

# BENGAL TIGER

by

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Common Name: Bengal Tiger

Scientific Name:  
Panthera Tigris Tigris

Classification: Mammal

Habitat: Mostly found in India Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and Nepal. Bengal Tigers enjoy thick dense areas, long grass and shrubs along the riverbanks. In some areas they are found in old ruins.

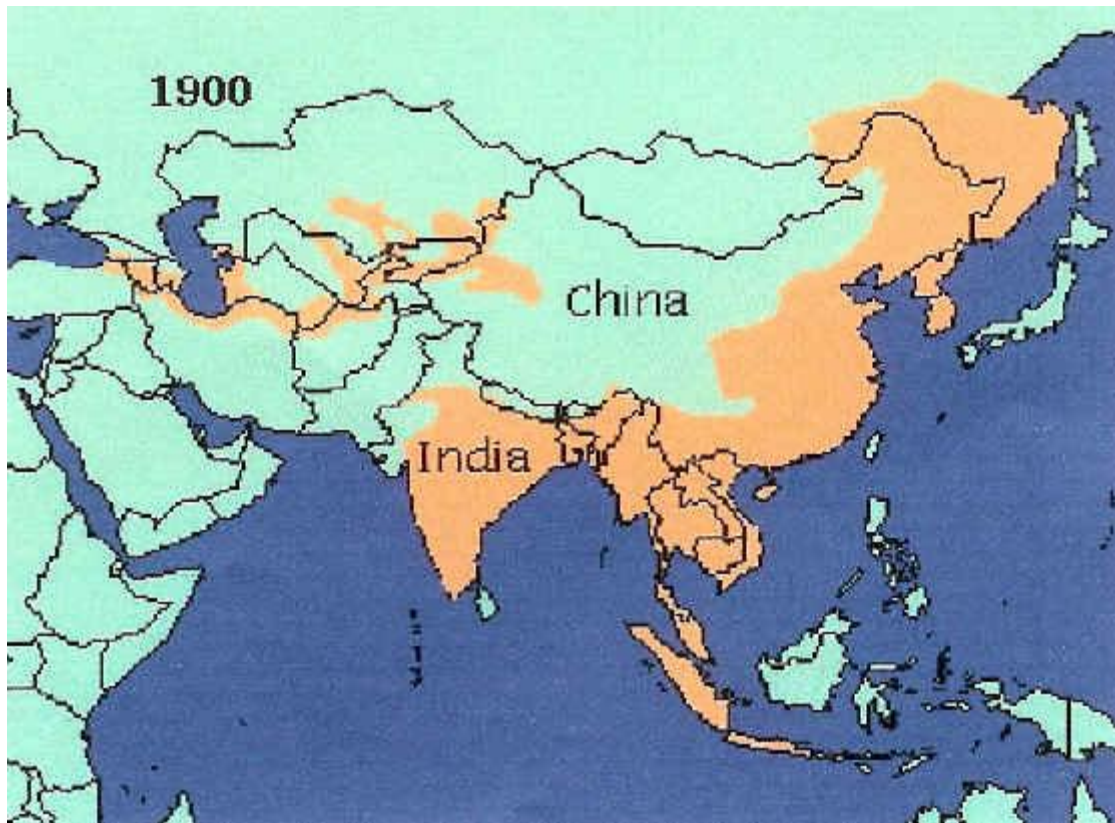
Size: The male Bengal Tiger can weigh between

420-570 pounds. They can be up to 10 feet in length. The female is smaller and can weigh 220-350 pounds and be up to 6 feet in length.

Food: Bengal Tigers are carnivorous. They prey on other animals such as deer, wild pigs, and young buffalo. If the Bengal tiger is really hungry it will eat almost anything such as frogs, crocodiles, lizards and sometimes even a human.

Young: The Bengal Tiger has a gestation period of about 103 days. The female Bengal can have a litter of up to 5 Cubs. 3 are the most common. Each cub can weigh about 3 pounds. The cubs are weaned at 4-6 months and then will join their mother in the hunt for food.

Why are they endangered: The Bengal Tiger is listed as an endangered animal due to its decreased number in population. The population has greatly gone down in the past 50 years. The population is about 4500. There are more Bengal Tigers in captivity then there are in the wild. Humans often poach the Bengal Tiger, sometimes for sport or for cultural medical beliefs.



#### Ten Facts:

1. The Bengal tiger is also known as the Indian Tiger.
2. There are more Bengal Tigers than the other 4 subspecies added together.
3. Bengal Tigers are excellent swimmers.
4. The Bengal tiger will urinate and scratch their scent into trees to mark their Territory.
5. Bengal Tigers will live up to 23 years in captivity and 18 years in the wild.
6. The Bengal Tiger has retractable claws.
7. Some Bengal Tigers appear in mysterious white form, but are not albino.
8. Bengal Tigers have stiff whiskers to allow them to move through the thick cover at night.
9. A Bengal Tiger's tail can reach up to 36 inches in length.
10. The Bengal Tiger's fur is short, thick and a reddish-tan color with uneven stripes that are unique to each tiger.