

Tracking the Weretiger: Supernatural Man-Eaters of India, China and Southeast Asia

By Patrick Newman

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Drawing on dramatic accounts by European colonials, and on detailed studies by folklorists and anthropologists, this work explores intriguing age-old Asian beliefs and claims that man-eating tigers and "little tigers," or leopards alike, were in various ways supernatural. It is a serious work based on extensive research, written in a lively style. Fundamental to the book is the evocation of a long-vanished world. When a man-eater struck in colonial times, people typically said it was a demon sent by a deity, or even the deity itself in animal form, punishing transgressors and being guided by its victims' angry spirits. Colonials typically dismissed this as superstitious nonsense but given traditional ideas about the close links between people, tigers and the spirit world, it is quite understandable. Other man-eaters were said to be shapeshifting black magicians. The result is a rich fund of tales from India and the Malay world in particular, and while some people undoubtedly believed them, others took advantage of man-eaters to persecute minorities as the supposed true culprits. The book explores the prejudices behind these witch-hunts, and also considers Asian weretiger and wereleopard lore in a wider context, finding common features with the more familiar werewolves of medieval Europe in particular.

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Editorial Review

Review
"I know of no other book that has taken a serious look at the man-eaters as they were viewed by the people being eaten, as opposed to the people hunting them...a major addition to the literature on the subject...in fact, an oasis in a desert of sensationalist nonsense. Newman has gathered material from diverse sources and put a book in an empty space that was just waiting for something of this sort...an important book." --Paul T. Barber, Fowler Museum of Cultural History, UCLA

"A great read...a thorough scholarly apparatus underpinning every narrative opportunity...skillfully manages sensationalism while setting a cracking pace...fascinating...well written and packed with all the detail...that you could possibly want." --Fortean Times

From the Inside Flap
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About the Author
Former reporter and feature writer for Asian Medical News in Hong Kong, Patrick Newman lives in the United Kingdom.

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This Tracking the Weretiger: Supernatural Man-Eaters of India, China and Southeast Asia book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific Tracking the Weretiger: Supernatural Man-Eaters of India, China and Southeast Asia without we realize teach the one who examining it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't always be worry Tracking the Weretiger: Supernatural Man-Eaters of India, China and Southeast Asia can bring whenever you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves'

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