

# The Tiger King



**Jack Finney**



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## I. ABOUT THE AUTHOR

1. **Birth:** 1899, Manalmedu
2. **Education:** High School
3. **Died:** 1954, Chennai
4. Writer
5. Journalist
6. Poet
7. Critic
8. Indian Independence Activist
9. Parthiban Kanavu
10. Ponniyin Selvan

11. Alai Osai
12. Mohini Theevu
13. Otrai Roja
14. Susila Ma



Picture B

## II. WORD MEANINGS

1. Stuka bomber- a German bomber aircraft that was used in the second world war
2. Indomitable (अदम्य)- untamed, undefeatable
3. Abode (निवास)- residence
4. Demise (मृत्यु)- death, decease
5. Foretold (भविष्यवाणी)- predicted
6. Compelled (मजबूर)- forced
7. Transfixed- भय के साथ गतिहीन हो जाना।
8. Stupefaction (आश्चर्य)- astonishment, shock
9. Incredible (अविश्वसनीय, असाधारण)- unbelievable
10. Rumour (अफवाह)- doubtful truth or report
11. Rife (प्रचलित)- ongoing

12. Proclamation (घोषणा)- declaration
13. Fling (फेंकना)- throw, shove
14. Confiscated (जब्त कर लिया)- seize
15. Resolve (समाधान करना)- decision
16. Boar- (सूअर)- pig
17. Carcass (शव)- the dead body or corpse of an animal.
18. Deliberations (विचार-विमर्श)- discussions
19. Dispatched (भेजना)- sent
20. Unforeseen (अनपेक्षित)- unplanned, accidental
21. Extinct (दुर्लभ)- rare
22. Hara-kiri (आत्महत्या)- a ritual of suicide practiced in Japan.
23. Shuddering (भय से कांपना)- tremble with fear
24. Summoned (बुलवाना)- called
25. Adorned (सजाना)- decorated
26. Savage (जंगली)- uncivilized
27. Dispelled (हटाना)- removed
28. Fury (क्रोध)- anger, rage
29. Discontented (नाखुश)- unhappy, dissatisfied
30. Catastrophic- (विनाशकारी) causing sudden great damage
31. Elation (आनंद)- Joy, delight
32. Procession (जुलूस) march, parade, demonstration

### III. SOME IMPORTANT NOTES

**1. MAHARAJA-** “Maharaja” is a title used by the kings in ancient Indian kingdoms. In “The Tiger King”, the king of Pratibandapuram is also referred to as a Maharaja.

**2. PRATIBANDAPURAM-** It is the name of Jung Jung Bahadur’s kingdom.

**3. STUKA BOMBER-** Stuka was a German dive bomber and ground-attack aircraft. It was first designed by Hermann Pohlmann. It first flew in 1935.



**4. BHARATA-** Brother of Lord Rama and son of Maharaja Dasaratha in the Ramayana.

**5. RAMA-** Lord Rama or Ramchandra is a major god in Hinduism. He is the seventh and one of the most popular avatars of Vishnu. Rama is said to have been born to Kaushalya and Dasharatha in Ayodhya. His siblings included Lakshmana, Bharata, and Shatrughna. He was married to Sita whose kidnapping by the demon-king Ravana led to a great battle which

destroyed Ravana and his golden Lanka.

**6. DASARATHA-** Father of Lord Rama and the king of Ayodhya in the Ramayana.

**7. ASTROLOGER-** An astrologer is a person who predicts the future by understanding the positions of the planets or 'grah' and the Sun and the Moon in the birth chart.



**8. WARRIOR-** A brave or experienced soldier or fighter.



**9. BULLETINS-** A brief public notice issued usually from an authoritative source.

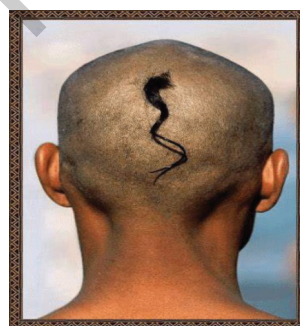
**10. HOUR OF THE BULL-** Hour of the Bull is a zodiac sign or Rashi which is also known as Vrishabha Rashi in

Hindu Astrology. The people belonging to it are born between 20 April to 20th May. This Vrishabha zodiac sign in English is called Taurus, and they are considered to be close to reality.



**11. CROWN PRINCE-** A crown prince or hereditary prince is the heir apparent to the throne in a royal or imperial monarchy.

**12. TUFT-** It means a lock of hair, left on top or on the back of the shaven head of a male Hindu. Though traditionally all Hindus were required to wear it, today it is seen mainly among Brahmins and temple priests. In West Bengal it is called Tiki.



