

# THE TIGER TEMPLE REPORT

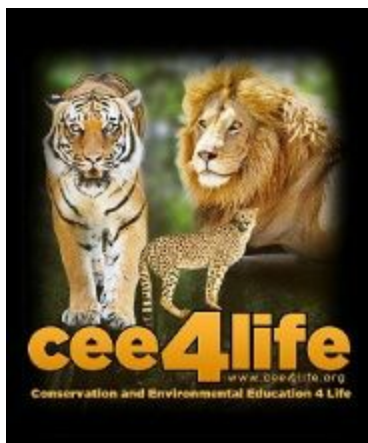


## THE ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF TIGERS AND OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES AT THE TIGER TEMPLE, THAILAND

An investigative report into the international illegal wildlife trafficking and abuse of tigers from Wat Pa Luang Ta Bua Yannasampanno, otherwise known as, The Tiger Temple, resulting in breaches of the Wildlife Reservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 (1992) Thailand and the CITES Agreement

# The Tiger Temple Report

An investigative report into the international illegal wildlife trafficking and abuse of tigers at Wat Pa Luangta Bua Yannasampanno, also known as the Tiger Temple, violating Thailand's Wildlife Reservation and Protection Act B.E.T and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).



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## Introduction

The illegal international wildlife trade of endangered and protected species - both plant and animal - is one of the greatest threats facing numerous endangered species. Wildlife poaching, attempted wildlife smuggling and illegal border crossing arrests dominate the headlines. This criminal activity is reported in international media and reports have revealed that no country on earth is immune. The illegal wildlife trade is now estimated by the United Nations to be a US \$19 billion a year business.

Black market wildlife trade extends across the entire biological spectrum, including marine avian, insect, arachnid, reptilian, amphibian and mammalian species. Many of these species are poached and trafficked for 'traditional Chinese medicine' Ingredients include many plants and minerals as well as parts from over 1,500 animals, including endangered species. These ancient remedies have been prescribed for nearly 4,000 years; prescriptions compiled in the *Pen Tsao Kang Mu* (The Great Herbal) during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The efficacy of many of these remedies has been scientifically disproven or, can be replaced with effective, inexpensive, widely-available pharmaceuticals.

The demand for animal parts used in traditional medicine skyrocketed in the 1990s along with China's expanding industrialization, fueled by newfound wealth among some of its 1.3 billion residents. Traditional Chinese medicine created a huge demand for animal body parts. One example; rhino horn consists of keratin (the same substance that is in human hair and fingernails). Research conducted by a US pharmaceutical company confirmed that the only medicinal value in rhino horn is a mild anti-inflammatory effect - aspirin would prove more effective. Nearly every part of the tiger has been used to cure a plethora of maladies. For example, the use of tiger penis soup has been scientifically disproven to increase virility in men and tests have shown that eating tiger eyeballs in no way protects against epilepsy. Disproving the medicinal benefits of some traditional Chinese medicine with



scientific research, changing attitudes about the use of these products - and revealing the toll it takes on many endangered species - has not slowed the demand for the skin, claws, bones and bodies of many species of animals for its use.

However, a 2014 report commissioned by the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which regulates that trade under a treaty signed by 181 nations, stated that the primary demand for tiger products is now a growing clamour for luxury products, specifically tiger bone wine and tiger skins. The report states that “ ‘Wealth’ [is] replacing ‘health’ as a primary form of consumer motivation”. Tiger parts “are now consumed less as medicine and more as exotic luxury products.”

Illegal tiger farms have flourished into lucrative businesses due to the booming demand for tiger body parts.

A century ago, 100,000 tigers roamed across Asia; today, as few as 3200 wild tigers are left. This number is split amongst the five remaining subspecies; (the sixth subspecies, the South China tiger now exists only in captivity). Tigers now survive in just 11 countries.

Proponents of tiger farming argue that these farms will stop the poaching of wild tigers. However the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine along with multiple conservation and animal welfare organisations released an information sheet named ‘Tiger Trade Facts and Fallacies’, which outlines the impact of tiger farms.

The sheet states that “raising a farmed tiger to maturity is 250 times more expensive than poaching a wild tiger in India. Therefore, tigers poached from the wild will provide a cheaper alternative”. It also notes that “a regulatory regime would drive up the costs of farmed products, making the lower costs of poached tigers even more attractive”. The document concludes that rather than decreasing the threat to wild tigers, the presence of tiger farms makes poaching tigers in the wild a more attractive and cost effective option. Despite being illegal, there are at

least 5,000 tigers in tiger farms in China, over 900 captive tigers in Thailand and other farms across Vietnam and Laos - with many of them hiding in plain sight.

The CITES agreement was created to ensure that *“international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival”*. Today, 181 countries are signatories to this treaty, willingly bound by its provisions - including Thailand.

Within many countries however, known syndicates are conducting illegal wildlife trafficking in violation of federal laws and the CITES Agreement.

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When it was founded in 1994, the Tiger Temple in Kanchanaburi, Thailand was simply known as a “Wat” (a Buddhist temple) and operated solely as a Buddhist Monastery. Then, in 1999-2000, the Tiger Temple obtained eight tiger cubs that they said were orphaned. While their true origins are not known, the Temple violated federal laws by not reporting that they were holding endangered species. The Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plants (DNP) “seized” the tigers but allowed them stay within the monastery with the caveat that they did not breed the cats.

They ignored those rules and proceeded to breed the tigers under the banner of conservation. At the time the subspecies of the tigers within Tiger Temple were unconfirmed with the exception of one male Bengal, a subspecies that does not live in Thailand. It has since been learned that the original eight tigers were a mix of at least two subspecies, Bengal and Indochinese. Crossbred tigers have no conservation value for wild tigers, so the Tiger Temple tigers are of no value to any conservation efforts for wild tigers. Additionally, the Temple has bred parents to offspring and brothers to sisters, causing serious inbreeding. At the time of this report in 2015 there are approximately 150 tigers present within the Tiger Temple.

Over the years, former volunteers, staff and investigators have witnessed the illegal wildlife trading and the disappearances of tigers from the Tiger Temple. Documents, audio and video evidence gathered in this report represents a nine-year investigation by Cee4life (Conservation and Environmental Education for Life).

The information presented in this report provides undisputable evidence that the Tiger Temple is a commercial breeding and illegal international wildlife trading venue. This report also reveals that an unprecedented number of deaths of tigers (and other protected species housed within the grounds) has occurred and severe abuse and neglect has been reported and documented. Yet the Tiger Temple continues to operate with immunity, arguably protected because it is a Buddhist Monastery.

## Location

Wat Pa Luangta Bua Yannasampanno otherwise known as “The Tiger Temple”, is situated in the Sai Yok District of the Kanchanaburi Province located approximately three hours northwest of Thailand’s capital city of Bangkok.

Photo: [screenshot of Google Maps](#)



## Methods

All information in this report was gathered from investigators, former volunteers and staff of the Tiger Temple, informants, public statements, interviews, email correspondence, telephone conversations, scientific research, documentation, film and photographs. Some witness identities have been protected in this report.

## A Brief History of Tiger Temple

The original Tiger Temple website (Tigertemple.org) stated that Wat Pa Luang Ta Bua Yannasampanno originated in 1994 as a Buddhist Monastery situated on land that had been donated to them by a follower



of Dharma. It also told the story of how in 1999 a young tiger cub was brought to the monastery after a local was tasked by an unidentified client to kill and stuff the tiger – but the man felt guilty and could not complete the task, so he took the cub to the Abbot. The tiger cub had already been injected with formaldehyde so was very ill and survived for only a few months. While alive however, the cub accompanied the Abbot and monks on their daily walk for food donations and attracted a great deal of attention from locals and tourists.

After the young cubs death, four male tigers and four female tigers arrived at the monastery in 1999 and 2000. These tigers were named Mek, Payak, Payu, Saifa, Sangtewan, Sai Rueng, Chomnapa and Sangton. The Abbot and various staff proclaimed that these eight tigers were injured, orphaned and rescued Indochinese tigers and that the monastery had reached a “utopia” by having naturally, by chance, acquired an equal amount of male and female tigers. Cee4life evidence shows that these tigers were “wild-caught”.

After the monastery opened its doors to the public in 1999, it quickly became known as “The Tiger Temple” - advertised as a place where “monks and tigers live in harmony” and media began to promote it on an international scale which prompted volunteers and visitors from around the world.

In 2001, the Thai Forestry Department and Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) became aware that the temple was holding endangered tigers without required permits. The agency then confiscated ownership of all the tigers, deeming them to be the property of the DNP. The DNP ordered the Tiger Temple to neither breed nor trade these tigers. The DNP's order was ignored and the tiger population continued to grow and tigers continued to go missing. Within a matter of two years, the Tiger Temple had nearly doubled the population of tigers.

Within a few years visitor, volunteer and eyewitness accounts began to surface documenting physical abuses and the periodic arrivals and disappearances of tigers. Investigation by Cee4life has confirmed that these events were witnessed by numerous staff and volunteers and have been known about by locals in and around the Soi Yok district and the nearby city of Kanchanaburi for many years.

After numerous reports of abuse, a British animal welfare organisation, Care for the Wild, launched an investigation into the Tiger Temple. This investigation ran for approximately three years (2005 – 2008); Sybelle Foxcroft, Cee4life's founder, was one of the principle undercover investigators.

The resulting report revealed extreme abuse and suspected wildlife trade within the Tiger Temple but could not prove that the tigers were being trafficked across borders as part of the illegal international wildlife trade. Although this report was shocking, the police failed to investigate and the Tiger Temple continued to operate unhindered, growing in international fame and popularity and drawing increasing numbers of tourists.

Then in December 2014, three adult male tigers disappeared from the temple. They were micro-chipped and registered with DNP. In this report, Cee4life details information showing that these tigers were taken from the temple at the direction of the Abbot, they were killed - and that tigers have been traded in and out of the Tiger Temple since at least 2004. Other evidence documents cross-border trades with tiger farms in Laos.

## **This Report has been compiled to:**

- Support the Thai Government in ending the illegal international wildlife trade of tigers and other species from the Tiger Temple
- Support CITES (Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna) to prevent illegal cross border trade of endangered tigers from Thailand
- Prevent tigers and all animals listed as protected on the Thai WARPA act from being subjected to abuse and illegal international wildlife trade
- Raise the standard of animal ethics and welfare for captive tigers and other animals
- Protect human lives that are being endangered in reckless, hands-on contact with tigers at the Tiger Temple - and protect untrained or poorly-trained workers and volunteers who have been endangered by close contact with tigers or threatened because they have witnessed disappearing tigers.
- Help bring justice to those that have committed or been compliant in multiple wildlife crime offenses

As this report involves criminal activity operating from a monastery, **Cee4life must state clearly that this report is not meant to in any way disparage the sacred Buddhist faith or the cultural traditions of Thailand.** This report has been solely produced to help end the illegal international wildlife trade and uphold the laws of Thailand and the CITES agreement for vulnerable, endangered, critically endangered, preserved and protected species. It endeavors to encourage a higher level of animal ethics and welfare for animals in a captive environments. Lastly, this report has been compiled and written because it is the moral and right thing to do.

For the last 9 years Cee4life has been campaigning to expose the criminal activities of the Tiger Temple but any evidence that has been gathered has been met with heavy opposition by its supporters and staff and no investigations have been launched by officials. Finally a complete report containing the evidence that Cee4life has collected and presented to the DNP and the Police can be released for the public.

The Tiger Temple Report by Cee4life spans the years 1999 – 2015.

## Section 1

### The Illegal International Wildlife Trade of Tigers from the Tiger Temple, Thailand

NOTE: The following evidence is not presented in chronological order.

#### EVIDENCE 1

#### Tiger Temple CCTV Footage of Disappearance of the Tiger Temple Tiger, Dao Nua, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2014

The Tiger Temple gates are locked and the staff leave after closing time at approximately 16:30 each day. Only the monks who live on the premises and a few Thai staff and foreign volunteers who are housed within the temple grounds stay. The remaining staff live outside the temple property. Among them is a well-known senior temple staff member named Kasaem who has the keys to all areas of the Tiger Temple, including Tiger Island and the locks on the tigers cages. On CCTV footage of the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014, multiple Tiger Temple staff are seen arriving between 18:00 and 18:35. Kasaem can be seen driving the Tiger Temple's quad bike at 18:20:35 from within the temple grounds to the locked front gates and on arrival, he unlocks them.



An abnormal number of temple staff are seen moving around the front gate after hours. At 18:39, two vehicles can be seen arriving at the front gate; a dark-coloured sedan and a gold/silver four-wheel drive (4W Drive). These two vehicles enter.



Car 1, Sedan entering the Tiger Temple after closure at 18:39:21 on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014



Car 2, Gold/Silver 4W Drive entering the Tiger Temple at 18:39:26 on 20th December 2014

Both vehicles arrive at Tiger Island at, which is an area inside the Tiger Temple where 98% of the Tiger Temple's tigers are kept. Kasaem arrives on the quad bike at Tiger Island at 18:42:21, unlocks the front gates and leads them into Tiger Island near to the area where the tiger, Dao Nua is housed. No one is allowed within this area after hours.



A third vehicle can be seen arriving at Tiger Island at 18:43:37; it did not enter through the front gates and is thought to have arrived either by another road.

At 18:44:07 a fourth vehicle arrives internally from the Tiger Temple and abruptly switches off its lights.

There are glimpses of people walking with torch lights around Tiger Island near to Dao Nua's cage.

The vehicles remain for approximately two hours.

At 20:37:02 the first vehicle leaves Tiger Island and can be seen driving towards the front gates (the sedan) followed by the truck and the 4WD. The quad bike leaves the area of Tiger Island at 20:39:13 but remains inside the Tiger Temple grounds.

Vehicle 1 – Dark Sedan, leaving through front gates of Tiger Temple at 20:42:02

Vehicle 2 – Gold/Silver 4WD leaving through front gates of Tiger Temple at 20:42:18

Vehicle 3 – Black 4WD leaving through front gates of Tiger Temple at 20:43:09.



Car 3, Black 4WD leaving the Tiger Temple after being at Tiger Island at 20:43:14 on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014

The following morning Dao Nua, a seven year old male tiger, is missing. The Tiger Temple does not report or announce the disappearance.

