


# Bengal Tiger

पाटे बाघ







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### **Illustrations**

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### Morphology and Structure

Bengal Tiger *Panthera tigris tigris* has dark stripes in brilliant golden coat which aids in camouflage and helps to simply blend in the environment making the predator invisible while stalking the prey. Under parts and patches around the eyes are pure white. An adult male weighs from 90-306 kg whereas as female can reach upto 65-167 kg. The height of the tiger can reach upto 250-390 cm in male and 200-275cm in female.

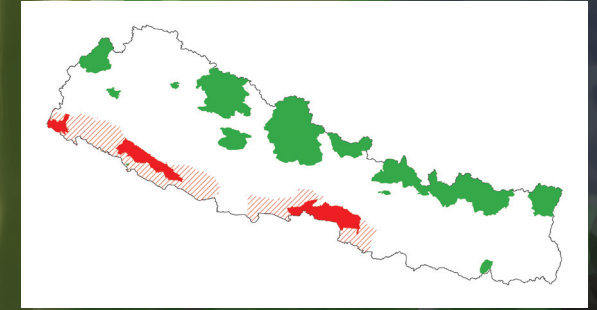


पाटे बाघ हल्का पहेँलो, सुनौलो वा सुन्तले रङको हुन्छ, र यसको शरीरमा चौडा काला पाटाहरू हुन्छन्, जसका कारण शिकार गर्दा यसलाई सजिलै देखिंदैन । यसको आँखाको वरिपरी र भुँडीको रङ निखर सेतो हुन्छ । वयस्क भाले ९०–३०६ कि.ग्रा. र २५०–३९० से.मि. सम्म अग्लो हुन्छ भने पोथीको तौल चाहिँ ६५–१६७ कि.ग्रा. र उचाइ २००–२७५ से.मि. सम्म हुन्छ ।



## Distribution and Population

In Nepal, Bengal Tiger is found across five protected areas in Chitwan National Park, Parsa Wildlife Reserve, Banke National Park, Bardia National Park and Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and utilizes the corridor in Terai Arc Landscape within the country and across the border to India. Besides Nepal, it is distributed in India, Bangladesh and Bhutan. There are 198 adult wild tigers in Nepal and less than 2500 left in the wild.



नेपालमा पाटे बाघ चितवन राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज, पर्सा वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष, बाँके राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज, बर्दिया राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज, शुक्लाफाँट वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष र यी संरक्षित क्षेत्रहरूलाई भारतको सिमासम्म जोड्ने जैविक मार्ग तराई भू-परिधि क्षेत्रमा पाइन्छ । नेपालमा बाहेक पाटे बाघ भारत, बङ्गलादेश र भुटानमा मात्र पाइन्छ । नेपालमा हाल १९८ वयस्क पाटे बाघ छन् भने विश्वभरिमा यसको सङ्ख्या २५०० भन्दा कम रहेको अनुमान गरिएको छ ।





## Habitat

Tiger habitat ranges from wet, evergreen, semi evergreen, swampy mangrove of Ganges delta, deciduous forest, thorny forest and open grassland. Geographically, it is found at the sea level from Sundar Ban in Bangladesh to the base of Himalayas at 4000m asl in Bhutan. In the Terai of Nepal, after the eradication of malaria in the decade of 1950s A.D., human population from mid hills migrated to lowland and caused huge deforestation which ultimately shrunk the population of Tiger in current protected habitat of Terai Arc Landscape.

बाघको वासस्थान ओसिलो सदावहार, अर्धसदावहार, पतझड, काँडेदार, गङ्गा नदीको तटीय क्षेत्रको दलदले जङ्गल तथा घाँसे मैदानसम्म फैलिएको छ। पाटे बाघ बङ्गलादेशको समुन्द्री सतहमा रहेको सुन्दर वनदेखि भुटानमा त्यसभन्दा ४००० मि. माथिको हिमाली फेदसम्म भेटिएको छ। नेपालको तराईमा सन् १९५० को दशकमा मलेरियाको उन्मूलनपछि पहाडबाट भएको बसाइसराइका कारणबाट हुन आएको व्यापक वन फँडानीले गर्दा बाघ अहिले तराई भू-परिधि क्षेत्रको संरक्षित वासस्थानमा मात्र पाइन्छ।