**13. TELEGRAM-** A company formed in April 1856 to send cross country messages in less than a day.

**14. DURAISANI-** It means wife of a high ranking British officer.

**15. SWORD-** A sword is an edged, bladed weapon intended for manual cutting or thrusting.



**16. DEWAN-** Also known as diwan is a powerful government official, minister, or ruler. Diwans belonged to the elite families in the history of Mughal and post-Mughal India and held high posts within the government..

**17. INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS-** A political party in India which was founded in 1885.

**18. MADRAS-** It is the former name of Chennai, the capital city of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

## IV. CHARACTERS

**1. THE TIGER KING-** He is the Maharaja of Pratibandapuram and is the hero of this story. He may be identified as His Highness Jamedar-General, Khiledar-Major, Sata Vyaghra Samhari, Maharajadhiraja Visva Bhuvana Samrat, Sir Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur, M.A.D., A.C.T.C., or C.R.C.K. But this name is often shortened to the Tiger King.

The Tiger King is a typical royal personality. He was born into a royal family and grew up into a strong young man who at the age of 20 was crowned to be the king of Pratibandapuram.

**2. ASTROLOGERS-** They first predicted about Jung Jung Bahadur's death by reading his horoscope.

**3. CHIEF ASTROLOGER-** He informed everyone that the little prince was born in the Hour of Bull.

**4. A HIGH RANKING BRITISH**

**OFFICER OR DURAI-** He came to Pratibandapuram with the intention of capturing a photograph with the tigers he had shot. But the King refused and stood in danger of losing his kingdom.

**5. THE BRITISH OFFICER'S SECRETARY-** He sent word to the Maharaja that his boss just wanted to take a photograph with a tiger's carcass. The Maharaja himself could do the actual killing of the tiger.

**6. DEWAN-** The Dewan is a senior courtier who holds no authority. He is very scared of the Tiger King and survives at his mercy. His practical knowledge helped the king to save his kingdom. He appears to be foolish, but he is practical enough to save himself from Maharaja's wrath.

**7. DURAISANI-** the wife of the high ranking British officer, who came to Pratibandapuram with the intention of capturing a photograph with the tigers he had shot. She accepted all the fifty rings sent by the tiger king instead of choosing one or two.

**8. MAHARAJA'S WIFE-** A girl from a state with a large tiger population.

**9. KHADER MIAN SAHEB and VIRASAMI NAICKER-** They were two men in the hillside village who were famous for their capacity to eat an entire sheep.

**10. THE HUNTERS-** They concealed the fact that the hundredth tiger is actually not dead. One of them killed the tiger and presented it before the king.

**11. TIGER KING'S SON-** A three years old child whose birthday present (a wooden tiger) caused the death of the Maharaja.

**12. THREE SURGEONS FROM MADRAS-** They performed the surgery of the tiger king and declared him as dead after successfully completing it.

## V. SUMMARY OF THE TEXT

### SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

At the beginning of the story we learn about a king who was popularly known as the Tiger King. His kingdom was called Pratibandapuram. The story basically discusses why the king was called the Tiger King and also gives the details of how he died. Soon after the birth of the king, the astrologers predicted that the king would die one day. But the astrologers initially did not want to tell anything about how he would die. Then all of a sudden a miracle happens. The ten days old Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur started to speak. Everyone was very surprised to see this. The ten days old prince said that those who are born must die one day. So it is better to talk about how he would die. Hearing him, the chief astrologer says that since he was born in the Hours of Bull, he would die at the hands of a tiger because bulls and tigers are enemies of each other. Hearing this, the king warned all the tigers to be cautious.

As Jung Jang Bahadur grew up, no miracle was seen in his life. He

studied under an English tutor and grew up like other princes. At the age of twenty, he was given the kingship of Pratibandapuram. There were many forests in his kingdom and there were also many tigers. After becoming the king, Jung Jung Bahadur started to hunt tigers one by one. He thought that if he killed tigers like this, he would no longer fear death. But the chief astrologer said that even if the Maharaja killed 99 tigers, the hundredth tiger would definitely kill him. If not, he would tear up all his astrology books and cut off his tiki. After that the king started killing one tiger after another. In that state it became a legal offense to kill a tiger by anyone other than the king.