From further investigations, Cee4life has learned that on that morning items were broken in and around his cage, including a wheelbarrow and wheel. Inside the cage, claw marks were visible in the cement and several claws were found embedded in a section of the cage fencing indicating an intense struggle. The Tiger Temple has since cemented over the claw marks.

From statements made by the Abbot that were captured on audiotape: *"If it didn't happen this way, they would have to take live tigers out"* (See Evidence 4, 2:33 mins). An unnamed senior Tiger Temple staff member interviewed by Cee4life said it is suspected that Dao Nua was given a deliberate fatal overdose of anesthetic and killed on the monastery grounds before being taken from the temple.

This is a breach of the Thai WARPA Act as tigers are a protected species. To intentionally kill animals also violates all Buddhist teachings.



Dao Nua – seen inside his cage at the Tiger Temple. Photo by Cee4life

[Link to Video](#)

## EVIDENCE 2

### **Tiger Temple CCTV Footage of Disappearance of the Tiger Temple Tigers; Happy 2 and Fakram 3, on the night of 25<sup>th</sup> December 2014 –/ early morning of 26<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

On the temple's CCTV footage from the 25<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, multiple Tiger Temple staff are again seen arriving at the Tiger Temple after closing hours between 18:00 and 18:25.

Between 21:22 and 21:27:25 three cars can be seen entering the Tiger Temple: a black four wheel drive (4WD) Ute, a dark coloured sedan and a gold or silver 4WD. These are the same vehicles that were present in the Tiger Temple after hours on the night of the disappearance of Dao Nua on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2014.

The cars are then led approximately 1 km into the Tiger Temple by the driver on the quad bike, taken to the internal entrance of Tiger Island where the gates were unlocked and the vehicles enter.

Two vehicles can be seen leaving the Tiger Temple at 22:37 on the 25<sup>th</sup> December 2015, the sedan and metallic 4WD Ute.

Almost one and a half hours later, between 00:00:54 and 00:01:33, the gold/silver 4WD and the sedan can be seen on the CCTV footage entering the grounds again. The black 4WD Ute remained inside the temple grounds and is seen leading the two vehicles to Tiger Island for the second time that night.

The vehicles stay for approximately 40 minutes at the tiger enclosures.

The dark sedan and metallic 4WD leave Tiger Island and exit towards the front gates of Tiger Temple. It is now past midnight on 26/12/2014. The metallic 4WD exits the front gate at 00:42:25, the dark sedan exits at 00:42:55 and the black 4WD pauses at front gate and the driver gets out to talk to staff at 00:43:00 before returning to the vehicle and leaving.





### [Link to Video](#)

The following morning two tigers - Happy 2 and Fakram 3, five year old and three year old males, are missing. The Tiger Temple does not report or announce the disappearances of Happy 2 or Fakram 3 either.

## EVIDENCE 3

**Video of senior temple staff worker admitting the Abbot's knowledge of the intruders**

### **Interview with Tiger Temple Senior Tiger Boy (Handler) – Kasaem.**

Context - TSW Kasaem Pholchai has worked at the Tiger Temple since early 2000's. He completed his monk training at the Tiger Temple and has continued to work there until the present day.

***In video:***

***#1 A high-level temple advisor***

***#2 Tiger Temple senior tiger boy – Kasaem***

***#1 They went missing. What were the dates?***

***#2 I don't know which dates***

***#1 Especially on the 25th there are the cars that entered the Tiger Temple, two times***

***#1 The point is that you keep the keys of the padlocks of Tiger Temple. [front gate, tiger island, and tiger cages] You must take care and you must not let people take the tigers from the Tiger Temple again.***

***#2 Yes***

***#1 Who ordered you to open the door and the gate of the Tiger Temple?***

***#2 Luang Phor ['venerable father' the temple's Abbot Wisuthisarathera] ordered it***

***#1 He ordered it?***

***#2 Yes, Luang Phor ['venerable father' - The Abbot Wisuthisarathera]***

**[Link to Video](#)**



## EVIDENCE 4

**Audio Recording of the Tiger Temple Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera, former veterinarian Dr Somchai Visasmongkolchai and high-level temple advisor, talking about the illegal wildlife trade. Recording conducted by an unnamed temple advisor.**

On the mornings of the 21st and 26<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, three male tigers were discovered missing from their cages.

The three tigers were:

- Dao Nua, seven years old, disappeared on 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014
- Farkram 3, three years old, disappeared on 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014
- Happy 2, five years old, disappeared on 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014

### Context of Conversation

The temple's Abbot, Phra Wisuthisarathera (Speaker #1), was recorded in conversation with Somchai Visasmongkolchai, - the temple's former vet (Speaker #2) and a senior temple advisor (Speaker #3).

Sections with heightened importance are highlighted in blue.

**Time 0:11**

**#3: I'm worried about things, there are problems in some areas. I'm worried about certain parts of the process, some of the things that are going on now. There is evidence that can't be denied coming out..., evidence that we can't fix...There'll be problems to follow, don't know what we'll do.**

**#1: Don't have to do anything, you all just go your separate ways. I will take all responsibility.**

**#3: No, you can't do that.**

**#1: Why can't I? It is up to this point, thank you for your concern.**

**#2: No, you can't. We still respect you. We want to protect and help you to stay above all these problems. This is my intention, as well as the others.**

**#3: If I'm having problems, I won't run away from them but while having no problems we should find some way to prevent them.**

**Time 1:25**

**#2: It's been some ten years that I've been helping clear up these things, these problems, up to now. For my part, about the tigers, you don't know what I've been doing, Father, so I'm going to tell you, Father. From not having any registration, I set up the registrations. From not having anything legal about them, I made them legal. Everything that has gone down so far has been made right.**

**Time 1:50**

But right now, I have to tell you, Father, the people from Singh District, and from Forestry, they've been calling me. Forestry called me. It's not the villagers in Singh District who talked. My people, who, Father, are also your people, the ones who were used for [the matter of] those three tigers have said right out that it's your policy.

It didn't come from anyone else, no, but from the people you used, Father, and they said it was your policy [or: procedure], Father's own policy. And who are they? Isn't that the case? No, it's the truth. I'm not talking bad about anyone.

**Time 2:33**

#1: Yes, yes, that is our policy. Otherwise, they would have to take live tigers out. They said they would take the tigers to their farm and make the switch. Once they took the tigers, it became their affair.

#2: Yes, but...

#1: That's what they told us...

#2: Yes, but those were registered tigers. [In sarcastic tone:] They had tiger identification cards.

**Time 2:56**

[excitedly:] So, now the matter is connected to me directly. I was the one who signed to certify the registrations. These three were registered. If you were to ask me truly, there are still many of them that aren't registered at all. Some of them, I put in the chip, but haven't done the registration.

**Time 3:12**

But why did your people do this, Father? They didn't know the details, so they took every one of the registered, male tigers. All those unregistered ones – why did they left all of them alone. 'Cause they don't know. Those geniuses are not up to any battle of wits, for sure. It's not like before. Before you could do whatever you liked. There was no registration, nothing.

In the old days these people controlled them but now they do not- people who come in and look after the tigers, they love and care. Saying the three tigers did not work, not true. They did work presenting themselves to people who went up the skywalk; they saw them and delivered ....(....inaudible).

I was interviewed with TTT Paris - TTT Paris told me about the rumour that the tigers were tortured. They said to me, wow! - when they saw the tigers' island – not true. They asked me to promote the World Buddhist Sanctuary as more than the 30 rais ((a Thai unit of measurement of area e.g. 1 rai = 0.4 acres)) of tigers' island. They said they were delighted from what they had heard and from what they had seen.

These people can help us. We have good administration. The tigers are happy. Can you see? Do you know the people who take care of the tigers, they can call them, they can talk with them? The tigers are not pigs or chickens. They are alive and have relationships (with carers). When we are like this, not only Buddhists but other people cannot take it. I say there are ways out. We will get the European market by thinking a little, they can help us. In Australia, they do the same as us but we can use the big people – they are very useful.

**Time 5:00**

One thousand bahts each, come in from 8:00 o'clock in the morning till late afternoon. Come to this zone, organise the show - tigers jump on the trees, under the trees, under the rocks and

different jumping levels. With good administration, there will be visitors/spectators. This is the way to increase income by this same team – we can do it. But you took them out this way, no beautiful picture telling you the truth, no beautiful picture. It may seem like solving problems but actually it is creating more problems.

#3: When problems arise, it does not mean I am going to run away because I really wonder if I do know or I do not know. Other people said people who are close to Luang Phor know everything and the Dr (the Vet) is the target as well.

Time 5:51

#2: The day, the morning the tigers went missing, that whole group came in saying it was Luang Phor's policy, blathering, yelling it all over the [temple] pavilion. You don't know, Father, you weren't here at the time. Luang Phor's policy - they spread it all over, to visitors, foreigners, volunteers as they woke up. "Tigers missing! These guys say it's Luang Phor's policy! Oh, no! Had to be an inside job. [pause] Now why did they do that – to solve one problem by creating other problems, and after all this had been built up.

Would it end up on Thairath's front page? It would end on Thairath's front page like people lose faith in the temple. All the people who had been here and people who are here would be sorrowful and we cannot face anyone or gracefully move on to World Buddhist Sanctuary. First page Thairath – what do you want?

I don't want any shares or anything at all. I don't want your money but if it was World Buddhist Sanctuary, I am happy to help without receiving any money from you. I don't want money at all, I can do it. But if you are heading this way, I will definitely disappear from the Tiger Temple and please do not chase me back because I will not come back. It is up to this point, what do you want?

Time 7:16

If you think, Father, that you can solve these problems with your "night shift" team, if you are truly confident that they can help you ...well, just go ahead. Enlarge the program, breed cubs, and when they grow, peddle them on the black market for wild animals. You'll get in deeper and deeper, Father, deeper and deeper, and you'll have a hard time getting out. The Tiger Temple turned into a market for poached wild animals ...what kind of name will you end up with? Father, you still have my respect and concern. Fifteen years you have poured into this. But now... so please, don't speak of money to me. If it were for money, I wouldn't have stayed for fifteen years. But I gave my heart.

Time 8:01

..., I respect His Majesty's monks, I respect the only such place in the world. I made the presentations and talked it up. Members of the House, Senators, and everyone recognized it [the sanctuary] until it became what it now is.

[Link to audio](#)

## EVIDENCE 5

### Facebook conversation on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 between Thai and foreign staff after disappearance of Dao Nua, Fakram 3 and Happy 2

#### Conversation 1 – Temple staff talking day of tiger trades - 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014

##### Con 1 Screenshot 1

4G 12:02 am 100%  
facebook.com

Person 1  
Hey 😊 thanks I'll have a look later. I'm ok 😊 hope you guys are having fun!!  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
we're always having fun  
just today three tigers were missing and kind of ruin the day for all of us  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 1  
What?! What tigers did you find them?  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
basically somebody took them away cuz tania found a broken broom, wheel prints and the hose inside of the empty cages  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 1  
Have they been found?  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
we were all really pisted at morning, nobody wanted to work  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

##### Con 1 Screenshot 2

12:02 am 100%  
facebook.com

Person 2  
we were all really pisted at morning, nobody wanted to work  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 2  
and nobody was telling us shit  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 1  
Did you find the Tigers though are they back in the cage  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
at the end of the day they told us that they trade 3 tigers for a white one which still not here  
and at the meditation time one monk basically told us that its not big deal, that tiger are ok and to shut the fuck off  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 1  
But  
Are the 3 tigers back at the temple  
Dec 26, 2014

##### Con 1 Screenshot 3

4G 12:02 am 100%  
facebook.com

Person 2  
no they were traded  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

Person 1  
The temple traded the Tigers?  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 1  
Did the monk tell you that the 3 Tigers will be ok and for you to shut up???

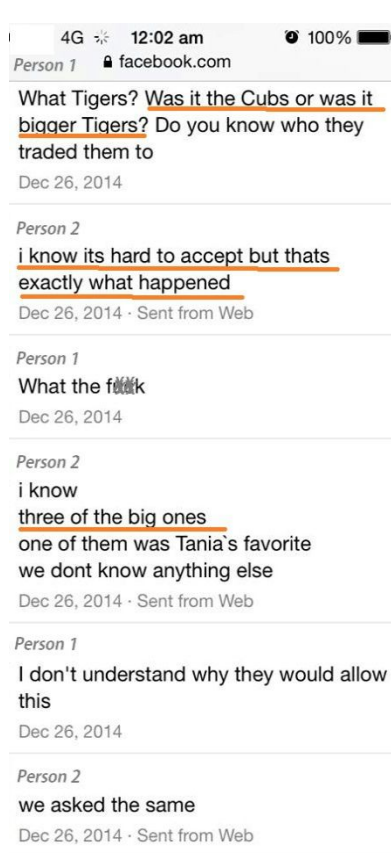
Sorry if I'm confusing Im just trying to understand what's happened  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
yeah, according to Tania that didnt happened in five years  
Dec 26, 2014 · Sent from Web

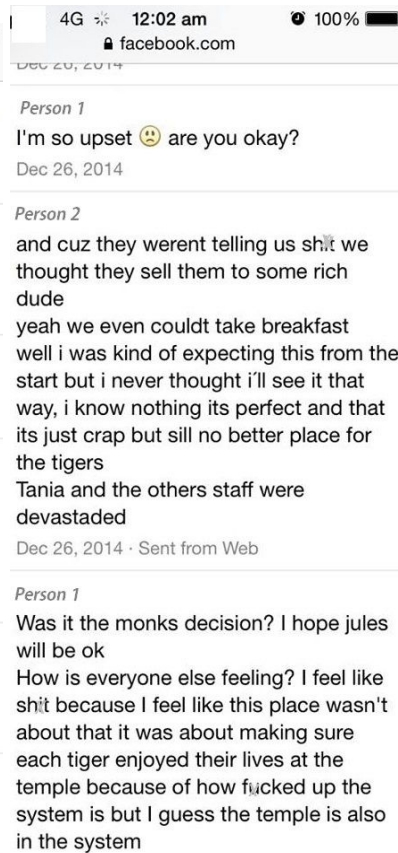
Person 1  
What Tigers? Was it the Cubs or was it bigger Tigers? Do you know who they traded them to  
Dec 26, 2014

