

**ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WILD :
RE-READING JIM CORBETT'S FICTION**

A Thesis

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By

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2021

CERTIFICATE

I feel great pleasure in certifying that the thesis entitled **ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WILD: RE-READING JIM CORBETT'S FICTION** is an original piece of work carried out by **DINESH KUMAR BASOTIA** under my supervision for the degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY. He has completed the following requirements as per Ph.D. regulations of the University.

- (i) Course work as per the University rules.
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ABSTRACT

ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WILD: RE-READING JIM CORBETT'S FICTION is an exciting topic. It is very intriguing to know about Jim Corbett's personality shift from being a hunter to a conservationist and to know about various achievements of his life. The deep understanding of this research will provide proper justification of this topic.

This research tries to prove why Jim Corbett's writings should be re-read in present times. Corbett's works are window to tiger saving. We will be motivated in our mission of Project Tiger by re-reading his works. This present research work shall also throw light on the past literary works which were composed on wildlife along with Jim Corbett's classics. Through a critical study of Jim Corbett's work, it shall trace out literary merits of the work and its contribution to English literature as well as jungle literature.

I have great interest in literature related to wildlife and through this research I want to evoke the same interest and love for this ignored topic amongst English students. This research topic will directly appeal the hearts of people and they will try to get involve in it. All works of author shall be brought to light and will surely enrich English Literature.

Research topic **Encounters With The Wild: Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is fully justified and perhaps connected to the theme of today's "Project Tiger" and simultaneously aims to show the value of wildlife and ecological balance in universe. In reference to this brief summary about research, it can be said that the topic is fully appropriate in present time and will also be relevant in future.

In a nutshell, this research highlights both the aspects: Jim Corbett's encounters with the wild and importance of re-reading of Jim Corbett's work and at the same time attempts to show the significance and relevance of his work in contemporary times.

CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I hereby, certify that the work, which is being presented in the thesis entitled **ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WILD:RE-READING JIM CORBETT'S FICTION** in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, carried out under the supervision of Dr. Anita Kothari, Dept. of English, Government Arts College Kota and submitted to the University of Kota, Kota represents my idea in my own words and where others ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. The work presented in this thesis has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of any other degree or diploma from any Institutions.

I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/data/fact/source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will cause for disciplinary action by the University and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

Date: (Dinesh Kumar Basotia)

Place: Research Scholar

This is to certify that the above statement made by Dinesh Kumar Basotia (Registration No. RS/911/10) is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date: (Dr. Anita Kothari)

Place: Research Supervisor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Encounters With The Wild: Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction has been an interesting topic for me. The journey of my research for Ph.D. has been wonderful and intellectual throughout. I took my research as a challenging task because it is well connected to the **Project Tiger** of contemporary times. I have been able to complete this research work on account of the blessings of my well-wishers. Hence, it is a matter of great happiness and I want to express my thanks to all.

First and foremost, being a religious-minded person, I would like to express my gratitude to the Almighty God for his blessings and steering me in this journey. I am unable to express in words the kindness bestowed upon me by Him.

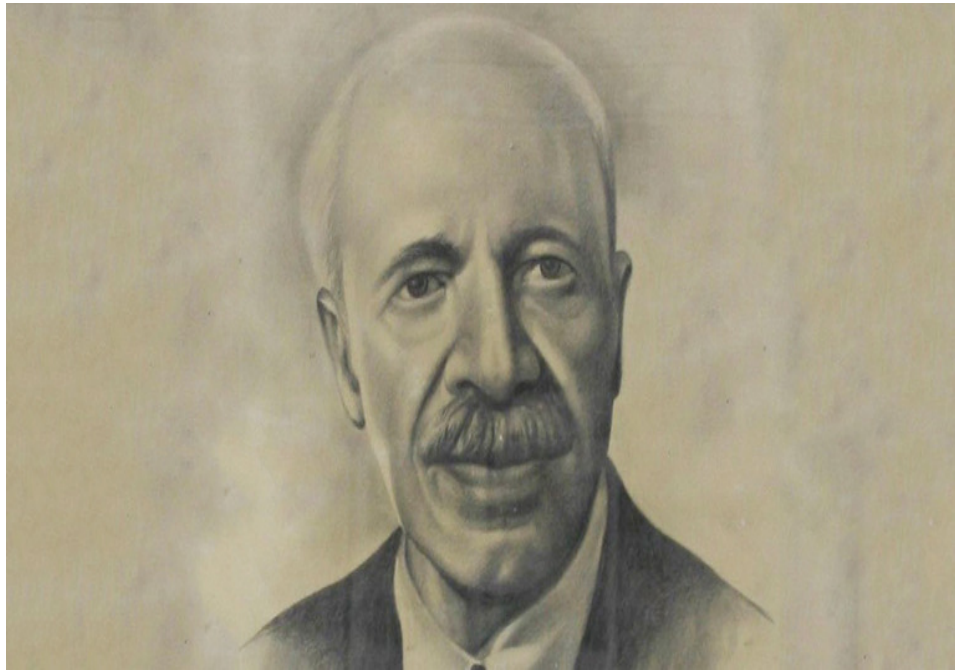
Now, I would like to express my special thanks and gratitude to my Supervisor Dr. Anita Kothari who provided me this golden opportunity to carry out this wonderful work. So I would like to express my sincerest thanks to her for the continuous support and guidance all throughout. I could not have imagined having a better supervisor and mentor for my research. I feel lucky enough that she has been assigned as my supervisor. Her deep knowledge related to literature, clear vision for research aptitude and broad spectrum of wildlife literature has proved extremely beneficial for me. I have no words how to appreciate her behavior that she always considered me as a son and supported me in every point possible manner during this research period.

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(Dinesh Kumar Basotia)

DEDICATED TO



Edward James Corbett

(1875-1955)

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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction

Chapter 1

Introduction

Colonel Jim Corbett was born on 25 July 1875 in Kaladhungi (Near Nainital), which is now well known as “Jim Corbett village”, situated near Haldwani Railway station. His father was William Corbett, a postmaster. Jim was VIIIth among his 12 brothers and sisters. Jim completed his schooling from open school, Nainital. Then he went to Mokameh ghat (Bihar), worked there in railways. He remained unmarried for his entire life.

Corbett’s works provide sufficient introduction to prove him as a successful writer. His hunting experiences are reflection of his personality. If we read Corbett's work then automatically our hearts turn towards him and we just want to know all the more about him.

It is an important fact of his life that on one side he was a hunter but on the other side he is considered as a conserver and preserver of wildlife. Both aspects of his personality are true. When we consider him as a hunter, at that time humanitarian ground must be kept in mind. It was the need of the hour to serve human beings first. That’s why Corbett played on wildlife for the welfare of human beings. Corbett’s works are window to his personality. He will always remain alive in our mind forever. Although he was not highly educated but his achievements are great. His writings closely deal with Indian tales, love for forests and wildlife, human attachment and above-all abounds in natural descriptions.

There is an interesting episode about his personal life, which made him a writer. A lady, named Violet Haig, who was the wife of Governor of United Provinces (now UP & Uttaranchal), requested him to print his adventurous hunting experiences. It was the initial inspiration for Corbett and finally he

decided to pen down his hunting experience. He had his close friend who had a small hand printing press and he agreed to print the stories. In the beginning it took four months to type his first book and he printed only 100 copies of this book. It was his preliminary effort to be a writer. All 100 copies were distributed among his friends and fans. His first attempt was successful and There was a demand for the stories to be published as ordinary books., so he approached oxford university press, Bombay. Then R.E. Hawkins edited the stories and published again with the new title. After this initial success, he wrote six more books.

All six books are his masterpiece which have their proper significance today. **Man Eaters of Kumaon** is his first hunting experience which speaks a lot about every task and plan of his Jungle Hunting. The **Man- Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag** provides the details about his courageous and adventurous skills of hunting. **My India** is the collection of his twelve stories, narrating his sympathetic relations with poor Indians. Jungle Lore is the book based upon his Jungle activities and deep attachment about Jungle scene. **The Temple Tiger and More Man-eaters of Kumaon** is the collection of different tiger- hunting scenes. The last book **Tree Tops**, which was published after his death, shows him close companionship with nature.

The research topic **Encounters with the Wild: Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is a current and relevant topic. It has its importance in future also. The topic is concerned with today's most focused alarm regarding the fall in the number of tigers and is in a way connected to the **Project Tiger**. This project is the ambitious plan of the Government of India and through this research tries to show its importance and how tigers can be conserved. It will create a sense of attachment with wildlife and tigers and compel us to think about the situation of tigers in India.

Corbett's writings cover a wide range of topics, including hunting, wildlife, ecology, protection of India's flora and fauna, and the socio-cultural conditions of his period. He makes no mention of the east-west diametrical opposition. On the contrary, he praises the destitute Indians as "the salt of the earth" for their simplicity, sincerity, honesty, and loyalty. He has no doubts about the indigenous' honesty and does not regard them with mistrust. He has faith in the inhabitants of the area. In his writings, he expresses his love for India and Indians. As such his accounts stand out as genuine expression of feelings and sentiments expressed by an Englishman.

This research aims to prove that why Jim Corbett's work should be re-read today. His works lead to path of tiger saving. We should be motivated in our mission of tiger project by Corbett's work. Tiger Conservation has been extensively reviewed in scientific manner. In spite of all efforts of Government, the situation of tigers is miserable. Totally, there are over 40 tiger reserves, national parks or other protected areas scattered across India that harbor or can harbor tigers. Even over the past 40 years, the success of tiger conservation in various protected areas within India has been incredibly variable. There are few documented cases of parks where the number of tigers have risen, but unfortunately there are several cases of national parks where the tiger population has plummeted or has been reduced to zero.

No doubt, Corbett's works are an eye opener and they create an inspiration in our mind that we should save tigers. He raises an alarm as well as the source of inspiration that anyhow we should save wild life. Had we paid heed to the alarm of Corbett 70 years ago and taken action then, today's position would have been better, and would not be such a matter of grave concern today.

In terms of the importance of such research, Corbett's works mirror the mood of the moment. The texts do not focus on the British Empire's rise and demise in India. His literary works are concerned with the conflicts that exist

between humans and animals. His novels exemplify a spirit of perseverance in the face of adversity. His works are more than just thrillers and entertainment. These texts are an invaluable resource for learning about Kumaon, its rainforests, wild life, and the lives of the region's hill people.

The word **Re-Reading** used in the research has a specific literary meaning because it is an act of reading something again and again, different from surface or superficial reading. To read well, that is to read books in a true spirit, is a noble exercise. So Re-Reading is a process of becoming conscious. The term Re-reading is applicable to deep analysis of any object. So re-reading Jim Corbett's works open a whole new vista and give various angles and perspectives to think about his works in present context.

Reading indicates superficial study of any work but when we use the term Re-reading then not only meaning changes but becomes broad and wide. Then it highlights present perspective and other angles of interpreting it. For example if we consider "Draupadi Episode" in **Mahabharat** and re-read and try to connect with present time then its scope and area totally changes and becomes broader. Then it can be linked to today's women empowerment, women equality and women right. It means **Re-reading** of any article or work provides various ways of interpretation. Same can be applicable to Jim Corbett. Common reading is only related to his hunting experience and wildlife details but its re-reading has various and broad interpretation and the angle of thinking totally changes and lead towards the thought that he was not only a hunter but tiger conserver and preserver, wild-life and nature lover, a great humanitarian epitomizing love, kindness and sympathy. And at the same time it can be connected with the Government of India's ambitious plan, Project Tiger.

The term **Re-reading** is applicable for deep analysis of any work. So Re-reading Jim Corbett's work displays various angles of consideration to reflect upon. It is a part of reading again and again till new idea opens in mind.

While re-reading we become acquainted with the behavior of common Britishers and how they treated Indians very cruelly and in bitter manner, but we are made aware of the fact that Jim Corbett's conduct and personality was very different from all these Britishers because he had deep love and sympathy for Indians. The attitude of common British rulers and people was not sympathetic for Indians as history shows but it was Jim Corbett who developed a new conduct system with Indians. His helping nature with Indians can be easily found in his stories of **My India**. It puts Corbett on highest platform in readers mind.

Tiger in connection to this research work is a key factor. The number of tigers and leopards in India is declining rapidly. The time has come when we seriously start thinking about the wildlife. This research aims to give a clear picture of situation of tigers in India and it is the reason why we should re-read Jim Corbett's work. Corbett was not only a writer but also a keen observer cum preserver of the wildlife. In the beginning he devoted his life to save human beings from tigers but later diverted himself towards wild life conservation and started to save wildlife from human beings.

Tigers are the national animal of India, so it becomes our first and foremost duty to save them. Corbett's works create a moral sense and reminds us of our moral duty to think about tigers and wildlife in general. Corbett's works are reflection of wildlife conservation and preservation, paves way for the current growing awareness and significance of an ecological perspective on jungle literature in 21st century. So his works are an effective medium of creating awareness and interest among the readers about wildlife.

It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the **Wildlife Protection Act** was passed by the government of India in 1972. Now there is a total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So the wildlife related literature of Corbett has a permanent place in literature and no doubt he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It has also inspired some writers in recent time to write

from an environmental perspective. According to the Wildlife Institute of India, tiger population is in deplorable state and if we will not think about them now then tigers will be found in pictures only.

The thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter **Introduction** is a basic introduction of writer as well as his works and his conception of humanity. In this part I have tried to show the utility of tiger conservation and wildlife with reference to Corbett's contribution. Today the number of tiger is decreasing rapidly. So it is the demand of time to think about this natural concern. Corbett's re-reading is important today because time has come when we should think seriously about it. Government is trying its best but without the involvement of public the desired success is not possible.

This chapter also covers the fundamental objective, nature, scope and review of the research. The primary focus is to show the importance of wildlife, ecological balance and tiger conservation. The research also aims to provide right place to Jim Corbett who has remained ignored till today. This chapter presents various works related to this topic and tiger project. In this concern the role of Government is also admirable.

The second chapter entitled **About The Author** is the brief introduction of writer's life and works in which emphasis is given to establish Jim Corbett as a true nature lover, humanist and wild life preserver. His works are related to his hunting experience and he has composed his six books on such details related to his hunting activities. This chapter showcases whole life span of Corbett. This part basically deals with three sub points of Jim Corbett's life: his education, occupations and Jim Corbett as an author.

The third chapter **Encounter With The Wild** deals with the details related to encounters with the wild, the basic theme of this research. In this chapter the six books of the writer have been discussed in detail. All these are the true representation of Jim's hunting experience that how he had saved

human life from man eaters: tigers and leopards. Encounter with the wild deals with the details related to Corbett's hunting design as well.

This chapter also throws light on Corbett as a writer, as a naturalist and as a humanist. All these aspects are presented here with logical details. As a writer, Corbett has been shown as a remarkable writer whose works are entirely dedicated to wildlife and nature. As a naturalist, he is depicted as a great lover of nature. And as a humanist, this chapter depicts him as a fine human being, great helper of poor and rural Indians. His **My India** is an excellent example which illustrates his humanist side because all the stories show his humanitarian outlook. His soft heart and emotional behavior can be easily seen in this book where he has helped various poor, needy and rural Indians.

The fourth chapter entitled **Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is the key note of the research. Reading of Jim Corbett has a valuable importance in present times. This research shows that how it is related to today's burning topic of global warming, eco-system and environmental purification. In universe, all elements have their place and significance and any kind of disturbance can destroy the balance and design of universe.

This chapter also deals with his language, diction, style and delineation of Indian culture in his work. All four aspects are presented with examples. First, the focus is upon the language skill of the writer and it has been proved that his is keen and emotional style of expression. The way of presenting ideas is very natural and in a normal flow. The diction used by Corbett is very simple and easily understandable. The style used by Corbett is a natural style without any extra decode and artificiality. It was the simplicity of his language, diction and style that anyone can read it without problem. Indian culture and civilization is the key word of Corbett's writing. Indian people, Indian trees, Indian language, Indian scene, Indian folk, Indian culture, Indian tradition and Indian locality are the prime features of his writings

This research work also tries to adopt the same method of writing which uses simple language and diction. It also presents his views regarding Indian culture and it can be seen that Indianness abounds in his works.

The fifth and the last chapter of this research is **Conclusion** which presents the brief summary and final outcome of the research. Here I have tried to show how my research will be useful in future and how it can be beneficial in present time also. The chapter basically deals with two major aspects

- (A) **Importance of the research work-** This section shows how this research will play its role in future for **Tiger Project** and wildlife conservation. It tries to establish the fact that Tiger Project will be successful only if people are actively involved in it. Without public awareness, it is impossible to think about **Tiger Project** and wildlife conservation. It will create an insight, inclination in common man's mind that wildlife is as important as human life.
- (B) **Use of research work-** The final chapter focuses on the value of this research and how people can get maximum benefit from it. Firstly, it will create an interest about wildlife and tigers in their mind. Secondly, they will understand the value of eco system and ecological balance in the universe. Thirdly, they will get a chance to re-read Corbett, not as a hunter but as a lover of nature, a great humanist and a wildlife conserver and preserver. Fourthly, they will play their role of serving their country and understand their moral duty for conservation and preservation of wildlife.

Nature of Research

The current research is neither a critical appraisal nor a comparative critique piece. It's a thorough examination of Corbett's writings. The study is

merely a modest attempt at a fair-minded analysis and evaluation of a writer gifted in capturing his impressions of India, which he so greatly loved and revered. The purpose of choosing Jim Corbett for research is to demonstrate how his writings hold a pleasing interest and help him emerge as one of the best prose authors in twentieth-century Anglo-Indian literature.

He is not considered a major prose writer based on the quantity of his creative effort. However, the argument is that he does not deserve the level of disdain and contempt that he has received from critics and academics. Although he is a best-selling author, researchers are wary of using his works as a critical source. His writings are deserving of a thorough and in-depth examination.

Tigers, today in India, are a matter of grave concern due to the rapid decline in their numbers. Now it has become the need of the hour that any how they should be saved otherwise the coming generation will find tigers only in pictures. Here arises the usefulness of the present research that states why Corbett should be re-read? He should be re-read because his re-reading gives us a message that how we can save tigers. Corbett's re-reading will pave the path for **Project Tigers**.

Though tiger is the national animal of India but still it is a matter of deep concern that they were on the verge of extinction earlier. To save them the Government of India launched "Project Tiger" in 1973 because of the great concern shown by the then Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi. After this master plan, various tiger reserves were projected in India and there are about 50 wildlife reserves for tigers in India as listed below.

Tiger Reserve in India

Assam	Kaziranga Tiger reserve Manas Tiger reserve Nameri Tiger reserve Orang Tiger reserve
Arunachal Pradesh	Namdapha Tiger reserve Pakke Tiger reserve Kamlang Tiger reserve
Andhra Pradesh	Nagarjunsagar Srisailam
Bihar	Valmiki Tiger reserve
Chhattisgarh	Achanakmar Tiger reserve Indravati Tiger reserve Udanti & Sitanadi Tiger reserve
Jharkhand	Palamau Tiger reserve
Karnataka	Bandipur Tiger reserve Nagarhole(extension) Tiger reserve Bhadra Tiger reserve Anshi Dandeli Tiger reserve Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary
Kerala	Periyar Tiger reserve Parambikulam Tiger reserve
Madhya Pradesh	Bandhavgarh Tiger reserve Bori-Satpura Tiger reserve Kanha Tiger reserve Panna Tiger reserve Pench Tiger reserve

	Sanjay Dubri Tiger reserve
Maharashtra	Melghat Tiger reserve Pench Tiger reserve Tadoba Andhari Tiger Project Shahayadri Tiger reserve Nagzira-Navegaon Tiger reserve Bor Tiger Reserve
Mizoram	Dampa Tiger reserve
Odisha	Satkosia Tiger reserve Simlipal Tiger reserve
Rajasthan	Ranthambhor Tiger reserve Sariska Tiger reserve Mukundara Hills Tiger reserve
Tamil Nadu	Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve Anamalai Tiger reserve Mudumalai Tiger reserve Sathyamangalam Tiger reserve
Telangana	Kawal Tiger reserve Nagarjunsagar – Srisailam Tiger reserve
Uttar Pradesh	Dudhwa Tiger reserve Pilibhit Tiger reserve
Uttarakhand	Corbett Tiger reserve Rajaji Tiger reserve
West Bengal	Buxa Tiger reserve Sunderbans Tiger reserve

In India **Project Tiger** was first launched at the **Corbett National Park** in 1973, during that time there were 9 national parks that were declared as the part of Project Tiger. These nine parks were: -

- ❖ Manas
- ❖ Bandipur
- ❖ Ranthambore
- ❖ Palamau
- ❖ Similipal
- ❖ Corbett
- ❖ Kanha
- ❖ Melghat
- ❖ Sunderbans

Today **Tiger Project** is partly successful so, therefore this research aims to work in this direction to make it more successful. Corbett's re-reading will prove to be milestone in this field and people will like to be attached with **Project Tiger**.

Scope of Research

Jim Corbett's contribution is also an impressive part of the research work. People can learn and accept the contribution of Jim Corbett as preserver of nature. The research topic **Encounters With The Wild: Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** will play an important role in saving them so Corbett works should be re-read. His works shows his concern as well as warn us to think about wildlife.

Real justification of Re-reading Jim Corbett's works can easily be seen in the research work. The main scope of the research is to provide prominent place to Jim Corbett in the history of English literature as he has remained ignored and neglected so far. It also includes how Corbett presents wildlife through his work and what a great role he plays for humanity. Here one thing is important that Corbett's tiger killing should not be taken as the damage done to the ecosystem but meant for the protection of human life. The research work has proper significance as it will provide a wide range of scope to learn and analyze wildlife protection and preservation. Readers will come closer to the author and start taking interest in his wildlife stories.

The scope also throws light on Corbett's humanitarian outlook. He protected human life and this research shows that saving human life should be the first religion of humankind. Moreover, the scope of this research work is also to establish a connection between the wildlife details in Corbett's work with today's **Tiger Project**. And hence the coming generation would feel closer and familiar to him.

Corbett's works are fully significant and justified in present times. It will throw light on relationship between man and animal. Our efforts for conservation of tigers and wildlife must not be at the cost of human life. This research will show how Corbett establishes a relationship between tigers and human beings. This work shall be of immense value for the present time when the government is trying to save the tigers by the "Tiger Project" but we have to pay our attention to the fact that at what cost our government is saving tigers and wild life.

Re-reading is a kind of re-observe, re-visit and re-view and Corbett's re-reading creates an excitement in readers mind. This research work will have a unique importance in coming times as it is closely linked with the environmental issue. The scope of wildlife literature will widen through this

research work. It will give a new shape to the history related to wild life stories in English literature.

Objective of Research

The objective of this research is to raise an alarm and warning that nature is most powerful and any disturbance in natural elements will cause great havoc in future. Jim Corbett's re-reading can be linked to today's Tiger Project. Jim Corbett's works are very interesting and so they are capable to develop a sense of understanding about wildlife in the younger generation. They should be re-read to create an interest towards wildlife.

Here one thing is important that **Tiger conservation** is not possible only by the rules and regulations of Government. Public awareness is essential for Tiger conservation and preservation. Here starts the need of Corbett's re-reading because his works are able to create public interest towards wildlife. If people start taking interest in this issue then it can be possible to save tigers effortlessly.

The main objective of this research work is to provide prominent place to the author Jim Corbett in the history of English Literature who has been neglected so far and to show how Jim Corbett presents wild life in his works and what great role he plays for humanity. Author's tiger killing should not be taken as causing damage to environment but for the protection of human life.

Jim Corbett devoted his whole life for the conservation and preservation of wildlife. From ecological point of view, we can say that his works show how to maintain ecological balance in universe. The word **Ecology** is deeply linked with the inner spirit of Corbett and it is also one of the objective of this research to show that ecological balance is a must to save universe. The Tiger project and Wild life conservation are related to ecological balance.

Nature and wildlife has been the prime subjects of various writers of India as well as other countries, Jim Corbett is one of them. He never used nature and wildlife for entertainment or for beautiful description. This ideology makes him different from others because in his writings there was a warning and an alarm to save nature and wildlife. Human beings and animals both are part of universe and can co-exist sharing the earth's most spectacular ground.