Then a high-ranking British officer came there and wanted to kill a tiger. He actually wanted to take a photo with the dead tiger. But the king refused him. Then the British officer's secretary sent the words that the British officer would not actually kill the tiger himself, he just needed to take a photo. Maharaja himself could kill the tiger. The Maharaja, however, rejected his proposal. As a result, Jung Jung Bahadur had to face the situation of losing his kingdom. To escape from this situation, he made 50 diamond rings from Calcutta and sent them to the officer's wife. The king thought that the officer's wife might choose one or two from them. But the lady did not do so and took all the rings. As a result, the Maharaja suffered a loss of three lakh rupees only because he did not allow the British officer to kill

the tiger in his kingdom. Yet he was content to think that he did not lose his kingdom.

After that, Maharaja's tiger hunting continued with increasing success. But suddenly a new problem arises. After killing 70 tigers, no more tigers are found to hunt. In such a situation, the king asked the Dewan to find a girl who had many tigers in her father's kingdom. As planned, he married a princess who had many tigers in her father's state. From this point, whenever the king went to his father-in-law's house, he went tiger hunting. And finally ninety nine tigers were killed by the Maharaja.

Then another big problem arises as the hundredth tiger was nowhere to be found. Even in his father-in-law's kingdom, the tigers are gone. The Maharaja announced to all the nearby villages that if anyone found a tiger, he would make those villagers tax-free for three years. In this situation, a tiger is reported to be seen but finally it was not seen when the time of hunting came. The king was very angry and ordered the tax to be increased. In this situation, a tiger was brought from the People's Park in Madras and arranged to be killed by the Maharaja. But the tiger was not actually killed by Maharaja's shot. Later the hunters with Maharaja discovered the matter. Fearing the king's anger they killed the tiger without informing him. Then the body of the dead tiger was taken in a procession and buried.

A few days later, the third birthday of the Maharaja's son came. These days, the Maharaja was very busy with the tiger, so he couldn't do anything for his son's birthday. So he thought of giving the son some gift. He went to a toy shop and got a wooden tiger. The wooden tiger was made by an incompetent carpenter and tiny silvers of wood stood on its surface. While playing with his son, a nail got stuck in Maharaja's hand. Maharaja pulled it out without paying any attention and continued to play with his son again.

Next day, Maharaja started getting an infection due to the nail injury and it gradually became a major infection. Three senior surgeons were brought from Madras and performed an operation. At the end of the operation the surgeons announced that the operation was successful but the Maharaja was dead. Thus the hundredth tiger takes its revenge.

## पाठ का सारांश

कहानी की शुरुआत में हमें एक ऐसे राजा के बारे में पता चलता है जिन्हें बाघ राजा के नाम से जाना जाता था। उनके राज्य का नाम प्रतिबन्दपुरम था। कहानी से हमें यह पता चलता है कि राजा को बाघ राजा क्यों कहा जाता था और उनकी मृत्यु कैसे हुई थी। राजा के जन्म के तुरंत बाद, ज्योतिषियों ने भविष्यवाणी की थी कि राजा एक दिन मर

जाएंगे, लेकिन उनकी मृत्यु कैसे होगी इस विषय पर वे कुछ बताना नहीं चाहते थे। तभी अचानक एक चमत्कार होता है। दस दिन के जिलानी जंग जंग बहादुर बोलना शुरू कर देता है। यह देखकर सभी लोग काफी हैरान हो जाता है। दस दिन के राजकुमार बोलता है कि जो पैदा हुए हैं उन्हें एक दिन मरना ही पड़ेगा। इसलिए बेहतर है कि उसकी मृत्यु कैसे होगी, उसके बारे में बात किया जाए। उसकी बात सुनकर, मुख्य ज्योतिषी कहते हैं कि चूंकि वह वृषभ राशि में पैदा हुआ था, इसलिए वह एक बाघ के हाथों मरेगा, क्योंकि बैल और बाघ एक दूसरे के दुश्मन हैं। यह सुनकर राजकुमार सभी बाघों को उनसे सावधान रहने की चेतावनी भी दिए।

जंग जंग बहादुर जैसे-जैसे बड़े हुए, उनके जीवन में कोई चमत्कार नहीं देखा गया। उन्होंने एक अंग्रेजी शिक्षक के अधीन अध्ययन किया और अन्य राजकुमारों की तरह बड़े हुए। बीस वर्ष की आयु में उन्हें प्रतिबन्धपुरम राज्य का राजपद दिया गया। उनके राज्य में बहुत सारे जंगल थे और कई बाघ भी थे। राजा बनने के बाद जंग जंग बहादुर ने एक-एक करके बाघों का शिकार करना शुरू कर दिया। उसने सोचा कि अगर वह इस तरह बाघों को मार डालेगा, तो उसे मौत का डर नहीं रहेगा। लेकिन मुख्य ज्योतिषी ने कहा कि महाराजा निन्यानवे बाघों को मार भी दें तो भी सौवां बाघ उन्हें जरूर मारेगा। यदि नहीं, तो वह अपनी सभी ज्योतिष पुस्तकों को फाड़ देगा और अपनी शिखा भी काट देगा। उसके बाद राजा एक के बाद एक बाघों को मारने लगा। उस राज्य में राजा के अलावा