Person 2  
i know its hard to accept but thats exactly what happened

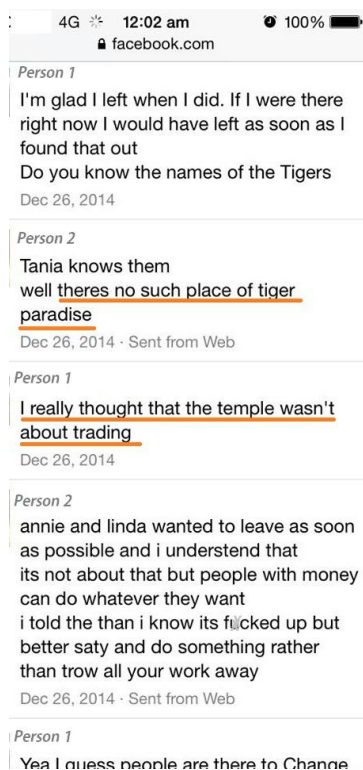
## Con 1 Screenshot 4



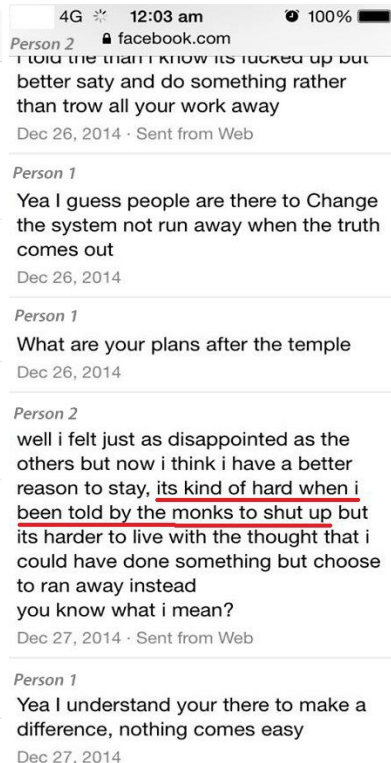
## Con 1 Screenshot 5



## Con 1 Screenshot 6



## Con 1 Screenshot 7





## Conversation 2 – Temple Staff talking day after tiger trades - on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> December 2014

### Con 2 Screenshot 1

4G 12:05 am 100%  
facebook.com

**Person 1**  
I'm talking with xxxx and I'm a little confused... Can you tell me what's happened with the three Tigers?  
Dec 26, 2014

**Person 2**  
Okey ... They swap 3 tigers for 1 white tiger .. One of the tiger is Tanya and jang favourite... And monk didn't told anyone about it  
And tiger are gone now .. And they both are not in a good mood crying since morning.. Evryone is crying Thai staff .. Also  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 2**  
Soo its kind off fucked up right now ..  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 1**  
That's fucked up 😞 I really thought this place wasn't about that. Are u ok  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
I felt bad .. This is happen after 5 years ..  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

### Con 2 Screenshot 2

4G 12:06 am 100%  
facebook.com

**Person 1**  
Was it the Abbott that made the decision? I wonder where the Tigers went  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
Abbott is the boss here .. Soo I think he made that decision  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 1**  
That's really messed up  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
[REDACTED]  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 1**  
Yea 😊 Im good. I'm really upset about the tiger thing tho  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
We all are ... Today we have a staff meeting .. Soo I hope we get something  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

### Con 2 Screenshot 3

4G 12:06 am 100%  
facebook.com

**Person 1**  
Let me know how the staff meeting goes ok  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
Yaa I will going for that  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 2**  
Hey AAbot is not there .. Soo may be tomorrow jang will ask him .. As per the last update .. They have exchange 3 tigers for 1 white tiger .. Tanya want to know the place .soo she can go and meet happy ( her tiger ) .and try to get him back or something..  
I feel bad ..  
They didn't told anyone about it ..  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

**Person 1**  
That's really terrible:(  
Dec 27, 2014

**Person 2**  
Ya .. Everyone is pissed because of this ..  
Dec 27, 2014 · Sent from Messenger

## **THE ORIGINS OF THE ORIGINAL TIGERS – AND EVIDENCE OF EARLY ILLEGAL TRADE**

### **The Original Tigers**

Between 1999 and 2000 the Tiger Temple acquired eight tigers - four females and four males. Their names were Mek, Payak, Payu, Saifa, Sangtewan, Sai Rueng, Chomnapa and an unknown tiger believed to have been called Sangton.

Sangton disappeared very early after arrival and there is no record of her.

In 2007, a Tiger Temple volunteer was given permission to copy veterinary documents in order to help avoid inbreeding. These veterinary documents were translated in both Thai and English and show a variety of medical disorders that went unattended for long periods of time with some tigers only receiving medical aid when close to death.

Some of these documents are included in this report.  
They showed the tigers' origins.

It was discovered that when tigers disappeared from the Tiger Temple, their veterinary files were removed. By 2007, the original tigers Mek, Payak, Chomnapa and Sangton had all vanished, as had their medical files.

In order to trace the original tigers and prove that they existed, Cee4life conducted extensive investigations.

The following evidence is not listed in chronological order.

## **EVIDENCE 6**

### **Information documenting cross-border acquisition of DAO RUANG/ DAO REUNG from a tiger farm in Laos**

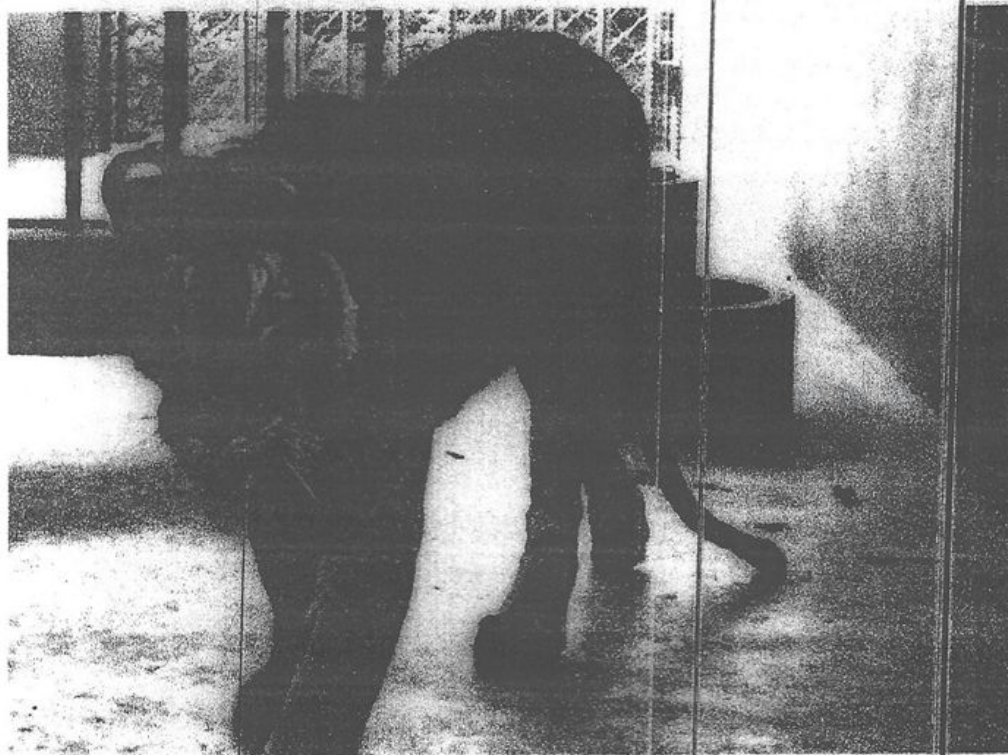
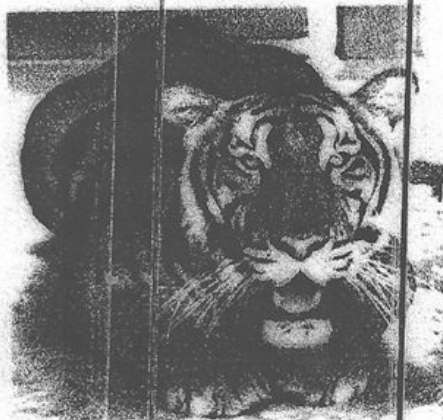
Dao Ruang, also known as Dao Reung was a female tiger whose date of birth was recorded on her veterinary file as 13<sup>th</sup> October 2004. On the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2005, Dao Rueng arrived at the Tiger Temple in Kanchanaburi, Thailand. At the time of her arrival, Dao Rueng was 10½ months old. Her veterinary file recorded her origin as ***“Imported from Laos”***.



The tiger, Dao Rueng inside Tiger Temple. Photo: Cee4life

## Tiger Profile

Name: Dao Ruang  
Date of birth: 13/10/04  
Sex: F  
Parents: Imported from  
Laos  
Siblings: None  
• Distinguishing features:



The front page of the original veterinary file of the tiger named, Dao Rueng – '*Imported from Laos*'

## Interview with witness TSW Bank

On the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2005, temple staff worker (TSW) Bank was working late and witnessed the arrival of Dao Reung. TSW Bank was interviewed about what he witnessed.

Late that night, a truck drove into the Tiger Temple grounds and up to the cages. The Abbot of the Tiger Temple was present, along with other staff members.

A summary of points from the interview with TSW Bank is as follows:

17.31minutes – 22.00 minutes

- TSW Bank witnessed the arrival of a female tiger named Dao Reung on the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2005.
- TSW Bank identified the man known as “Hia Tong” who delivered Dao Reung, as the same man he witnessed previously taking another tiger, named Mek.
- TSW Bank saw “Hia Tong” give Dao Reung an injection to put her to sleep and then watched as a microchip was inserted in the back of the tiger’s neck.
- The Abbot, Phra Wisuthisarathera, was present.
- TSW Bank observed the Abbot had a machine to scan the microchip.

[Link to Interview](#) (Evidence 15)

## Dao Rueng's Trade Document

Within the Tiger Temple’s veterinary files, a document was discovered in Dao Rueng's file that was a contract between the Tiger Temple and representative from a Laos tiger farm.

This document was an agreement that the female tiger, Dao Reung, was traded from that farm in exchange for one of the Tiger Temple's male tigers, Payak.

By 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2005, Payak had already vanished from the Tiger Temple.

To clarify: Payak, the Tiger Temple’s male tiger was traded for the female tiger, Dao Reung.

The illegal black market agreement also noted that after Dao Reung had given birth she would then be returned to the Laos tiger farm.

## EVIDENCE 7

### Contract documenting cross-border trade of Dao Reung and Payak

23 สิงหาคม 2548

ข้าพเจ้านายบุญเรือง สมสวาทเป็นเจ้าของเสือพันธุ์  
Indochinese เพศเมียเกิดวันที่ 13 ตุลาคม พ.ศ.2547 ชื่อ  
สาวเรื่อง หมายเลข Microchip no. LOT1797  
116421656A  
ได้นำเสือมาแลกเปลี่ยนกับเสือเพศผู้ชื่อ พัยกัม เกิดพ.ศ.  
2542 โดยจุดประสงค์ในการแลกเปลี่ยนครั้งนี้เพื่อการผสม  
พันธุ์เพื่อให้พันธุ์กรรมไม่อ่อนแอ และทางนายบุญเรือง สม  
สวาทเป็นเจ้าของฟาร์มเสือที่ประเทศลาว มีจุดประสงค์ช่วย  
อนุรักษ์สายพันธุ์เสือด้วย และตกลงทำสัญญานี้เพื่อยืนยัน  
วัตถุประสงค์และจะมีการแลกเปลี่ยนหลังจากผสมพันธุ์  
เรียบร้อยแล้ว

..... ผู้ร้องขอ

..... ผู้อนุญาต

..... ผจก. มูลนิธิ

This document reads as follows:

**23 August 2005**

**The undersigned, Mr. Boonrueng Somswat is the owner of a female Indochinese tiger, born on 13th October 2004, named Dao Rueng, with Microchip no. LOT1797 116421656A and wished to exchange this tiger with the male tiger, named Payak, born in 1999. The purpose of this exchange is for mating, so as to prevent the weakness in the species due to inbreeding. And Mr. Boonrueng Somswat, the owner of a tiger farm in DPR Laos, agrees to sign this contract for the objective of the tiger conservation. After the successful result the tiger will be exchanged back.**

**Boonrueng Somswat - Applicant**

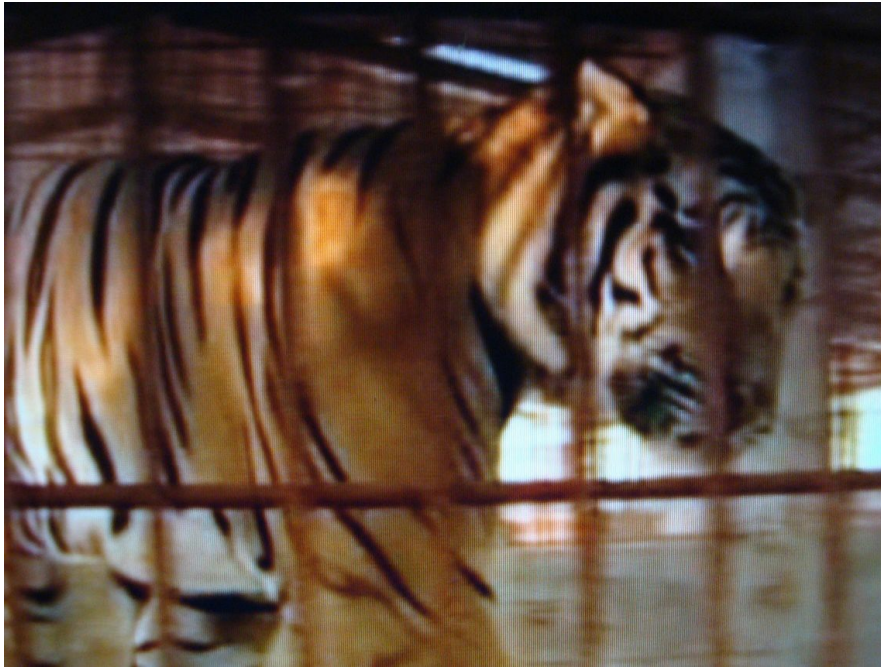
**Pra Acharn Phusit (Chan) Khantitharo - Acceptor (this is the Abbot)**

**Jakkrit Apisuthipongsakul - Foundation Manager (known as 'Boy')**



## EVIDENCE 8

### Disappearance of PAYAK – one of the temple’s original tigers



Original tiger Payak – Photo still from “ABC Postcards” series

Payak was a male tiger who arrived at the Tiger Temple in 1999. He disappeared in approximately 2004. However, in 2007, the Tiger Temple still displayed his picture on the brochures handed out to the public.