The rapid industrialization and urbanization has polluted the atmosphere of earth. Due to deforestation climate of entire universe is undergoing a drastic change, leading to global warming. To maintain ecological balance was the prime aim of Corbett's writings.

To show the author's humanitarian attitude is also part of the objective of this research work. Jim Corbett protected human life and this research work aims to establish that saving human life should be the first aim of our life. The other objective of this research work is to find wildlife details in Corbett's work, so that the coming generation shall be familiar about this ignored aspect.

This research tries to highlight the various aspects of Jim Corbett's works. Firstly, it shall be useful to create a sense of love for wildlife in common man's mind. It will provide vast information to people to think sensitively for tigers and resultantly they will show sympathy for them. This research will create an eagerness and curiosity to know about wildlife details in the mind of common man so that they will actively work for their conservation and preservation. They will have a better understanding about eco system and play a positive role in maintaining ecological balance. Meaning to say, awareness about wildlife conservation and preservation and understanding about eco system are the major points of this research.

Secondly, re-reading Corbett will provide a wide view to observe natural beauty, wildlife details and hunting activities. Corbett's works are an extensive account of such experiences related to wild scenes and forest details,

so this research will provide with a wide range of such observations. Every point related to hunting and various locality of Uttarakhand state will create a sense of intensive love in reader's mind. The details given in his **Tree Tops** is a fine example of it because it is a superb representation of natural greenery. In this book writer presents how he started caring for wildlife: animals and plants. His feelings and attachment for natural beauty and wild scene ran in his blood. It was the turning point of Corbett's thinking and he became a preserver of nature. Now he devoted his whole life towards nature.

Thirdly, this research tries to change the mindset of people that Jim Corbett was a hunter. It goes on to establish that first he was a wildlife preserver, naturalist and humanist, and then a hunter. Even his hunting activities were not harmful for society because he hunted for the welfare of humankind. Thus, Jim Corbett should always be remembered as a humanist, naturalist and wildlife preserver. This research shall have immense importance in future because it will provide vast knowledge about the author.

Fourthly, this research will play an important role in Government's well planned mission Tiger Project because it will involve common man in this mission. People automatically have started to take interest in wildlife, and they surely will be motivated to read it. They will start to think about situation and position of tigers in India. Common people of country are the key to success of any project and this thesis will show how they can be attached with this project. The success of Tiger Project will depend upon the involvement of common public. Surely they will accept it as their moral duty to save tigers through the study of this research.

Fifthly, the purpose of this research is the advancement and promotion of wildlife literature in society. It shall provide a new direction and path to wildlife literature because it is the topic which has remained ignored in present literary scenario. It will create an impetus in the mind of readers to know more about jungle stories, wildlife experiences and natural phenomena. Wildlife

literature is a unique part of scientific literature and through this research, a new range of knowledge will be provided.

Finally, the research topic **Encounters With The Wild: Re Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is a significant work which has its contemporary value also. In present times, it will be useful as far as environmental purification, ecological balance, wildlife conservation, forestation is concerned. Today's most focused issues like Global Warming and Climate Change are the result of ecological imbalance. Besides the negative effect of deforestation, it becomes more important to highlight the impact of forest degradation. So, we must join hands to save wildlife, environment, eco-system and nature.

After complete analysis of Corbett's warning we can say that his alarm is not against any individual or any institution, but it is against the rapidly declining eco-ethics of human society. He is not a social worker but has formulated his own ethical code which human civilization needs to cultivate in order to restore the ecology. The objective of this research is to search a wide spectrum, from the ecological messages contained in the history of ecology during the period of British colonization and then to the post independent ecological crises of India. This research surely will pave the path for this divine action of promoting Eco ethics amongst humankind.

Jim Corbett was a true environmentalist because through his writings he spread the message that to save environment, ecology and wildlife is the moral duty of every citizen of India. Even the great epics like The Upanishad, The Vedas and Bhagavad Gita also show the need of better environment and ecological balance. In fact, Indian ecology has always been rich in various resources and the imperial rule took every possible means to use this country's rich resources for their own advantage.

Review of Literature

Present research work shall also show light on the past literary works which were composed on wildlife as well as Jim Corbett's classics. Through a critical study of Jim Corbett's work, it shall trace out literary merits of the work and its contribution to English literature.

Various wildlife related works have been written in the past so this current topic is fully significant and justified. Some research work on Project Tiger and Tiger Conservation are also being carried out. 'Wildlife Institute of India' also has been working in this field. Tiger Conservation Authority of India is also working for the survivals of tigers. Various research scholars have also attempted to discover different ways for the survivals of tigers. Corbett Foundation of Mumbai also plays its role to save wildlife. So, this research topic in a way is related to tiger conservation and wildlife.

This Research work will have a great importance in present as well as is connected with the past. Many wildlife stories published in the past are closely related to the theory of Jim Corbett. In the present time Amitabh Ghosh wrote novel **Sea of Poppies** and **Hungry Tide** which are closely related to wildlife. Martin Booth has also composed a biography of the author Jim Corbett titled **Carpet Sahib-a life of Jim Corbett** but still not much work has been done on this topic. So, topic is closely connected and related with the past as well as has its importance in the present time.

Jim Corbett has written sensitively on wildlife. All his works move around tigers and leopards. Author's work reflects his perceptual power successfully. Thus Corbett's work contributes to English literature to a large extent.

Corbett's works are so adventurous and interesting that every age group readers can read it freely. The theme of his books are natural based on his personal experiences. Most of them deal with hunting, Nature, customs and

traditions of hill folk of Kumaon. Social, cultural and religious references are abundant in his writings. His works display beautiful scenes of Kumaon, Indian jungle and wildlife.

Corbett was a multi-talented personality. Above all he was a true lover of nature. In 1930, he concentrated his efforts on photographing forest wildlife. Sir Walther Champion, the first wildlife photographer in British India, left an indelible impression on him. Corbett received a Bell & Howell 16mm cine camera from a personal friend, Lord Strathcona. With the help of this camera he made a tiger film **Seven Tigers**. His hunting films were so famous that even today some of them are preserved in the **British Natural History Museum, London**.

After the whole analysis of Corbett's writing, we can say that the center of his writing is Wildlife. Everywhere in all of his six books he moves around wildlife, directly or indirectly. Nature, environment, wildlife, hunting all are the key notes of his writing. If we go through his writings deeply then we can compare him with great Anglo – Indian writer Rudyard Kipling. But Kipling's writing is something fictional.

If we want to compare his work with others, then it is incomparable but one name is considerable, and that is Kenneth Anderson. The deep study of Anderson will show that his writing also deals with wildlife. Both Corbett and Anderson are very similar as far as wildlife is concerned. Both are Anglo Indians and devoted their life for wildlife conservation. One more similarity in them is that both were basically hunter. No other writer devoted themselves totally toward wildlife conservation as they did. Both of them blame human race for the destruction of wildlife and environment. Both felt it deeply that wildlife is a must for ecology as they were Hunters turned conservators.

Jim Corbett and Anderson are very similar not only from intellectual points of view but also from physical point of views. Their face, their writing as well as titles seems to be quite similar. The volume of writing is somewhat

same, as Corbett wrote six books whereas Anderson eight. Their key notes of writing are also same as both of them wrote on wildlife, environment and ecology. Here is the list that makes them similar.

Jungle Literature is the part of ecological balance in which various approaches are presented to save wildlife and nature. Indian English literature does have its own works on jungle literature. Apart from Jim Corbett, Dr. Saleem Ali's "Fall of the Sparrow" offers a fascinating look at Indian birds. Dr. George Schaller studied the wildlife of Madhya Pradesh's Kanha jungle for three years. His work *The Deer and the Tiger* offers a comprehensive description of the natural world. Ruskin Bond and Rudyard Kipling were also greatly interested in wildlife and jungle literature in India. Jim Corbett is the one of the leading writers of jungle literature. The important writers of jungle literature in Indian English literature are FM Champion, Salim Ali, Kailash Sankhala, M Krishnan and many others.

Corbett's jungle literature has a specific purpose as he started writing on his jungle experience since 1926. He also published his jungle related articles in journal **The Pioneer** and other magazines. He also started a magazine entitled **Indian Wildlife** to express his wildlife experience and conservationist idea and opinions on ecology. He contributed in the magazine as the editor as well as writer. His article **Wildlife in the village** became very popular at that time. Ecological aspect is the soul of Corbett's writing. His jungle experience totally deals with ecology and wildlife conservation and preservation.

Universe is the combination of various creatures, animals, plants. For proper functioning every element of universe must be in proper numbers. If its numbering and combination is disturbed, it means ecological balance is disturbed. Wildlife is also an inseparable part of ecology so if the number of tigers are falling than how ecological balance can be maintained. Corbett's appeals for tiger preservation is a path to maintain ecological balance.

Universe always seeks the proper balance between human being and wildlife. It should be maintained and Corbett's writing in every inch proves it again and again.

Ecological balance is also must for maintaining environmental circle, atmosphere and climate. Every element in nature effects ecology, so it is must to create balance. Ecology and environment are related to each other so we must re-read Corbett. Corbett's jungle experience and literature is a fine example to understand the importance of ecological combination. Main focus of this study is to show how Corbett writes on environment. So it is important to see that in every book he is trying to save environment to maintain ecological balance. In Corbett's work natural scene of wildlife, animals like tiger and leopard's activity can be easily seen. Again, it is trying to show the value of wildlife.

Thus Corbett's works will create a sense of awareness about wildlife in the mind of common man. Reading about wildlife will directly affect the soul and people will understand the value of wildlife and shall take interest in its preservation and conservation. The research will also throw light on the issues of ecology, environment and natural sensibility. The present generation is currently more focused towards science and technology and these aspects of nature, environment and ecology are neglected. Through this research, present generation will take a moral lesson from Corbett's writings and they will be more conscious in future especially in direction of saving tigers. This research will create a ray of hope for new generation to study about wildlife and nature in detail.

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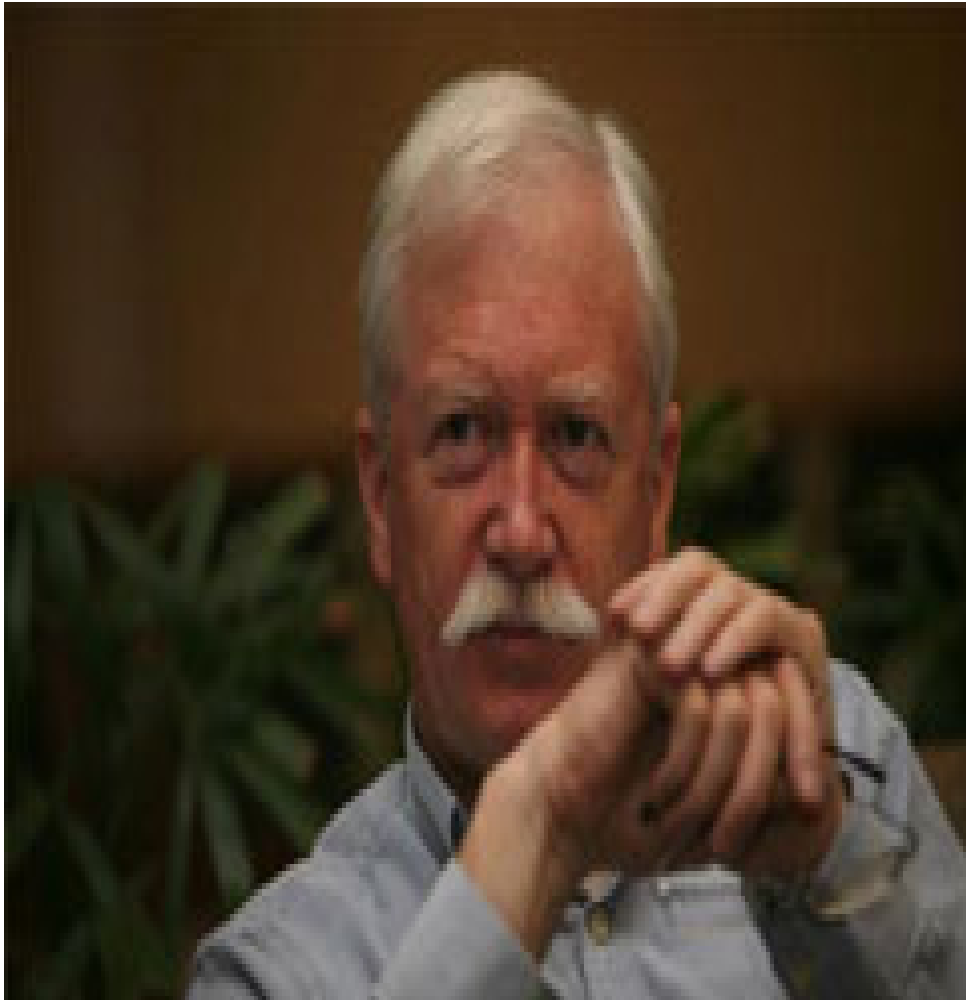
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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction**Chapter – II****About the Author**

Colonel Jim Corbett was born on 25 July 1875 in Kaladungi (Near Nainital), which is now well known as “Jim Corbett village”, situated near Haldwani Railway station. His father was William Corbett, a postmaster. Jim was VIIIth among his 12 brothers and sisters. Jim completed his schooling from open school, Nainital. Then went to Mokameh ghat (Bihar), worked there in railways. He remained unmarried whole life.

Jim Corbett belonged to domicile English family as his grandfather Joseph Corbett left his native for India in 1814 and settled in Bengal in 1815 with his wife Harriet and girl Eliza. He had seven children among them the third was Christopher William and he was the father of Jim Corbett. Corbett's father was also an army man and participated in first Afghan war. He also served as medical officer in Dehradun. Family later lived in Mussoorie and Mathura until 1861. Here Corbett's father joined Post-department. His father moved to Nainital in 1862 and lived there with Jim. He was appointed Postmaster of the town.

His early childhood was spent in his traditional house entitled **Gurney House** Nainital and later in **Arundel** in Kaladungi. Both abounds in natural beauty and dense vegetation. So as a child he was lucky enough to live under the constant contact of Nature.

From academic point of view Corbett was not highly educated. Even formal education beyond matriculation was not in his luck. In the beginning, he wanted to become an engineer but family's financial position was not such as to afford it. It was on account of this that he started a temporary job in railways in 1892 as fuel inspector for two year with salary of 100 rupees per month. It was not a suitable job for a 17-year-old, but he completed the contract of 24 months in 18 months. For this he was awarded by railway department. This episode proves that Jim was an adventurous man from the very beginning of his life and this taught him to face all types of situations in life.

Later, Corbett was appointed as Train shipment inspector at Mokameh Ghat for 150 rupees per month in 1895. This work was also adventurous. A significant event occurred here, and that was the establishment of a school for the children of railway personnel. Ram Saran, a member of their organisation, proposed the idea of establishing a school. As a result, the school was given the name "Ram Saran School."

The school was started initially by only 20 students. Later Govt took over the school and it was converted to Govt high school.

Corbett's job at Mokameh ghat was very interesting and he also projected a club house there, with the help of his friend Tom Kelley. This club arranged various sources of entertainment as well as sports facility. Here Corbett developed interest in hunting. Fishing and hunting were two of Corbett's favorite pastimes. He hunted at night since he was too busy at work during the day. Between 1907 and 1911, the British government summoned him three times to slay man-eating tigers at Mokameh Ghat. The Champawat, Mukteshwer, and Panar man eaters were all slaughtered by him. Sir John Hwett, Lt. Governor of the United Provinces, rewarded him with an engagement for these murders.

It is also an interesting fact to be note that Corbett that participated in the First World War. He was then 38-year-old. Army did not allow him to participate in war. He travelled to Kumaon, seeking permission from the railway administration, and decided to join the fight with a labour force of 500 men. It was given the name 70th Kumaon Labour Corps by him. The British government honored him with the title of "Major" in the Indian army in recognition of his service in the war. He returned to his duty at the Ghat after the war, although only for a short time. He had a different strategy for his future. He was responsible for his mother and two sisters (Eugene Mary and Maggie). In 1919, he resigned from the job and moved to Nainital. Corbett remained single for the rest of his life.

Corbett became very popular and well known by local name **Carpet-Sahib** and **Shikari**. He became popular as 'A killer of man eaters'. He loved the people of India and understood their need and sentiments. During the period 1907 to 1938 he killed 19 tigers and 14 leopards. It is claimed that these big cats had killed more than 1200 men, women and children. The first tiger

he killed was the Champawat tiger in Champawat, responsible for 436 documented death.

Corbett's works are sufficient introduction to prove him as a successful writer. His hunting experiences in the present state of Uttarakhand are reflection of his personality. If we read Corbett's work then automatically our heart turns towards him and we just want to know deeply about him.

It is an important fact of his life that on one side he was a hunter but on the other side he is considered as a conserver and preserver of wildlife. Both aspects of his personality are right. When we consider him as a hunter, at that time humanitarian ground was deep in his mind. It was the need of the hour to serve human beings first. That's why Corbett played on wildlife for the welfare of human beings. Corbett's works are window to his personality. He will always remain alive in our mind. Although he was not highly educated, but his achievements are exemplary. His writings closely deal with Indian tales, love for forests and wildlife, human attachment and above-all abounds in natural descriptions.

Jim Corbett, an Anglo-Indian writer, is very well-known figure due to his contribution in the field of wild life literature. He does not require any introduction as a hunter as well as a naturalist. This research sheds light on why he is considered a naturalist and lover of wildlife. It seems somewhat controversial that on one side we regard him as a hunter and killer of wild animal and on the other side we call him the conserver and preserver of wildlife. Of course, he killed a tiger but the reason of killing was from humanistic point that he preferred human being above tigers. "Humanity is the first religion of mankind."

No doubt Corbett was iconic hunter of man-eater tigers and leopards and actively engaged in big game hunting during the first half of 20th century. Between 1907 and 1938, he hunted and killed 30 man-eating tigers in the hill areas of Garhwal, Almora, and Nainital, killing more than 1500 people.

Besides that he was also a naturalist. Overall his career had a remarkable progression as a hunter- conservationist, wildlife photographer and his writings are deeply coloured by his hunting and conservationist idea.

The tigers killed by Jim Corbett are not the common tiger but were man eaters. It was a challenge to save human life during those terrible times. Meaning to say, for saving the life of human beings, he killed the tigers. This attitude as well as his thinking makes him a great naturalist as well as a supreme human. So he will always be remembered as the true lover of human beings because he was ready to risk his life for the sake of human beings. His life hints towards the natural religion that the first moral duty of a person is to save the humanity and Corbett's life is fully devoted for the sake of human beings.

Jim Corbett's achievement as a humanist is yet another factor of his personality. He was a true humanist who risked his life for the sake of human beings. He believed in happiness of poor at every cost. He was always prepared to help poor. He valued the dignity of man everywhere. He did not get any literary awards as a writer, but he did receive many titles from the British and Indian governments as a sportsman, conservationist, and nature lover. It is the result of his service in First and Second World War, he got the rank of Lieutenant and Colonel respectively. In 1928, he received the Kaiser-I-Hind gold medal. Ram Ganga Park was designated Corbett National Park by the Indian government in 1957. On the occasion of his birth century, the Govt of India issued a stamp ticket of tiger in 1976.

'Corbett Village' now known as Chhoti Haldwani is a **heritage village** where residents earn a livelihood from community tourism and offering their houses as homestays. The community organizes forest trails, cultural events, organic farming tours, bird watching and a heritage village trail.

Corbett was admired by various naturalist. A popular organization On July 25, 2012, Amar Chitra Katha published Jim Corbett: Friend of the Wild, a biography of the hunter naturalist, to commemorate his 137th birthday. From his childhood in Nainital, India, to his death in Nyeri, Kenya, the book takes the reader on a journey through Corbett's life.

Corbett has a unique relationship with the Oxford University Press (OUP) in India. On the occasion of the press's one hundredth year of publication in India, Jim Corbett was chosen as one of the best-selling writers.

Jim Corbett was a multi - cultural writer because born in India, the Indianans was always in his heart, but because of his English descent, the Englishness was also in the blood. Some where he calls himself an English hunter but he is better known as an Indian story writer, a naturalist and a conservationist.

Coming to Jim Corbett's works, it can be stated that his works are an impressive work of literature, dealing with wildlife stories. Corbett's writing has an appeal in various ways. His hunting stories suddenly creates an excitement in the mind. Really he was a multi-talented writer and two different attitude get reflected in his writings. First he was a hunter, he killed leopard and tigers but later he becomes conserver and preserver of wildlife. This sudden change is the main focus that how once a hard-hearted man becomes emotional and careful about the same object. It is the matter of research that how a person can change his attitude, mentality for the same object at different time.

Through a dramatic plot, Corbett's stories have the ability to gratify his readers. They have a kind of moral involvement with the landscape and the people. The theme and subject of Corbett's work are very easy to understand and analyze. They deal with purely Indian taste, culture and civilization. After a deep study of all his books we can say that the major themes we find in Corbett's books are related to hunting, natural history, wild life description,

traditional manners, customs and superstitions of people living in the hill station of Kumaon. In his writings, he demonstrates a thorough understanding of major facets of Indian people's social, cultural, religious, and economic lives. Relationship between Britishers and Indians as well as their anger and resentment towards the government is also seen in his writings.

Basically the key issue of his writing is wild life. The picture which Corbett created in his writings belongs to wild life, wild animal and human world. Although the two worlds (animal and human) are distinct, both share a struggle for life. Means, the key issue of his writing is relationship between human being and animal world and Corbett tried to put them on equal footing.

Corbett's paintings depict the social world of Kumaon at the time. Here one thing is notable that Corbett's relation with the people of hill station was wonderful. The qualities of hill folks like sincerity, honesty and truthfulness impressed the writer to a large extent. All these qualities were presented by writer in his story collection "My India". It was because of his themes that even today Jim Corbett is well-liked, and his writings are enjoyed by readers of all ages.

After complete analysis of Corbett's writing, it can be said that the center of his writing is Wildlife. Everywhere in all of his six books he moves around wildlife, directly or indirectly. Nature, environment, wildlife, hunting-all find a prominent place in his writing.

Corbett's writing totally deals with various aspects of nature. While describing various elements of nature and wildlife, Corbett also expresses his concern about environment. Here the present study will try to explain his treatment of ecology with special reference to his awareness towards environment. All the concerns which perpetually finds place in his writing shows his ecological concern and how Corbett takes upon himself the role of an environmentalist in the era of destruction, exploitation and marginalization of nature.

Corbett, who was a hunter, started to write about his hunting experience, and hence became an impressive author. The incident, how he became a writer is also interesting to note. In the beginning, as a hunter he never thought of becoming a writer in future. Hunting was his hobby.

There is an interesting episode about his personal life, which made him a writer. A lady, named Violet Haig, wife of Governor of United provinces (Now UP & Uttarakhand) requested Corbett to write. She made a request to him to print his adventurous hunting experience.

He had his close friend who had a small hand printing press and he agreed to print the stories. In the beginning it took four months to type his first book. It was the starting inspiration for Corbett and finally he decided to write. All 100 copies were distributed among his friends and fans. His first attempt was successful and there was a demand for the stories to be published in book form. So, he approached Oxford University Press, Bombay. Then R.E. Hawkins edited the stories and published again with the new title.

Many believe that Corbett's legacy is his bravery, the 33 man-eaters he hunted. But that's like saying Sachin Tendulkar's legacy is leg-spin bowling. Corbett's legacy is his books, and through them the love he inspires for his beloved jungles. He published his first book in 1944, titled *Jungle Stories*, which recounted his adventures in the north Indian forests. It was only on the advice of the publisher that the name was changed to **Man-Eaters of Kumaon**. He wrote five more books that has made him an international celebrity and has caught the world's focus on this particular region.

The brief details of books written by Corbett are given below

1. "Man-eaters of Kumaon (1944):-

It is the collection of seven stories about Corbett's hunting experience and encounter with wild. This gave a clear picture of Corbett's hunting talent. The book also includes various essays on different subjects and ideas in which

some focused subjects are narration about his favorite dog, favorite sports, tiger's reaction during hunting, and photographic details. The book became very famous in India and its fame spread in America & Britain as well. In the two years of its publication, the book sold about 2 lakh copies all over world. It was the first great achievement of writer Jim Corbett. We can easily guess about its popularity that it had been translated in 14 European language, 11 Indian languages, some African & Japanese also.