किसी और के द्वारा बाघ को मारना कानूनी अपराध बन गया।

तभी एक उच्च पदस्थ ब्रिटिश अधिकारी वहां आया और एक बाघ को मारना चाहा। वह वास्तव में मरे हुए बाघ के साथ एक फोटो लेना चाहता था। लेकिन राजा ने उसे मना कर दिया। तब ब्रिटिश अधिकारी के सचिव ने यह वार्ता भेजा कि ब्रिटिश अधिकारी वास्तव में बाघ को खुद नहीं मारेगा, उसे बस एक फोटो लेने की जरूरत है। महाराजा स्वयं बाघ को मार सकते हैं। हालाँकि, महाराजा ने उनके प्रस्ताव को अस्वीकार कर दिया। परिणामस्वरूप, जंग जंग बहादुर को अपना राज्य खोने की स्थिति का सामना करना पड़ा। इस स्थिति से बचने के लिए उन्होंने कलकत्ता से पचास हीरे की अंगूठियां बनाकर अधिकारी की पत्नी के पास भेज दिए। राजा ने सोचा कि अधिकारी की पत्नी उनमें से एक या दो को चुन सकती है। लेकिन महिला ने ऐसा नहीं किया और सभी अंगूठियां ले लीं। इस वजह से महाराजा को तीन लाख रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। फिर भी वह यह सोचकर संतुष्ट रहा कि उसने अपना राज्य नहीं खोया।

इसके बाद, महाराजा का बाघ शिकार लगातार सफलता के साथ जारी रहा। लेकिन अचानक एक नई समस्या खड़ी हो जाती है। सत्तर बाघों को मारने के बाद अब कोई बाघ शिकार करने के लिए नहीं मिल रहा था। ऐसे में राजा ने दीवान से ऐसी लड़की खोजने को कहा जिसके पिता के राज्य में बहुत सारे बाघ हों। योजना के अनुसार, उसने एक राजकुमारी से शादी की, जिसके



पिता के राज्य में कई बाघ थे। इसके बाद, जब भी राजा अपने ससुर के घर जाते, बाघ शिकार जरूर करते थे। और अंत में महाराजा ने निन्यानवे बाघों को मार डाला।

फिर एक और बड़ी समस्या खड़ी हो गई, क्योंकि सौवां बाघ कहीं नहीं मिल रहा था। उसके ससुर के राज्य में भी बाघ खतम हो गया था। महाराजा ने आस-पास के सभी गाँवों में घोषणा करवाया कि अगर किसी को बाघ मिल गया, तो वह उन ग्रामीणों को तीन साल के लिए कर-मुक्त कर देंगे। इस स्थिति में एक बाघ दिखाई देने की सूचना मिली लेकिन आखिरकार शिकार के समय बाघ का दर्शन नहीं हो पाया। राजा बहुत क्रोधित हुए और कर बढ़ाने का आदेश दे दिए। इस स्थिति में, मद्रास के पीपल्स पार्क से एक बाघ लाया गया और महाराजा द्वारा उसे मारने की व्यवस्था की गई। लेकिन बाघ वास्तव में महाराजा के शॉट से नहीं मारा गया था। बाद में महाराजा के साथी शिकारियों को मामले की जानकारी होने से राजा के क्रोध से बचने के लिए उन्होंने बिना बताए बाघ को मार डाला। फिर मरे हुए बाघ के शरीर को एक जुलूस में ले जाया गया और दफनाया गया।

कुछ दिनों बाद महाराजा के बेटे का तीसरा जन्मदिन आया। इन दिनों महाराजा बाघ के साथ बहुत व्यस्त थे, इसलिए वह अपने बेटे के जन्मदिन के लिए कुछ नहीं कर सके। तो उन्होंने बेटे को कुछ तोहफा देने का मन बनाए। खिलौने की दुकान पर गए और एक लकड़ी का बाघ खरीद के लाए। लकड़ी के बाघ को एक अनाड़ी बढ़ई द्वारा बनाया गया

