

PROTECT INDIA'S TIGERS AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNITIES LIVING ALONGSIDE THEM

India is home to some of the world's most diverse wildlife, including tigers, one of our most charismatic and revered animals. Tigers are in extreme crisis. Their forest home is being destroyed, which means they face the increasing threat of human-wildlife conflict, and there is a relentless demand for their body parts for use in traditional medicine.

Help Born Free protect India's tigers and one of their last remaining strongholds, the Satpuda landscape, by working with local communities to promote tiger conservation and co-existence.



Tigers In Crisis

A century ago, there were an estimated 100,000 tigers across Asia. Since then, numbers have collapsed by 96% to just 4,000. These are the last days of the tiger, officially classified as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Until the last century there were nine sub-species, but only six of these still exist today. Once roaming across Asia, today only 7% of original tiger habitat remains, spread across countries including Russia, Sumatra and south east Asia. Mining, logging, farming, palm oil plantations, settlements, roads and railways are fragmenting the landscape, creating a dangerous mosaic for tigers to live in. As an apex predator at the top of their food chain, and as a keystone species playing a key role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, tigers need vast tracts of land to hunt and to live. This is not an animal that thrives in pockets of wilderness. When tiger habitat disappears, so does the tiger, and so do the countless other species that live there. As their habitat contracts and prey numbers dwindle, tigers increasingly attack livestock and even people, coming into conflict with communities and provoking retaliation which can lead to tigers being speared, shot, poisoned and snared. The deadly threat of a bullet also comes from poachers, who ruthlessly kill tigers. From whiskers to tail, every part is traded. Under CITES, the United Nations' Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, the trade in tigers and their parts is illegal. Yet these laws mean little to those who want them. Demand is fuelling poaching. Their skins are used as rugs to adorn the floors of the wealthy, their bones are used to make wine to be consumed as 'health' tonics, their genitals are packaged to be sold as aphrodisiacs and their teeth, paws and tails used as ornaments and gifts.

TIGER POPULATIONS





Securing A Future For People And Tigers

India, with 1.3 billion people, is the second-most populated country in the world. This remarkable country has experienced such rapid development that the space for wildlife is under exceptional pressure. But Satpuda, in the heart of central India, is a stronghold for the country's remaining wild tigers.

Born Free is working across the Satpuda area to tackle the poaching crisis, safeguard tiger habitats and find conservation interventions for communities and wildlife to live together peacefully. Efforts include our dedicated teams of Tiger Ambassadors – local villagers trained to identify signs of tiger presence in their area to assist if conflict occurs. Then there's our conservation education programmes, visiting local schools to teach children about wildlife protection. We supports Indian NGOs in their work, within their own communities, to find solutions to conflict. This is genuine co-existence, under the toughest conditions – improving livelihoods, habitats and the life-chances of humans and tigers.

It is hard, committed and long-term work, and we haven't much time left. The good news is that we're making progress, because in the last 10 years, tiger numbers have increased to a population of just over 400 across the Satpuda landscape.

It's not too late to save India's tigers. With your help we aim to:

- Safeguard wild tiger populations in central India
- Work with more local communities to reduce human-wildlife conflict
- Ensure corridors between protected areas are suitable and safe for tigers to use, so wildlife can flourish
- Educate more people on the importance of conservation and approaches to co-existence.

Supporting our Living With Tigers initiative means we can increase our efforts and expand into new areas.

We can work more widely to counter the causes of this crisis – in our Satpuda landscape and across Asia.

India without tigers is unimaginable; a world without wild tigers is a disaster, but we are dangerously close to that catastrophe. Will you please help us protect tigers for future generations?

- £10 could equip a Tiger Ambassador with a first aid kit
- £12 would enable the replanting of 10 native trees on degraded land
- £20 provides educational materials about tigers for five children
- £40 would support the Forest Department to conduct a patrol of critical tiger territory
- £50 would cover the materials and construction of a biogas unit for a family
- £100 would pay for a month of conservation education programmes
- £250 funds a community education officer for one month
- £400 keeps our conservation education programmes running for a month

Adopt A Tiger

You can also adopt a tiger with Born Free. You'll receive an exclusive adoption pack and our *Adopt* magazine twice a year.

Gopal was captured by authorities after coming into conflict with people when he was found preying on their cattle. Due to this conflict, Gopal will never be released back to the wild. He now lives at Born Free's tiger sanctuary in Bannerghatta National Park, southern India.

www.bornfree.org.uk/adopt-a-tiger

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Born Free works tirelessly to ensure that all wild animals, whether living in captivity or in the wild, are treated with compassion and respect and are able to live their lives according to their needs. As a leading wildlife charity, we oppose the exploitation of wild animals in captivity and campaign to keep them where they belong – in the wild.



www.bornfree.org.uk