Jim Corbett's book Man-Eaters of Kumaon was published in 1944. It is based on Corbett's adventures hunting man-eating tigers and Indian leopards in India's Kumaon region from the 1900s through the 1930s. One tiger, for example, was responsible for the deaths of over 400 people.

Man-Eaters of Kumaon includes an author's note, nine chapters and a glossary full of Kumaon jargon. The author's note explains why and how tigers become man-eaters and the reason that Corbett has to kill them. Chapter first is the story of Corbett's first man-eater kill, the Champawat Man-Eater, Chapter two introduces Robin and their first hunts together, and Chapter three tells the story of the Chowgarh tigers and the hunt. Chapter four contains the hunt of the "Bachelor" of Powalgarh and Chapter five relates the hunt of the Mohan Man-Eater. Chapter six is an interlude concerning a fishing expedition. Chapters seven and eight are both brief and discuss the huntings of the Kanda Man-Eater and the Pipal Pani Tiger respectively. The last chapter presents Corbett's final hunt, where after weeks of tracking, he kills the Man-Eater.

2.The Man- eating Leopard of Rudraprayag (1948):-

It is the next attraction of Jim Corbett which was something different from the first. The details of this book points to his concern for the afflicted people from leopard in Kumaon region. The book is dedicated to 125 victims killed by the leopard in Kumaon area. Given are the various points and incidents upon which Corbett writes in book- The First Kill, Terror,

Investigation, The Pilgrim Road, The Second Kill, Retreat, The Hunters Hunted, Preparations, Supernatural, Touch and Go, A Shot in the Dark.

Corbett thinks the Rudraprayag leopard turned to human predation after scavenging on corpses of those who died during the 1918 global flu pandemic that killed 17 million people across India. Now one of the problems is affecting space, with 778 Square km of moderately forest, where leopards and tiger live, lost in just two years in the state.

Benji, a very natural village on the path of Kedarnath pilgrim where Corbett's Rudraprayag leopard made its first kill. While little has changed in the way the village leads its life since, dependent on the goats it rears, there has been no case of conflict with a leopard in the past decade.

3. My India (1952):-

This book totally dedicated to the people of India, paints with deep sympathy and concern, village India's life, traditions, and folklore. These stories show Corbett's intense love for India, her people, and her flora and fauna. Engaging and deeply evocative, **My India** is a supplement for anyone who has enjoyed reading Corbett. **My India** is about which these details of folk life of poor Indians and work are written, refers to those portions of a broad.

In addition to many footpaths, Nainital is accessible by a motor road of which we are justly proud, for it has the reputation of being the best-aligned and the best-maintained hill road in India. Starting at the railway terminus of Kathgodam the road, in its course of twenty-two miles, passes through forests where occasionally tiger and the dread hamadryad are to be seen, and climbs 4,500 feet by easy gradients to Nainital. Nainital can best be described as an open valley running east and west, surrounded on three sides by hills, the highest of which, Cheena, rises to a height of 9000 feet. It is open at the end from which the motor road approaches it. Nestling in the valley is a lake a

little more than two miles in circumference, fed at the upper end by a perennial spring and overflowing at the other end where the motor road terminates.

It is the collection of events that occurred in personal life of Jim Corbett. All stories are the details of poor people living in India and act as a link between writer and poor people of India. **My India** is totally devoted and dedicated to the poor Indian. It is a vibrant portrait of Indians living in miserable condition in various locations of Kumaon district. Some important stories are Mothi, Kunwar Singh, The Queen of Village, The law of the Jungle, The Brother, Budhu, Lalajee, Chamari and Life of Mokameh Ghat. "My India" is totally based upon Indian culture and civilization which very beautifully reflects the taste, customs, traditions, manners and superstitions of the hill people of Kumaon.

4. Jungle Lore (1953):-

Jungle Lore is the closest details of Jim Corbett which can be consider as His lifelong affection for the people, jungle, and creatures of the Kumaon highlands in the Himalayan foothills, as well as his anguish at humanity's separation from its environment, are revealed in this autobiography.

This book deals with writer's attachment and love for jungle. Corbett's connection with wildlife and locality of forest is the key factor of this book. Maggie Corbett, Corbett's sister, is honored in this book. The book is a proof of writer's photographic ability about wildlife. **Jungle Lore** is the document of wild details which help us to analyze and understand writer's love for wildlife and his Jungle sensitiveness. Every detail related to Jungle like natural beauty, sensitive fearness, changing outlook, mystery and excited world of Indian Jungle is available in it.

5. The Temple Tiger and More Man eaters of Kumaon (1954):-

This is the last of Jim Corbett's books on his unusual and hunting experiences in India, and it wraps up the story of his tiger adventures that began in Kumaon's famed Man-Eaters. These stories demonstrate the prior classic collection's high caliber. Corbett saves his best story for the volume's final chapter, The Talla Des Man-Eater, in which he describes how he started on what he felt would be a fatal last test of skill and endurance.

As always, Corbett writes with an acute awareness and intensive love of all jungle sights and sounds, choosing words charged with a great love of humanity, birds, and animals. His calm and simple modesty adds to the thrill and tension of these adventures, in which he risked his life repeatedly to save the Indian from hazardous man-eaters.

This book is also a portrayal of Jungle Stories and experience. The theme of this book is basically 'hunting.' The picture of encounters with the wild is beautifully and excitedly presented in the book. A genuine picture of encounter with man eater is presented here in this book with full of excited scenes, doubt, curiosity and suspense.

6. Tree Tops (1955) (Posthumously):-

It is Jim Corbett's final book, and it recounts his final days in Kenyan game reserves. Corbett focuses on Princess Elizabeth's visit to Tree Tops, where she learnt of George VI's death, despite including evocative descriptions of the area's animals.

This book tells the story of Queen Elizabeth's stay in a hut on a treetop in Kenya. It was her last night as a princess. Jim Corbett provides a detailed account of all events, but solely as a commentator. Despite the book's quality, it's evident that Corbett was missing India. As a result, the novel might grow tedious at times. This is Corbett's final book, and it gives a glimpse into his life in Kenya. It's a must read for Corbett fans.

It was the last book of Jim Corbett which was published after his death. It comprises of only 30 pages and the only book which is written with an African setting. This book deals with some historic event of the visit of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to the game hut in Nyeri, Kenya. The background of this book is from Kenya, as we know that his last time was spent in Kenya. Later he expired in Kenya by heart attack.

In India, England, and the United States, Jim Corbett's *Man-eaters of Kumaon* was a tremendous hit. It has been translated into over 27 languages. In his honor, the national park in Uttarakhand, India, was renamed Jim Corbett National Park. It was because he worked tirelessly to conserve this natural area. In 1968, the Indochinese Tiger, an endangered subspecies of tigers, was named after him and given the name Corbett's Tiger.

Director Byron Haskin transformed his classic book *Man-Eaters of Kumaon* into a Hollywood film. Sabu, Wendell Corey, and Joe Page appeared in the film. The film was not well-received. *The Man-Eaters of India*, a BBC documentary drama from 1986, is another adaption. In the docudrama, Frederick Treves portrayed Jim Corbett. In 2005, a television movie based on *The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag* was released.

Corbett's deep interest in acquiring knowledge of wildlife was a blessing for common reader. With the natural skill of the art of narration Corbett portrays animal world in a way to acquaint readers with it. His accounts of wild animal encounters are exhilarating, intriguing, and adventurous and one gets deeply acquainted with the large variety of wildlife of India. It was also an important fact about his writing that he avoids any kind of glorification and exaggeration in order to retain the curiosity and strangeness of wild animals.

In the forests, he has shown all facets of wild existence. His writing is very original and a source of knowledge about wildlife for readers. He

attempted very successfully to convey interesting information about the behavior of elephant, tiger, panther, sloth bear and snakes in the jungle.

Corbett's art of writing about wild was really a surprise as he reveals various secrets of animal life in his stories. In all of his accounts about man-eaters, he has noted the habits of both the tiger and the leopard. In his book **Jungle Lore**, Corbett outlines how huge cats, such as tigers and leopards, bring down their prey without harming themselves. His knowledge and experience about various jungle makes him a sharp hunter and on account of this he effectively attacks upon wild animals.

Tiger preservation and security of wildlife became most important target of Jim Corbett in his later period of life. His study compels us to ponder how a hunter can be a preserver as he was. Corbett seems a controversial writer because two different aspects can be seen, that in the beginning he kills the tigers and later he started saving them. But very seriously he accepts the fact that "I am a hunter turned preserver".

His accounts of wild animal encounters are exhilarating, intriguing, and adventurous. One becomes well familiar with India's diverse range of wild creatures. In his essays, he touched on every facet of natural existence. As a result, his works are unique sources of information on natural life for readers.

Tiger Preservation and **Tiger Project** are the contribution of Jim Corbett. His thinking about wildlife has become very practical and significant today. Corbett was the man who pioneered the effort to preserve India's wildlife. It was Corbett who rang the warning bell of the tigers imminent demise from overshooting and also hinted at the environmental destruction.

Corbett's later life was full of humanistic approach and he became a great preserver and deep naturalist. Now he devoted his rest of life for the welfare of human being as well as tigers. He became deeply concerned about

the fate of tigers and their habitat. He also started to deliver lectures to school students about tiger preservation, National heritage, forest and the wildlife.

He also pushed for the establishment of the Tiger Conservation Association and the All India Conference for the Preservation of Wildlife. He was outspoken on the importance of protecting India's wildlife. He also joined the prominent lawyer, Hasan Abid Jaffry in establishing a provincial Association for the conservation of Indian wildlife in 1930. He also persuaded the provincial government to establish India's first National park which in present is known as Corbett National Park.

Project Tiger is a beam of hope about tiger preservation in India. It is a matter of grave concern that their numbers are falling day by day. Over the past 40 years of tiger conservation effort in the various protected area with in India, success has been incredibly variable with few documented cases of parks where the number of tigers have risen, but many more cases of parks where tiger population have plummeted.

Corbett's works are significant today and they give a right path for understanding wildlife. He devoted his whole life for the welfare of human beings as well as wild tigers. Jim Corbett was a skilled hunter cum conservationist and also a great writer. His invaluable contribution to the conservation of this region of Uttarakhand lives on in the minds and emotions of Indians and people all around the world. Generations of wildlife enthusiasts have been inspired by his works. He can truly be described as a hunter turned author.

Jim Corbett was haunted by jungles. He writes about them with an affection and understanding that is as extraordinary as it is infectious. When he was in the forest, he transformed into a **Gyaan yogi**, a man of knowledge. He was adept at deciphering the secret language of the forest that he called 'jungle lore'. Having grown up in the jungles around Kaladhungi, he had taught himself to be in constant communication with the forest and this

was largely the reason for his success as a hunter. Birds, beasts, plants, and man were continually sharing information with him.

Later in life, as Corbett gave up the gun for the camera, he appeared to have transformed into a **Bhakti yogi**, a man with an unshakeable faith in the natural world, and one who was totally devoted to its protection. It involved an almost spiritual bond with the jungle and its inhabitants. The transformation of a Jedi Knight to Jedi Master. It is almost as if the natural world plants a seed in some people – a seed that keeps growing and transforming the internal landscape of that person throughout his life. Some lucky ones are able to find work that keeps them within the forest. There are many people who live normal urban lives but have this almost mystical connection with the forest. Within the sacred space of the jungle, they transform into entirely different people. For them, visits to forests are the pilgrimages that make the rest of their life tolerable.

There is no doubt that the forest continued to change Corbett throughout his life. On the outside, he changed from a hunter to a conservationist, but there was a far more profound change within. The forest awakens in him sentiments that was otherwise not evinced in his life or his departure from India.

Just before leaving the country, he and Maggi sold their childhood home, Gurney House, to Mr. Varma along with all the fittings, furniture, and curios that Corbett had kept in it, including the hunting trophies, gorgeous wooden cabinets from Mokameh Ghat, Maggie's chair. Yet, just before departure, Corbett requested Mr. Varma's permission to take one particular rug with him all the way to Kenya. Mr. Varma gave his consent. Carpet Sahib was a private man, so the reason for this request is not known but the rug was taken. Sentimentality, however small, was eventually embraced.

When in Kenya, no longer a resident of the forests, he would place a table and chair under a tree in the garden and would spend much of the day working on his books on an old typewriter. A pair of birds, thrushes of some sort, would sit on his typewriter while he worked. When he would reach the end of a line and move the stem of the typewriter back, the birds would fly up into the air and then settle back on the typewriter. The image of Corbett sitting under a tree in faraway Africa, writing of his beloved Kumaon hills, with two little birds for company is quite appealing. He carried these forests in his heart long after he left them.

Today, there is no better way to remember Corbett than to step into the hallowed forests of his memory and attempt to learn its secret vocabulary through his words. To begin to learn the nuances and rhythms of 'jungle lore'. He is an ideal tutor and accepting his tutelage would be a perfect return gift to him. From the great beyond, Master Jim may well encourage his Padawans to fulfill their sacred trust with the words, "May the forest be with you!" And long may it be with us.

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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction**Chapter 3****Encounter With The Wild**

This chapter of the research is about the details of encounter in Corbett’s work. A very natural and detailed description of hunting is given by him in his books. Today, in India number of tigers is falling day by day and it has become an important issue in the country. Government is trying to save them through various plans and projects. Besides hunting, what all he felt while in the jungle, in close proximity of nature shall be dealt upon in this chapter and at the same time Jim Corbett as an author, as a naturalist and as a humanist shall be discussed.

Encounter with the wild is the keynote of Corbett's hunting activities and the details of his encounters. His hunting skills, keen observation and attention give a perfect picture of an expert **Shikari**. As the first identification of Jim Corbett was as a hunter and Shikari, hence all his hunting performances are really remarkable. When he was in the forest, he transformed himself as an expert hunter. **Encounter with the Wild** is a significant representation of Corbett's different activities in forest.

Encounter with the Wild is the focal point of this research and deals with how Corbett treated this aspect. He presents himself as a naturalist, Shikari and preserver of nature and becomes famous for his tales of hunting in the Indian jungle long before the issue of conservation came to limelight. Corbett minutely observed the jungles and animals of Kumaon hills.

Corbett hunted man-eaters from 1907 to 1938; he documented killing nineteen tigers and fourteen leopards, all man-eaters. All together, these animals had killed twelve hundred human beings, including women and children. Since tigers will often hunt those who stalk them, Corbett hunted

alone or with his trusty guard dog Robin. Since he hunts alone, that is the reason why no character other than Robin has a prominent role in his books. Corbett rarely mentions family and only occasionally mentions friends; most of his interactions are with local Kumaons.

The areas Corbett hunted are today located in the Indian state of Uttarakhand. The town of Nainital is the capital of the state. Kumaon is one of the two administrative zones in Uttarakhand and Garhwal is the other. It is composed of a number of smaller districts, including Cahmpawat. All of Corbett's hunts occur in either Kumaon or Garhwal. In his book, Corbett includes the stories of killing man-eaters in Champawat, Chowgarh, Powalgarh, Mohan, Kanda, Pipal and Thak.

Jim Corbett's fame has spread to all corners of the globe, he has truly a larger-than-life presence in his native Uttarakhand. The residents of Kumaon and Garhwal, have taken him as one of their own. So many places have been named after him – a national park, countless hotels, spas, and restaurants.

Man-Eaters of Kumaon is the collection of various stories which show nature, will life and forest surroundings. This book creates a close reflection of beautiful Himalayan region. Describing the natural beauty of mountain and wild scene, he talks about various activities of the king of jungle, tiger. Here Corbett's stories are based in the Kumaon region of North Indian, which is very well-known forest area. The stories also beautifully give incidental information on flora, fauna and village life, village folk for delightful reader.

Man-Eaters of Kumoan contains an author's note, nine chapters and a glossary full of Kumaon jargon. The author's note explains why and how tigers become man-eaters and the reason that Corbett has to kill them. Chapter 1 is the story of Corbett's first man-eater kill, the Champawat Man-Eater, Chapter 2 introduces Robin and their first hunt together, and Chapter 3 tells the story of the Chowgarh tigers and the hunt. Chapter 4 contains the hunt of

the 'Bachelor' of Powalgarh and Chapter 5 relates the hunt of the Mohan Man-Eater. Chapter 6 is a brief interlude concerning a fishing expedition. Chapters 7 and 8 are both brief and discuss the huntings of the Kanda Man-Eater and the Pipal Pani Tiger respectively. The final chapter describes Corbett's final hunt, where after weeks of tracking, he kills the Man-Eater.

Corbett recalls a bizarre incident he had one night in a Champawat bungalow in 1907 in the opening story of his classic book, **Man-Eaters of Kumaon**, the story of the Champawat man-eater. He experienced this incident two nights before he killed the Champawat man-eater. During the early half of the twentieth century, this most prolific man-eater tiger, in recorded human history, killed and devoured 436 Nepalese and Indians. This makes it an animal single handedly responsible for the death of the largest number of men, women and children in the world. When Corbett finally shot it dead, it was a great achievement for Corbett.

The Tigers of Chowgarh is another hilarious Corbett story about a pair of man-eating Bengal tigers, consisting of an old tigress and her sub-adult cub, who killed a recorded sixty-four people in the eastern Kumaon region during a five-year period. The tigress initially attacked humans on her own, but she was later joined by her sub-adult youngster. The estimates are dubious, however, because locals in the areas where the tigers frequented claimed twice as many victims, and they did not include people who survived direct attacks but died later. Jim Corbett expertly killed both tigers in this scene.

In the winter of 1930, Corbett, with the help of a tip-off from a herdsman, followed the tiger and shot at it, wounding it just below the eye. The tiger escaped and managed to survive for four days in the bushes. Corbett tracked him to a burrow under a large semul tree and fired two bullets, ultimately killing the animal.

At the mid of day, Corbett set off for the valley where the villagers had heard tigers howling. By the evening, he had reached the valley's upper end without seeing anything, and the next afternoon, Corbett was greeted by a cattle grazer who informed him that the tigers had taken a cow that night. When he tracked the tigers down to a ravine, he discovered the predators devouring the dead cow. Then, presuming it was the adult, Corbett fired at the lighter-colored animal. The other tiger escaped when it heard the shot, and when Corbett examined the carcass, he discovered that the dead tiger was in fact the cub. Following the shooting of the cub, tigress attacks on humans became less successful, as she was occasionally unable to kill victims on her own.

Corbett ultimately decided to utilize the four buffalo baits to hunt the tigress in the next days. For ten days, there was no information of attacks and the buffalos were untouched. A woman was attacked half a mile away from the settlement on the eleventh day. After healing her wounds, Corbett tethered a bait goat to a nearby tree but it was not attacked. Corbett received word three days later that a woman had been killed in Lohali, a village near Dalkania.

A local elder approached Corbett upon his arrival, pleading with him to save his daughter, who had escaped the tigress with injuries. Despite using permanganate to treat her wounds, the girl died at night. After a week, Corbett left Dalkania, though he promised to return upon hearing of another attack. Corbett noticed new pugmarks on the way back and warned a buffalo grazer, whom he met on his way back, to be cautious. The grazer was assaulted by the tigress shortly after Corbett left, but the buffaloes chased it away. He warned his villagers about the tigress before he died.

The second hunt took place the next year, when Corbett returned to Dalkania, where he had witnessed several deaths since he left. In the woodland near the village, Corbett loaded a buffalo and shot two tigers who took the bait. He discovered that neither of the carcasses belonged to the man-eaters

after inspecting them. After a few weeks in Dalkania, Corbett had to leave for an appointment with the government.

On March 22, 1930, Corbett got an urgent request from the District Commissioner to travel to Kala Agar, fifty kilometers from Nainital. When he arrived, he was informed that the tigress had recently killed a woman in the area. One of Corbett's four buffaloes was murdered four nights later after being tethered in strategic areas. The perpetrators were discovered to be a pair of leopards, who were shot to prevent them from killing more bait.

The Bachelor of Powalgarh is the next intriguing narrative about the King of Powalgarh, an abnormally huge Bengal tiger. When measured between pegs, it is stated to be 10 feet 7 inches (3.23 meters) long. This male tiger was the most sought-after big-game trophy in the United Provinces from 1920 to 1930. Jim Corbett, who shot the tiger in the winter of 1930, described the story in his book **Man-Eaters of Kumaon**.

Corbett began his first tiger hunt in the winters of 1930, accompanied by his dog Robin. He went east to a well-wooded valley, following the words of an old postman who swore he spotted the greatest pugmarks he'd ever seen. The next morning, Robin detected a tiger scent, while Jim discovered enormous, fresh pugmarks. Fifty-one yards later Robin found the tiger within a patch of clerodendron that was forty yards broad.

Corbett observed the patch just in front, swaying as he picked up Robin and walked cautiously through the plants. Corbett moved closer with his rifle drawn after waiting for the tiger to exit the thicket, but the tiger was nowhere to be seen. The tiger had then moved to the left, into a deep and narrow valley, as Robin said. Corbett and Robin returned home since they were unprepared to deal with a tiger in close quarters and it was time for breakfast.

Corbett came back alone after breakfast, this time equipped with a .450 rifle. He heard yelling and went up a tree to find a man brandishing an axe and yelling. The man told Corbett that he arrived just in time to save the herdsman and his buffaloes from a tiger, the size of a camel, that had been threatening them for hours.

He heard the call of the bachelor looking for a mate as he returned to the grasslands where he had herded the herdsman's buffaloes. In response, Corbett replicated a tiger call and lay down in the open on his elbows, waiting for the tiger to appear. The bachelor called back from a hundred yards distance when Corbett issued another tiger call. Ninety seconds later, the tiger's head peeked over four-foot-high bushes about ten yards to Corbett's right, staring him down. Corbett moved his rifle softly and shot the tiger an inch beneath his right eye.

Despite the fact that Jim expected him to die, the enormous cat leapt into the air, well over the shrubs, and then attacked the tree beside him, tearing it to shreds while growling. Knowing that the tiger was aware of his whereabouts, Corbett was wary of reloading his weapon for fear of attracting the bachelor's notice. He lay still on the ground for half an hour, until the roaring subsided and the branches of the tree and neighboring shrubs ceased waving.

Corbett waited thirty minutes after all the thrashings had stopped before gently moving thirty yards backwards and seeking safety in a nearby tree. Corbett left for home after a few more minutes, when he was convinced the tiger had vanished.

The tiger managed to get away and hide in the bushes for four days. Corbett chased him down to a burrow beneath a giant semul tree and killed him with two rounds.

In **Man-Eaters of Kumaon**, Corbett writes that as he stood over it and ran his eyes over its magnificent proportions, it was not compulsory to examine the pads of its feet to know that before him lay the Bachelor of Powalgarh. He and his sister Maggie then measured the tiger as being ten feet seven inches over curves.

The Mohan Man-Eating Tiger is another funny story of a tiger which was found in the Himalayan cliffs near the Kosi River and fifteen miles from Corbett's summer home. A lady was attacked four miles from her village and the villagers were terrified. The injured lady was then brought back to the village and narrated her story to Mothi Singh, a friend of Corbett, however she later died. The lady was the first human killed by The Mohan Man-Eater. The tiger later killed a number of other people across the area at an increasing rate. Corbett decided to take up the hunt and successfully shot it in due course.

Chapter The Kanda Man-Eater is an interesting episode of Corbett's another hunt. On a hot day in May, Corbett is staying in a Forest Bungalow and is notified that another man-eating tiger has been spotted. The following day, he starts to gather information and take account of the tiger tracks. While he does not make progress, he is able to confront and kill a rare snake.

The next day, Corbett finds fresh pug marks and then the next day tracks them down alone; another day passes and Corbett learns that a buffalo has been killed and dragged. Corbett's reconnaissance begins; during the day Corbett reaches the right spot to find the kill and from a ledge he catches site of it, though not the tiger. Corbett then suddenly becomes aware that the tiger is staring at him at a short range. He takes a shot at the tiger.