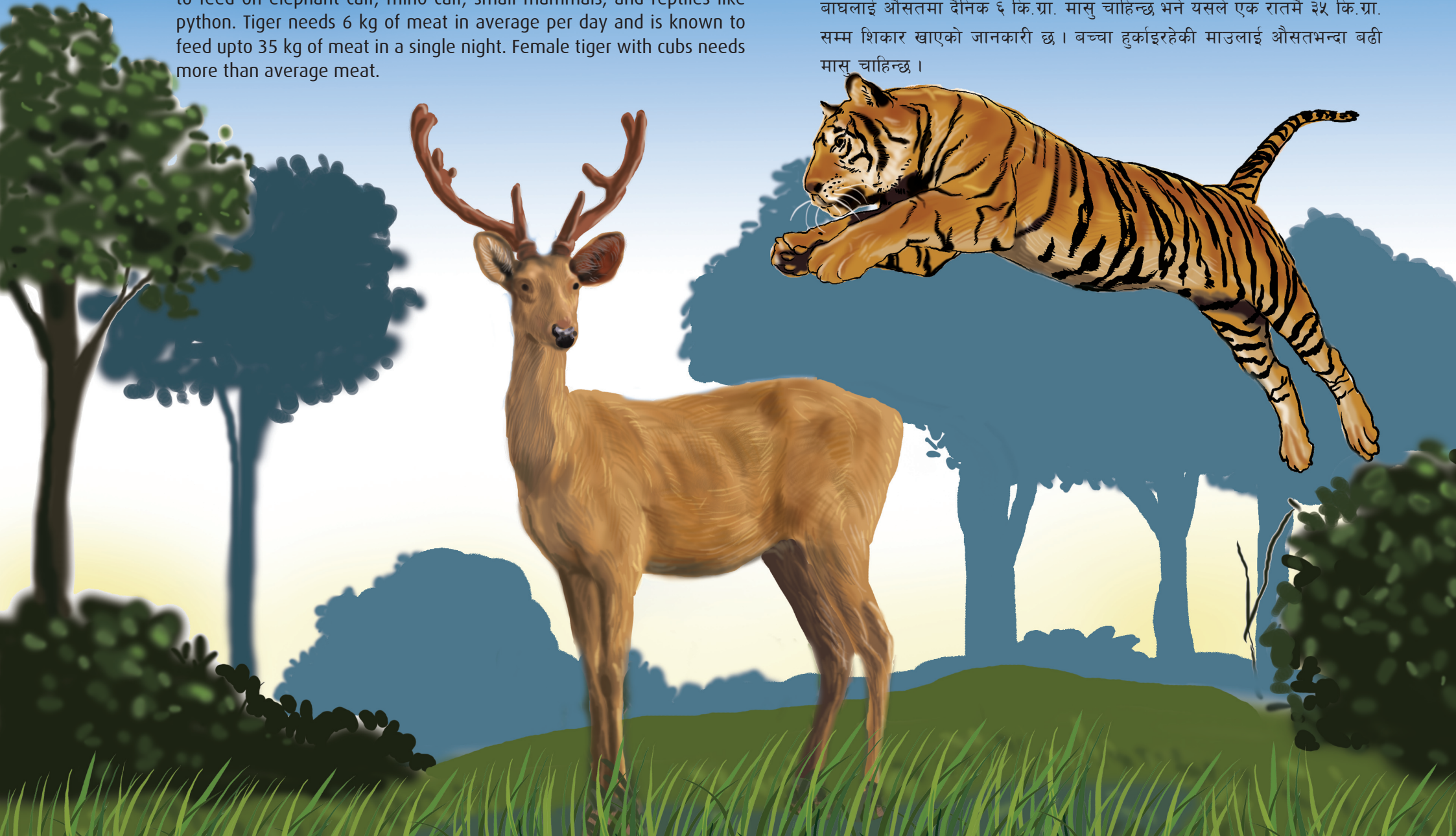




### Feeding Behavior

Bengal Tiger takes down the prey larger than its own size and is generally a lone hunter. Hoofed animals like Sambar, Chittal, Hog Deer, Barking Deer, Wild Boar and primate are the major prey of tiger. It is also known to feed on elephant calf, rhino calf, small mammals, and reptiles like python. Tiger needs 6 kg of meat in average per day and is known to feed upto 35 kg of meat in a single night. Female tiger with cubs needs more than average meat.

