiger** = They became extinct in 1937. They were the first species of tiger to become extinct. They lived on Bali. The killing of the last wild Bali tiger on 27 September, 1937 at Sumbar Kima , West Bali. After that the government of Bali made a strict law on hunting tigers but it was too late because they already became extinct.



Aditi Saklani XIIth Arts  
Vikramshila House



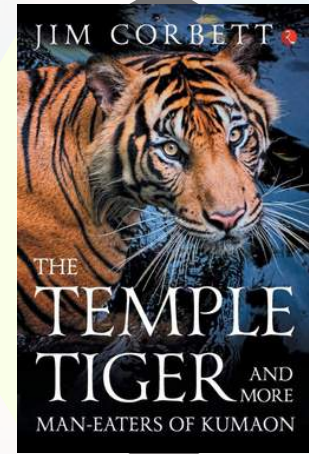
## Book Review

### “THE TEMPLE TIGER AND MORE MAN - EATERS OF KUMAON”

- Written by Jim Corbett

#### ‘ THE MORE YOU READ, THE MORE YOU EXPLORE ’ !

This statement highlights my experience of reading one of the classics written by the most renowned writer, naturalist and environmentalist Colonel Jim Corbett. This is my first book ever read on tigers. The image that pops up in my mind after a glance of the cover page of this book is of sleek chivalry and strength. It ignites the craving and excitement to read this book. It consists of a detailed account of adventurous hunting experiences of Corbett in five stories of tigers.



The most eye-catching description is about ‘The Temple Tiger’ as it depicts the extraordinary element of not only about tigers but also about the great writers like Jim Corbett. All the remaining four stories describe about man –eaters and hunting experiences. The Temple Tiger is not a man-eater and it was not hunted even after several attempts by Jim. As a writer, he has justified the title with magnificent episode of encounter with the Temple Tiger. The very first line of it, ‘IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR.....’ in bold letters exemplified the difference between superstitions and traditional beliefs of the people residing in hilly and forest areas in the northern region of India. His writing style is unique and flawless . His descriptive style narration shows connection of all events in continuity which leads to a marvelous composition.

The story of the Temple Tiger describes of a tiger which was seen in the temple area. The priest of the Dabidhura challenged Jim that no one could harm this tiger as it has received the blessings of the Gods in the hills. In all his attempts to shoot this temple tiger, he was always left amazed by the heroic behavior of it.

The most heart touching moment in this book is his courage to accept his failure to hunt temple tiger and capability to narrate the life events with the tone of sincerity and generosity. It is a big challenge for a writer to showcase his real picture in his story. On the other hand , the description of tales of his encounters with the tigers fill us with thrill and suspense. This book is not just about tigers but also the innocence hidden deep inside this powerful creature. I would suggest everyone to read this mystic narration of our national animal as a symbol of courage and strength . Corbett’s stories of tigers give a real life experience as if the enactment takes place in front of our eyes. The ending part of the Temple Tiger depicts the qualities of animals and human beings. This shows that the Almighty has created every creature on this earth with uniqueness. I personally recommend all to read this book which is easy to understand because of its simple language and diction . It also consists entertainment factor that a reader always look for.

-Reviewed by  
**Ms. Rekha Chauhan (Faculty)**

## Interesting facts about Bengal Tiger

1. Bengal Tiger is one of the largest species of tigers in the world.
2. It is the national animal of India.
3. India has the largest population of Bengal Tiger in the world.
4. They have a reddish orange coat with black or dark brown stripes.
5. Bengal tigers can eat venomous snakes.
6. A group of tigers is known as 'streak'.
7. Tigers can run at a speed of 50-60 km per hour.
8. Tiger usually hunt alone at night. They are nocturnal animal.
9. A punch from tiger may kill you.
10. Bengal tiger are good swimmer.

NAME - AVANYA BADONI  
 CLASS - 2nd  
 HOUSE - PANCHSHILA

## Tiger

Tiger is our National animal.

It is a very powerful animal.

Tiger is a beautiful creature that is full of might and vigour.