In The Pipal Pani Tiger, Corbett tells us of a tiger, not more than a year old, whose pug marks he tracks down. He sees the cub in January and decides to wait for it around a chital kill. Near sunset, the cub appears in front of the kill and Corbett shoots at him, missing only by a hair. The next winter, he sees the cub several times. Later the cub finds a mate. Corbett locates both tigers

one day and discovers them sleeping, but a bird wakes them up and he misses his shot. Corbett recounts the local tiger's history from its mud tracks until its death fifteen years later.

Whether the magnificent tiger that never was a man-eater was mistaken for one, or killed for vanity, we will never know. But it was this hunt that is said to have turned Corbett into an advocate of tiger conservation.

Corbett has described several examples of making the man-eater recognize the evil spirit. He confidently states that he can quickly identify the pug marks of the man-eater, and then the animal's age, height and sex. Sadhus and Bokshars in the area were accused by the people of Garhwal. He claims that all man-eater killings in Garhwal are linked to sadhus, and that all such killings in Nainital and Almora regions are assigned to the Bokshars, who kill people for the jewelry their victims wear. The sadhus are believed to be fighting for human flesh, blood lust.

In his second book **The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag**, Corbett describes his arrival in 1926 at Rudraprayag. Sir William Ibbotson, Deputy Commissioner of the United Provinces, greeted him. He then went on to recount his trip to Rudraprayag. Corbett makes it plain in the chapter **Investigation** that he does not intend to bore his readers by delivering a day-to-day description of his Rudraprayag activities. He is really honest as he admits that writing about all that happened during his ten-week trip will be difficult for him.

Jim Corbett's encounter with the wild is a beautiful example of his craftsmanship as a skilled hunter. He has defined the topography of the region on both banks of the Alaknanda River to the east of Rudraprayag. He instructs the reader to locate the map on the last page he has provided. This allows his readers to picture all of the events that occur along his voyage. Corbett spent ten weeks at Rudraprayag chasing the man-eater, which lasted eight years. As a result, **The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag** is a two-and-a-half-

month chase story.

His artistic skill of encounter with the wild is remarkable and should be taken into notice. He identified different methods of killing leopards in the forest resulting from the hunts. He gave very valuable details concerning the leopards. He knew their eating patterns, personality and behavior very well. This for ordinary readers is really interesting. At the end of the chapter, Corbett admits that shooting a leopard with camera is more enjoyable than shooting it with a gun.

He distinguishes gratification from prize possession after he analyzed the leopard's behaviors. His conservationist philosophy is as follows. He admires leopard beauty and states that there is no more graceful or fascinating animal to observe in the jungles.

In the following lines, Corbett favours photographing the leopard rather than shooting it with a rifle, when he says that far more enjoyment is derived from tracking, locating, and stalking a leopard than from pulling the trigger on a rifle.

After reporting his arrival at Rudraprayag, the man-eating leopard raised the Sadhu from among the pilgrims sleeping on the house platform at night. Corbett remarked that Man-eating leopards are extremely unusual, and as a result, little is known about them.

Corbett considers his proposal to go on a man-eater hunting excursion, noting that it is extremely difficult to identify and shoot any animal over a five-hundred-square-mile expanse of mountains and rivers in a region like Garhwal. He says that his goal in travelling to Rudraprayag was to try to avert more human deaths.

Corbett's encounters with various tigers and leopards are based upon the total security and welfare of common people. He has expressed his concern for the poor Garhwal people living under the man-eater's threat. He

has gone to Rudraprayag with the purpose of removing fear, not to shoot the leopard. When he describes the disrepair of a swing bridge on the Alaknanda River and his encounter with the terrifying jhula toll-collector, he shows his sense of humour. He is very fair when determining the man-eating leopard's operational style.

His love of nature is well reflected in this book when he explains the beauty of the Valley of Ganges and states that when the sun was setting, the sight of the Ganges Valley, with the high Himalayas in the distance glowing bluish pink in the lowering sun's level rays, was a visual feast.

His understanding of the Indian climate, rivers, is exceptional in that portion of the Himalayas. As a result, he utilized the native name 'dadu' to describe the wind, which blows from the south during the day.

In **The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag**, Corbett reflects on the mindset of the local community and their superstitious nature in the chapter entitled **Magic**. He has gone to Rudraprayag to put an end to the nasty problem, namely the man-eater that resides in that distant location. Corbett takes advantage of the situation to make a witty observation about the state of religion in India. His observation about the country's social life is apt and pertinent. And he says that in India that there are no identification passports and religion is of extreme importance.

In the chapter **Near Escape of The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag** Corbett describes the visit of man-eater when they trekked him into their village. Finally, man-eating leopard attacked them but for Corbett's squad it was a narrow escape.

The chapter **The Gin Trap**, has great importance. It is brimming with suspense and mystery. In a small village, A cow had been killed, and Corbett had erected a trap close to it, waiting for the leopard to arrive at night. Corbett provides an exciting account of a leopard shooting and describes the entire

incident when he located the leopard beyond the hump where there was a small depression. The leopard was crouched down in this depression, facing them and roaring. They were encircled by an ecstatic crowd within minutes of his bullet falling into leopard's brain, and the crowd then literally danced with delight around their long-dreaded enemy.

Their joy was short-lived, however, because Corbett was certain it wasn't the man-eating leopard they had hoped to see.

Another fascinating story is **The Hunters Hunted**, in which Corbett describes how he was pursued by a man-eating leopard. This chapter is brimming with action and suspense. He explains the man-eater's fear and then a dog's actions that suggest that the leopard was chasing them. Corbett gave this chapter a very fitting title.

Corbett in chapter **Retreat** talks of his disappointment. His expedition failed and left him anxious. In reality he faced risk of his life on several occasions. When he confesses, he sees leopard as a human being, what he tries to convey is that he hadn't really appreciated the level of cunning that a man-eating leopard may have after eight years of intimate contact with humans.

Corbett talks here on man's perception of the leopard. He has provided examples of Indian news articles to demonstrate the historical significance of the man-eater crisis since the leopard was regularly getting featured in Indian newspapers in those time.

Corbett quite accurately describes the villagers weighted down by terror. He understands the sentiments of people very well. He explains how the man-eater had badly mauled a woman and her son. He admires the strength of that woman who courageously faced the assault.

Corbett generates suspense amongst the readers by explaining the man-eating leopard's unusual behavior. The leopard chased Corbett and Ibbotson down to the village instead of eating the goat Corbett presented. The dead goat had no effect on the man-eater. The leopard was clearly only interested in human flesh.

One of the most thrilling chapter of this book is **Cyanide Poisoning**. Corbett explains his attempts at poisoning a man-eater. The Man-eater killed a woman. The leopard ate his victim's poisoned meat and went into the cave while patiently waiting. Corbett kept the cave locked for ten days. Yet there had been skepticism about the leopard's burial. On the tenth day, as Corbett returned from the cave, Ibbotson told him of another kill five miles away by a man-eater. He'd been surprised and dismayed. He responded that it came as no surprise to him despite the fact that he had only known the leopard for a few months.

Corbett agrees with the Garhwals' belief that supernatural energies combined with fire can kill this animal. Corbett's engaging style of storytelling makes the **Touch and Go** chapter very interesting. He cares for them and thus gives them correct information about the location. He says that he will give them a description of the kill location so that they can keep track of their moves and plan accordingly.

Then he presents the exact topography of the area so readers can know what's going to happen next. Since his failed attempt to capture the man-eater in a gin trap, Corbett had meticulously researched the leopard's essence. He continues saying that however bizarre the leopard's acts appeared to be, they were exactly what one would expect from an animal that had been a man-eater for the previous eight years.

Despite this, Corbett has stated that he expects to succeed by the end of this phase. He accepts his repeated mistakes and deceptions, strengthened his resolve to fire his rifle at the man-eater.

Corbett criticizes the sportsmen who attribute their misfortunes to their misfortune. In **A lesson in Caution** he condemns them for underestimating wild animals, who rely completely on their senses not just for food but also for self-defense. They are, he claims, far superior to cultured humans. He says that all failures while sitting up for animals are caused by a faulty evaluation of animal intelligence and the inability to sit without making any sound or movement for the appropriate period of time.

For this reason, he also has the most appropriate collection of birds and animals. He describes his own experience and shows how to read the forest and learn about wild animals. As the man-eater proceeded into the region, he proclaims his connection with the Garhwal people on the left bank of the Alakananda River. He had closed the bridge because the man-eater was attacking the people on the left side. Corbett admires their patience.

Corbett narrates an event in the story **A Wild Boar Hunt** in which an elderly guy loses his best goat to a man-eater who slaughtered it without reason. He followed the leopard's path and discovered that she had travelled eight miles after the kill. The Man-eater's behaviour is distinct from that of other leopards, according to Corbett. He goes on to say that this long, seemingly aimless trek away from a kill was something no regular leopard would have attempted under any circumstances.

While he was conversing with the old guy, an object appeared on the hill on the other side of the Ganges. It crossed the river and approached them. Corbett, on the other hand, did not shoot it. When the old man inquired, Corbett said that he had carried a gun to Garhwal with the intention of shooting only a leopard, an evil spirit, and no other animals fleeing for their life. It shows Corbett was only interested in shooting the man-eater and not any other species. His journey to Rudraprayag thus had only the intention of shooting the man-eater leopard.

In the chapter **Vigil on a Pine Tree**, Corbett's love for nature is eloquently emphasized. He was awestruck by nature's splendor, mountains close to Alaknanda covered in snow. He appreciates the magnificent Alaknanda Valley and recalls his experience in this chapter when he witnessed the lovely Alaknanda Valley immediately below him with the river twisting in and out as a glomming silver ribbon.

Corbett rejects exaltation of nature, but he does so through observational imagery and analogies.

Although commenting on the topography of the valley villages, Corbett demonstrates his in-depth knowledge of the Garhwali people, their social customs, and their religious beliefs. He is highly aware of indigenous people's poverty and claims that every foot of walking ground in Garhwal is required for cultivation.

Corbett then goes on to discuss the breathtaking sunsets in Kenya's northern Tanganyika region. He explains sunset from the snow-capped Kilimanjaro. Corbett makes an annual trip to Kenya, Africa, and contrasts the Himalayan grandeur with that of Kilimanjaro. When he's seated in the pine tree, he compares and says that Himalayan sunsets were generally red, pink, or gold.

He was just waiting for the man-eater to appear on the pine tree, but he was also thinking about the beauty of nature at the time. He responds with complete precision to the readers. Corbett shares his fondness for them among the woodland folk. He claims that the Indian jungles are a source of enjoyment for him. He is fluent in the jungle people's languages and customs. He says that in the jungles, there is no global language; each species has its own language, and each species' language is understood by all jungle people.

He claims that human voice cords are adaptive, and that knowing jungle-folk language is quite useful in the wild. He backs up his claims with

examples from his time in Kashmir. He recounts his brush with an albino-musk-deer in the Kashmir jungle. It reflects his environmentalist approach. He didn't kill the rare musk-deer. When asked why he didn't kill by Kashmir's Game Warden, Corbett states his inner desire to encourage the musk-deer to dwell in their natural habitat rather than in a zoo.

Corbett describes how he imitated the female leopard's voice to call out the pine tree man-eater. He had a great conversation with the leopard. The leopard, on the other hand, left to meet another female leopard. His attempt to attract the man-eater failed, and he was dragged down from the tree that night by a violent storm. In thinking on the goat's conduct, he shows his sense of humour.

My Night of Terror is an exciting chapter in which Corbett articulated in the darkest hours of the night, his befuddled mental state, worry, and fear. He spent the night behind the rock, waiting for the man-eater. But heavy rain was spoiling his chance and the situation was ideal for the leopard to attack him. He spent the terrifying night in man-eater's shadow. When the next day he studied the sight, he was surprised to see the man-eater's pug marks there. When he arrived in Rudraprayag, it was evident that the man-eater had tracked him down. As a result, Corbett claims that he remembered that particular night as his night of terror.

The 14th of April 1926 is a date that will be remembered in Garhwal for the man-eating leopard of Rudraprayag killing his final human victim on that day.

The book's climax section is titled **A Shot in the Dark**. It records the end of his voyage. Corbett arrived in Golabrai after a fruitless visit to Bhainswara. In the first chapter he met his friend. Corbett recounts how the pundit encountered a man eater attack a couple of years ago. The leopard has since been referred to as a 'demon' by the pundit. On Ibbotson's arrival, Corbett tells him about the habit of leopard going down the road between

Rudraprayag and Golabrai. He promised to kill the leopard in ten days. For this, Corbett erected a machan on the mango tree fifty yards beneath the pundit's residence. He spent one night on the same machan.

He heard a rush from the tree's foot and a sharp ringing of the goat's bell throughout the crucial night. He immediately recognised it as a leopard, his intended prey, and pressed the rifle button. He tells the story of the man-eating leopard's terrible end. He describes the dead animal in terms like it was merely an elderly leopard which was in those days India's most hated and feared animal.

Corbett then describes the situation in Valley, including how Ibbotson was affected while the man-eater was active at the time. He was the happiest man on that day, May 2, 1926. Corbett was hailed by native people who showed their gratitude to him. At Garhwal, he talks about local traditions and tribal people's rituals.

In the book's Epilogue, sixteen years after his man-eater hunt in Rudraprayag, Corbett recounts his experience in Meerut. He tells the story of a wounded battle soldier who showed his appreciation and joy. The soldier applauded Corbett for killing Rudraprayag's man-eating leopard instead of reflecting on his own bravery during the combat. Corbett becomes visibly moved as he discusses the soldier's emotions. He has a strong belief in the Garhwal people. He admires the devotion of the Garhwal soldier who recalled the man-eater's death. The soldier said that when Corbett shot the man-eater, he was a young child and would tell everyone he used to meet that he saw Corbett and had a conversation with him.

The encounter with the soldier shocked Corbett. He is voicing his hope that these Indian natives will offer the country a strong future. At the end of the book he is highly positive. He admires Indian people and shares his sense of appreciation for them.

The Man-eating Leopard of Rudraprayag is a classic example of Corbett's natural writing. The writer amalgams his out-standing knowledge in hunting with his jaw- dropping experiences with wild animals and comes out with such notable text like **The Man-eating Leopard of Rudraprayag**. When we read this work of Corbett, we not only know about the dreadful fight that appears to take place between two savage carnivores but it also gives us a clear view of the British Raj and transport us to those remote jungles of Northern India during the British Rule.

This book portrays a vivid image of the simplistic and natural life of the villagers of Rudraprayag who are far away from the temptations of the materialistic world. They lead a happy life with their families and loved ones, there is no villain in their lives except for this one savage leopard who ruins all their happiness by killing and destroying the families of the villagers in Rudraprayag. The dreadful leopard reportedly took 420 lives and had terrorized a huge region of that area. Corbett takes the responsibility to kill this old yet terrifying leopard and this takes place in the second half of 1920.

The old leopard happens to be a man-eater after the lethal influenza outbreak of 1918 and Corbett relentlessly hunts for this predator for over two years. Corbett literally had to put his life at stake in order to fight out this predator. There are times when Corbett goes back to the village with a defeated spirit and there are also times when the leopard snatches a goat right under Corbett's nose but Corbett still misses a chance to catch.

The author further elaborates the sheer helplessness of man when he/she is attacked by a brutal carnivorous predator. Finally Corbett is able to kill the man- eater. Actually by that time Corbett has developed a soft corner for the old dead leopard, which gave him such a sporty fight. At that time there were no high security fences, no guns or any kind of technology to track the leopard. People had to go to the forest to earn their daily bread.

There is an unforgettable chapter in the book titled **Terror** which narrates very vividly about the nightlife of village. This is one of the books, which shows that for writing adventure one doesn't require weapons or FBI investigations. Any writer with a big heart who loves what he is doing and knows what he is talking about can give the impression of a forest or for that matter any place to its readers.

Jim Corbett is not only a writer but he was also a great hunter and this is one of his memories where he witnesses a terrible fight between two full-grown and furious leopards, one who already ruled the area and the second that wanted to rule his territory. There is a continuous play of suspense and thrill as the story proceeds.

The Leopard who already ruled the territory was a matter of terror for the villagers because he used to prey upon small children. In fact, the day when the narrator reached the village, the leopard had already killed a small boy and had witnessed his mother crying and wailing for her deceased child. The narrator somehow aimed on catching hold of the leopard so that it can be killed, but before he could anticipate the presence of the leopard, he witnessed these two leopards ruining each other's face to rule their desired territories.

The Book **Jungle Lore** is dedicated to his sister Maggie. It is something different from his other book as it is the description of jungle related activities. If we compare it with his other books then we find that it is least known of writer's book. The basic theme of this book is different because it does not display hunting encounters and details of tigers and leopards.

The soul of this book is description of natural beauty of jungle. Really this book deals with a close and deep relationship between writer and natural world. Here Corbett talks about the importance of living in proximity with wildlife and the effects of company of the wildlife upon human beings. So in a way it is an autobiography of the writer.

Jungle Lore deals with Corbett's personal life: his childhood, his experience of forest and his early experience of bow and arrow and his first experience with gun and its parts. But one important aspect of this book is that it does not display any horrific or thrilling episode related to hunting and guns. It is related to the study of jungle and every time he wanted to learn more about it. It is a limitless study and every time we have the options to read new. There is always more to learn, more to discover in jungle and the world of nature is changeable which changes according to the mood.

The theme of **Jungle Lore** cannot be bounded in limit because the observation of nature and the beauty of jungle is based upon feelings and emotions. Here in this book Corbett laments the disenchantment and alienation of modern man from his environment. He learns the lessons and like all good teachers he seeks to share his knowledge and the implications of it with others.

So we can say that **Jungle Lore** is more about writer than about his experiences. The book has not outdated with the passing years. It is as vibrant today as it was earlier. It has also a heart touching moral lesson. It teaches us to put an end to the calamity of raping the mother land, to re-establish and re-affirm our connections with the natural world, to learn, understand, and employ the lore of the wild to a natural advantage.

The Temple Tiger and More Man-Eaters of Kumaon, by Jim Corbett, describes a unique and thrilling hunting experience. This book contains the details of his enthralling hunting experiences with tigers that started with famous man-eaters of Kumaon. It is related to writer's deep awareness of all jungle scene, sight and sound. Basically this classic represents beauty of Indian jungle, jungle-folk and their lifestyle.

The Temple Tiger and More Man-eaters of Kumaon is a book describing great courage, adventure and alertness which speaks about various tricks of Jim Corbett to get rid of man eaters of Kumoun. It consists of a collection of five thrilling accounts of Corbett's Shikar experiences, the very

first one on Temple Tiger being the most fascinating one. Jim Corbett was hunting for the Panar man-eating leopard when he heard about the Temple Tiger.

The priest of the Dabidhura Temple challenged him on capturing this animal which was believed to be blessed with the protection of the Gods of the Hills. Corbett tried several attempts and each time the hero of this piece, the Temple Tiger, frustrated him with its amazing wits. In his final attempt which too resulted in a failure, Corbett observed the Temple Tiger almost purring with delight at being the smarter one in all of their duets, which led Corbett to wonder whether tigers too, like monkeys, have a sense of humor. After this Corbett gave up further attempts to bag this 'blessed' tiger and no one else, to his knowledge, had been able to do so. So he guessed that perhaps this 'old warrior' just had to be left to fade away with time.

It consists of some other stories like The Man-Eaters of Mukteshwer which is the tale of a tigress who is forced to become a man-eater getting injured in a fight with a porcupine.

Next story is The Man-Eater of Panar which deals about the tale of a man-eating leopard. This beast had killed and ate no less than 400 human beings according to the records kept by the British officials. A heavy bounty was declared to kill this leopard. Corbett went after the animal, but first he made sure the government had withdrawn all the rewards. Here Corbett's skill of hunting and foresightedness about leopard's actions is really remarkable that how he maintained his alertness during hunting. The tracking of the Panar man-eater and the night vigil on a goat bait which ultimately resulted in bagging the notorious leopard are remarkably described.

The third story is Man-Eaters of Chuka which is also the detailed description of Corbett as a skilled hunter. This story deals with a tiger who creates havoc on the bank of Ladhya river. The Chuka Man Eating Tiger was another cunning animal which killed several human beings. After many days

and nights of tracking, without food or sleep, Corbett was able to outwit the man eater. It's left canine tooth was broken, result of a gun shot from one of the hunters- the reason for any normal tiger to become a potential man eater. Other reasons for a tiger turning to be a man eater is old age, and disability after fighting with porcupines.

Next story of **The Temple Tiger and More Man-eaters of Kumaon** is The Man-Eater of Taladesh. It is perhaps one of best adventures as far as his hunting is concerned, dealing with a tigress mother and her two cubs even though his hearing was impaired. It is a very realistic tale of land tigress that killed humans. It is the detail account of jungle knowledge which Corbett learnt during his lifetime.

Here in this story writer makes reference to the mysterious light he saw in jungle on the other side of mountain river where he and his men camped for the first night and searched for some convincing explanation for those lights. Here he learnt from the traditional blind faith that a Sadhu had angered the reigning Goddess of the mountain by climbing the 'forbidden heights' of the sacred Purnagiri Shrines and the Goddess in fury had flung him down, ever since then that Sadhu, deep in the night offers 'Puja' to the Goddess by setting-up those lights. So in this story Corbett gives a details description of the beautiful mountain, valley and forest with full of birds and animals.

This is Jim Corbett's final book on his incredible hunting adventures in the Indian Himalayas. Bringing the story to a close that began in the renowned **Man-Eaters of Kumaon**, Corbett with a keen awareness of all jungle sights and sounds, he writes with deep love for the people and animals who inhabit his hunting grounds. These qualities are what make these stories vintage Corbett.

The Temple Tiger and More Man-eaters of Kumaon is a thrilling book. One can imagine the thrill of being in the woods with Jim Corbett, hunting the notorious Kumaon man-eating tigers. His writing style is simple,

but he describes the incidents so vividly that the reader can visualise them. It's a book for those who enjoy game hunting and the outdoors. It's also a story about a more lovely and innocent era before mankind encroached on the pure hills and forests, decimating all flora and fauna.

Jim Corbett once again takes us back to the rural Indian mountainsides in search of man-eating tigers. His stories all carry the same theme. Remote villages are being torn to threads by big cats that have taken a liking to human flesh. He is the world-renowned hunter with nerves of steel that must come to the rescue.

The scenes located in this book are based in the dark damp forests of India. It takes us into Jim Corbett's world, a world of hunting, adventure, and most of all man eaters. From this book his concern for the people can also be seen. People trusted him that he will save their lives from man-eaters.

Like the rest of the Corbett books, this book is not just about hunting man-eaters. Corbett relives his encounters with deep admiration of the mountains, wildlife and the innocently superstitious and simple hill folk who forms an integral part of the nature. He leaves the reader steeped in sheer mysticism when he says that many strange things do actually happen on the far side of that mountain river which are beyond the limits of the credibility of the rest of the world.

The Indian Himalaya does have a mystic magic about it and Corbett strews that magic with his master touches! On his way to the Talla Des man-eater country, Corbett provides a vivid description of the picturesque mountains, valley, the woods in full April bloom and the colorful birds and animals. The danger of an ambush from a hungry man-eater could not deter him from enjoying the beauty of nature along his way.

Another important aspect related to his encounter with the wild can be seen in his environmentalist outlook making him stand out as a true naturalist. This means that most of his encounters are connected with environment. Jim Corbett was a true environmentalist because through his writings he spread the message that saving environment, ecology and wildlife should be the moral duty of every citizen of India.

The fact can be incorporated from ancient Indian history. The great epic like The Upanishad, The Vedas and Bhagavad Gita also shows the need for better environment and ecological balance. In fact, India has always been rich in various natural resources, but the imperial rule paid no heed and used them for their own advantage.

No doubt Corbett's works reflect his concern for conserving wildlife and inspire us to save tigers. At the same time, nature also plays an important role in his books. He rings an alarm as well as is a source of inspiration that anyhow we should save wildlife and environment. If we had paid proper heed to that alarm long ago and had taken proper action, then this grave situation of today would have never arisen.

Had we understood Corbett's intention 70 years ago then it would not have been a matter of concern today. We should be motivated in our mission of tiger project by Corbett's works. Corbett's writings are inspiration for saving tigers as well as preserving and conserving the nature to maintain the ecological balance.