बाघले आफूभन्दा धेरै वजन भएको शिकारलाई सजिलै मार्न सक्छ । यसले प्रायःजसो एकलै शिकार गर्छ । जरायो, चित्तल, लगुना, रतुवा, बँदेल, बाँदर तथा लङ्गुर यसको मुख्य आहारा हो । बाघले हात्तीका छावा, गैंडाका केटाकेटी, साना स्तनधारी प्राणी, सरिसृपहरू जस्तै: अजिङ्गरलाई समेत आफ्नो शिकार बनाउँछ । बाघलाई औसतमा दैनिक ६ कि.ग्रा. मासु चाहिन्छ भने यसले एक रातमै ३५ कि.ग्रा. सम्म शिकार खाएको जानकारी छ । बच्चा हुर्काइरहेकी माउलाई औसतभन्दा बढी मासु चाहिन्छ ।





## Reproduction and Life Cycle

Female tiger gets sexually matured at the age of 3-4 years whereas male gets matured at 4-5 years. Mating in tigers is observed all year round. Gestation period ranges from 93-112 days and female generally gives birth to 2-3 cubs. Cubs remain with their mother after birth and get independent after they are 2-2.5 years. Tiger can live up to 20-26 years in captivity.

पोथी बाघ ३-४ वर्षसम्ममा प्रजनन योग्य हुन्छे भने भाले बाघचाहिँ ४-५ वर्षसम्ममा वयस्क हुन्छ र यसको संगम वर्षैभरी हुन्छ । ९३-११२ दिनसम्मको गर्भाधानपछि, पोथीले २-३ ओटासम्म डमरु जन्माउँछे । डमरुहरू आफ्नी आमासँग अढाइ वर्षसम्म सँगै हुन्छन् र त्यसपछि स्वतन्त्र रूपले विचरण गर्छन् । चिडियाखानामा बाघको आयु २०-२६ वर्षसम्म अभिलेख गरिएको छ ।





### Social Behavior

Tiger is mostly solitary and meets only during the mating period. An adult male tiger has a territory where any other intruding tigers are either chased away or killed. Similarly, if a tiger becomes old and cannot defend its territory it is either chased away or killed by intruding strong male. Several females reside within the territory of a single male. Male continuously patrol and is known to walk several miles each day to mark their territory through scratch and urination. Due to its heavy weight and large body size tiger does not climb tree but is a very good swimmer.



बाघ एकलै बस्न रुचाउँछ र संगमको बेलामा मात्र जोडी बनाउँछ । एउटा वयस्क भाले बाघको आफ्नै निश्चित क्षेत्र हुन्छ र उक्त क्षेत्रभित्र थुप्रै पोथी बघिनी बसेका हुन्छन् । तिनका पनि आफ्नै स-साना निश्चित क्षेत्र हुन्छ । भाले बाघ हरेक दिन आफ्नो क्षेत्रमा धेरै माइल विचरण गर्छ र नङ्गाले चिथोरेर वा पिसाव फेरेर आफ्नो क्षेत्र निर्धारण गर्छ । उक्त क्षेत्रमा घुसपैठ गर्ने अरू बाघलाई यसले धपाउँछ वा मार्छ । त्यसैगरी बाघ बुढो वा कमजोर भएमा यसलाई अरू बलिया बाघले मार्छन् वा धपाउँछन् । बाघको ठूलो शरीर र अधिक वजनले गर्दा रुख चढ्न सक्दैन, तर पौडीन भन्ने राम्ररी सक्छ ।



## Threats

Habitat destruction, habitat fragmentation, decrease in prey-base, poaching for fur and body parts, retaliatory killing in conflict with human, illegal hunting and diseases are the major threats to the Bengal Tiger. However, tiger population can bounce back as the female tiger gives birth to 2-3 cubs at a time and can conceive again within 2 years if sufficient prey base and habitat is available. Tiger is an umbrella species of ecosystem. The survival of tiger represents that the ecosystem is healthy and plenty of prey base is available with sufficient forest cover.

वासस्थानको विनास तथा खण्डिकरण, आहाराको कमी, छाला तथा अरू अङ्गका लागि अवैध सिकार, मानवसँगको द्वन्द्व तथा रोग बाघ विनासका मुख्य कारणहरू हुन् तर उचित वासस्थान तथा आहाराको पर्याप्त व्यवस्था भएमा बाघको सङ्ख्या चाँडै बढ्न सक्छ, किनभने वयस्क पोथीले हरेक २ वर्षमा २-३ ओटासम्म बच्चा जन्माउन सक्छे। बाघ पर्यावरणको छाता जीव हो। बाघको उपस्थिति भएमा घना जङ्गल भएको र आहाराका लागि चाहिने प्रसस्त जीवहरूको रहेको स्वस्थ पर्यावरणको सूचक हो भन्ने बुझिन्छ।





## Conservation and Legal Status

The population of Bengal Tiger is in the brink of extinction and categorized Endangered in IUCN Red List throughout its range countries and listed in Appendix I of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) agreement. Tiger is a protected species according to the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1973 A.D. (2029 B.S.) and hence, killing or harming of the tiger is a punishable crime with the penalty of NPR 50,000-1,00,000 and imprisonment of 5-15 years or both.