Payak as seen on front pamphlet of Tiger Temples 2007 brochures.

Payak can also be seen in the 2004 TV “ABC Post Cards” series with the Abbot of the Tiger Temple, proving his former presence in the temple.

His fate was confirmed with the discovery of the trade agreement found in Dao Rueng’s veterinary file. Payak was illegally traded across the border of Thailand and into Laos, swapped for the female tiger Dao Reung.

## EVIDENCE 9

### Disappearance of MEK/MAEK – one of the temple's original tigers

On the TigerTemple.org website (2005 – 2008) one of the temple's original tigers, Mek, was alleged to be a pure wild Bengal tiger. This drew suspicion because the temple had stated that all tigers were rescued, injured or orphaned. However Bengal tigers are not native to Thailand. How did the Tiger Temple rescue a wild Bengal tiger from another country and bring it to Thailand without permits?

This is the photograph of the original tiger named Mek used on the pamphlets in 2005.



Photo from Tiger Temple pamphlet and Tiger Temple website 2003 – 2008

Staff gave various explanations regarding what happened to Mek:

1. A long term senior temple staff worker said that Mek had fallen ill and died at the Tiger Temple
2. The Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera denied that there had ever been a tiger named Mek at the Tiger Temple
3. Another staff member named Rod Gonzalez stated that Mek had been taken away to a farm.

### Proof of Mek's existence in Tiger Temple

To prove that Mek had lived at the Tiger Temple, undeniable proof was required. That proof of knowledge of Mek's existence within the Tiger Temple came from an Animal Planet documentary made in 2004, where Mek is highlighted multiple times with the staff and the Abbot of the Tiger Temple.





Proof of life – Mek seen in Animal Planet documentary – “Temple of the Tigers”



Proof of life – Mek seen in Animal Planet documentary – “Temple of the Tigers”

**Animal Planet Documentary - Temple of the Tigers** – <https://vimeo.com/2331034>

**Animal Planet Documentary - Temple of the Tigers Revisited -**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnOFWkzdF80>

## Mek's Disappearance

By late December 2005/ early January 2006 Mek had disappeared from the Tiger Temple. In 2007, an interview was conducted with a Thai temple staff worker through an interpreter, a man we refer to as Bank. Bank relayed the circumstances surrounding Mek's disappearance.

## Interview with witness temple staff worker Bank

Context–: TSW Bank was tasked by the Abbot of Tiger Temple to “help with a tiger” in the evening after closing hours. Summary points of the transcript are as follows.

- *TSW Bank knew the original tiger Mek who was brought to the Tiger Temple in 1999.*
- *TSW Bank is able to identify Mek and his specific features.*
- *TSW Bank was tasked to work later into the evening of December 2005/January 2006.*
- *The Tiger Temple’s Abbot, Phra Wisuthisarathera tasked TSW Bank to go and “help with the tiger”.*
- *TSW Bank stated that he saw a man who identified himself with a suspected false name - “Hia Tong”, give the tiger Mek an injection which “put him to sleep”.*
- *Mek was then put into a small cage and TSW Bank then had to help lift Mek onto a truck.*
- *Three other Thai temple staff workers named Jup, Got and Em were also tasked to assist lifting Mek into the truck.*
- *The Abbot of Tiger Temple, Phra Wisuthisarathera was present for part of Mek’s disappearance and was fully aware of what was going on.*
- *TSW Bank agreed that the Abbot is the “boss” and everyone does what the Abbot tasks them to do.*
- *Mek was not sick or ailing, he was healthy. There was no medical reason for Mek to disappear.*

[Link to Interview with Bank - Subject of Mek - 08.30mins - 17.30 mins](#) (Evidence 15)

As late as 2007, the Tiger Temple was still using the pamphlets displaying the now-absent tiger Mek. After a volunteer inquired about Mek’s whereabouts, another tiger (son of original tiger Mek), named Harnfa, was renamed to “Mek”. Tiger Temple staff told the volunteer, “Mek is not missing; he is here in his cage”. This tactic has been used many times since then by the Tiger Temple to fool the public and the foreign volunteers, renaming tigers with the same names as those that have disappeared.

In late 2007, a recording was made of a volunteer talking with a Tiger Temple staff member named Rod Gonzalez. On this recording, Mr. Gonzalez states that Mek is no longer in the temple and the reason he is gone is that they needed a different male tiger for breeding.

The interview with Rod Gonzalez contains sensitive information and so has been given to the Royal Thai Police.

## Conclusion

Mek disappeared from the Tiger Temple in late December 2005/ early January 2006 one evening, after closing hours. The witness video statement of TSW Bank clearly outlines Mek's fate - drugged by injection of anesthetic and taken away by a man known as "Hia Tong". Mek's disappearance was hidden from the public and a cover-up was implemented by renaming Mek's son, with his father's name, who then became the new Mek. Further information gathered from TSW Mr. Gonzalez confirmed that Mek had been knowingly and illegally removed from the Tiger Temple and taken to a tiger farm.

\* There has been no trace of Mek since January 2006 in any zoos or sanctuaries within a reasonable distance of the Tiger Temple.



Original Mek – from the Animal Planet documentary - Temple of the Tigers



## EVIDENCE 10

veterinary document showing SANGTEWAN, one of the temple's original tigers, as "Wild Caught"



Sangtewan spent approximately 10 years of her life inside this cement cell. Photo by Cee4life


In Tiger Temple veterinary documents obtained by Cee4life, the origins of four of the Tiger Temple's original eight tigers are listed as "wild caught." All tiger subspecies are protected in all range states under their original country of origin, and poaching or in any way removing a tiger from the wild is illegal.

Sangtewan is a female tiger said to have been born in February 2000. She is one of the original eight tigers that were brought into the Tiger Temple between the years 1999 to 2000. On examination of Sangtewan's veterinary records, it is clearly noted that Sangtewan's parents were unknown and she was '**Wild Caught**' - taken from the wild. Whether she was orphaned, as the temple claims, or poached from the wild is unknown. Her presence was not reported to the Department of National Parks and holding an unregistered endangered species without proper permits violates Thai law. This also holds true for the tigers listed in Evidence 11, 12, and 13: Saifa, Sai Rueng, and Payu.



Page 1 of the tiger Sangtewan's veterinary file

| Tiger Profile            |                                                                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name:                    | Sang Ta Wan                                                             |
| Sex:                     | F                                                                       |
| Date of birth:           | Approximately February 2000                                             |
| Parents:                 | <u>Unknown (wild caught)</u>                                            |
| Parentage confirmed:     |                                                                         |
| Siblings:                | None                                                                    |
| Distinguishing features: | A large cut across the front of the nose sustained as a very early age. |



Page 1 Sangtewan's veterinary records clearly showing origin – **Wild Caught**

## EVIDENCE 11

veterinary document showing SAIFA, one of the temple's original tigers, as  
"Wild Caught"



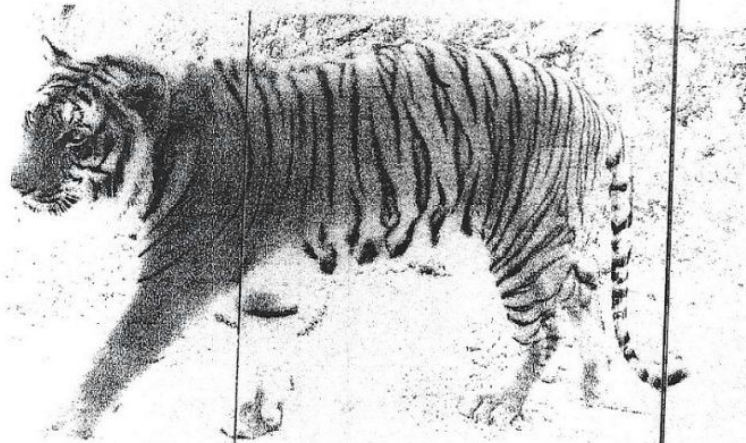
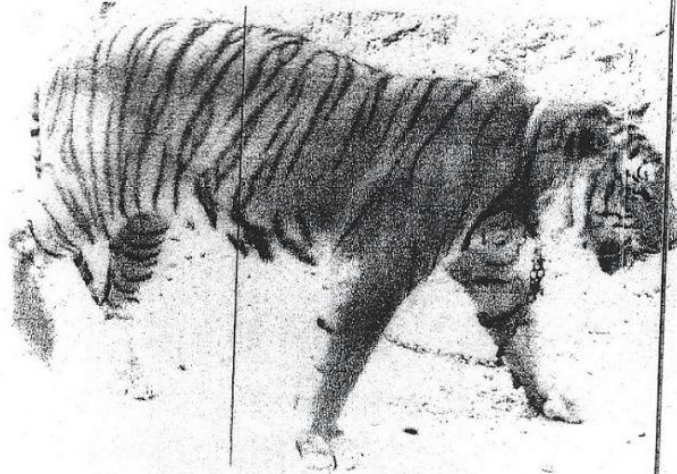
Saifa

Photo by Cee4life

Saifa is a male tiger said to have been born in May 1999. Saifa is also one of the original eight tigers that were brought into the Tiger Temple between the years 1999 to 2000. Saifa's veterinary records note that his parents were unknown and like Sangtewan, he was **'Wild Caught'**.

## Tiger Profile

**Name:** Sai Fa  
**Sex:** M  
**Date of birth:** Approx. May 1999  
**Parents:** Wild-caught  
**Parentage confirmed:** No  
**Siblings:**



Page 1 Saifa's veterinary records clearly showing origin – **Wild Caught**



## EVIDENCE 12

veterinary document showing SAI RUNG/ SAI RUENG, one of the temple's original tigers, as "Wild Caught"



Sai Rung/Sai Rueng



Photo by Cee4life

Sai Rung/Sai Rueng is a female tiger said to have been born on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1999. Sai Rung, too, is one of the original eight tigers that were brought into the Tiger Temple between the years 1999 to 2000.

A notable difference between her file and those of the others listed here is that Sai Rung's documents state her date of birth. With all other original tigers there is no birth date recorded. To have an exact date of birth for an apparently "Wild Caught", rescued injured or orphaned tiger would be unlikely.

As with the other three tigers here, Sai Rung's veterinary records clearly note that she was '**Wild Caught**' or taken from the wild.

| Tiger Profile            |                                       |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Name:                    | Sai Rung                              |
| Date of birth:           | 26/09/99                              |
| Sex:                     | F                                     |
| Parents:                 | Wild caught                           |
| Parentage Confirmed:     |                                       |
| Siblings:                |                                       |
| Distinguishing features: | Left canine is broken off at the base |
| Weight:                  | 128 kg                                |



Page 1 of the Tiger Temple tiger, Sai Rung's Veterinary file – **Wild Caught**

**Tiger Treatment History**

Name: Sai Rung      Sex: Female      Age: 4 years

Medical history:      Sai Rung is one of the original wild caught tigers with a somewhat aggressive attitude.

| Date           | Symptoms                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Treatment                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August '06     | Both eyes photosensitive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| September '06  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both eyes photosensitive</li> <li>Puss in both eyes</li> <li>Poor appetite</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                             | A visiting vet suggested that she suffers from Conjunctivitis caused by virus and secondary bacterial infection and recommended treatment with Doxycycline & Oxytetracycline |
| 9 December '06 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anesthetized via blow dart</li> <li>Complete health check</li> <li>Cleaned the teeth. Left canine is broken off probably due to chewing the metal bars of the cage.</li> <li>Nails cut</li> <li>Blood sample taken</li> <li>Sample from the eyes taken</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Penstrep LA. 6ml. IM</li> <li>Ivermectin 4ml. SC</li> <li>Chlbramphenical eye ointment</li> <li>Biotatalin 4ml. SC</li> </ul>         |

**Blood test result**  
Normal. All values are within standard range

**Swab from the eyes**  
Test did not reveal any bacteria probably due to sample contamination

**Recommendation**

1. Left eye: Apply Eye Ointment every day (if possible)
2. Right eye: Condition is worse than the left eye. Consultation with a specialist is recommended.
3. Give pain killers to relieve pain and increase appetite

Page 2 of the Tiger Temple tiger, Sai Rung's Veterinary file noting ***"Sai Rung is one of the original wild caught tigers...."***

**Tiger Treatment History**

Name: Sai Rung      Sex: Female      Age: 4 years

Medical history:      Sai Rung is one of the original wild caught tigers with a somewhat aggressive attitude.

Enhanced section stating ***"Sai Rung is one of the original wild caught tigers...."***



## EVIDENCE 13

veterinary document showing PAYU/ PHAYRU, one of the temple's original tigers, as "Wild Caught"



Payu

Photo by Cee4life

Payu/Phayu was a male tiger said to have been born in May 1999. Payu is one of the original eight tigers that were brought into the Tiger Temple between the years 1999 to 2000. On examination of Payu/Phayu's veterinary records, it is clearly noted he was '**Wild Caught**'.

Payu died in approximately 2008 due to lack of veterinary care.

## Tiger Profile

**Name:** Pa Yu  
**Sex:** M  
**Date of birth:** Approx. May 1999  
**Parents:** Wild-caught  
**Parentage confirmed:** No  
**Siblings:**



## EVIDENCE 14

### **veterinary document showing the original NANFA – was imported from Laos**

Nanfa was brought into the temple by being illegally purchased through the international wildlife trade. Nanfa's medical file states that she is "Imported from Laos".



Nanfa

Photo by Cee4life

Nanfa is a female tiger said to have been born on 31/07/2004.