No doubt Corbett was an iconic hunter of man-eater tigers and leopards and actively engaged in big game hunting during the first half of 20th century. Between 1907 and 1938, he hunted 30 leopards and killed 12 man-eating tigers responsible for the deaths of over 1500 people in the hills of Garhwal, Almora, and Nainital. Besides he was also a naturalist, after hunter. Overall, his career had a remarkable progression as a hunter turned

conservationist, wildlife photographer and his writings are deeply coloured by his hunting and conservationist idea.

An ordinary reader will find Corbett's serious interest in collecting systematic knowledge of wildlife to be a fascinating treasure. Corbett describes the animal world with great storytelling skill in order to familiarize readers with it. It's also worth noting that he avoids any form of glorification or embellishment in his writing in order to maintain the wonder and strangeness of wild creatures.

Tiger conservation and security of wildlife becomes most important target of Jim Corbett in his later period. His study compels us to know that how a hunter can be preserver, as he was. Corbett seems a controversial writer because how two different aspects can be matched, that earlier he used to kill the tigers and later started saved them. But very seriously he accepts that he was a hunter turned preserver.

Jim Corbett was a great human being though a hunter. As we know that basically he was a hunter in his first span of life but during his second span of life he turned himself as a preserver as well as humanist. First he saved human beings from the tigers when he was a hunter, secondly he saved tigers from human being as the humanist. Both aspects of his life are reflected in his writings.

Corbett's later life was full of humanistic aspects and he becomes a keen preserver and hard-core naturalist. Now he devoted his rest of life for the welfare of human being as well as tigers. He was deeply concerned about the fate of tigers and their habitat.

He also started delivering lectures to school students about tiger conservation and preservation, National heritage, forest and wildlife. He also advocated for the formation of the association for the conservation of tigers and also organized all India Conference for the conservation and preservation

of wildlife, during which he spoke about the importance of safeguarding India's wildlife. In 1930, he co-founded a provincial Association for the Conservation of Indian Wildlife with eminent lawyer Hasan Abid Jaffry. He was also successful in convincing the regional administration to establish India's first national park. Jim Corbett was a true humanist and he had devoted his whole life for humanity.

The book **My India** is a fine delineation of his humanitarian aspect in describing various characters. The stories of **My India** are representative portrait of his outlook. His helping nature for various needy and poor people can be easily seen in the stories of this book. This humanistic nature of Jim Corbett will be discussed in detail in Chapter 4 of this research - **Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction**

His accounts of wild animal encounters are exhilarating, intriguing, and adventurous. One becomes well familiar with India's diverse range of wild creatures. In his writings, he focuses on many areas of wildlife and nature. As a result, his books offer an original source for readers to learn about wildlife while also inspiring them to think about nature and its conservation.

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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction**Chapter - 4****Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction**

This chapter aims to throw light in detail on various perspectives and angles which opens in front of us when we re- read Jim Corbett's works. This research makes an attempt to prove as to why Jim Corbett should be re-read in present times. Corbett's works are an eye –opener on how tigers can be saved and also present him as a naturalist and a preserver. It motivates us in our mission of Project Tiger.

Corbett's re-reading is fully applicable today because it provides right direction to save tigers. He defined tiger as a large-hearted animal who also has feelings and emotions along with limitless courage. So everyone should respect their feelings and sentiments. He is of the opinion that to save tigers from extinction, along with Government's efforts, public awareness is also required. He is the first Anglo-Indian writer to issue a public warning about the extinction of tigers.

Corbett's re-reading is fully justified in current scenario and shall also prove to be beneficial in future. He was a true wildlife protector. He makes a sincere effort to provide fascinating knowledge about elephants, tigers, leopards and panther's behaviour in the wild. His concern for the preservation of animals leads him to sanctuaries in his most recent book, **Tree Tops**. He has documented many parts of the natural world and provides vital information on a variety of animal and bird species. His works reveal the social systems of animals that live in herds or groups.

Another important aspect and angle provided by Corbett's re-reading is the environmental issues being faced in the country and to maintain ecological balance. From ancient times we have been talking about ecological balance. Various types of details are available in literature on Indian forest and life of wild creature. A good amount of details are available in Corbett's writings too. There are various writers and naturalists who have described nature as well as wildlife in their works. In their works we can easily search for the concept of ecological balance because nature and wildlife are part of ecology and it is essential to save them to maintain a proper balance. Today we are living in an era of science and technology where rapid industrialization has led to deforestation causing great havoc to flora and fauna of our country, thereby disturbing ecological balance. Hence it becomes very important to maintain proper balance. Our life has become so mechanical that we have no time to think about nature and wildlife. The objective of this research is to create interests in the mind of the readers who should re-read Jim Corbett's works which raises an alarm and warning that nature is most powerful and any disturbance in natural elements will cause great havoc in future.

Jim Corbett's re-reading can be linked to today's "**Project Tiger**" as well. Jim Corbett's works are very interesting and so they are capable to develop a sense of understanding about wildlife in younger generation. They should be re-read to create an interest towards wildlife. Here one thing is important that "Tiger Conservation" is not possible only by rules and regulations of Government. Public awareness is essential for Tiger conservation. Here starts the need of Corbett's re-reading because his works are able to create public interest towards wildlife. If people start taking interest in this issue then it is easily possible to save tigers.

Re-reading Jim Corbett's work in present time gives us various perspectives to look at his work. How we can connect his views to the present era, meaning to say, views and sentiments of Corbett have a justified use and

application in present times. The Government of India has undertaken various plans to save tigers about which Corbett had warned many years ago.

Corbett's books are glimpses of Indian culture and civilization. It also provides the knowledge about a hunter who later became preserver of nature. It also makes very clear that whereas most of English officers were cruel and selfish, but Jim Corbett had a heart which deeply melted for simple, honest, brave, innocent and hardworking souls of India.

Another aspect of re-reading Jim Corbett's work is to look at his work not just as mere wildlife encounters which are thrilling and entreatingly to readers but at the same time to showcase his work in true humanitarian light. This re-reading will also put emphasis on recognizing Corbett's literature work as a significant contribution in India's jungle literature.

In this regard his book, **My India**, is a fine delineation when he shows his humanitarian aspect in describing various characters. The stories of **My India** are representative portrait of his outlook. His helping nature for various needy and poor people can be easily seen in the stories of this book.

There are 12 stories in **My India** and all stories are rich in depicting Indian culture and civilization but at the same time the poverty of rural India. All stories must be re-read to know more about Jim Corbett because he is generally known as a hunter but he was also a preserver and a great lover of wildlife and nature. Also these stories portray him as a lover of mankind. He gives the definition of India in this book that here prevails "Unity in Diversity" and all are one in spite of different colour, creed, religion, language.

My India should be re-read due to its various aspects related to nature, wildlife and Indianness. Here he also talks about achievement of his professional career and the decision that he took, which in return made him what he was. The book is very interesting due to its fantastic details about his hunting experience connected to human attachment. Perhaps this is the only

book which Corbett has dedicated to the people closest to his heart and how they influence him during the encounters.

My India is the collection of Indian tales and folk system and its re-reading will provide the chance to know about the local language and locality of hill station of Uttarakhand. "Local language" means that the diction and vocal sound both belongs to that particular region. He spoke the local language like any other inhabitant. **My India** is surely unique and different because it shows a different path and track which can be regarded as one of the best compilations of real short stories.

My India is the wheel on which all are moving without any break and boundary. Most of his characters are presented through their caste and writer seems to re-construct them in one flow. So, here we see the socialism and brotherhood again and again in his writing. The characters in this book must be re-read to know about their psychological and sociological aspect and behavior.

My India is a window to the India of the poor and India of the villagers written by an Anglo-Indian who worked with them closely. His description of unique encounters with these characters in his book left a great impact on us and provided insights on the life of these poor villagers. All stories and characters of **My India** come alive because of their true and realistic description. So this book shows writer's love for the country and its natives.

Stories in "My India":

(1) The Queen of the Village (2) Kunwar Singh (3) Mothi (4) Pre-Red -Tape Days (5) The Law of the Jungles (6) The Brothers (7) Sultana: India's Robin Hood (8) Loyalty (9) Budhu (10) Lala jee (11) Chamari (12) Life at Mokameh Ghat.

The Queen of Village is the first story of **My India** and is emotional representation of rural Indian life. Its re-reading shows the actual picture of women in India. In this story, he also presents the faith of people of Bhabar reposed on him as he used the phrase "with an Indian trust".

Kunwar Singh is the second story of **My India** representing the story of a brave Indian, Kunwar Singh, a hunter of village Chandni Chowk. Basically he was the Pradhan/sarpanch of Chandni Chowk village and Corbett's relation with him is due to his profession and on account of his habit of hunting. Writer paints his character very realistically. Corbett is much impressed by the behavior of Kunwar Singh. Kunwar Singh was a well-known Shikari (hunter) and a respected Headman of the village Chandni Chowk.

In **Kunwar Singh** Corbett reconstructs the endearing portrait of the eponymous character of his story. A renowned shikari, a respected headman of the village Chandni Chowk, Kunwar Singh was Corbett's teacher-companion in the jungles of Garuppu. How the shikari himself fell victim to the addiction of opium and how the illness on account of such lethal addiction brought the fellow on to the brink of death are the charming narratives to read, but what makes the story memorable is the way Corbett de-addicted the fellow and saved him from this bad habit. It was quite intelligent of him to have used a method that was sure to work - he made Kunwar Singh take a vow:

And now, with the sacred thread wrapped around your fingers and a pipal leaf in your hands, you must swear an oath on your eldest son's head that you would never touch the filthy drug again. And this time you will, and you shall keep your promise.

Mothi is the third story of **My India**. It is a touching story of an orphan boy Mothi, again depicting glimpses of real India where majority of people are poor and living in villages. His personal relationship with poor Indians must be kept in our mind.

Mothi is the tale of an orphan boy Mothi, a struggling personality and the prime character of the story. He was the boy on whom lies the complete responsibility of the family. It is Corbett who can paint the sympathetic details of Mothi, observing all aspects of his life clearly. His deep affection and deep love for the poor of India is evident in every inch of the story.

Mothi is a story of many characters. Mothi the struggling orphan boy shouldering the responsibility of the family, Punwa the fatherless boy of the next generation struggling to exist against all vagaries of a poor existence, Punwa's mother, the lady with sharp tongue but indomitable survival instincts. Sher Singh the boy of the jungle ever singing with gay and abandon, Lalu the bull, courageous and confident, Kunthi the village girl trained in accomplishing thousand and one chores, Havaldar the wise old soldier with an eye on the lion's share of the community kill - and they strive to live their respective lives gathering pleasure of living that comes their way. The defiant pig lives his life, to the best he can manage doing all the damages to the crops and disregarding bullets that are fired at him, and finally succumbs to the bullet of Corbett.

Pre-Red-Tape Days is the fourth story of **My India**. It must be re-read to know more about pre and post-Independence scenario of India. It presents an inkling of British rule and happenings during that period. It represents the role of pre-red-tape days during the history of English rule.

Pre-red-tape Days is a moving story of human adjustment, almost rendering the delivery of justice system useless. Somebody elopes with the wife of his fellow villager and the matter is brought before Anderson, the

Superintendent of Terai. The elopement is given the stamp of approval with the return of bride price by the new husband to the loser one, and when such adjustment is through, the existing wife of the eloper comes forward to complain. She cries bitterly that with her body suffering from disease, she is sure to face neglect as her husband has taken a new wife. Now there is a twist in the story.

The new wife embraces the old one with sisterly affection, declaring that she would not allow her to feel neglected. This alone does not end the drama, the truth that looks more improbable than drama is the loser husband returns the money he has just now extracted from his rival, for he now realizes that his rival with two wives to feed has the need of money more than he himself has. At the end of the day, not claps but tears of solidarity give this exceptional human adjustment the applause it deserves.

The Law of the Jungle must be re-read to know about the system of jungle at the time when Corbett's was hunting. There is detail of hut built by Harkwar and Kunthi. The details of various forest company he gets is also an important aspect of this story. There are two pythons, many kind of snakes, various eagles any many more.

The Brothers is the story of two brothers which Corbett very beautifully presents. Story is replete with glimpses of Indian culture and civilization and Corbett has tried to show the sociological structure of Indian society.

Sultana: The India's Robin Hood is the story of Sultana who was a member of the Bantu criminal tribe. Sultana, with his young wife and infant son and some hundreds of other Bantus was confined in the fort under the charge of the Salvation Army. This myth tells how Sultana, enraged by his incarceration, scaled the fort's mud walls in a single night and escaped like any other young and feisty man.

There is one chapter in this book which requires special mention of, viz., **Loyalty**. Here we get Corbett's account of managing the transshipment of goods from one gauge of railways to the other across the Ganges. What made him successful was the inspiring leadership that he provided by personal example and through basic honesty in dealing with the people he supervised. But Corbett credits his success to the discipline of Indian workforce of those days. And he concludes **Loyalty** with his unreserved statement of conviction.

Loyalty is very emotional story of real Indians. It must be re-read to know about the characteristics of poor Indians. The story has its special impression dealing with the mentality and psychology of poor Indians.

Budhuis is a heart touching and emotional story written by Corbett. Budhu, a poor man worked with his family for Corbett. He worked hard along with his wife the work of line-changing on railway station. He was so poor that it was difficult for him to sustain his family. Here, re-reading shows Corbett's sympathy, kindness and generosity to help poor. The debt of Budhu is forgiven by Corbett as he was not able to pay it. It shows that how poor Indians under the pressure of deep debts commit suicides. The last paragraph written by Corbett is very emotional which teaches the lesson of humanity and shows that the help of poor and needy is the first religion and duty of human being.

Lalajee is emotional and passionate story written by Corbett, Here again his humanistic approach can be seen. Lalajee is a poor old man who came to Corbett for help. Very miserably he presents the character sketch of Lalajee and found him very sincere, honest and faithful creature. Helping nature of Corbett could save life of Lalajee and his survival depends on Jim Corbett's treatment and helping attitude. Lalajee who lost the business due to his suffering but with the help of Corbett, he again becomes a great businessman and always remembers the help done by Corbett in his difficult

times. Corbett helped him to borrow money and Lalajee promised to return it within a year. It shows deep understanding and good relationship between them.

While on duty at Mokameh Ghat, Jim Corbett stumbles across a guy named Lalajee who is suffering from cholera. Corbett provides him with a safe haven and ensures that he is properly cared for. Lalajee, thankfully, survives the nearly fatal sickness. Corbett discovers from him that he was a successful merchant. He was wrecked and bankrupt as a result of his partner's deception. Lalajee had been dragged from place to place till he arrived at Mokameh Ghat, where he was spared, thanks to the charity of 'Sahib.' Lalajee, on the other hand, suddenly has nowhere to go. Jim Corbett hands him a cheque for Rs.500/- (such a sum was considered exceptionally much in the early half of the twentieth century) and a train ticket to his home. He encourages him to start over.

After quite a long time, one day when Jim Corbett returns home after work he finds a shadowy figure waiting for him. To his pleasant surprise, he recognizes the person to be none other than Lalajee.

Lalajee tells Corbett that he established his business with the money he had lent him, that it has been going well, and that he has now come to repay Corbett. Lalajee is adamant about returning the money in full, including interest. Jim Corbett, on the other hand, declines. He accepts the principal sum of Rs. 500/- he had given him only to appease Lalajee:

Mercy has no strained quality; it blesses both those who give and those who take as stated by William Shakespeare in *The Merchant of Venice*. Jim Corbett provided the quality of mercy to Lalajee out of pure love for humanity, and Lalajee repaid it with his sincere gratitude. Both Jim Corbett and Lalajee are fortunate in this regard.

Chamari represents Indian social system where lower class always remained ignored and neglected. Chamari is a man belonging to lower class and came to Corbett with his wife and two children. They were so poor and physically weak that they could not do any work related to coal-lifting. Corbett presents his character very skillfully and says he is the most diligent and honest member in my team:

Chamari defies the disability society has imposed on him from his birth because he is just from the depressed class. Like the great saints of the middle age who preached that God is nearer to devotion and not the monopoly of any class or caste, Chamari proves he is the most accomplished devotee of Parmeshwar or the supreme God. He dies of cholera, in spite of all the efforts done by Corbett and his friends to keep him alive and while he leaves this world he has the name of supreme God on his tongue. What a great occasion it is! Even a priest from the great Vishnu temple at Kashi pays his obeisance at the feet of Chamari.

Life at Mokameh Ghat is the last piece of the book that describes Jim Corbett's days at Mokameh Ghat. Mokameh Ghat is situated on the south bank of the Ganges, about ninety kms away from Patna in Bihar. At Mokameh Ghat, Corbett handled million tons of goods and transported them to Samaria Ghat. In the beginning the work was very toilsome for the author and his men. Later they got accustomed to the work. The common object of the author and his men was to provide better service to those dependent on them. One of the author's first undertakings was to start a school for the sons of his workmen and lower paid railway staff. Ram Saran was the station master of Mokameh Ghat station and a keen educationalist. The school started with a membership of twenty boys. The title 'Rai Sahib' was conferred on Ram Saran by the government for his contribution to the school.

Corbett was responsible for the running of the steamers at Mokameh Ghat. His hobby was to study mankind. Crosthwaite was a young man from England who had come to India to serve in the railways and was his companion. The crossing of the Ganges gave him enough opportunity to come in contact with large number of people who used the crossing to cross the river. The journey was between Mokameh Ghat and Samaria Ghat, just opposite to the Mokameh Ghat.

At the end of **Life at Mokameh Ghat** Corbett felt relieved as he had not to face the widespread labor unrest, strikes and communal disorders of today's India. In his time, India was very different since everyone's interest was everyone's interest, and people of all classes and religions could live, work, and play together in perfect harmony.

There are various points which show how Corbett's work is useful today and why we should re-read him. The National park named after him as **Jim Corbett National Park** is sufficient proof to show his greatness. It is the result of his concern that the Project Tiger was launched and still working in India. **The Wildlife Protection Act** was passed by the Govt. of India in 1972. Now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. It all happened due to Corbett's concern and his works which are also relevant today. Many wildlife species are on the verge of extinction, therefore the wildlife related stories of Corbett have a permanent place in the literature. As a result, he shall enjoy major position in future also.

While re-reading Jim Corbett, we also come to know about his awareness for environment and ecology. Jim Corbett devoted his whole life for the preservation of wildlife. From the ecological point of view, we find that his works show how to maintain ecological balance in universe. "Ecology" was always a matter of grave concern for Corbett and it is also the prime objective of this research to establish ecological balance to save

environment. **The Project Tiger** and **Wildlife Conservation** aims in this direction for ecological balance. There must be a proper balance between human beings and wildlife and only its proper combination can help maintaining ecological balance and any kind of imbalance can result the destruction of Universe.

Ecological balance can be seen as a major concern in Corbett's writing. The earth's atmosphere has been polluted as a result of rapid technological and industrial development. Due to deforestation, the entire universe's temperature is rapidly changing. So it is high time we divert all our efforts to save wildlife thereby avoiding man- beast conflicts.

Jungle Literature in a way is a study in ecological balance where various approaches are presented to save wildlife and nature. Indian English literature too has its own tradition of jungle literature. Corbett's jungle literature has a specific purpose as he began writing on his jungle experience from 1926. He also published his jungle related articles in journal "The Pioneer" and other magazines. He also launched a magazine called **Indian Wildlife** to discuss his wildlife encounters and to voice his conservationist beliefs and opinions on ecology. He contributed in this magazine as an editor as well as a writer. His article "Wildlife in the Village" became very popular. His jungle experience totally deals with ecology and wildlife preservation.

In this world all creatures, animals, plants, climate and environment have a significant role and each and every element is important. If their number and combination is disturbed, it means ecological balance is disturbed. Wildlife is an inseparable part of ecology so if the number of tigers are falling then ecological balance is also being affected. Corbett's appeal for tiger preservation is a path to maintain ecological balance. Universe always seeks a proper balance between human beings and wildlife. It should be maintained and Corbett's writing in every inch proves it again and again.

Ecology and environment are supplement to each other so we must re-read Corbett. Corbett's jungle experience and literature is a fine example to understand the importance of ecological balance and combination. Main focus of this study is to show how Corbett writes on environment. We can see that in every book he is trying to save environment to maintain proper ecological balance. Corbett's work abounds in description of natural scene and activities of wildlife, and his efforts to conserve animal like tiger and leopard can be easily seen. He is trying to show the value of wildlife.

In addition to Jim Corbett, Dr. Saleem Ali's **Fall of the Sparrow** is a fascinating study of Indian birds. Dr. George Schaller studied the wildlife of Madhya Pradesh's Kanha jungle for three years. His work **The Deer and Tiger** offers a detailed account of the natural world. Ruskin Bond and Rudyard Kipling also are greatly interested in wildlife and jungle literature in India. Jim Corbett is the one of the leading writers of jungle.

This re-reading of Jim Corbett's work reveals that it was he who recognized the importance of wildlife preservation in maintaining ecological balance in the land during those times. He made the firm decision not to shoot a tiger until he was certain that the tiger was a regular man eater, which has since become the rule of thumb in wildlife conservation.

The name of Corbett is very popular in India as a tiger and wildlife preserver. He was very sensitive in this matter and started a wide campaign to preserve tigers and wildlife. He started to take interest in the activities that would promote it and show its outcomes. He also delivered various lectures in school, institutes and other organizations for the awareness about ecology, environment and wildlife. He gave directions to people on how to preserve wildlife and nature. He was one of the editors of journal **Indian Wildlife**. When a skilled hunter turned to a conserver and preserver, a great change can

be seen in his life as well. It is this fact that made him popular as he later devoted his whole life for the preservation of wildlife.

This re-reading allows the reader to admire and praise Jim Corbett's efforts for wildlife preservations. It can be seen that through his wildlife preservation activities he wanted to maintain a proper ecological balance in universe. He fully participated in the ecological and environmental related matters and gave his ideas and vision. He was also elected member of the National Municipal Board, besides being a senior vice chairman of the Board from 1923 to 1926. Here he was fully devoted to nature and environment and he greatly showed interest to preserve nature and implemented his ideas regarding conservation of Nature and totally banned fishing at National Lake.

Corbett's writing will create consciousness and awareness about wildlife in the minds of general human being and also affect our souls and hence we shall understand the value of wildlife deeply and work seriously in that regard. Every natural element has an effect on ecology, so it is a must to maintain a proper balance.

The present research will be a milestone in the field of ecology, environment and creating a natural sensibility. The coming generation will take a moral lesson from Corbett's writing and they will be enlightened in this regard. This research is a medium to create awareness in today's generation on the importance of wildlife, nature and its conservation by encouraging them to re-read Jim Corbett's works.

Corbett's work explores a relationship between literature and the environment conducted in the spirit of commitment to the environmental reforms. His work raises an alarm that every human race should pay the duty of morality as well as by-born natural duty that they must have a "Spirit of commitment" for wildlife preservation and environment. This re-reading brings in the concept of deep ecology that dislocates the social self of man and

starts a search for his biological self in co-operation with the non-human world. Thereby stating that ecology and environment is very important for the soul and hence we must save it for the survival of human race.

After complete analysis of Corbett's writings, we can say that his alarm is not against any person, individual or institution, but it is against the rapidly declining eco-ethics of human society. He is not a social worker but has formulated his own ethical code which human civilization needs to cultivate in order to restore the ecology. The re-reading lends a bioscope to view the different phases of ecological changes and development that has happened in the Indian environment as a whole. This rereading will surely provide a fresh perspective to its reader on India wildlife, ecology, environment and their conservation and preservation efforts.

Re-reading Corbett's works also establishes him as a true environmentalist because through his writing he spread the message that to save environment, ecology and wildlife should be the moral duty of every citizen of India. This same message has also been taught in various ancient Indian religious literatures like the Upanishads, Bhagwad Gita.

Another fact on which Corbett laments in his writing is "Deforestation" which has adverse effects on environment and ecology. It is because of this that our environment and ecology is in danger today. When we are recklessly cutting plants and trees then how can we talk about ecological balance. Deforestation is the greatest danger for wildlife and in fact the first reason of ecological disturbance. According to Natasha Kwatiah article on environment given are the basic fact of ecological imbalance.