It is found in jungles of Rajasthan, National park of Kanha and Bandhavgarh, foot hills of Himalayas in Neora valley in West Bengal. Total numbers of tigers in India is approximately in wildlife sanctuaries. Tigers live up to 26 years. Tigers are the best swimmers and they are able to hunt while swimming. The Chinese often use tigers nails to create medicinal antidotes. The number of tigers in India has gone up recently. New laws have been enacted to save tigers. These laws include stricter punishments.

**Shreya Singh, 8B**  
**Nalanda House**

## AN ENCOUNTER WITH A BIG CAT

By - Neerja Joshi (Faculty)

Few decades ago, in the small villages of Kumaon and Garhwal, the villagers encountering the Big Cat was quite an ordeal. I too have grown up listening to such fascinating tales. My grandparents belonged to Garhwal region in Uttarakhand. During our summer vacations, me and my siblings used to visit our native place and we always managed to gather interesting memories from it. My grandfather shared many stories with us about the days of his childhood and youth, some of the which were based on the real life incidents that always intrigued me.

One such story has always stayed fresh in my memories and here I am sharing it with you.

My grandparents lived in a small village named "Sendul" in Tehri. During those days the rural areas were sparsely populated, the forest was denser and deeper. People relied on farming and livestock for their livelihood. Almost every household in the village had cows and buffaloes and hence milk was available in abundance. So much so that people didn't have the need to purchase any milk products from the market.

One of the main tasks of the women in the village was to take the cattle for fodder in the nearby forest. It was a regular routine for them. But gradually, they started to notice that the number of cattle in the village had reduced. Day after day, the cows and buffaloes were missing. There were rumors spread all across the nearby villages that a wild animal had been preying on the poor cattle. Although they sensed danger but nobody was in a position to do anything.

During summers, mostly everyone in the rural areas slept outside and the animals were tied nearby. This had been the routine for many years now, but soon the villagers noticed that a few calves went missing at night as well. This was when they realized that the wild beast was not too far from their home.

Everyone was scared. My grand father was a brave man and this time he decided that he must resolve the issue. One night when everyone tied the cattle inside, my grandfather slept outside with a calf.

He was waiting for the unknown enemy to attack. He pretended to be asleep but his eyes wandered into the dark looking out for danger. To his horror, he saw two sparkling eyes glaring in the dark.



As the shadow appeared to come closer, he saw black stripes against the orange body.

He froze. His hands started shivering, it was the "Big Cat". He was actually witnessing the wild beast within a very close proximity. He was not in a situation to do anything. The tiger took slow strides towards the calf and caught it by its neck. Although my grandfather was witnessing everything, he could hardly move. He somehow gathered strength and tried to keep his calm by chanting prayers. The tiger was just about to take the calf, but my grandfather held its tail tightly and pulled it with full force. He could now witness some strange strength within himself. He yelled for help. Soon other villagers came with sticks and started to hit the tiger. The striped beast roared, but finally let go of the calf and vanished into the jungle. No one could believe what they had just witnessed. It was actually an encounter with the wild beast - The Tiger. The calf couldn't sustain the injuries and everyone mourned the loss. The entire village praised my grandfather for his courage and presence of mind. After this incident, the tiger never returned back to Sendul. But the saga remains fresh in the minds of people till date.

## Interesting facts about Tiger

1. Tigers are massive cats with vertical dark strips.
2. They are the largest species in the world who belong to big cat family, even larger than the lions.
3. They are good swimmer and love to spend their most of the time in water.
4. There are only 2500 Bengal tigers in the world.
5. The dark black strips on the body of a tiger are different in all the Tigers just like the fingerprints of the human beings. They are used for recognizing the tigers.
6. The interesting fact about the tiger's tongue is that there are Thorns in it and they are used to pull out skin from the animal they kill but the tiger do not use this type of tongue for those who are friendly to him and those he knows will not harm him he only uses this tongue when he feels afraid and knows that the other will harm him.

**By Suchita Chaudhary  
Faculty**



Shivam Kanojia, Class 4, Takshashila House



Abhyudoya, 5th, Takshashila House



Manava Bharati India International School  
D- Block, Nehru Colony, Dehradun 248001 Uttarakhand  
E-mail.com:- hr@mbs.ac.in, Website:- www.mbs.ac.in  
Phone- 0135-2669306, 8171465265

(For Private Circulation Only)

Editor : Jasleen Kaur Designed by : Vishal Lodha