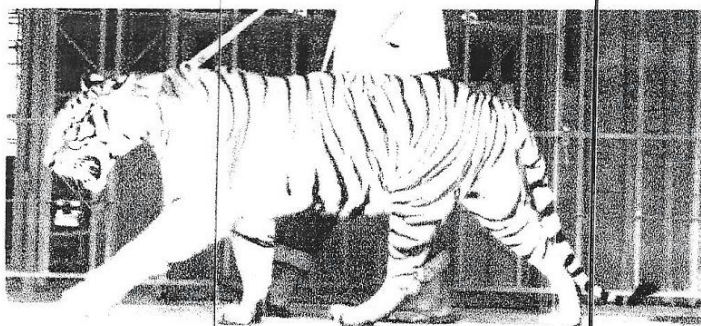
Nanfa's arrival was witnessed in the early evening of late 2004 by a Thai staff worker named Bank. It has been found that, similar to the tiger Dao Reung (see Evidence 6), Nanfa was also sedated and had a microchip inserted into the back of her neck.

Nanfa's veterinary records state that she was ***"Imported from Laos"***.



## Tiger Profile

Name: Nanfa  
Date of birth: 31/7/04  
Sex: F  
Parents: Imported from Laos  
Siblings: None  
Distinguishing features:



## EVIDENCE 15

### **Eyewitness Account of Abuse within Tiger Temple and Wildlife Trade**

In 2007, a Tiger Temple staff worker (TSW), named Bank, who had been working at the Tiger Temple in Kanchanaburi, Sai Yok Province for over 1 year, spoke about the abuse he had witnessed. The interview contains eyewitness evidence of the following:

- Bank identified the young cub, Nanfa (original), beaten on the nose with the buckle end of a belt by a TSW nicknamed Duk. TSW Bank stated that TSW Duk did this because he was angry that the baby cub would not walk as he wanted her to and that instead Nanfa wanted to play.
- TSW Bank indicated that TSW Duk abused Nanfa in this way often and spoke of an occasion when TSW Duk punched the cub with his fist on the nose and hit her with the pole of a large umbrella on the nose and head for approximately 10 minutes. TSW Bank stated TSW Duk ceased this abuse when he saw the Abbot walking down with tourists.
- 06.39 – 08.27 TSW Bank identified another temple worker, non-Thai, named Jan who witnessed the abuse of Nanfa and stated that TSW Jan was laughing while Nanfa was being hit with the umbrella. Temple staff worker Jan is identified as a former foreign manager of Tiger Temple.
- 22.01- The Tiger Temple claimed on their business website that the original tigers to arrive at the Tiger Temple were injured and orphaned. TSW Bank states that the senior TSW (otherwise known as Head Tiger Boy or “Boss”) named Kasaem informed TSW Bank that the tigers were not injured or orphaned.

(end of interview with TSW Bank)

[Link to Interview](#)



## EVIDENCE 16

### Disappearance of multiple tigers between the years 1999 - 2015

The following is a spreadsheet that Cee4life has created to attempt to keep track of the number of tigers that have been present within the Tiger Temple from the years 1999-2015. This spreadsheet has been filled in with evidence, from documents or eyewitness accounts and has been filled out as thoroughly as possible.

The spreadsheet includes:

- Dates of birth (where known) or close estimates of dates of birth (always stated if an estimate) of all tigers that have been recorded or seen to be present inside the Tiger Temple since 1999.
- Parents / lineage of the tigers (where known)
- Siblings (where known)
- Disappearance dates and method (i.e. death / cause of death / disappearance / wildlife trade)

The spreadsheet is split into yearly tabs with tigers placed in appropriate columns. Each female tiger known to be breeding or to have bred in the past has her own column. The cubs born to her are arranged in litters with the father listed at the top of each litter (where known). If the mothers are suspected but unconfirmed - or completely unknown - the litters are placed in respective columns stating as such.

Tigers whose dates of birth are exactly or approximately known - but come from an unknown litter and unknown parents are placed on the far right.

Tigers that have arrived in the temple via the illegal wildlife trade are in the column entitled "Brought in illegally via Wildlife Trade". All tigers' current statuses (where confirmed) are listed beneath their names. Those listed in red are tigers that have died, gone missing or have been witnessed / known to have disappeared into the illegal wildlife trade.

The front page is a collective sheet showing the years from 1999-2015, illustrating patterns of Tiger Temple's wildlife trading and increases in breeding and population.

Each time the DNP ordered the Tiger Temple to cease breeding is noted on the far right – an edict which has repeatedly been ignored.

[Link to Spreadsheet](#)

[Spreadsheet Summary](#)

At the time of this report, there are 150 tigers recorded inside the Tiger Temple. The absolute minimum number of tigers that Cee4life has been able to confirm at Tiger Temple from 1999-2015 is 281. The Department of National Parks counted 147 tigers in April 2015;

we currently estimate 150. It is unreasonable to conclude that the 131 tigers that are currently missing all died of natural causes within this 15-year period. In captivity, tigers live from 16-26 years.

Our list is incomplete because we were not able to collect complete census information. The total number of tigers that should be present within the Tiger Temple could be twice our recorded number.

Witness reports state that many of the cubs go missing before they reach three months old – before they are microchipped. This spreadsheet does not include all cubs that have been lost to the illegal wildlife trade in this way, it only lists disappearances that have been witnessed first-hand, or witnessed and reported directly to Cee4life and corroborated. Some of the cubs from questionable eyewitness accounts have been included only as a side note.

After analysing the patterns we've noted - and the lack of steady information regarding births, we believe that many more cubs may have disappeared than those we've been able to note.

The spreadsheet shows a steep increase in breeding from 2007 onwards. Almost all the tigers present in the temple originally stem from two breeding mothers: Sangtewan and Sai Rueng. This has resulted in high levels of inbreeding. The list also displays an abnormal number of cub deaths, illnesses and repeated accidents (not mentioning the 'missing' and 'disappeared' cubs) up until the present.

With 15 years of practice and opportunity to learn correct and efficient care it is of great concern that there has not been a reduction in the number of cub deaths due to accidents, mishaps and illnesses within the Tiger Temple.

The Tiger Temple has named a large number of cubs to either be from litters of two or as an 'only child'. Tigers in both captivity and in the wild almost always give birth to three or four cubs, occasionally birthing either two or five cubs. There have been many instances where four cubs have been born to a mother, two or even three of them are said to have died and then the remaining cubs are raised as 'a pair' or an 'only child' within the Tiger Temple with no mention of the cubs that died. This has been witnessed and information on this relayed to Cee4life for many years by a vast number of former volunteers and former staff members.

## SUMMARY OF SECTION 1

1. CCTV footage from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 documents multiple staff members entering the Tiger Temple after hours, unlocking the front gates and allowing three vehicles in or out of the compound at night. All vehicles drove to the structure known as Tiger Island where 98% of the Tiger Temple tigers are housed. On both occasions, all vehicles proceeded to the specific locations at Tiger Island where the three missing tigers were kept. Six locks needed to be opened to get into Tiger Island; a senior Tiger Temple staff member named Kasaem held those keys. The same two vehicles arrived and left the Tiger Temple on both dates that tigers disappeared. On the mornings of the 21<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> December 2014, Dao Nua, Happy 2 and Fakram 3 had vanished, however no Thai or foreign staff reported this to the authorities. It is a crime to be actively involved in illegal wildlife trade but also unethical to passively to have knowledge of a crime and not report it.

2. The Tiger Temple's medical files state clearly where four of their original tigers came from. Whether "Wild Caught" or "Imported from Laos" it is a crime to catch wild tigers, fail to inform the Department of National Parks of possession of an endangered species — and it is a breach of the CITES treaty (Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna) to conduct cross border trades of highly endangered Appendix I-listed species, including the tiger. These activities also violate the Thai WARPA Act (Wildlife Reservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 [1992] ).

3. The document found in the female tiger Dao Rueng's medical file reveals that she was brought to the temple from a tiger farm in Laos as part of a trade for a male tiger, Payak in 2005. That contract was also signed by the temple's Abbot and a representative from the farm, Boonreung Somsat, proving that the Tiger Temple has illegally traded tigers across borders. Another veterinary document from 2004 lists a female, Nanfa, as "imported from Laos".

4. A taped interview with a former staff member, Bank, gives details of the disappearance of a male tiger, Mek in late 2005/early 2006. In a videotaped interview with Kasaem, a senior temple staff member who holds the keys, he admits that the Abbot ordered him to unlock the gates on the nights of December 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> when three tigers disappeared. In a taped, incriminating conversation between the Abbot and former vet, they discuss the disappearance of the three male tigers in December 2014 and their tiger trafficking policies.

## Section 2

### SAFETY

There are three areas of safety within the Tiger Temple that must be addressed immediately to avoid serious injury.

- Safety of the volunteers that enter the Tiger Temple
- Safety of the public that enter the Tiger Temple
- Safety of the animals within the Tiger Temple

### SAFETY OF THE VOLUNTEERS THAT ENTER THE TIGER TEMPLE

Volunteers working within the Tiger Temple have had their lives threatened and put in danger on numerous occasions due to what they have witnessed i.e: wildlife trade and/or abuse of tigers.

Three recorded examples of this are as follows:

- A male United Kingdom resident, Ash Waldron, volunteered to work in the Tiger Temple over a period of five months. During this time the volunteer witnessed the birth of four tiger cubs. These four tiger cubs disappeared overnight. As he had seen these cubs, a member of the Tiger Temple staff named Rod Gonzalez, threatened his life to not speak about this. The volunteer also had his belongings searched and his cameras were taken to ensure there were no pictures of the four missing tiger cubs. The volunteer was then informed that Mr Gonzalez had purchased a gun. Mr Waldron left the Tiger Temple immediately.
- A female Australian resident who volunteered to work at the Tiger Temple had her life threatened by the same Tiger Temple employee, who accused her of being a “militant environmentalist”. The Tiger Temple employee indicated that he would run her down by car as she rode her motorbike to Kanchanaburi. This volunteer also received a phone call from a trusted source to inform her to get out of the Tiger Temple as her life was in danger. As she left the temple, she was followed by Tiger Temple staff. She escaped and proceeded to the Australian Embassy in Bangkok for safety and reported the incidents.
- A female European resident who volunteered in the Tiger Temple was harassed by Tiger Temple staff after attempting to stop a tiger from eating and choking on a plastic bag. A campaign of heightened prejudicial behaviour, verbal and physical harassment including groping and bullying was inflicted upon this volunteer, ostracising her and leading her to leave the Tiger Temple.

These are only three specific examples of behaviour carried out by some of the Tiger Temple staff towards volunteers in reaction to their observations of criminal activity or comments criticising unethical care for the animals present within the Tiger Temple.

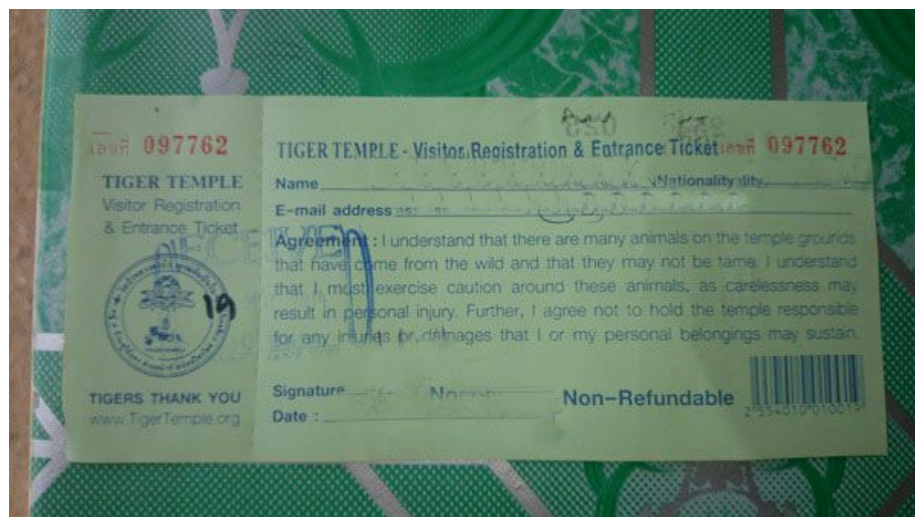
## SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC THAT ENTER THE TIGER TEMPLE

Tigers can never be truly tamed. A tiger in captivity is less wild, however it is still entirely capable of attacking and killing, whether deliberately or by accident. The tiger has a bite force of approximately 1000 pounds per square inch; a swipe of its paw can crush a bear's skull or break its back (<http://listverse.com/2012/09/10/50-unusual-facts-about-tigers/> )

It is necessary to ensure that the highest standards of safety are in place for the public to interact with tigers, which includes all safety measures being implemented to ensure these apex predators cannot escape and the public are safe.

At the Tiger Temple, safety is of such a severely low standard - with tourists, including young children, being either inches from the tigers or laying/sitting on them that it is only a matter of time before there is a human fatality. Tigers have already escaped from handlers and killed a number of cows and deer before they could be stopped within the temple grounds.

Visitors sign a form on entry that removes all liability/responsibility from the Tiger Temple if they are attacked and injured as pictured below:



Entrance ticket to Tiger Temple removing all responsibility for injury in the event of attack Photo Cee4life.

Disclaimers like this are not uncommon when entering a venue / area, or participating in an activity that has a level of risk. However, visitors who are not well versed in carnivores and who are out for a “fun” day with tigers, do not realise the high level of risk that they undergo when in close proximity to large carnivores. Most Tiger Temple programs have no restraints or safety measures.



Between 2007 and 2015, a growing number of images surfaced showing shocking behaviour at the Tiger Temple: tourists lying/sitting down having photographs taken of themselves with up to 300+ kg tigers. Even more startling were the tourists who allowed their children, some as young as three months old, to sit on top of a tiger's stomach while it lay on its back. This is possibly one of the worst cases of high public risk ever recorded in the history of captive carnivores and there have been attacks, bites and scratches witnessed multiple times.

Four examples of attacks that have occurred within the Tiger Temple are as follows:

One Thai staff member of Tiger Temple allowed investigators to photograph the injuries he received after a tiger pinned him to the ground. This tiger was relatively gentle with him and the outcome was that the staff member survived.



Scars on temple staff worker from tiger attack

Photo by Cee4life



Scars on temple staff worker from tiger attack

Photo by Cee4life

One foreign staff member had a habit of intimidating the tigers by standing over them chastising them by shaking his index finger the way one would to a child. This person eventually had his fingertip completely bitten off by a tiger.

In 2012, a young Dutch tourist inside the Tiger Temple was encouraged to go and sit with the tigers. While doing so a tiger pounced and bit her leg.