- (1) Degradation of land
- (2) Deforestation
- (3) Faulty utilization of water resources
- (4) Environmental problem from faulty mining practices

(5) Industrial and atmospheric pollution

Deforestation can also be seen as removal of forests leading to several imbalances ecologically and environmentally. Given are the basic causes of deforestation-

- (A) Agricultural activities
- (B) Logging
- (C) Urbanization
- (D) Desertification of land
- (E) Mining

Thus in the present times, we can say that deforestation is the major problem and Corbett warned about it many years ago. Today this research on re-reading his works will ring an alarm that we should save our forests so that our eco-system will function properly. Father of nation Mahatma Gandhi said:

The world has enough for everybody's need, but not enough for one person's greed.

Gandhi holds rash human behavior and lack of individual commitment as responsible for causing environmental problems in India.

The relation of human being with nature is very sublime. From ancient times, feeling of being one with Nature is the message given by ancient Indian culture and religion. It had a great influence not only on Gandhi, but also on Sunderlal Bahuguna, who has been the driving force behind the Chipko Andolan, the world-famous tree hugging movement in the Himalayan Villages of Uttarakhand in 1973. This shows that deforestation is not only a present day issue. But today the position is grave as humans are felling trees and plants recklessly.

Thus arise the need to read Corbett again as he shows the adverse effects of deforestation. Corbett's work provides the solution when he says that forests should be protected. His writing everywhere speaks about conserving and preserving nature and wildlife. So it is clear that Corbett's idea and concern for wildlife preservation is fully justified today. His writing is an appeal to save forest, wildlife, environment and ecology.

He paved the path for Chipko Movement. Both the Gandhian philosophy and the Chipko movement show the efforts made to restore the Indian environment by going back to the ecological ideals as laid down in the religious books like 'The Upanishads', 'The Vedas' and 'The Geeta'. Corbett's writing also follows the supreme path as laid down by ancient writings which have all the more significance in present time.

Corbett's awareness and appeal for environment is really admirable as well as praiseworthy. If we don't think about our environment, ecology and wildlife today then the future will be bleak. So Corbett's appeal should be taken seriously for the well - being of universe. Although various national and international agencies are working in this field like World Research Institute (WRI), World Wild Fund (WWF), United Nation Environmental Program (UNEP) but these global and national policies cannot successfully introduce an environmental ethic in the Indian society. For its success, human awareness is must, only then other plans will be successful and again it proves that why Corbett's appeal is useful and effective today.

Jim Corbett was a real hero of wildlife conservation and preservation as well as a true ecologist. His efforts will be a milestone in the preservation of wildlife. His writing is a mirror to wildlife conservation and preservation and ecological balance.

Given lines of poem "The Appeal by a Tree" are apt and significant in current reference.

"I have been standing for ages
I wish to live for you.
Do not chop me, I am yours.
I wish to give you something in future...
I am spring. I am the rains.
I am with Earth and Life.
I am everything for you.
Do not cut me, I have life,
I feel pain, so my name is tree...
Do not cut us, save us".

(Poem by: Ghanshyam Sailani)

Jim Corbett was a versatile genius and in his writings all aspects of wildlife, environment and ecology can be seen. The interdependence of trees and birds, forests and animals, the need to maintain an ecological balance are various issues dealt in Corbett's classics. So he evokes in his eco-literature all possible emotions that would connect man to his environment.

Only self-realization can prevent man from destroying his environment and this realization will come once man is emotionally bound to nature. Although Corbett's environmentalism does not prescribe radical method to be executed, he tries to formulate ecological behavior of man. Corbett's vision for Indian ecology is positive and optimistic and in the present scenario it becomes all the more important to save our ecology, environment and wildlife. His writing should be re-read in positive and optimistic outlook.

Jim Corbett was a true naturalist and his concern for wildlife shows another aspect of an environmentalism, which evokes thought providing questions regarding the current status of tigers and leopards in India. He shows how man's abusive relationship with tigers and leopards has adversely affected the jungle ecology. Corbett's strategy in terms of preserving wildlife is not motivated by social and political action. Once again, he tries to raise mass consciousness by appealing to human emotions. He shows various kinds of human hostility and the extent of torture inflicted upon the animals. Most of his tiger stories are pathetic explorations of human indifference and cruelty leading to wildlife degradation in India. He also shows that how human touch filled with love and affection can transform the fierce nature even of the most dangerous tiger to a spirit of self surrender.

Jim Corbett was a true messenger of ecology, environment and wildlife. His message is very clear and clean. He proves that man and tiger can co-exist in harmonious relationship if there is a bond of love and trust between them. A tiger becomes dangerous or turns into a man – eater only when compelled by circumstances. A tiger would never attack a man unless it is disturbed or hungry, so it should neither be slaughtered nor should be hunted.

Tiger is the national animal of India. As the national animal of India, tiger symbolizes India's wildlife wealth. It is chosen as the national animal for the combination of grace, strength, agility and enormous power. Also, India is home to the largest number of tigers in the world and consists of approximately 50% of the world's tiger population. Yet this creature is the most hunted one in the country, so much so that it was on the verge of extinction. It was in 1970, that the alarm was raised and thus hunting of tigers was made illegal.

Coming to our topic, this re-reading sheds light on importance of saving tiger as it is the symbol of wilderness and well-being of the ecosystem. We can keep the entire wilderness of ecosystem intact by conserving and protecting the tigers. Hence conserving wilderness is important and crucial to maintain the life support system. So saving tiger amounts to saving the ecosystem, which is crucial for man's own survival.

Suppose all tigers are killed and tiger becomes extinct then this will lead to the enormous increase in the population of the herbivorous animals. And this increased population of herbivorous animals will consume and deplete the green vegetation much faster. Ultimately, the natural balance of our ecosystem will be completely ruined. Thus it is essential to maintain this balance.

As less than 4,000 tigers remain in the wild, down from 100,000 a hundred years ago. Education, advocacy, patrolling to prevent poaching and even tourism for tigers remain crucial to prevent extinction. Between Nepal and India in the Terai Arc region, tiger populations are recovering, thanks to linking protected areas and ecological corridors. These trans boundary corridors allow for greater wildlife movement. If connected tiger habitat is conserved and protected elsewhere as well, hope remains that tiger populations can grow again and remain sustainable in their role as apex predator.

The two major reasons tigers are dying out are habitat loss and poaching.

(1) Habitat Loss

Another major factor contributing to the extinction of tigers is habitat loss and fragmentation. Tigers and their prey will be unable to thrive in the wild without a safe and healthy habitat. Humans are progressively intruding on

wilderness areas that were once solely dominated by tigers. The human population of India, which is home to roughly half of the world's wild tigers, has risen to one billion people. Tigers are finding less and less food as they struggle for land with humans. Locals pursue the same prey as tigers do, forcing tigers to turn to domestic animals and, on rare occasions, humans.

The villagers dislike them as a result of this. Villagers are frequently poisoned, shot, or snared by advancing tigers. Local populations need to utilise the adjacent forest sections for livestock grazing and wood for fuel in addition to food. The wild tiger will perish if there is no wilderness.

(2) Poaching and Tiger Trade

Despite the fact that killing a tiger is prohibited, wild tigers are still poached because their bones, whiskers, and other body parts can be sold for a high price. Tigers have therapeutic properties that aid in the treatment of chronic illnesses, the curing of diseases, and the replenishment of the body's energy.

The use of tiger parts in traditional Chinese medicines is a very old and expensive practice. But in the recent years the increase in living standards has made these remedies available to most people. There is a huge demand for parts of tigers in the Asian market which has led to sharp increase in their prices causing further increase in poaching activities by greedy hunters and traders.

Tigers suffer constant threat of poaching due to their being a status symbol in certain cultures. Their habitats have been destroyed or disconnected, and their natural prey has dwindled. As natural prey has dwindled and tigers have started consuming more domestic animals, retaliation by farmers has increased. Removal of habitat due to human civilization also increases the likelihood of tiger and human conflict. At the same time, there are natural

alternatives for those seeking traditional Chinese medicines to treat ailments and diseases without using tiger's derivatives.

Jim Corbett can rightly be considered as a naturalist because love of nature always ran in his blood. He devoted his whole life for nature and environment. Ecological balance is the keynote in his writing. This research shows that Corbett was not only a hunter but also the true preserver of nature and ecology. We know that Jim Corbett was an army officer of Colonel rank in British Indian army but later he turned into a nature conservationist, wildlife preserver, animal lover and an eminent writer. It is result of his love for nature, the name of national park is renamed **Jim Corbett National Park**.

Description of Natural beauty can be found in abundance in his books especially when he is narrating his hunting experience. He provides detailed description of hills, lakes, mountains and valleys where he hunted. Nature speaks everywhere in his writings be it his hunting experience in Kumaon and Rudraprayaag or the stories of **My India**.

Corbett's writings clearly and beautifully depict the social world of Kumaon at that time. Here one thing is notable that Corbett's relationship with people of hill station was wonderful. The qualities of hill folks such as sincerity, honesty and truthfulness impressed the writer to a large extent. All these qualities were presented by writer in his story collection My India. On account of his themes, today Jim Corbett should be recognized and his books should be re-read in the present context by people of all age groups.

As reflected by re-reading his works, Corbett was a multi-talented personality but just and foremost he was a naturalist. In 1930, he concentrated his efforts on photographing wild animals in the jungle, drawing inspiration from Sir Walther Champion, British India's first wildlife photographer.

Jim Corbett's re-reading of his works can be looked from the point of view of his language, diction and style along with all the social and ecological messages that it conveys. Re-reading his works give a detail knowledge about Corbett's language skill. Language is primary means of communication, method and medium of expression of feelings and emotions. It is a system of communication in speech and writing that is used by people of a particular country. Language is the system of sounds and writing that human beings use to express their thoughts, ideas and feelings. So language is a particular and structured system of communication that involves the use of specific human languages.

In connection with this research topic, the language found after re-reading Corbett's work is very natural and personal, dealing with self emotions and feelings of writer. In his writings emotions abounds and his smooth sentiments and overwhelmed feelings is present in all his works. The details given by Corbett in his books are a true description of his feelings and emotions.

While re-reading Corbett's work, the thing which impresses is his skill and style of language which is very original. He never uses ornamental language and also never tries to make language difficult by using bombastic language. He only presents his emotions, feeling, experiments and hunting experience in very easy and simple language so that everyone can understand it easily.

Although language is the technical part of writing but writings of Corbett are so alive that it seems that language is speaking his experience and emotion in his writings. His expression is so powerful that it seems to speak itself. Language written by Jim Corbett is so original and natural that everyone who has an average knowledge of English can easily understand it. He presents his hunting experience in his books and all these types of experience

have been written in short and sweet language. There seems no artificiality and only simple language finds place in his writing.

Jim Corbett is no doubt a natural writer who writes in a natural and common habitual writing everywhere in his experience. The use of language is an important part of research which shows technical point of writer that how and in which manner he presents his ideas and thoughts. Re-reading Corbett's work will provide a wide and vast experience in relation to his experience in writing. So Corbett's writing is natural and due to attachment of local language it becomes more sweet and smooth.

A critical analysis of Corbett's work after its re-reading is his writing and diction is natural and based upon common language. After re-reading Corbett's work we can understand his language skills, diction and style are as listed below:

***Common People Language:-**

The prime feature of Jim Corbett's writing is his use of common people language. He describes his ideas in such a way that can be easily understood by local people.

*** Simple Speaking Language:-**

Simplicity of language is another important aspect of Corbett's language. Simple language can impress readers and can be read and understood by all.

*** Soul Speaking Language:-**

The experience given by Corbett has not much to do with his thought but it was the voice of his soul, what he thinks about wildlife, humanity and poor of India.

*** Heart Touching Expression:-**

In Corbett's **My India** the details given by him have an emotional appeal and touch our heart.

*** Sentimental and Emotional:-**

Sentiments and emotions are inseparable part of writing. Corbett's stories in **My India** are full of sentiments and emotions. The character of Lalajee, Budhu and Chamari does not require any proof as they represent feelings, emotions and sentiments. All these are the production of skilled language.

*** Encounter and Experience:-**

Corbett's theme can be divided in to two parts which are encounter and experience. In encounter as depicted in **Man-Eater of Kumaon** and **The Man-eating Leopard of Rudraprayaag** presents the hunting scenes in detail minutely and in experience he presents his interaction with Indian poor as presented in his stories of **My India**.

*** Indianness:-**

Corbett's **My India** is fine example of his conception of Indianness. The picture of India is presented by Corbett in his writing. The real and actual picture of Indian poor is presented by him and the characters in this book are the true representation of the people of India of those region at that time.

*** Local, Locality and Language:-**

Local, Locality and language are interlinked and well connected to each other. We can present our local location and locality in local way of language. The spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings and emotions can be best expressed in local language.

*** Subjective and autobiographical:-**

Jim Corbett's books are purely subjective and details and experience are personal and hence autobiographical. He very beautifully painted his hunting experience and expressed his relationship with poor human beings.

*** Wildlife Representation:-**

Corbett basically provides two important episodes in all his book. First is his wildlife experience related to hunting and second is his deep attachment for poor and needy Indians. But he basically provides wildlife representation in his maximum books except **My India** which is a collection of his experiences spent with poor and needy Indians.

*** Humanitarian approach in writing:-**

Jim Corbett may be considered a writer of humanity as feelings of sympathy and generosity ran in his blood. The language used by him in **My India** is totally human as he painted the character of various poor and needy persons like "Lalajee", "Budhu", and "Chamari". All these persons came in connection with Corbett through the path of humanity. The present study tries to prove Corbett as a writer of human being.

*** Melting Expression:-**

The language used by Corbett is very emotional and touching and if anyone read his **My India** he is sure to feel touched and deeply affected by it. Really it is a matter of surprise that how a hunter can be so soft and sensitive as he started not only caring for wildlife but also serving the poor and needy people. In the beginning he was a hunter killing many tigers and leopards but in his later life he devoted himself totally and worked for the preservation of wildlife and protection of poor and needy Indians.

So, it can be said that he used a very natural and common spoken language. As far as his style is concerned, Corbett's style is unique and flawless. He possessed supreme narrative skills, and knew how to relate a story without boasting, and yet several of his stories were rejected by Blackwoods magazine (Scotland) in the 1920s by thoughtless editors as Corbett was quite unknown! He was an unassuming man, always modest, a great jungle detective, a crack shot, a champion of the underdog and above all a superior human being.

Re-reading shows Corbett as a true representative of human life as well as a true protector and preserver of wildlife and it also provides the link between Corbett as a hunter and Corbett as a preserver. Both aspects are right from his angle. When there was the need of hunting to save life of human beings he was a hunter and when there was the need of saving wildlife and animal then he became a conserver and preserver of wildlife and nature.

So this chapter tries to state that why re—reading Jim Corbett is really important. Corbett's works are window to tiger saving. We should be motivated in our mission of Project Tiger by Corbett's works. At the same time to save nature and environment and maintain ecological balance should also be our motto which becomes very clear on re- reading Jim Corbett.

The objective of Corbett's re-reading is fully justified in current scenario because due to large scale deforestation, the wildlife is in danger. The intricacy of our complex lifestyle is reflected in the civilization. We must be compatible with the living beings around us in order to ensure the continuation of life.

The Time has come when we must start to take lesson from our history and according to it try to maintain proper balance of different creatures of universe. The fundamental rationale and pressing requirement of the time suggests that human life's stability is likewise dependent on the position of

other organisms. We can learn something from Corbett's warning, which he issued 70 years ago. That alarm of tiger conservation and preservation has now become a challenge for and that any how we should save them.

Corbett's re-reading is fully significant and justified today as an indicator for wildlife. His works and life reflect the concern for the tigers in Indian forest. It is a matter of irony that though at present, there is a lot of encouragement towards ecological and nature writing, works of Corbett are overlooked. Now time has come when Corbett may be considered as a global environmentalist who recommended us to think, re-think about our surroundings. He fully believed that every creatures and species on earth are interdependent and should have peaceful co, existence. The national park named after him is a vision of Corbett which calls for protection of the tigers and its surroundings.

Thus we can see that these are the various interpretations and perspectives from which Corbett's works can be re-read in the present times.

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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction**Chapter 5****Conclusion**

This research **Encounters With The Wild: Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** has its proper and justified importance. The aim of this research work is to re-read Jim Corbett’s work intensively in the present context. When we read his work from the present perspective, we find that main objective of research is to show the value of wildlife, tiger conservation, wildlife preservation and environment in the backdrop of Corbett’s work.

Universe is made of various elements and all factors have their proper and significant place and role. If there is any disturbance in this, it is sure that the ecosystem as well as ecological balance is going to be disturbed. Ecosystem and ecological balance are must for proper and smooth functioning of this universe. In this ecosystem both human beings and wildlife have their proper significance and play a major role in maintaining the balance.

The importance of the research work can be proved from various angles.

It is very useful to create a sense of love for wildlife in common man's mind. It will provide a vast and detail information to people to think sensitively for tigers and resultantly they will show sympathy towards them. This research will create an eagerness and curiosity to know about the wildlife in the mind of common man so that they can play their role for their preservation and conservation. They will get sufficient knowledge and hence can play a positive role in maintaining ecological balance. Meaning to say to creating awareness about wildlife conservation and preservation and understanding about eco system are the focal of this current research.

Re-reading Corbett will provide a wide view to observe natural beauty, wildlife details and hunting activities. Corbett's work is the detail description of such experiences related to wild scenes and forest details. So, this research will provide them a wide range of opportunity for such observations. Every activities of hunting carried out in various locality of Uttarakhand state will create a sense of intensive love in reader's mind. The details given in his **Tree Tops** is a fine example of it because it is the superb representation of natural greenery. In this book writer presents how he started caring for wildlife and animals. His feelings and attachment for natural beauty and wild scenes ran in his blood as he spent most of his time in close proximity of Nature. It was a turning point when Corbett a hunter turned to a preserver of nature. Now he devoted his whole life to save Nature and wildlife.

This research aims to change the mindset of people that Jim Corbett was a hunter. First, he was a wildlife preserver, naturalist and humanist and then a hunter. Even his hunting activities were not bad or harmful for society because he hunted for the welfare of humanity and common society. Hence Jim Corbett must always be remembered as a humanist, naturalist and wildlife conserver and preserver by society. This research will be important in future because it will provide vast knowledge about author. To assign proper importance and place to writer is also the purpose of this study.

This research will play an important role in Government's well planned ambitious mission **Project tiger** because it will involve common man in this mission. People already have started taking interest in wildlife and they surely will be interested when they will read Corbett's work and shall be acquainted about his concern in this regard. They will start to think about situation and condition of tigers in India. With the help of this research, people will get attached to wildlife and they will try to acquire knowledge and will play an active role in the conservation of Tigers via this Project. Common men of country are the basic key or medium of success of any project and this

thesis will show them the way how they can be attached to this project. The success of **Project Tiger** will depend upon the involvement of common public, and they will show their proper and moral duty through the study of this current research.

The purpose of this research is the advancement of wildlife literature in society. The current research will show and provide a new direction and path to wildlife literature because it is the topic which has remained ignored and not been taken seriously. It will be useful to know about jungle stories, wildlife experience and natural description which abounds in Corbett's work. Wildlife literature is a unique part of scientific literature and through this research, a new range of knowledge will be provided. Wildlife literature is an important aspect of nature study.

Corbett's contribution to save nature and wildlife is an impressive part of this study. People can learn and accept the contribution of Jim Corbett as a conserver and preserver of nature. This research **Encounter With Wild: Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** will play an important role in realizing the importance of re-reading Corbett's work which will in turn show us his concern for wildlife, ecology and environment as well as warn us to think about wildlife which is in danger.

Now the time has come to think about the situation of tigers. Therefore, Corbett should be re-read because he was a naturalist and a conserver of tigers and was the person who took initiative and thought of saving tiger. He raised an alarm half century ago that tiger's fall is a point of consideration and matter of grave concern. This research makes re-reading of Corbett's works contemporary and relevant because the consideration of tiger has become present day concern.

Corbett's wildlife consideration will make us think positively towards wildlife. He should be re-read because he was a true humanist both ways, first he saved human beings from the tigers and second, he saved tigers from human beings. He has created a link between wildlife and human being. He is a humanistic writer both as a protector of wildlife and as a saver of human life and humanity at large.

Corbett should be re-read to develop a sensibility and feelings of love and attachment for wildlife. We are living in an era of science and technology, where maximum power and efforts of country are diverted towards development in this field. So it is the need of the hour that we should seriously start thinking about nature and wildlife as they are also important.

Corbett should be re-read as a conserver and preserver of tigers because he devoted his whole life to save tiger and today the **Project Tiger, Wildlife Institute of India** and many other NGOs are working in the same direction. He has analyzed every aspect regarding tiger preservation and his prediction about tigers seems to have come true. He felt deeply concerned over the declining numbers because when we talk of development than environment is in a way of adversely effected. He is remembered because today we have less than 2000 wild tigers in India and Corbett's prophecy is staring us in the face today. His works can prove milestone for preservation of wildlife as they presented every aspect of it clearly.

Corbett should be re-read because his work is very interesting and exciting and surely it can provide a right path to youth about wildlife preservation. Looking at the fall of tigers it becomes necessary that interest should be developed in student's mind that wildlife and nature plays a very significant role. His work creates a positive path for thinking about wildlife. His re-reading is the demand of time because in this Wi-Fi, internet era, we have been alienated from natural and original beauty of nature and are

experiencing wildlife and nature just by digital means. He should be read again because his experience described in his book can change the mentality of generation towards wildlife. He should be re-read as he is the real role model and actual brand ambassador of **Project Tiger**.

Jim Corbett's re-reading can make us familiar and aware about today's **Project Tiger**. His works are very interesting and so they are able to develop a sense of understanding about wildlife in young generation. Here one thing is important that **Tiger conservation** is not possible only by the rules and regulations of Govt but it requires involvement and understanding of common man. If people start taking interest in this issue, then it is easily possible to save tigers.

Tigers are the national animal of India, So it is our moral duty to save them. Corbett's work creates a moral sense and moral duty to think about tigers and wildlife. So, the current research shows that Corbett raised his voice for wildlife conservation and preservation long time ago.

So his works are an effective medium of creating awareness among the readers for wildlife. It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the **Wild life Protection Act** was passed by the government of India in 1972. As a result, now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So the wildlife related literature of Corbett has permanent place in literature and no doubt he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It has also inspired some writers in recent times to write from an environmental perspective. He recommends his readers to take more interest in environment and to live in close proximity of nature.

Corbett's works are significant today and they give a right direction for understanding wildlife. He devoted his whole life for the welfare of human being as well as wild tigers. He may be called a hunter turned writer. His study makes us a sharp observer of wild life, hence this research work is fully

significant and relevant. This research is a comprehensive study of Corbett's work. The goal of this study is to demonstrate how his writings had a lasting impact in modern times, establishing him as one of the best prose authors in Anglo-Indian literature in the twentieth century.

Corbett's writings, no doubt hold universal significance today. He had a sneaking suspicion that his writing would go unnoticed. He had no wish to be considered one of his generation's writers. Nonetheless, he has made an indelible effect on literature by expressing his observations in such a way. In his writings, he documented his experiences in order to transmit what he knew, observed, and comprehended.

There are various points which show how Corbett is useful today and why we should re-read him. National park which is named after him as "Corbett National Park" is enough proof to show his importance and popularity. Many wildlife species are on the verge of extinction. Therefore, Corbett's work about wildlife and nature shall hold a permanent place in literature in future too.

Corbett must be read for tiger conservation and the research topic is fully significant with **Tiger Conservation**. Now a days tiger conservation has been extensively out looked in literature. The present research tries to show the objectives which are relevant and up to date with Tiger project and that's why has proper significance in future.

Corbett's re-reading will be fully justified as well as important in future. He was a true preserver of wildlife. He makes a sincere effort to communicate fascinating knowledge about elephants, tigers, leopards and panthers in the jungle. His concern for the future of wildlife leads him to sanctuaries in his most recent book, **Tree Tops**. He has documented many parts of the natural world and has useful information on a variety of wild

creatures and birds. His works reveal the social organisation of animals that live in herds or groups.