आइ.यु.सि.एन. रातो सूचीअनुसार बाघ फैलिएको सबै देशहरूमा यसको सङ्ख्या संकटापन्न अवस्थामा रहेको छ । त्यसैगरी साइटिस सम्झौताअनुसार यसलाई अनुसूची १ मा राखिएको छ । राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज तथा वन्यजन्तु संरक्षण ऐन, वि.सं. २०२९ अनुसार बाघ संरक्षित जीव हो र यसलाई मार्ने तथा हानि पुऱ्याउने व्यक्तिलाई ५०,०००-१,००,००० सम्म जरिवाना वा ५-१५ वर्षसम्म कैद अथवा दुवै सजाय हुने प्रावधान छ ।





<div>Key Facts</div> <div>मुख्य विशेषता</div>	
<div>Common Name</div> <div>नाम</div>	<div>Bengal Tiger</div> <div>बाघ</div>
<div>Scientific Name</div> <div>वैज्ञानिक नाम</div>	<div><i>Panthera tigris tigris</i></div>
<div>Height (Male)</div> <div>उचाई (भाले)</div>	<div>250-390 c.m.</div> <div>२५०-३९० से.मी.</div>
<div>Height (Female)</div> <div>उचाई (पोथी)</div>	<div>200-275 c.m.</div> <div>२००-२७५ से.मी.</div>
<div>Weight (Male)</div> <div>तौल (भाले)</div>	<div>90-306 kg</div> <div>९०-३०६ के.जी.</div>
<div>Weight (Female)</div> <div>तौल (पोथी)</div>	<div>65-167 kg</div> <div>६५-१६७ कि.ग्रा.</div>
<div>Global Status</div> <div>अवस्था (विश्व)</div>	<div>Endangered</div> <div>सङ्कटापन्न</div>
<div>National Status</div> <div>अवस्था (राष्ट्रिय)</div>	<div>Endangered</div> <div>सङ्कटापन्न</div>
<div>Global Population</div> <div>सङ्ख्या (विश्व)</div>	<div>Less than 2500</div> <div>२५०० भन्दा कम</div>
<div>National Population</div> <div>सङ्ख्या (राष्ट्रिय)</div>	<div>198</div> <div>१९८</div>
<div>Global Distribution</div> <div>फैलावट (विश्व)</div>	<div>Nepal, India, Bangladesh and Bhutan</div> <div>नेपाल, भारत, बङ्गलादेश र भुटान</div>
<div>National Distribution</div> <div>फैलावट (राष्ट्रिय)</div>	<div>Chitwan National Park, Bardia National Park, Banke National Park, Parsa Wildlife Reserve and Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve</div> <div>चितवन राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज, पर्सा वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष, बर्दिया राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज, बाँके राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज र शुक्लाफाँट वन्यजन्तु आरक्ष</div>
<div>Threats</div> <div>खतरा</div>	<div>Habitat destruction, habitat fragmentation, decrease in prey-base, poaching for fur and body parts, retaliatory killing in conflict with human, illegal hunting and diseases</div> <div>वासस्थानको क्षति तथा खण्डिकरण, आहाराको कमी, छाला तथा अरू अङ्गका लागि अवैध शिकार, मानवसँगको द्वन्द्वमा हत्या तथा रोग</div>



The Hariyo Ban Program is named after the famous Nepali saying 'Hariyo Ban Nepal ko Dhan' (Healthy green forests are the wealth of Nepal). It is a USAID funded initiative that aims to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change and threats to biodiversity in Nepal. This will be accomplished by working with the government, communities, civil society and private sector. In particular, the Hariyo Ban Program works to empower Nepal's local communities in safeguarding the country's living heritage and adapting to climate change through sound conservation and livelihood approaches. Thus the Program emphasizes the links between people and forests and is designed to benefit nature and people in Nepal. At the heart of Hariyo Ban lie three interwoven components – biodiversity conservation, payments for ecosystem services including REDD+ and climate change adaptation. These are supported by livelihoods, governance, and gender and social inclusion as cross-cutting themes. A consortium of four non-governmental organizations is implementing the Hariyo Ban Program with WWF Nepal leading the consortium alongside CARE Nepal, FECOFUN and NTNC.

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