At the time of her attack a journalist was visiting the Tiger Temple and heard about it and a Cee4life staff member was also present. This is one of the few attacks that has been documented and therefore become public knowledge. See [article](#).

It is unfounded to believe that a tiger will not attack because it is fed well as stated by various Tiger Temple staff and supporters. One example is the statement made by Thai Director of Wildlife Conservation, Narong Mahannop of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), made during an October 2012 SBS Dateline Documentary, "Taming the Tigers".

Director Mahannop stated *"I am not worried that children will get eaten. When I was monitoring their feeding, the tigers were fed grilled chicken until they were full. When they are full, they will not attack people. They are too fat and lazy, they look fat and lazy"* The young Dutch tourist took months of medical care to heal from these "lazy tigers".

Director Mahannop also stated that *“If more people raise tigers, there will be less people poaching them in the forests. You could farm tigers like you farm pigs or cattle, and sell them. You can’t stop people eating tiger meat. You cannot stop Chinese people eating tigers”*.

His statements raise alarming questions: Why did Director Mahannop refer to China when this was an interview about the Tiger Temple in Thailand? While we cannot stop Chinese from eating tigers, we can protect those in Thailand from disappearing into the international wildlife trade. Were these comments an attempt to legalise tiger farming in Thailand in violation of the WARPA Act and CITES?

Link to [SBS Dateline “Taming the Tigers”](#)

By 2015 the safety risks remained extremely dangerous and the warnings continued to be ignored.

In May 2015, a tiger named named Hernfa - who had endured approximately eight years of up to 600 tourists per day being able to use him for the photo opportunity, putting his head in their lap, attacked the Abbot of the Tiger Temple putting him in hospital.

For years the Tiger Temple have claimed that the tigers live in harmony with the monks and do not attack them because they have been raised by them and have an understanding with them. This story is called into question with the attack on the Abbot by his “favoured son” Hernfa. See [Daily Mail news article](#).

Former Tiger Temple staff and volunteers have reported seeing Hernfa attempt to attack the Abbot on numerous occasions.

Due to the number of witnesses it cannot be denied that there have been many, many ongoing injuries and attacks occurring within the Tiger Temple because of the severe lack of safety which extends far beyond the highest levels of risk assessments.

## **SAFETY OF TIGERS WITHIN TIGER TEMPLE**

As presented in Section 1, the tigers have not and will never be safe due to the proven illegal wildlife trade conducted by the Tiger Temple. While the Tiger Temple is run by the same staff and management that have conducted the illegal wildlife trade of tigers, or become criminal accessories by knowingly remaining silent and not reporting the crimes, there is no possible reassurance that the tigers will live out natural lives.

The abuse of the tigers within the temple Tiger has been well documented for a decade by various media and former volunteers and staff. This repeatedly proven abuse has been allowed to continue and therefore the tigers are never safe from this type of harm.

In Section 3 evidence of abuse and animal welfare issues supplies additional information regarding the danger these tigers face under the current management and staff.

## Section 3

# ANIMAL ABUSE – ETHICS AND WELFARE

## The Five Freedoms

“In 1965, the UK government commissioned an investigation led by Professor Roger Brambell into the welfare of intensively farmed animals, partly in response to concerns raised in Ruth Harrison's 1964 book 'Animal Machines'. The Brambell Report stated that animals should have the freedom to "stand up, lie down, turn around, groom themselves and stretch their limbs" [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five\\_freedoms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_freedoms)

The ideal state that an animal should be housed in was then redefined and broadened by the Farm Animal Welfare Council. Five points were defined and hence these points became known as the Five Freedoms. They are accepted worldwide in multiple venues holding animals in captivity and are highly and humanely recommended for the ethical care and welfare of animals. The Five Freedoms with examples from within the Tiger Temple are listed below as points 1-5:

**1: Freedom from Hunger and Thirst - by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.**

### DIET

The adult tigers are fed once a day in the morning with a diet that consists of boiled chicken. This food is either placed in unwashed bowls or thrown onto an unclean floor.

Approximately once in five months as observed, some supplements are given however these are too infrequent to be of lasting health value. This encompasses the entire diet of the Tiger Temple tigers. The tigers have never been fed red meat.

The Tiger Temple chose never to feed the tigers all red meat or fresh bones. This results in multiple deficiencies in vital health requirements including but not limited to a lack of: Vitamin A, Arachidonic acid, Taurine, Niacin, Amino Acids, and Calcium.

This incorrect diet can cause an array of avoidable ailments including: sinusitis, respiratory and digestive tract infections, early onset of blindness (Tiger Temple tigers are frequently observed to develop early blindness, with that degeneration beginning at four years old), conjunctivitis, uncoordinated gait, pelvic limb paralysis, low sperm quality, poor coats, listlessness, immune system dysfunction, growth deficiencies, bone weakness, metabolic bone disease, reproductive failure, bow-leggedness and arthritis, tooth and dental decay, stereotypical behaviour and apathetic behaviour.



Boiling chicken causes the loss of some protein. This would not be of concern if other protein sources were added to the diet, specifically red meat; however this is not provided. Boiling causes many water-soluble vitamins and minerals to be lost, including B vitamins, selenium, phosphorus and potassium. Although boiled chicken can retain some iron, folate and vitamin E it is not adequate enough for a large carnivore.

The tiger cubs are taken from their mothers at 7 – 12 days old, removing them from the vital health benefits of their mother's milk. They are then fed dog or cat milk formula, both of which lack the correct nutrients, vitamins and minerals needed to ensure a strong and healthy cub. Cubs are then weaned to eat boiled chicken at as early an age as possible, usually two months old, however some are even younger.

## WATER ACCESS

The tigers have a round cement water bowl, which they frequently urinate and sit in to cool off in the intense tropical heat. It was observed that the water is not changed when soiled and this is the only water source that the tigers have for the day.

The probability of further or prolonged illnesses - such as diarrhoea, is very high as the tigers digestive tracts are being constantly agitated due to drinking water from puddles on unhygienic floors or from the soiled water bowls. In the outdoor enclosures, the same situation occurs within the small pools that have been repeatedly noted to be stagnant, dirty or soiled.

## SUMMARY

The tigers and other animals of the Tiger Temple do not have a diet that maintains full health and vigour and they do not have access to fresh water.



Abundant slime in water source in an outdoor enclosure

Photo Cee4life





Food bowl, bacteria/leftover food residue and food thrown on unhygienic floors      Photos Cee4life



Left:: An example of the balanced meal requirements for tigers: both red and white meat with bones.

Photo by <http://www.2ndchance.info/bigcatdiet.htm>

## **2: Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.**

Tigers are a naturally solitary animal claiming large range territories in the wild and walking up to 40 km per day. In captive situations a tiger must be provided with an appropriate outdoor enclosure that replicates its natural environment. This includes: a large area of room to move, a shelter and a comfortable resting area, fresh water sources, a swimming area, a den and a lockout area with plenty of trees and enrichment items such as scratching posts / ethical toys.

In 2007, World Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) recommended an area of 500 m<sup>2</sup> is regarded as the minimum ethical size for one tiger. If another tiger is added into that enclosure an additional 50 m<sup>2</sup> space should be added. The facility must be secure to contain the tiger and to protect the public and keepers, and the tiger must be visible at all times.

Tigerlink state, "Plants in the enclosure, which are recommended to provide shade, must be chosen carefully to avoid toxic species. The dirt substrate becomes contaminated over time with microorganisms and parasites thereby exposing the cats to potential concentrations of

pathogens. Contaminated substrates should be periodically removed and replaced. Pools and moats need to be designed for maintaining high water quality through filtration or draining and for ease of cleaning and sanitising, as tigers tend to defecate in water. Drains should be of sufficient size to accommodate cleaning.”

### DISCOMFORT FOR THE TIGERS WITHIN TIGER TEMPLE

The Tiger Temple tigers have lived in barren cells which meet no ethical animal welfare standards for over a decade. After the Tiger Temple began raising funds in 2003 to build a better home for the tigers, it was not until 2012 that approximately 20 outside enclosures were built and finished. This was a step in the right direction however with 150 tigers needing outdoor enclosures it still falls well below the minimal ethical standards. Even though enclosures have been built and are in use the tigers still spend 80-90% of their time in the same cement cages as before.



Barren “jail cell” cage environment tigers lived in from 1999 – 2012/ present

Photo: Cee4life

When the cages are cleaned, detergents are used and not correctly washed out of them. This residue causes the pads on the tigers paws to become soft, prone to splitting and easily cut when they are required to walk on the sharp rocky substrate in enclosures and surrounding the Tiger Temple.

Due to the inadequate amount of enclosures available sometimes up to ten tigers are kept in overcrowded cages.



Tiger Temple – High stress and unethical environment: heavily overcrowded cement cell in the Tiger Temple containing 9 to 10 tigers. Photo: Cee4life

Due to the lack of outdoor enclosures, the tigers have been put on a rotation basis, let out for a short period of time into the outdoor area, then brought back into the cage. This process is then repeated with the next tiger. This rotation, however, is not methodically implemented and Cee4life has been informed by a recently former Tiger Temple staff worker that many tigers do not get out for days - or sometimes, weeks.

## SUMMARY

Even though the Tiger Temple has sufficient funding to supply all the tigers with an appropriate living environment, 150+ tigers are forced to share approximately 20 outdoor enclosures. The cages they spend 90% of their lives inside are wet, dirty and without enrichment. This does not allow the tigers to live free from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment or comfortable resting area.

### 3: Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease - by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.

Many tigers within the Tiger Temple have been seen to display signs and symptoms of multiple ailments such as chronic diarrhoea, neurological disorder symptoms, fungal disorders of the skin, tooth decay etc. In a normal situation where tigers each have allocated enclosures, the enclosure is easily maintained and is free from infections and further disease transmission. However, the soil does become contaminated over a period of time with various parasites and microorganisms. This can expose these carnivores to concentrations of biological infectious agents/pathogens which lead to disease and illness. To avoid this, the soil must be monitored and replaced on a somewhat regular basis. There is no known contaminated soil removal/monitoring in Tiger Temple.



From 2007 to 2015 it was observed that multiple tigers became ill with the same signs and symptoms of unsteady gait, shaking eyes, chronic diarrhoea prevalent with nearly all tigers and noticeable fungal infections especially on the feet. Currently there are still tigers displaying all these signs and symptoms.

As mentioned above, the tigers within the Tiger Temple are subjected to multiple unhygienic practices which are a medium for disease transmission.

Over the years, a broad spectrum of injuries and illnesses has been recorded and reported by numerous former volunteers and investigators including but not limited to the following: Kidney and liver failure - Infected eyes, conjunctivitis, photosensitivity - Infected mouth, missing canines with infections in the gums - Diarrhoea, vomiting, loss of appetite - Pneumonia - Deformed body parts, missing body parts - Vitamin deficiencies - Mass muscle loss - Blood in urine, blood in stools - Discharges, infections and swelling in ears, nose, eyes, paws, genitals and anus - Other respiratory ailments – asthmatic symptoms - Untreated nerve/spinal injuries – Collapse - Unexplained complete renal shutdown and death - Cysts, abscesses - Jaw infections - Fungal infections - Prolonged displayed severe pain.

*“[Although a few of these illnesses are normal for a tiger, each one of these occurred at a very early age and was left untreated until the tiger collapsed, was in severe noticeable pain or near death and upon death.]”*

## HYGIENE

Due to the lack of outdoor enclosures, many tigers are forced to be in close proximity to one another inside barren cement cages. Over the course of the confinement, (hours, or for some days) the tigers defecate and urinate on the cement floors, in water bowls, in food bowls and on the floor and vomit is frequently seen in these cages. The combination of excretions and residue detergents is an ideal medium for breeding multiple disease and transmission.



Photo: Female Tiger Temple tiger with a severe eye ulcer that eventually took 90% of her sight in 2010. Though reportedly aware of her condition, ongoing and correct veterinary treatment which could have prevented this was provided.

Photo: Cee4life

Over the years investigators have recorded that crowded tiger cages were not cleaned for days at a time with food laying fly-blown and rotting on the floor, in addition to no available fresh water. The tigers are ingesting a cocktail of potentially health threatening bacteria/disease.

The food, water bowls, cement flooring and the tigers themselves are lightly washed with a low grade detergent which is then not removed properly and the cement floors remain puddled, wet and slippery for hours. The tigers are often observed slipping and falling heavily onto the cement floor.

The type of detergents used rotates between Nonionic and Anionic (dishwashing liquid). Ingestion of Nonionic and Anionic detergents can cause multiple ailments to cats with symptoms including: profuse drooling, difficulty breathing due to formation of considerable amounts of foam in the mouth involving an aspiration risk, epidermal irritation and inflammation, vomiting, abdominal pain, lack of appetite, corrosive mouth injuries, eye oedema, corneal erosion and ulcers, organ damage / failure and at worst death. The most common symptom at low doses and short term ingestion is vomiting and diarrhoea. These symptoms have been observed consistently over an 8 year period with most of the Tiger Temple tigers.

Long term effects of Nonionic and Anionic detergent from repeated ingestion can include chronic diarrhoea, consistent oral, esophageal and abdominal pain, dose-dependent haemolysis which presents as tiredness, potential for multi-organ failure as a result of direct cytotoxicity, haemolysis, anaemia and/or chemical pneumonitis. Many tigers have been observed with what is thought to be directly related illnesses including gastrointestinal problems such as chronic diarrhoea, eye infections/conjunctivitis, ulcers, long periods of lethargy and apathetic behaviour, puss and blood excretions, injured legs, muscles, ligaments and tendons.

Between 2008 and 2015 there was a massive rise in the population of tigers from 18 in 2007 to 150 present today (see Evidence 16). This speed breeding is highly unethical and shows no concern for the health of the female tigers or any understanding of genetic inbreeding or crossbreeding. Overbreeding is the cause of the overcrowded tiger population which then promotes abnormal behaviour between tigers in close proximity.

## **PROLONGED AVOIDABLE SUFFERING**

The tiger seen in the following two photographs suffered up to 6+ operations on the underside of his left leg due to an infection that was not correctly treated. The cause of this infection was never confirmed.