Jim Corbett's works are the reflection of wild-encounter and the present research gives a clear picture related to the result of his encounter with the wild. Besides, it also points how his outlook changes and from a skilled hunter how he becomes a protector of wild animals. Both aspects are useful here but focus of this research is to show his contribution in wildlife. Another notable contribution of his is that he has documented the effects of natural phenomena such as forest fires and hailstorms on the forest's birds and animals. In his books **My India** and **Tree Tops**, he describes wildlife in great detail.

Corbett's re-reading is fully applicable today because he provides the right direction how to save tigers. Tiger is described as a "large-hearted animal" with infinite courage, according to him. He claims that in order to save tigers from extinction, public opinion must rally behind him. He is the first Anglo-Indian writer to issue a public warning about the extinction of tigers in the country. This was the first time when it came into notice that the situation of tiger is not good. He really felt the need to save tigers and wildlife.

He has shown the path how we can save them. He devoted his whole life observing wildlife. He had spent a significant portion of his life in the company of indigenous people in the Kumaon region, and he had carefully observed their way of life. In his book **My India** he shows the tribal life of Kumaon region. Also, he represents the social customs, typical village system of the region and even its communication system. His participation in tribal life and traditions became a critical criterion for evaluating his jungle literature.

Encounters with the wild deals with the details related to Corbett's hunting design. Re-reading indicates various angles and perspective from which his works can be looked upon and how Corbett's works may be useful in future. Both aspects are logical, his re-reading is more useful for preservation of wildlife and conservation of wild animals. His worry was genuine as he lamented the human race's role in deforestation and environmental imbalance. He also shared his thoughts on human meddling and the effects it has on the environment. He opposes and criticizes tree cutting for commercial gain.

The present research **Encounter With The Wild: Re-Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** will play an important role in future in the field of wildlife preservation. The focus of this study is on re-reading Jim Corbett from present day perspective and hope that the coming generation will learn a lesson from this research that wildlife should be preserved. The Project Tiger as well as direction of conserving and preserving them may be the source of inspiration in future.

The present research work shall be very important in future. Readers will be familiar with the name of Jim Corbett's work. The research work will create an environment and interest in the mind of readers. With the help of this research, students and society will have a new outlook towards wildlife. The scope of literature would be extended and this work will give a new light to this ignored topic. The present mission of Environment **Preservation, Project Tiger** and **Wildlife Preservation** would get a new drive. It would be appreciated to a large extent.

This research topic will directly appeal the hearts of people and they will get involved in it. All works of author will be brought to light and will surely enrich English literature. The purpose of this research is to inculcate interest and love for this ignored topic among English students.

Corbett's re-reading will show its utility in future. He was very careful about the state of tigers even after post-Independence. His work and life reflect the concern for tigers in Indian Jungles. It seems ironical that though in present, there is a lot of encouragement towards ecological and nature writing, works done by Corbett is overlooked. We should not consider Corbett as a Colonist but he was a global environmentalist who recommended us to think about our surroundings. He always represented a true and genuine picture of India where we see an equality between human life and wildlife.

Corbett was always careful for wild life and believed that every species on earth has right to co-exist with others. He believed in principles of peaceful coexistence. The national park named after him is a vision of Corbett which calls for protection of the tiger and its surroundings.

But now a days due to deforestation, the wildlife is in danger. Today's civilization lays out the intricacies of our complex lifestyle in front of us. Here, we must be compatible with the living beings around us in order to ensure the continuation of life. Now the time has come that we learn from the past and divert all our resources and energy for the well-being of future. The primary reason and the urgent need of the hour which calls us for the survival of tigers is our own survival as human beings. There is a close relationship between wildlife and human life. They also have right to live happily.

Re-reading of Corbett's work will show an impressive result in future as we shall start taking interest in wildlife. His experience of hunting and then conserving and preserving wildlife will compel us to think that they are also an integral part of our society and we should treat them as a part of a big family.

Real justification of Re-reading Jim Corbett's work has been attempted in this research work. The main objective of the research work is to provide prominent place to Jim Corbett in the history of English literature as he

remained ignored and neglected so far. The mission of this research is also to display that how Corbett presents wildlife through his work and what great role he plays for humanity. Here one thing is important that Corbett's tiger killing should not be taken as creating damage to the environment but it is for the sake of protecting human life. The research work shall have proper significance as it will provide a wide range of scope to learn and analyze about wildlife protection and preservation. Readers will come more close to writer and start taking interest in his hunting experience.

To show writer's humanitarian attitude is also the part of the objective of this research work. Corbett protected human life and through this research it has become ample clear that saving human life should be the first religion of our life. The other objective of this research work is to search out the wildlife details in Corbett's work as well as its connection with today's Project **Tiger**, so that the coming generation shall be familiar with him.

Corbett's works are fully significant and justified in present times. It will show a new relationship between man and animal. A new shape and platform is provided by this topic. Our efforts for conservation and preservation of tigers and wildlife must not be at the cost of human life. This research work shall be of immense value for present time when the government is trying to save the tigers by the plan "Project Tiger" but we have to pay our attention to the fact that at what cost our government is saving tigers and wildlife.

This research work is fully justified in present times as it has thrown light on the past literary work which was composed on wildlife as well as on Jim Corbett's classics. Through a critical study of Jim Corbett's work, it became possible to trace out literary merits of his work and his contribution to English literature. He was one of the writers who recognised the importance of

both virtue and evil in nature. It is because of this mentality that his works are so engaging.

Re-reading is a kind of re-observe, re-visit and re-view and Corbett's re-reading creates an excitement in readers mind. The present study will have a unique importance in coming times as it is closely linked with the environmental issue. The scope of wildlife will be increased through this research work. It will give a new shape to the history related to wildlife stories in English literature.

Today, Corbett's re-reading is fully justified because due to increased and reckless deforestation, the wildlife is in danger. Time has arrived for us to learn from the past and move forward in order to ensure the survival of all species on the planet. The primary reason and urgent need of the hour for the tiger's conservation, is our own survival as a human race. We must learn something from the alarm which Corbett had rung seventy years ago. That alarm for tiger preservation has now become a challenge for us and through every possible means we should try to save them. Corbett's work and life reflects the concern for the tigers in Indian forest. Now Corbett may be considered as global environmentalist who recommended us to think, re-think about our surroundings. He fully believed that every creatures and species on earth are interdependent and should co -exist peacefully. The national park named after him is a vision of Corbett which calls for protection of tigers and its habitat.

In the end, this research work has thrown light on Corbett as a skillful hunter and at the same time open a new dimension by reading his works keeping in the mind the present context. This research shall not only attract the coming generation to read Corbett's work but also provide a new path, a new thinking and new outlook for wildlife.

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Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction**SUMMARY**

Colonel Jim Corbett was born on 25 July 1875 in Kaladungi (Near Nainital), which is now well known as “Jim Corbett village”, situated near Haldwani Railway station. His father was William Corbett, a postmaster. Jim was VIIIth among his 12 brothers and sisters. Jim completed his 12th from open school, Nainital. Then went to Makamghat (Bihar), worked there in railways. He remained unmarried whole life.

Corbett’s works are his living introduction as a successful writer. His hunting experiences are reflection of his personality. If we read Corbett's work then automatically our heart turns towards him and we just want to know deeply about him.

It is an important fact of his life that on one side he was a hunter but on the other side he is considered as a preserver of wildlife. Both aspects of his personality are right. When we consider him as a hunter, during that time humanitarian ground was deep in his mind. It was the need of the hour to serve human beings first. That’s why Corbett played on wildlife for the welfare of human beings. Corbett’s works are window to his personality. He will always remain alive in our mind for forever. Although he was not highly educated but his achievements are great. His writings closely deal with Indian tales, love for forests and wildlife, human attachment and above-all abounds in natural descriptions.

As far as his background is concerned, Corbett belonged to domicile English family as his grandfather Joseph Corbett left his native place for India in 1814 and came to Bengal in 1815 with his wife Harriet and girl Eliza. He had seven children and among them the third was Christopher William, father of Jim Corbett. Corbett’s father was also an army man and participated in the

first Afgan war. He also served as a medical officer in Dehradun. Family later settled in Mussoorie and Mathure and stayed there till 1861. Here Corbett's father joined Post-department. His father moved to Nainital in 1862 and was appointed Postmaster of the town.

From academic point of view Corbett was not highly educated. Even formal education beyond matriculation was not in his luck. In the beginning he wanted to become an engineer but family's financial condition was not good enough to support him. It was on account of this that he started a temporary job in railways in 1892 as fuel inspector and served for two years with a salary of 100 rupees per month. It was not a suitable job for him but sufficient enough to show that he had to struggle in his early life.

There is an interesting episode about his personal life, which made him a writer. A lady, named Violet Haig, who was the wife of Governor of United Provinces (Now UP & Uttranchal) requested him to print his adventurous hunting experiences. It was the starting inspiration for Corbett and finally he decided to pen down his hunting experience. He had his close friend who had a small hand printing press and he agreed to print the stories. In the beginning it took four months to type his first book.

The brief details of book written by Corbett are given below:-

Jungle Stories was his first book and he printed only 100 copies of this book. It was his initial effort as a writer. All 100 copies were distributed among his friends and fans. His first attempt was successful and there was a demand to bring out the stories in regular book form so he approached Oxford University Press, Bombay. R.E. Hawkins edited the stories totally and published again with the new title.

Man-eaters of Kumaon (1944) was the collection of seven stories about Corbett's hunting experience and encounter with wild. This gave a clear picture of Corbett's hunting talents. The book also includes various essays on

different subjects in which some focused subjects are narration about his favorite dog, favorite sports, tiger's reaction during hunting, and photographic details. The fame of book spread far and wide including America and Britain. Within two year of its publication the book sold about 2 lakh copies all over the world. It was the first great achievement of Jim Corbett as a writer. We can easily guess about its popularity that it has been translated in 14 European languages, 11 Indian languages and in African & Japanese too.

The Man- eating Leopard of Rudraprayag (1948) was the next attraction of Jim Corbett which was something different from the first. The details of this book is related to his concern for the people afflicted from leopard in Kumaon region. The book is dedicated to 125 victims killed by the leopard in Kumaon area. These are the various topics upon which Corbett writes in the book- The first kill, Terror, Investigation, The pilgrim road, The second kill, Retreat, The Hunters hunted, Preparations, Supernatural, Touch and go, A shot in the dark.

My India (1952) is the collection of incidents which occurred in the personal life of Jim Corbett. All stories are the detail description of poor people living in India and serve as a link between writer and poor people of India. "My India" is totally devoted and dedicated to the Indian poor. It is a living portrait of Indians living in miserable condition in various locations of Kumaon district. Some important stories are Mothi, Kumwar Singh, The queen of village, The law of the Jungle, The brother, Budhu, Lalajee, Chamari and Life of Mokamen ghat. "My India" is totally based upon Indian culture and civilization which very beautifully reflects the taste, customs, traditions, manners and superstitions of the people of Kumaon.

Jungle Lore (1953) deals with writer's attachment and sensibility towards jungle. Corbett's connection with wildlife and forest is the key focus of this book. The book is dedicated to Corbett's sister Maggie. The book is a

superb example of writer's photographic ability while dealing with wildlife. Jungle Lore is the document of details of wildlife which help us to analyse and understand writer's love for wildlife. Each and every detail related to Jungle like natural beauty, sensitive fear, changing outlook, mystery and excited world of Indian Jungle are available in it.

The Temple Tiger and More Man-eaters of Kumaon (1954) is also reflection of Jungle Stories and his experiences. The theme of this book is basically 'hunting'. The pictures of encounters with the wild are beautifully and excitedly portrayed in the book. Real encounter with man eaters are presented here in full detail and abounds in excited scenes filled with doubt, curiosity and suspense.

Tree Tops (1955) (Posthumously) was the last book of Jim Corbett which was published after his death. It has only 30 pages and the only book which was written with an African setting. This book deals with the historic event of the visit of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to the game hut in Nyeri, Kenya. The background of this book is Kenya, as we know that his last time was spent in Kenya and he died there of heart attack.

No doubt Corbett was an iconic hunter of man-eater tigers and leopards and actively engaged in big game hunting during the first half of 20th century. Basically, he hunted 30 tigers between 1907 to 1938 and killed 12 man-eating tigers responsible for killing more than 1500 people in the hill area of Garhwal, Almora and Nainital. But besides being a hunter he was also a preserver and naturalist. Overall his career had a remarkable progression as a hunter, conservationist, wildlife photographer and his writings are deeply coloured by his hunting and conservationist idea.

The word **Re-Reading** used in my research has a specific literary meaning because it is an act of reading something again and again, different from surface or superficial reading. To read well, that is to read books in a

true spirit, is a noble exercise. So "Re-Reading" is a process of "becoming conscious." The term "Re-reading" is applicable to deep analysis of any object. So Re-reading Jim Corbett's works open a whole new vista and give various angles and perspectives to think about his works.

"Reading" indicates superficial study of any work but when we use word "Re-reading" then not only meaning changes but it also becomes broad and wide. Then it highlights present perspective and other angles of interpreting it. For example if we consider "Dropadi Episode" in **Mahabharat** and re-read and try to connect with present time then its scope and area totally changes and becomes broader. Then it can be linked to today's woman empowerment, woman equality and woman right.

I mean Re-reading of any article or objects provides various ways of interpretation. Same can be applicable to Jim Corbett. Common reading is only related to his hunting experience and wildlife details but its re-reading has various and broad interpretation and the angle of thinking totally changes and lead towards the thought that he was not only a hunter but Tiger preserver, wild-life lover, a great humanitarian and an epitome of sympathy. Also, its re-reading can be connected with the ambitious tiger plan **Project Tiger** of Govt. of India.

Here, another idea clicks in mind about the personality and behavior of Jim Corbett. Britishers treated Indians very cruelly. But Jim Corbett's conduct and personality was different from all these Britishers because he had deep love and sympathy for the Indians. The attitude of common British rulers and people was not sympathetic towards Indian as history depicts but it was Jim Corbett who developed a new conduct system with Indians. His helping nature towards Indians can be easily seen in his stories of **My India**.

In my research I have tried to prove why Jim Corbett should be re-read today. Corbett's works are window to tiger saving. We should be

motivated in our mission of tiger project by Corbett's works. My present research work shall also throw light on the past literary works which were composed on wildlife as well as Jim Corbett's classics. Through a critical study of Jim Corbett's work, I shall trace out literary merits of the work and its contribution to English literature.

Corbett's **re-reading** is fully applicable today because it provides right direction to save tigers. He describes tiger as **A large hearted gentleman** with boundless courage. He is of the opinion that to save tigers from extinction, along with Government's efforts public awareness is also required. He is the first writer to warn the people of India about the extinction of tigers from the country. He really felt the need for protecting tigers and wild life.

Corbett's **re-reading** will be fully justified as well as important in future. He was truly a preserver of wildlife. He makes a serious attempt to convey interesting information of the behavior of elephants, tigers, panthers in the forest. In his last book **Tree Tops** his concern for future of wildlife takes him to sanctuaries. He has recorded many aspects of the wild life and provides valuable information about many species of animals and birds. His works unfold the social system of the animals living in groups or herds.

Another important aspect and angle of Corbett's **re-reading** is ecological balance. From ancient times we have been talking about ecological balance. Various types of details are available in literature on Indian forest and life of wild creature. A good deal of details are available in Corbett's writing. There are various writers and naturalists who have described nature as well as wildlife in their works. In their works we can easily search for the concept of ecological balance because nature and wild life are part of ecology and it is essential to save them to maintain a proper balance.

Today we are living in an era of science and technology where rapid industrialization has led to deforestation causing great havoc to flora and fauna thereby disturbing ecological balance. Hence it becomes very important to maintain proper balance. Our life has become so mechanical that we have no time to think about nature and wildlife . The objective of my research is to strike an alarm and warning that nature is most powerful and any disturbance in natural elements will cause great havoc in future.

Jim Corbett's **re-reading** can be linked to today's **Tiger Project**. Jim Corbett's works are very interesting and so they are capable to develop a sense of understanding about wildlife in younger generation. They should be re-read to create an interest towards wildlife. Here one thing is important that **Tiger preservation** is not possible only by the rules and regulations of Government. Public awareness is essential for Tiger preservation. Here starts the need of Corbett's re-reading because his works are able to create public interest towards wildlife. If people start to take interest in this issue then it is easily possible to save tigers.

Tigers, in connection to my research work is a key factor. The number of tigers and leopards in India is declining rapidly. The time has come when we seriously start to think about wildlife. My research aims to give a clear picture of situation of tigers in India and it is the reason why we should re-read Jim Corbett. Corbett, who was not only a writer but also a keen observer cum preserver of wildlife. In the beginning he devoted his life to save human being from tigers but later diverted himself towards wild life and started to save wildlife from human beings.

Tigers are the national animal of India, So it becomes our moral duty to save them. Corbett's work creates a moral sense and moral duty to think about tigers and wildlife. So, in my current research I have tried to prove that why Corbett should be re-read?

Corbett's work is the reflection of wildlife preservation, paves way for the current growing awareness and significance of an ecological perspective on jungle literature in 21th century. So his work is an effective medium of creating awareness and interest among the readers about wildlife. It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the "wild life protection act" was passed by the government of India in 1972. Now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So the wildlife related literature of Corbett has a permanent place in literature and no doubt he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It has also inspired some writers in recent time to write from an environmental perspective. According to **Wild Life Institute** of India, tiger population is in deplorable state and if we will not think about them now then tigers will remain in pictures only.

The works of Corbett focus on a variety of subjects like hunting, wild life, nature, conservation and socio-cultural conditions of the country of his times. He speaks about simplicity, sincerity, honesty and loyalty of poor Indians whom he describes as "The salt of the Earth".

My topic **Encounters With The Wild: Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is fully justified and perhaps connected to the theme of today's "Tiger Project". I have tried to show the value of wildlife and ecological balance in universe. In reference to my brief summary about research, I can say that the topic is fully appropriate and has supreme objective for future.

The thesis is divided into five chapters. The **first chapter Introduction** is a basic introduction of writer as well as his works and his conception of humanity. In this part I have tried to show the utility of tiger preservation and wildlife with reference to Corbett's contribution. Today the number of tiger is decreasing rapidly. So it is the demand of time to think about this natural concern. Corbett's re-reading is important today because

time has come when we should think seriously about it. Government is trying its best but without involvement of public the desired success is not possible.

In my first chapter I have tried to show the basic objective of my research that its main focus is to show the importance of wildlife, ecological balance and tiger preservation. The prime motto of my research is to give right place to Jim Corbett who has remained ignored till today. In this chapter I have presented various works related to my topic and tiger project. In this concern the role of Govt is also admirable.

My **second chapter** entitled **About The Author** is the brief introduction of writer's life and works in which I have tried to give an important place to Jim Corbett as a true nature lover, humanist and wild life preserver. His works are related to his hunting experience and he has composed his six books on such details related to his hunting activities.

Here in this chapter I have tried to show whole life span of Corbett. This part basically deals with three sub points of Jim Corbett's life: his education, occupations, and Jim Corbett as an author. I have tried to throw light upon these points in this chapter.

The **third chapter Encounter With The Wild** deals with the details related to encounters with the wild, the basic theme of my research. In this part I have given detail study of six books of writer. All these are the true representation of Jim's hunting experience that how he had saved human life from man eaters: tigers and leopards. Encounter with the wild deals with the details related to Corbett's hunting design.

In this part I have also focused upon Corbett as a writer, as a naturalist and as a humanist. All these aspects of my research are presented here with logical details. As a writer I have shown Corbett as a great natural writer whose works are totally dedicated to wildlife and nature. As a naturalist, I have proved why we call Corbett a great lover of nature and as a humanist, I

have tried to show him as a best human being, super helper of poor and rural Indians. His **My India** is a fine example because all stories of **My India** deals with his humanitarian psychology. His soft heart and emotional behavior can be easily seen in **My India** where he has helped various poor, needy and rural Indians.

My **fourth chapter** entitled **Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction** is the key note of my research. Re-reading of Jim Corbett has a valuable importance in present times. I have shown in my research that how it is related to today's burning topic of global warming, eco-system and environmental purification. In universe, all elements have their place and significance and any kind of disturbance can destroy the balance and design of universe. Here I have also dealt with his language, diction, style and delineation of Indian culture in his work. All four aspects are presented with examples.

First, I have focused upon the language skill of writer and proved that it was keen and emotional style of expression. The way of presenting ideas is very natural and in a normal flow. The diction used by Corbett is very simple and easily understandable. It was the simplicity of his language and diction that anyone can read it without problem. In my research I have adopted the same way of writing and used simple and easily reachable language so anyone can read it without any problem. The style used by Corbett is a natural style without any extra decode and artificiality.

I have also presented his views regarding Indian culture and found there is Indianness every where in his works. Indian culture and civilization is the key word of Corbett's writing. Indian people, Indian trees, Indian language, Indian scene, Indian folk, Indian culture, Indian tradition and Indian locality are the prime features of his writings.

The last and **fifth chapter** of my research is **Conclusion** in which I have presented the brief summary and final result of my research. Here I have tried to show how my research will be useful in future and how we can be benefitted from it in present time also. The chapter basically deals with two major aspects

- (A) **Importance of the research work** -In this part I have shown how my research will play its role in future for **Tiger Project** and "**Wildlife preservation**". In this part I have tried to prove that "Tiger Project" will be successful only if people are actively involved in it. Without public awareness, it is impossible to think about **Tiger Project** and "Wildlife preservation". It will create an insight, inclination in common man's mind that wildlife is as important as human life.
- (B) **Use Of Research Work:-** In my final chapter I have shown the value of my research that how society can get maximum benefit from it. I not only hope but I have full confidence that society will be benefitted by my research because firstly, It will create an interest about wildlife and tigers in their mind. Secondly, they will understand the value of eco system and ecological balance in universe. Thirdly, they will get a chance to re-read Corbett, not as a hunter but as a lover of nature, deep humanist and wildlife preserver. Fourthly, they will play their role of serving their country and understand their moral duty for preservation of wildlife.

Corbett's writing is no doubt important today. He thought that his writing may not be read at all. He had no desire to be counted among the greatest writers of his times. None the less he has expressed his observations in such a manner that has left an indelible mark in literature and has created a niche of its own. He has written in order to communicate his experiences. Whatever he felt, observed and understood he expressed in his writings.

Corbett's works are significant in the present time and they give a right direction for understanding wildlife. He devoted his whole life for the welfare of human beings as well as wildlife. He may be called a hunter turned writer. His study makes us a sharp observer of wildlife. So, I can say that my research topic is fully significant and relevant.

Corbett must be read for tiger conservation and the research topic has contemporary significance as it can be linked with **Tiger Conservation** and 'Tiger Project'. Jim Corbett's works are reflection of wild-encounter and in my research I have tried to give a clear picture related to his encounter with the wild. At the same time I have also tried to show him as a preserver of wildlife. Both aspects are useful here but my focus is to show his contribution in wildlife. He has also thrown light on effect of the natural phenomena like fire, rain, hailstorms on birds and animals in the forest.

In **My India** and **Tree Tops**, he very naturally provides wildlife in detail and how we can save them. He devoted his whole life observing nature and wildlife. He spent his life in the company of tribal in Kumaon region for a pretty long time and he had keenly observed their life style. In his book "My India" he shows the tribal life in Kumaon region. Also, he represents the social customs, typical village system in the region and communication system. His involvement and knowledge of tribal life and traditions is an important factor in assessing his jungle literature.

My research work shall play an important role in future. Readers will be familiar with the name of Jim Corbett and his works. The research work will create environmental awareness in mind of readers. With the help of my research, the students and society will develop a new outlook towards nature and wildlife. The scope of literature would be extended. This work will give a new light to this ignored topic. I am fully confident that our present mission

for " Environment Preservation" and " Tiger Project" would get a new direction. It would be appreciated to a great extent.

This research topic will directly appeal the hearts of people and they will try to get involve in it. All works of author shall be brought to light and will surely enrich English Literature. I have great interest in wild stories and through my research I want to evoke interest and love for this ignored topic among English students.