Photo: The un-hygienic conditions and lack of care resulted in an avoidable repeated re-infections and operations.  
Photo: Cee4life

Witnesses to this stated: *"[Each operation was done in filthy conditions and only because some staff urged for this tiger to be helped. They just left him there and it took a lot of convincing to make them help him. But each operation was done so badly in such dirty conditions that the infection kept coming back. Staff were supposed to give medicine like antibiotics each day for two weeks after each operation but they couldn't be bothered and so the infection kept coming back. I'm amazed this tiger survived and didn't lose its leg.]"*



Reinfected swelling left leg, the same tiger as in previous photograph.

Photo: Cee4life

## NEGLIGENT VETERINARY CARE

A young tiger cub reportedly almost lost its front left leg due to incorrect veterinary care. After treatment to a wound, a bandage was wrapped so tightly around the leg of the tiger cub by the temple vet that the blood circulation was cut off. This resulted in a grotesque abnormal swelling. The cub was saved by the quick actions of a former volunteer who removed the bandage against the vet's instruction.



Cub veterinary neglect  
Photo: Cee4life

## SHAKING EYES

From approximately 2010 until his death, a witness documented and reported on a tiger named Techo who had developed “shaking eyes”. This disturbing ailment was brought to the attention of long term staff and veterinary staff that ignored the problem. Techo was approximately nine years old when he died of a sedative overdose.

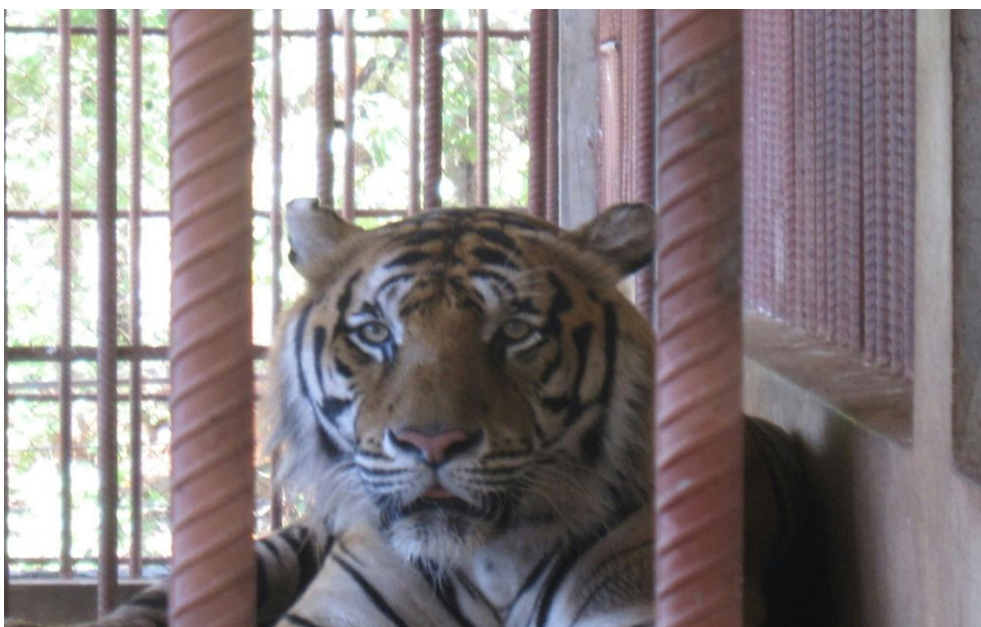


Photo: This tiger suffered uncontrollable “shaking of the eyes” untreated until his death.

Photo: Cee4life

## CHRONIC DIARRHOEA

Over eight years, Cee4life has observed up to ¾ of the population of tigers (including cubs) within the Tiger Temple suffering from chronic diarrhoea. It is so common that staff have been noted to appear unaware of its abnormality, sometimes even seen laughing at this ailment.

Additionally, there are multiple complaints made by the public on the negative and disturbing experiences they have had at the Tiger Temple. Many visitors tell of the unhealthy tigers they have witnessed.

One tourist writes on TripAdvisor, “[*The tigers are sick, man. They're really and truly NOT healthy.*” and “*While walking a tiger, one pooped, and it was bloody, mucousy diarrhoea. That was the moment that I finally realized this place is just exploiting these beautiful ENDANGERED animals for the enjoyment of tourists.*]” –

[[https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/ShowUserReviews-g297924-d942775-r223419706-Tiger\\_Temple\\_Thailand\\_Tour-Kanchanaburi\\_Kanchanaburi\\_Province.html#](https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/ShowUserReviews-g297924-d942775-r223419706-Tiger_Temple_Thailand_Tour-Kanchanaburi_Kanchanaburi_Province.html#)]

Other tourists and visitors to Tiger Temple have captured a photographic diary of what they have experienced, witnessing the rampant chronic diarrhoea problems of the tigers in public blogs, such as the following:

[<https://www.flickr.com/photos/supergreggn/11173970776/in/album-72157638285074514/>]

Diarrhoea can be an indication of several ailments however the cause has never been found or remedied.

## UNPROFESSIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND HUSBANDRY

There have been a series of other incidents occurring over the years within the Tiger Temple that have caused harm and death to the tigers.

One such incident was the apparent hanging of a young tiger in May 2012. The main cause of why this cub died was due to the inexperience of staff. The young tiger cub which was known to be extremely active was found with the chain wrapped around its neck, hung to death.

[<http://news.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne+News/Asia/Story/A1Story20120603-350247.html>]

Tiger Temple released statements to the effect of this being a terrible accident, however witnesses relayed to Cee4life that this very active cubs personality was not taken into account.

## SUMMARY

Most tigers in the Tiger Temple are in need of full veterinary examinations to identify the above listed and recorded ailments. Disease transmission is due to unhygienic practices and little to no knowledge of the animal welfare standards required. The Tiger Temple tigers are not free from pain injury or disease within Tiger Temple.



#### **4: Freedom to Express Normal Behaviour - by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.**

There is no denying that the Tiger Temple tigers have the company of their own kind. However the extent of the close proximity of these tigers to one other reaches the depths of severe neglect and abuse and places them under high stress causing unnatural changes to their behaviour which have long lasting effects.

Tigers in the wild hold their own territories and spend a great deal of their lives alone. The Tiger Temple has approximately 20 enclosures that have outside areas through which 150 tigers are rotated for varying lengths of time.

Cee4life conducted an interview with a recently former Tiger Temple staff member in 2015 who stated that many of the tigers are not rotated through the outside enclosures and many spend days without touching grass or feeling sunshine. This staff member also detailed the abusive situation for tigers who have been agitated or “disobedient” for varying reasons throughout the days and are “punished” by various means, one being locked inside their cement cage for days on end.

Confinement and overcrowding in unethical cement cages, with or without enrichment items, is one of the main causes of what is known as stereotypical behaviour. Stereotypical behaviour can be described as a pattern of movement such as pacing, self-mutilation etc, which is repeated multiple times and which has no obvious function or goal. This behaviour is not seen in wild animals and therefore when seen in captivity is a sign of stress due to unethical captive circumstances. Stereotypes can also manifest themselves from fear, boredom and frustration, the inability to act on natural behaviours or instincts due to restraints (being caged, chained) and deliberate torment. All members of the Felidae family are very susceptible to stereotypes and require great care in captivity to avoid developing these abnormal stress behaviours.

**Some of the stereotypical behaviour witnessed within the Tiger Temple:**



Above left: Pacing, Above right: self-mutilation/incassant chewing paws.

Photos: Cee4life



Observed: repeatedly refusing to leave her cage to go into her enclosure. This tiger was locked in a cement cage for nearly 10 years.

Photo: Cee4life



On a daily basis there are approximately 30 tigers of the 150 that are seen in the public for short periods of time. These tigers range from young cubs that are washed, handled and fed multiple times by tourists for public programs, to older tigers who are used for public appearances for photographs in an area of the Tiger Temple called “The Canyon”.

### **5: Freedom from Fear and Distress - by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.**

When people consider “abuse to animals” a great deal of the time they think only about physical abuse. The reality, however, is that abuse comes in many forms. Tigers and other animals in captivity require specialised care to remain healthy, both physically and mentally.

These include but are not limited to:

- An array of enrichment
- Correct diet
- Correct enclosures
- Correct water supply
- Correct veterinary care
- Correct treatment by carers

***Physical and mental suffering of an animal in captivity occurs when just one of these needs is not being met.***

The first reports of physical abuse within the Tiger Temple surfaced in 2003 when two former Tiger Temple volunteers mentioned on a public forum discussion board that they witnessed a variety of abuses inflicted upon the tigers including: hitting, punching, belting with objects and being locked in small barren cages. The 2008 report CWI released identified multiple abuses with accompanying video proof. Furthermore between the years of 2008 to 2015 Cee4life released multiple videos which provide further evidence of physical and mental abuse inflicted upon these tigers. Numerous volunteers have also come forward after witnessing abuses they have described as brutal cruelty.

### **PHYSICAL ABUSE LEADING TO MENTAL SUFFERING**

Tiger Temple prides itself on being one of the only places in the world where humans can have close and prolonged interaction with the critically endangered, protected apex predator. There are places in where humans are seen to interact with the Great cats however the human/tourist onslaught upon the tigers in the Tiger Temple, for a photograph, is beyond the highest risk levels for humans and lowest levels of ethical care for an animal in captivity. This has always been of great concern as the Tiger Temple itself has stated that they have no idea of how to care for tigers.

For the apex predators to have up to 600 people touching and posing for photographs with them every day, a particular type of “discipline” has been instilled at the Tiger Temple. This “discipline” however still does not remove the thousands of years of genetic carnivore ancestry or the fact that tigers are powerful creatures that have the capability of fatality injuring a human being in a split second.

Within the Tiger Temple, there are a number of elements at work that degrade the tiger's natural behaviour. Some, but not all, of the extensively witnessed abuses include the following:

- Confining the tigers in a small barren environment for prolonged lengths of time
- Keeping tigers caged in an overcrowded barren environment
- Inflicting physical abuses i.e. punching, kicking, belting, hitting, throwing objects such as chairs at the tiger from a young age and smashing tigers over the head with rocks, wooden rods
- Collecting, bottling and spraying urine in the tigers faces
- Rubbing “Tiger Balm” into the eyes of the tiger
- Neglecting to identify health problems at an early stage
- Neglecting to provide timely veterinary care for ALL tigers
- Neglecting to provide a fresh water supply for ALL tigers
- Neglecting to provide a balanced correct diet for ALL tigers
- Neglecting to provide enough exercise for ALL tigers
- Neglecting to provide ongoing enrichment for ALL tigers
- Neglecting to ensure hygienic conditions for ALL tigers
- Forcing ill tigers to “perform”
- Deliberate over-breeding
- Taking baby cubs from their mothers at 7-12 days old
- Pinching, grabbing, hurting the tigers genital regions, nose, and ears
- Lying/sitting on tigers for “selfie” photographs.

## SOME EXAMPLES OF TIGERS ENDURING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL SUFFERING AT TIGER TEMPLE

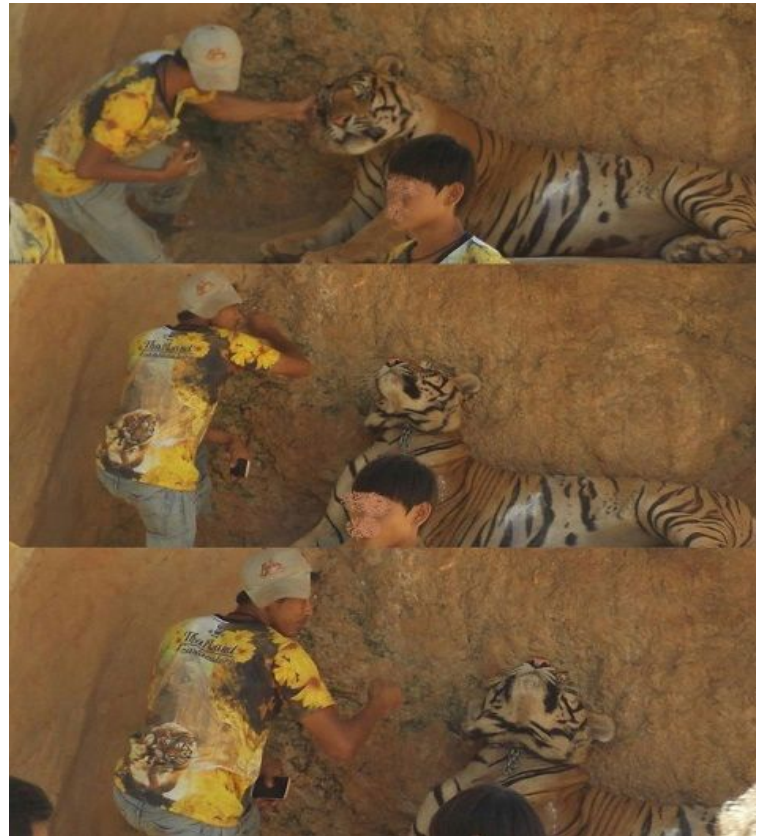


A former volunteer photographed this tiger in 2007 who had become so fearful at the sight of a stick, that it would climb unnaturally to the roof in an attempt to escape. This tiger was witnessed being beaten with this stick on many occasions.

Photo: Cee4life



Above left: Chairs thrown at Tigers in full view of the public in 2014 Photo stills from film by Turner Barr  
Full film can be seen here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GkbNhNoY50> 3.24 – 3.30 mins



Above right: Tigers are repeatedly punched and tormented in public for no reason Photo: Cee4life

There are numerous videos, photographs and statement accounts made by and taken by former staff, volunteers and investigators of the Tiger Temple regarding the multiple abuses inflicted on the Tiger Temple tigers.

The mental suffering of an animal in captivity is preventable only if the captor allows high ethical standards. This is possible only if: 1) The captor is educated or is willing to be educated and 2) The captor is conducting business honestly and with the animals welfare and interests as priority.

The Tiger Temple have a stance where they must continue to breed more cubs in order to entertain the tourists and keep business going, however they heavily lack the ability to ensure any tiger will receive ethical care, safety and protection as a cub or after their days of “performing” for the public have ceased.