The present study is neither a critical appreciation nor an essay in comparative criticism. It is a comprehensive study of Corbett's writings. The study is just a humble attempt for a fair minded analysis and assessment of a writer endowed with enough talent in recording his impressions of India that he so dearly loved and admired. In choosing Jim Corbett for research study is to show how his writings hold a satisfying interest and make him emerge as one of the best prose writers in Anglo-Indian literature in the twentieth century. The quantity of his creative output does not warrant that he be considered as a major prose writer. The contention however is that he does not deserve the kind of indifference and neglect that he has suffered at the hands of critics as well as scholars. He is one of the best-selling authors but scholars are reluctant to accept his texts as a critical source. His writings are worthy of rigorous and sustained study.

The books of Corbett focus on a variety of subjects like hunting, wild life, nature, conservation of India's flora and fauna and the socio-cultural conditions of the country of his times. He does not comment on the anti-thesis between the east and the west. On the contrary, he speaks of the simplicity, sincerity, honesty and loyalty of the poor Indians whom he describes as 'the salt of the earth'. He does not doubt the integrity of the natives and does not look at them with suspicion. He trusts the people of the region. His love for India and the Indians is reflected in his writings. As such his accounts stand

out as genuine expression of feelings and sentiments of an Englishman.

As regards the value of such a study, Corbett's writings reflect the spirit of times. The writings do not focus on the rise and fall of the British Empire in India. His literary works focus on the struggles of human and animal world. His books underscore a spirit to fight against heavy odds in life. His works cannot be dismissed as mere thrillers and entertainers. These writings are a precious legacy to understand Kumaon, her jungles, wildlife and the life of the hill folk of the region.

The basic objective of my research is to give a right direction as well as common alarm to save wild life and tigers. Corbett was a hunter of man eater tigers and leopards. But he shot the animals only to save human life. It is notable that although he killed the tigers and leopards but his mission was only to save human life.

The main objective of my research work is to provide prominent place to the author Jim Corbett in the history of English Literature who has been neglected so far and to show how Jim Corbett presents wild life through his work and what great role he plays for humanity. Author's tiger killing should not be taken as causing damage to environment but for the protection of human life.

Jim Corbett devoted his whole life for the preservation of wildlife. From ecological point of view, we can understand that his works show how to maintain ecological balance in universe. The word "Ecology" is deeply linked with the inner spirit of Corbett and it is also the prime objective of my research that ecological balance is must to save universe. "The Tiger project" and "Wildlife preservation" are related to ecological balance.

Nature and wildlife remained the prime motto of various writers of India as well as abroad . Jim Corbett is one of them, he never used nature and wildlife for entertainment or for beautiful description. This ideology makes

him different from others because in his writing there was a warning and an alarm to save nature and wildlife. Human beings and animals both are part of universe and co exists sharing the earth's most spectacular ground.

To maintain ecological balance is the prime motto of Corbett's writing. The rapid industrialization and urbanization has polluted the atmosphere of earth. Due to deforestation climate of entire universe is undergoing a drastic change, leading to global warming.

To show the author's humanitarian attitude is also the part of the objective of my research work. Jim Corbett protected human life and through my research work I want to prove that saving human life should be the first aim of our life. The other objective of my research work is to find wildlife details in Corbett's work, so that the coming generation shall be familiar about this ignored aspect.

My present research work will show a new relation between man and animal. Our efforts for the preservation of the tigers and wild life must not be at the cost of human life. My research work shall be of immense value in present time when government is also trying to save tigers through the "Tiger Project."

I can prove the importance of my research work from various angles. **Firstly**, it shall be useful to create a sense of love for wildlife in common man's mind. It will provide vast information to people to think sensitively for tigers and resultantly they will show their sympathy for them. My research will create an eagerness and curiosity to know about wildlife details in the mind of common man so that they will actively work for their preservation. They will have a better understanding about eco system and play a positive role in maintaining ecological balance. Means, awareness about wildlife preservation and understanding about eco system are the major importance of my current research.

Secondly, Re-reading Corbett will provide a wide view to observe natural beauty, wild life details and hunting activities. Corbett's work is a detail account of such experiences related to wild scenes and forest details, so my research will provide them a wide range of such observations. Every point related to hunting and various locality of Utrakhand state will create a sense of intensive love in readers mind. The details given in his "Tree Tops" is a fine example of it because it is a superb representation of natural greenery. In this book writer presents how he started caring for wildlife: animals and plants. His feelings and attachment for natural beauty and wild scene ran in his blood. It was the turning point of Corbett's thinking and he became a preserver of nature. Now he devoted his whole life towards nature.

Thirdly, Through my research, I want to change the mentality of people that Jim Corbett was a hunter. I have proved that first he was a wildlife preserver, naturalist and humanist, and then a hunter. Even his hunting activities were not harmful for society because he hunted for the welfare of humanity and society. I have tried to prove that Jim Corbett should always be remembered as a humanist, naturalist and wildlife preserver. My research shall be important in future because it will provide vast knowledge about the author. To give proper importance to writer I have proved his significance through his works.

Fourthly, my research will play an important role in Govt.'s well planned mission "Tiger Project" because it will involve common man in this mission. People automatically have started to take interest in wildlife and they surely will be motivated to read it. They will start to think about situation and position of tigers in India. Common man of country are the basic key or medium of success of any project and my thesis will show how they can be attached with this project. The success of "Tiger Project" will depend upon the involvement of common public. Surely they will show their proper and moral duty through the study of my current research.

Fifthly, the purpose of my research is the advancement of wild life literature in society. My current research shall provide a new direction and path to wild life literature because it is the topic which has remained ignored in society. It will create an impetus in the mind of readers to know more about jungle stories, wildlife experience and natural description. Wildlife literature is a unique part of scientific literature and through my research, a new range of knowledge will be provided.

Finally I can say that the research topic "Encounters With The Wild: Re Reading Jim Corbett's Fiction" is a significant work which has its contemporary value also. In present times, it will be useful as far as environmental purification, ecological balance, wildlife preservation, plantation is concerned. Today's most focused issues like **Global Warming** and **Climate Change** are the result of ecological imbalance. Besides the negative effect of deforestation, it becomes more important to highlight the impact of forest degradation. So, we must join hands to save wildlife, environment, eco-system and nature.

In a nutshell, I have highlighted both the aspects: encounters with the wild and re-reading Jim Corbett, and have tried to show his significance and relevance of his work in contemporary times.

Encounters With The Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction

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"JIM CORBETT SHOULD BE RE-READ"

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Abstract

Today, In India the number of tigers is going to fall day by day and it has become import and issue in country. The government is trying to save them with various plans and projects even they are decreasing fatly. Corbett's fiction is the voice of wild life preservation. The current growing awareness and significance of an ecological perspective on jungle literature in 21th century. So, his work is the effective medium of creating awareness and interest among the readers regarding wild life. It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the "wild life protection act" was passed by the government of India in 1972. Resulted, now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So, the wild related literature of Corbett has permanent place in literature and undouble he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It also inspired some writer in recent times to write with an environmental perspective. So, he recommends his readers to take more interest in environment and interact with the nature.

My research topic "Jim Corbett should be re-read" will play an important role in saving them because I think that today Corbett should be re-read. His re-reading us very concerned as well as alarming us to think about wild life. Now the time has come to think about the position of tigers. So, the main objective of my research to save wild life. Therefore, I hopefully say that Corbett should be re-read because...

- (A) He was the real naturalist and preserver of tigers.
- (B) He was the first person to think about this topic that tiger should be saved.

- (C) He had alarmed us before half century that tiger's decrement is the point of consideration and concern.
- (D) Re-reading of Corbett's fiction makes my research up to date and relevant because the consideration of Corbett becomes very alive today.
- (E) Corbett's wild life consideration will make us positive towards wild life.
- (F) Corbett should be re-read because he was a true humanist both sides, first he saved human being from the tigers and second saved tigers from human being.
- (G) Jim Corbett should be re-read because he has created a link between wild life to human being. He was the humanistic writer as wild life saver and human being saver.
- (H) Corbett should be re-read to develop the sense of sensibility, innocence and feelings of wild life.
- (I) Corbett should be re-read because today we are living in the era of science, where maximum power of country diverted towards science & technology. So, it is the need that we also think about wild life as they are also the part of world.
- (J) Re-reading of Jim Corbett compels as to think about the current position of tiger in India. If we deeply go inside Corbett's fiction than are found that he concerned about the position of tiger before 70 years and we are awaking today.
- (K) Corbett should be re-read as the preserver of tigers because he devoted his whole life to save tiger and today the "Tiger Project", "Wild life institute of India" and many other NGO's are the example of it that he was right.
- (L) Corbett should be re-read for the deep understanding about wild life.
- (M) Corbett's study proves its justification today due to relation with present position of tigers.

- (N) Corbett should be re-read because his fictions are the imitation of today's tiger project. He analysis everything about tiger preservation.
- (O) Corbett should be re-read today as his for-cast about tiger become very accurate today.
- (P) Jim Corbett should be re-read today as he follows the path of humanity as well as tiger saver.
- (Q) Jim Corbett should be re-read as he felt deeply concerned over the number of tigers in India that were declining at an alarming pace.
- (R) Corbett should be re-read as he was the first man of his time to call for the tiger's protection.
- (S) Corbett reminds today because today we have less than 2000 wild tigers in India, Corbett's prophecy is starting us in the face today.
- (T) Corbett's fiction can be proving mile stone for preservation of wild life as they presented every aspect of it clearly.
- (U) To look the debasement of tigers it is also applicable that an interest should be develop in students mind that what is the role of wild life in nature.
- (V) Corbett should be re-read because his fiction is very interesting and exciting, as the youth read, surely it can provide a right path to youth about wild preservation.
- (W) Corbett should be re-read to create an intensity in public's mind for wild life. His fiction is positive path for wild life.
- (X) Jim Corbett's re-reading is the demand of time because in this wi-fi internet era, we come close with natural and original beauty of nature.
- (Y) Corbett should be read again because his experience told in his book can change the mentality of generation towards wild life.

(Z) Corbett should be re-read he is the real role model and actual brand ambassador of **Tiger Project**.

Jim Corbett's should be re-reading can make us very familiar and up-to date with today's "Tiger Project". Second Corbett's fictions are very interesting and so they are very able to develop a sense of understanding about wild life in young generation. They should be re-read to create an interest towards wild life. Here one thing is important that "Tiger preservation" is not possible only by the rules and regulations of Govt but it should require common faith and understanding in common man. Public awareness is the main source of Tiger preservation that govt rules. Here starts the need of Corbett's re-reading because they are able to create public interest towards wild life. If people started to take interest in this issue then it is easily possible to save tigers.

Tigers are the national animal of India, so it is our moral duty to save them. Corbett's fiction creates a moral sense and moral duty to think about tigers and wild life. So, in my current research I have proved that why dose Corbett re-read? It is the time of his re-reading because the govt plans and rules are not fully successful only inside sensibility and voice of soul can save wild life.

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ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WILD: RE-READING JIM CORBETT'S FICTION

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Abstract

Today, In India the number of tigers is going to fall day by day and it has become import and issue in country. The government is trying to save them with various plans and projects even they are decreasing fastly. Corbett's fiction is the voice of wild life preservation. The current growing awareness and significance of an ecological perspective on jungle literature in 21th century. So, his work is the effective medium of creating awareness and interest among the readers regarding wild life. It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the "wild life protection act" was passed by the government of India in 1972. Resulted, now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So, the wild related literature of Corbett has permanent place in literature and no doubt he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It also inspired some writer in recent times to write with an environmental perspective. So, he recommends his readers to take more interest in environment and interact with the nature.

Keyword: Environment, Perspective, Government, Awareness, Hunting, Literature & Effective.

Introduction

My research topic "Encounters with the Wild: Re –Reading Jim Corbett’s Fiction" is fully justified and significant title. It has its importance in future also. In reference to my introduction of this research. I very rightly show its importance for future. The topic is concerned to today's most focused alarm that is "Tiger Project". The same alarm I have tried to show in my research. Today's "Tiger Project" is the mission of Govt of India and through my current research I have shown its importance that how we can save tigers. My research will create a sense of attachment with wild life and tigers. We must think about the position and direction of tigers in India.

Re-reading of Jim Corbett's fictions opens various ways and angle of our thought. Means, the word "Reading" only indicates the superficial study of object but when we use word "Re-reading" then its meaning not only changed in its sense but also becomes very broad and spread. Then it highlights to present prospective and outer angle of thinking that how we can analysis it in present time's view. For example, if we consider "Dropti Episode" in Mahabharat and try to re-reading it then its scoop and area totally changed and becomes broader. Then it can connected to today's view and context and hints towards today's woman empowerment, woman equality and woman right.

I mean Re-reading of any article or objects provide various ways of analysis to think about it. Same as Jim Corbett common reading is only related to his hunting experience and wild life details but its re-reading has a mode and broad analysis and the angle of thinking totally changed and diverted towards the thought that he was not only a hunter but Tiger preserver, wild life lover and man of humanity, symbol of sympathy. Also, its re-reading follows the consideration of today's very well plan of Govt. "Project Tiger".

No doubt, Corbett's fictions are an imitation and they create an inspiration in our mind that we should save tigers. He is an alarm as well as the source of inspiration that anyhow we should save wild life. If we tried with the alarm of Corbett before 70 years and could take action then, I hope today's position never seen. If we understand Corbett's intension before 70 years then we hope that it could not be a matter of concern today.

In my research I try to prove that why Jim Corbett should re-read today. Corbett's work is the mirror of tiger saving. We should motivate in our mission of tiger project by Corbett's fictions. Tiger Conservation has been extensively reviewed in the scientific literature but what strategies within a single geopolitical landscape that is effective has not been attempted in my research, I try to tell about these strategies as-

To analysis about the method that how tiger conservation strategies are successful in India.

- (B) To search out what strategies are not success in India/
- (C) Search out effective plan and projects related to tiger preservation. (D) How Corbett's fictions are useful to save tigers.
- (E) To search out the real sentiments about wild life in the mind of general human being.
- (F) To discuss about dream plan of Govt "Project Tiger" in the light of Jim Corbett.
- (G) To make a clear awareness towards wild life through the experience of Corbett.
- (H) To give an important place to Jim Corbett as he remained unimportant tell now.
- (I) To show Corbett's wild life consideration among common people.
- (J) To make a proper link between Tiger Project and Jim Corbett's utility.
- (K) To create public sensibility and innocence towards tigers.

My current research "Encounters with the Wild: Re-reading Jim Corbett's Fiction" has its proper and justified importance. Very first I can say that the topic is well connected to Govt's present mission of tiger saving with its project "Tiger Project". This is the mission project of Govt, means, now the Govt has accepted that there is the need of protection for wild life and tigers. My very initial and supreme importance of research is to show the value of wild life, tiger preservation and wild life safety.

Universe" is made by various parts of elements and all factors have their proper and significant values. If there is any disturbance in these parts of universe, it is sure that the eco system as well as ecological balance must be moved and diverted. Eco system and ecological balance is must for proper arrangement and systematic setting of world. In this eco system both human being and wild life have their proper significance and must be systematically arranged.

I can show the importance of my research work from various ways. Firstly, it is very useful to create a sense of love for wild life in common man's mind. It will provide west information to people to think emotionally about tigers and result they will show their sympathy for them. My research will create an eagerness and curiosity to know about wild life details in mind of common man and so they can play their role for their preservation.

They just know about their role for eco system and can play a positive participation in ecological balance. Means, awareness about wild life preservation and deep intensive love for eco system are the major importance of my love current research.

Secondly, Re-reading Corbett will provide a wide view to observe natural beauty, wild life details, forestry sense and hunting activities. Corbett's fiction on its every inch is the details of such experiences related to wild scene and forestry details, So my research will provide them a wide range of such observations. Every point related hunting and various locality of Uttarakhand state will create a sense of intensive love in reader's mind. The details given in his "Tree Tops" is a fine example of it because it is the super representation of natural greenly. In this book writer presents how he started to keep care for wild life animals. He feelings and attachment to natural beauty and wild scene have started to run in his blood. It was the turning diversion of Corbett's thinking that he converted himself as the preserver of nature. Now he devoted his whole life for naturalism.

Thirdly, it importance displays at the time when we will consider about the personality of Jim Corbett. Through my research, I want to change the mentality of public that Jim Corbett was a hunter. I have proved that first he was a wild life preserver, naturalist and humanist then hunter.

Even his hunting activities were not bad of harmful for society because he has hunted for the welfare of humanity and common society. I will prove that the Jim Corbett always be remember as humanist, naturalist and wild life preserver by society. My research will convey its importance in future because it will provide waist knowledge about author. Over all this is the research which provides a right path and real direction for the scope of learning in reader's mind. To give proper importance to writer I have proved its value through his works.

Fourthly, my research will play an important role in Govt's well planned mission "Tiger Project" because it will involve the psychology of common man in this mission people automatically have started to take interest in wild life and they surely be interested to read it. They will start to think about position and direction of tigers in India. People will come in touch with the help of my research and they must acquire some learning's and will show their positive role for national duty. Common man of country is the basic key or medium of any success of country and my thesis will show it use that how they can be attached with national duty. The success of "Tiger Project" will depends upon the role of common public, surely, they will show their proper and moral duty through the study of my current research.

Fifth, for the advancement of wild life literature in society. Through my current research I will show and provide a new direction and path to adopt wild life literature because it is the topic which remained ignored in society. It will be important to know about jungle stories widely experience and natural description. Wild life literature is a unique part of scientific literature and through my research, a new rang of knowledge will be provided. Wild life literature is an important aspect of nature study.

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Jim Corbett's Re-Reading: Environment and Wild Life Preservation

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Colonel Jim Corbett was born on 25 July 1875 in Kaladungi (Near Nainital), which is now well known as “Jim Corbett village”, situated near Haldwani Railway station. His father was William Corbett, a postmaster. Jim was VIIIth among his 12 brothers and sisters. Jim completed his 12th from open school, Nainital. Then went to Makamghat (Bihar), worked there in railways. He remained unmarried whole life.

It is an important fact of his life that on one side he was a hunter but on the other side he is considered as a preserver of wildlife. Both aspects of his personality are right. When we consider him as a hunter, during that time humanitarian ground was deep in his mind. It was the need of the hour to serve human beings first. That's why Corbett played on wildlife for the welfare of human beings. Corbett's works are window to his personality. He will always remain alive in our mind for forever .Although he was not highly educated but his achievements are great. His writings closely deal with Indian tales, love for forests and wildlife, human attachment and above-all abounds in natural descriptions.

“Universe” is made by various parts of elements and all factors have their proper and significant values. If there is any disturbance in these parts of universe, it is sure that the eco system as well as ecological balance must be moved and diverted. Eco system and ecological balance is must for proper arrangement and systematic setting of world. In this eco system both human being and wild life have their proper significance and must be systematically arranged.

The word “Re-Reading” used in my research has a specific literary meaning because it is an act of reading something again and again, different from surface or superficial reading. To read well, that is to read books in a true spirit, is a noble exercise. So “Re-Reading” is a process of “becoming conscious.” The term “Re-reading” is applicable to deep analysis of any object. So Re- reading Jim Corbett’s works open a whole new vista and give various angles and perspectives to think about his works.

“Reading” indicates superficial study of any work but when we use word “Re-reading” then not only meaning changes but it also becomes broad and wide. Then it highlights present perspective and other angles of interpreting it. For example if we consider “Dropadi Episode” in Mahabharat and re-read and try to connect with present time then its scope and area totally changes and becomes broader. Then it can be linked to today’s woman empowerment, woman equality and woman right. I mean Re-reading of any article or objects provide various ways of interpretation. Same can be applicable to Jim Corbett. Common reading is only related to his hunting experience and wildlife details but its re-reading has various and broad interpretation and the angle of thinking totally changes and lead towards the thought that he was not only a hunter but Tiger preserver, wild-life lover, a great humanitarian and an epitome of sympathy. Also, its re- reading can be connected with the ambitious tiger plan “Project Tiger” of Govt. of India.

Here, another idea clicks in mind about the personality and behavior of Jim Corbett. Britishers treated Indians very cruelly. But Jim Corbett’s conduct and personality was different from all these Britishers because he had deep love and sympathy for the Indians. The attitude of common British rulers and people was not sympathetic towards Indian as history depicts but it was Jim Corbett who developed a new conduct system with Indians. His helping nature towards Indians can be easily seen in his stories of “My India”.

In my research I have tried to prove why Jim Corbett should be re-read today. Corbett's works are window to tiger saving. We should be motivated in our mission of tiger project by Corbett's works. My present research work shall also throw light on the past literary works which were composed on wildlife as well as Jim Corbett's classics. Through a critical study of Jim Corbett's work, I shall trace out literary merits of the work and its contribution to English literature.

Corbett's re-reading is fully applicable today because it provides right direction to save tigers. He describes tiger as "A large hearted gentleman" with boundless courage. He is of the opinion that to save tigers from extinction, along with Government's efforts public awareness is also required. He is the first writer to warn the people of India about the extinction of tigers from the country. He really felt the need for protecting tigers and wild life.

Corbett's re-reading will be fully justified as well as important in future. He was truly a preserver of wildlife. He makes a serious attempt to convey interesting information of the behavior of elephants, tigers, panthers in the forest. In his last book 'Tree Tops' his concern for future of wildlife takes him to sanctuaries. He has recorded many aspects of the wild life and provides valuable information about many species of animals and birds. His works unfold the social system of the animals living in groups or herds.

Another important aspect and angle of Corbett's re-reading is ecological balance. From ancient times we have been talking about ecological balance. Various types of details are available in literature on Indian forest and life of wild creature. A good deal of details is available in Corbett's writing. There are various writers and naturalists who have described nature as well as wildlife in their works. In their works we can easily search for the concept of ecological balance because nature and wild life are part of ecology and it is essential to save them to maintain a proper balance. Today we are living in an era of science and technology where rapid industrialization has led to

deforestation causing great havoc to flora and fauna thereby disturbing ecological balance. Hence it becomes very important to maintain proper balance. Our life has become so mechanical that we have no time to think about nature and wildlife. The objective of my research is to strike an alarm and warning that nature is most powerful and any disturbance in natural elements will cause great havoc in future.

Jim Corbett's re-reading can be linked to today's "Tiger Project". Jim Corbett's works are very interesting and so they are capable to develop a sense of understanding about wildlife in younger generation. They should be re-read to create an interest towards wildlife. Here one thing is important that "Tiger preservation" is not possible only by the rules and regulations of Government. Public awareness is essential for Tiger preservation. Here starts the need of Corbett's re-reading because his works are able to create public interest towards wildlife. If people start to take interest in this issue then it is easily possible to save tigers.

Tigers ,in connection to my research work is a key factor. The number of tigers and leopards in India is declining rapidly. The time has come when we seriously start to think about wildlife. My research aims to give a clear picture of situation of tigers in India and it is the reason why we should re-read Jim Corbett. Corbett, who was not only a writer but also a keen observer cum preserver of wildlife. In the beginning he devoted his life to save human being from tigers but later diverted himself towards wild life and started to save wildlife from human beings.

Tigers are the national animal of India, so it becomes our moral duty to save them. Corbett's work creates a moral sense and moral duty to think about tigers and wildlife. So, in my current research I have tried to prove that why Corbett should be re-read?

Corbett's work is the reflection of wildlife preservation, paves way for the current growing awareness and significance of an ecological perspective

on jungle literature in 21th century. So his work is an effective medium of creating awareness and interest among the readers about wildlife. It is the result of Corbett's efforts that the "wild life protection act" was passed by the government of India in 1972. Now there is total prohibition on hunting of wild animals and tigers. So the wildlife related literature of Corbett has a permanent place in literature and no doubt he will enjoy his distinct position in future also. It has also inspired some writers in recent time to write from an environmental perspective. According to "Wild Life Institute" of India, tiger population is in deplorable state and if we will not think about them now then tigers will remain in pictures only.

The works of Corbett focus on a variety of subjects like hunting, wild life, nature, conservation and socio-cultural conditions of the country of his times. He speaks about simplicity, sincerity, honesty and loyalty of poor Indians whom he describes as "The salt of the Earth".

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