One recent ex volunteer stated that, *“they have too many tigers, not enough space and not enough experienced staff that understand or really care for the animals.”* This can be believed considering there are 150+ tigers and only approximately 20 outdoor enclosures. However even when there were only 18 tigers within the Tiger Temple, the tigers still



suffered the same treatment, monotonous routine and living conditions as many still do today.

One of the extreme examples of the breeding regime is a well known tigress, now nearly 16 years old, who is estimated to have had at least 30 - 40 litters of cubs to date. Under natural circumstances in the wild, a female tiger is sexually mature at 3 ½ years old and then cares for her cubs until they are up to 2 years old, she is then ready to have another litter. The wild tiger's life expectancy is 16 – 20 years old, however in captivity a tiger's life span increases due to fewer threats, reaching 20 – 26+ years old. The normal number of litters a tigress would have in a life time is 8 – 10. This mass breeding witnessed in the Tiger Temple shows disregard to the female tigers physical and mental health. Each litter of cubs are removed from their mothers to enter the tourism cycle at 7 -12 days old. It has been often witnessed that these cubs are housed within earshot of the mother who spends weeks calling for them. The natural milk production of the mother tigress is compromised as it is abruptly cut off which can lead to infections such as mastitis. In addition the mother tigers are never given supplements such as calcium or iron to reinforce their bodies during gestation or after giving birth to cubs.

## SUMMARY

The Tiger Temple tigers are not free from fear or abuse. There are many documented examples of the abuse and distress inflicted upon the Tiger Temple tigers in the form of statements and video and photographic evidence from former volunteers, animal welfare organisations and media. Below are a few links to some of these examples.



## LINKS

SBS Dateline 2012, "*Taming the Tigers*" -

[[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGD\\_p8HX2Vo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGD_p8HX2Vo)]

Turner Barr, 2013. "*The Reality of Tiger Temple. My Final Thoughts on my Volunteering Experiment*" Around the World in 80 Jobs,

[<http://www.aroundtheworldin80jobs.com/tiger-temple-abuse-volunteering-experiment/>]

Cee4life, "*The Screaming Tigers*" – Multiple abuses

[[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIRmzhq\\_8Rc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIRmzhq_8Rc)]

Cee4life, "*Urine Collection off Tigers*" -

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fk3tOz0Gcxl&list=PLEA00A961F1F2E280&index=23>]

National Geographic, 2008. "Blackmarket Tigers Linked to Thai Temple" -

[[http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/06/080620-tiger-temple\\_2.html](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/06/080620-tiger-temple_2.html)]

The Examiner, 2013. "*Voices Around the World. Education and Action to Save Tigers in Thailand*",

[<http://www.examiner.com/article/voices-around-the-world-part-3-education-and-action-to-save-tigers-thailand>]

World Animal Protection -

[<http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.au/news/world-animal-protection-responds-weeks-raid-tiger-temple-kanchanaburi-province-thailand>]

Born Free - [<http://www.bornfreeusa.org/news.php?p=4678&more=1>]

PETA - [<https://twitter.com/petauk/status/245825398506663936>]

Lonely Planet -

[[https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/asia-thailand/thailand/tiger-temple-acc8ce66-87f5-421f-a1ef-cc90f340cac9?page=1#post\\_20562639](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/asia-thailand/thailand/tiger-temple-acc8ce66-87f5-421f-a1ef-cc90f340cac9?page=1#post_20562639)]

Cody and Giselle, "*The Terrible Truths from Thailand's Tiger Temples*", AngloItalian

[<http://www.angloitalianfollowus.com/the-terrible-truths-from-thailands-tiger-temples>]

## Section 4

### Laws and Legalities

#### Corruption

In 2010, AP journalist Andrew Marshall investigated corruption within the Tiger Temple and found it to be donating 700,000 Baht to the local Kanchanaburi police. This raises high suspicion of corruption involved in the illegal wildlife trafficking of animals into and out of Tiger Temple.

[\[http://andrewmarshall.com/articles/cry-of-the-tiger/\]](http://andrewmarshall.com/articles/cry-of-the-tiger/)

Since February 2015 when the news was revealed that three adult male tigers disappeared from the Tiger Temple the investigation, run by the Sai Yok and Kanchanaburi police has reportedly learned no new information, made no progress, recorded no suspects and made no arrests.

It has been revealed to Cee4life that the two foundations, the Tiger Temple foundation and the World Buddhist Sanctuary foundation (both headed by Phra Wisuthisarathera) are linked. A Thai legal source has confirmed that the paperwork involved in transferring animals from one foundation to another is extensive and takes a great deal of time. If the Tiger Temple is found guilty of wildlife trading they will not be granted a zoo licence. Currently the World Buddhist Sanctuary is also applying for a zoo licence. If the DNP relocates the Tiger Temple tigers and the World Buddhist Sanctuary were to be granted the zoo licence, they could retake the Tiger Temple tigers, however legally under a different name, spotless from being associated with wildlife trade. This method would also prevent the Tiger Temple from having to go through the extensive and timely process explained above.

The Tiger Temple has been linked to numerous people within power outside the monastery itself but for legal reasons and so as not to interfere with or inhibit the currently ongoing Police investigation Cee4life is unable to comment further on this in the public report.

## Buddhism and False Monks



Photo taken within Tiger Temple grounds quoting the eight precepts of Buddhism

Photo: Cee4life

The Tiger Temple has continually featured Buddhism while advertising itself to the public. There are several documented occasions in which the temple's Abbot has been recorded behaving in a way that contrasts even the most core Buddhist values. Some examples are listed below.

### i) To abstain from taking life

In a rage the Abbot deliberately slammed a cage containing birds into the ground repeatedly. The Abbot of the Tiger Temple killing birds -

[\[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZzFlrj4ock\]](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZzFlrj4ock)

The Abbot of the Tiger Temple yelling abuse – uploaded by Pom Chongcharoen -

[\[https://www.facebook.com/pom.chongcharoen?fref=photo\]](https://www.facebook.com/pom.chongcharoen?fref=photo)

[\[https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=949133868453197&set=vb.100000697788375&type=2&theatre\]](https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=949133868453197&set=vb.100000697788375&type=2&theatre)

Multiple witnesses have also reported seeing monks within the temple grounds acting in ways that further breach the 8 precepts that are advertised within the Tiger Temple in the above photograph. So as not to disrespect the Buddhist faith in any way Cee4life will not shame men who live as monks within the temple or extend further details in the public report but will give full assistance to the Buddhism Authority if requested.

Arguably it is most shocking that the Tiger Temple is conducting the wildlife trade of tigers, whilst hiding behind a mask of Bhuddism to facilitate criminal activities and avoid legal consequences. It has also been suggested by witnesses including being intimidated by the Abbot of Tiger Temple (see evidence 4) that the tigers are killed on the Tiger Temple grounds prior to their trade - a shameful breach of the revered Buddhist faith.

## CITES and Thai Wildlife Law

Thailand has suffered several articles of negative media aimed at the high rate of wildlife trade being conducted within the country. This report has proven without doubt that the Tiger Temple is and always has been conducting illegal international wildlife trade and they will continue to do so if they are not stopped.

Some articles regarding Thailand's unceasing wildlife trade and the introduction of the new wildlife trade laws are listed below.

Thailand in top 5 wildlife trading countries - <http://www.pnas.org/content/112/26/7948>  
<http://news.mongabay.com/2015/06/what-do-china-kenya-and-india-have-in-common-wildlife-trafficking/>

6 Countries keeping Tiger Trade Alive -  
<http://motherboard.vice.com/read/the-six-countries-keeping-the-tiger-poaching-trade-alive>

Animal Welfare law to curb wildlife trade -  
<https://en-maktoob.news.yahoo.com/tourist-dollars-feed-wild-animal-trade-thailand-062002019--finance.html>

Cites Thailand Ivory Trade Warning -  
<http://englishnews.thaipbs.or.th/cites-committee-is-satisfied-with-thailands-performance-in-dealing-with-trade-in-ivory-tusks>

CITES Thailand -  
[http://www.academia.edu/9969008/CITES\\_related\\_Laws\\_against\\_Illegal\\_Wildlife\\_Trade\\_in\\_Thailand](http://www.academia.edu/9969008/CITES_related_Laws_against_Illegal_Wildlife_Trade_in_Thailand)

Tiger Temple Raided 2005 -  
<http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Regional/2015/02/05/Tiger-Temple-raided/>



## Breaches of WARPA Act by Tiger Temple

The Tiger Temple has breached multiple Thai WARPA Act laws regarding the wildlife trading of protected species. Some examples of these are as follows:

### CHAPTER III

#### HUNTING, PROPAGATING, POSSESSING AND TRADING IN WILDLIFE, THEIR CARCASSES AND CARCASS PRODUCTS

##### Chapter 3 Section 20.

No person shall trade in preserved and protected wildlife and their carcasses or carcass products unless it is protected wildlife of the kind as prescribed under Section 17, acquired such wildlife from propagation or their carcasses or carcass products and permission must be obtained from the Director-General.

The application for permission and obtaining of permission shall be in accordance with the stipulations, procedures and conditions as specified in the ministerial regulations.

##### Chapter 4, Section 25.

Permission shall be obtained from the Director-General on the movement for trading in protected wildlife and their carcasses under Section 20.

The application for permission and obtaining of permission shall be in accordance with the stipulations, procedures and conditions as specified in the ministerial regulations.

### CHAPTER VI

#### AREA AND PLACE UNDER PROHIBITION OF WILDLIFE HUNTING

##### Chapter 6, Section 41

No person shall, within the precinct of a monastery or a place provided for religious observance of the public, hunt wildlife either preserved or protected or not, or collect or endanger its nest.

## Section 5

### Recommendations and Conclusion

The Tiger Temple is conducting illegal international wildlife trade and has ever since its inception. The Tiger Temple has also been proven guilty of multiple animal abuse acts.

Due to the many breaches of the Thai WARPA Act and the CITES Agreement, we urge the Thai Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, CITES, Interpol, Police (Local and Federal), Military, National Buddhism Authority and all other required Departments and Organisations to conduct an unprecedented investigation into the allegations and evidence gathered by Cee4life within this report.

If, through a thorough investigation by Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, CITES, Interpol, Police, Military, National Buddhism Authority and all other required Departments or Organisations, the allegations and evidence are found to be true, the following are wanted recommendations:

- That all informants, investigators, ex volunteers / staff and current volunteers / staff of the Tiger Temple that have been mentioned in this report and others that can be provided by Cee4life who have had serious threats made against them, be given high protection from any negative repercussions connected to or from the Tiger Temple, Kanchanaburi, Thailand or its partners.
- The Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera, manager Jakkrit/Boy and any other monks connected with the illegal wildlife trade of the protected tigers of the Tiger Temple be disrobed by the National Buddhism Authority.
- The Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera, TSW known as Kasaem, manager Jakkrit and other Tiger Temple staff whose names can be provided to the authorities by Cee4life are brought into custody in conjunction with DNP by Bangkok Police and/or Military and interrogated to uncover the details of what happened, who was involved, middlemen contacts and the trafficking route of illegal international wildlife trade within Thailand and to its borders and beyond.
- The Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera, manager Jakkrit and all other Tiger Temple staff workers found involved in the illegal wildlife trafficking of tigers are held accountable under the Thai WARPA Act for illegal import and export of multiple animals via the illegal international wildlife trade and punished to the full extent of the law.
- That each offence is dealt with individually and each individual offence has the maximum punishment applied for incarceration and financial payment.

- The Abbot Phra Wisuthisarathera, TSW known as Kasaem, manager Jakkrit and other Tiger Temple staff involved in the illegal tiger trade or documented animal abuse be removed from the Tiger Temple immediately and never be permitted to own, sell or work near any animal again.
- That all Foreign Staff whether past or present within Tiger Temple, if found to have aided, had knowledge of and concealed evidence, or knowingly participated in the illegal wildlife trade of protected animals or concealed evidence of the trades or be found to have acted as an accomplice to the crimes by not reporting them to the relevant authorities; be removed from the Tiger Temple immediately and be held accountable under the Thai WARPA Act punishment, CITES and any home country laws that may be applicable and never be permitted to participate in any business within Thailand related to animals.
- That the DNP aid Cee4life help to bring all Foreign Staff found to have concealed and aided in the illegal wildlife trade of tigers, whether by action, complacency or the deliberate action of silence; to justice within their own countries.
- That all attempts are to be made to retrieve any tigers or any other animals from the Tiger Temple that may have recently disappeared into the illegal international wildlife trade, where there is a possibility that they are still alive. That if found, these animals are to be given protection and safety in an ethical facility within Thailand or any other facility deemed to have high ethical standards that adheres to the Five Freedoms for captive animals.
- That the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation involve and partner with authentic animal and conservation organisations, both Thai and International, to assist and help hands on with the ethical care of the remaining Tiger Temple tigers and other animals.
- That the DNP provide Cee4life with a letter of permission to enter the Tiger Temple premises.
- That the DNP provide Cee4life permission to aid with the DNA collection of all tigers from the Tiger Temple to identify their subspecies and origins.
- That any international or national animal or conservation organisations which can assist or help with the Tiger Temple tigers, are to work in conjunction with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation and strive towards the goal of ethical care and protection for these animals and any other animals that Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation may require assistance with.

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The National Archives, Farm Animal Welfare Council - <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20121007104210/http://www.fawc.org.uk/freedoms.htm>

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Dr Ron Hines DVM Phd, 2015, “Diet Feeding and Nutritional Care Of Captive Tigers Lions and Leopards” - <http://www.2ndchance.info/bigcatdiet.htm>

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<http://web3.dnp.go.th/wildlifeweb/downloads/Unofficial%20English%20Translation.pdf> and  
[http://thailaws.com/law/t\\_laws/tlaw0317.pdf](http://thailaws.com/law/t_laws/tlaw0317.pdf)



Thai Law Relating to Big Cats - <http://www.loc.gov/law/help/bigcats/thailand.php>

Ministerial Regulations on designating some wildlife animals to be wildlife protected animals, B.E. 2546 (2003) – Pg 67 เสือโคร่ง (*Panthera tigris*) Bintarong - หมิ่นขอ หรือ บินตุรง (*Arctictis binturong*)

<http://www.dnp.go.th/wildlifednp/%E0%B9%80%E0%B8%AD%E0%B8%81%E0%B8%AA%E0%B8%B2%E0%B8%A3/gov2.pdf>

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