था और कील जैसे लकड़ी के छोटे छोटे टुकड़े उसके ऊपर निकला हुआ था। अपने बेटे के साथ खेलते समय महाराजा के हाथ में एक कील फंस गई। महाराजा ने बिना ध्यान दिए उसे बाहर निकाला और अपने बेटे के साथ फिर से खेलना जारी रखा।

अगले दिन महाराजा को लकड़ी से चोट के कारण संक्रमण होने लगा और यह धीरे-धीरे एक बड़ा संक्रमण बन गया। तीन वरिष्ठ सर्जनों को मद्रास से लाया गया और एक ऑपरेशन किया गया। ऑपरेशन के अंत में सर्जनों ने घोषणा की कि ऑपरेशन सफल रहा लेकिन महाराजा की मृत्यु हो गई। इस प्रकार सौवां बाघ ने अपना बदला लिया।

## VI. OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Who is the author of The Tiger King?
  - A. Tagore
  - B. Shakespeare
  - C. Kalki
  - D. None

### Answer - C

2. Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur first spoke when he was -
  - A. two days old
  - B. ten days old
  - C. five days old

D. none of the above

**Answer - B**

3. At what age was the boy crowned as king?

A. 50

B. 30

C. 10

D. 20

**Answer - D**

4. How did the child grow?

A. drinking goat's milk like other royal children

B. drinking buffalo's milk like other royal children

C. drinking cow's milk like other royal children

D. none

**Answer - C**

5. The astrologer predicted that-

A. the boy will be a king

B. the boy will visit the world

C. the king will be killed by 100th tiger

D. The king will love tigers

**Answer- C**

6. Under whose rule were the kings living?

A. sovereign rule

B. queen's rule

C. king's rule

D. Under the rule of the British

**Answer - D**

7. What is the moral of the story?

A. Power

B. Power makes us powerful

C. Power is meaningless before destiny

D. All

**Answer - C**

8. Within 10 years of hunting , the Maharaja killed \_\_\_\_ tigers

A. 50

B. 10

C. 00

D. 70

**Answer - D**

9. The Maharaja of \_\_\_\_ is the hero of the story.

A. Pratibandapuram

B. Paltipuram

C. Preetam Garh

D. Bengal

**Answer - A**

10. A high ranking British officer wished to go on-

- A. a tiger hunting expedition
- B. to the jungle
- C. and investigate the decrease in tiger population
- D. and remove the Tiger King

**Answer - A**

11. Maharaja and Dewan \_\_\_\_ the British Officer to save the kingdom

- A. entertained
- B. bribed
- C. pacified
- D. confronted

**Answer - B**

12. Why did the King decide to marry?

- A. to buy tigers
- B. to own tigers
- C. to tame tigers
- D. to achieve his target of killing 100 tigers

**Answer - D**

13. The old tiger had been brought from \_\_\_\_

- A. Calcutta Park
- B. Business Park
- C. Leisure Park

D. People's Park

**Answer - D**

14. Who actually shot the 100th tiger?

- A. one of the hunters who accompanied the king
- B. a soldier
- C. king's guest
- D. British high officer

**Answer - A**

15. How old was the King's son?

- A. Six years old
- B. Three years old
- C. Five years old
- D. Eight years old

**Answer - B**

16. What birthday gift did the Maharaja present to his 3 years old son?

- A. a dots
- B. gold coins
- C. forests
- D. a toy tiger

**Answer - D**

17. The wooden tiger was carved by

- A. A master craftsman
- B. An unskilled carpenter
- C. The shopkeeper himself

D. A British carpenter

**Answer - B**

18. How many surgeons were summoned to attend the king?

- A. 4
- B. 8
- C. 3
- D. 10

**Answer - C**

19. What became the cause of King's death?

- A. a lion
- B. a cat
- C. a goat
- D. the wooden tiger from the toyshop

**Answer - D**

## VII. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Who was the tiger king? How did he get the name?

Answer – The Maharaja of Pratibandapuram was the tiger king. He got this name as the astrologers predicted just after his birth that his death would come from a tiger as he was born in the Hour of Bull.

2. What were the different names given to the King of Pratibandapuram?

Answer: The king of Pratibandapuram was known by many different names. He may be identified as His Highness Jamedar-General, Khiledar-Major, Sata Vyaghra Samhari, Maharajdhiraj, Visva Bhuvana Samrat, Sir Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur, M.A.D., A.C.T.C. or C.R.C.K.

3. What did the astrologers predict about the tiger king when he was born? Answer – After the birth of the tiger king, the astrologers said that the newly born prince would grow up to become the hero of heroes, warrior of the warriors, champion of the champions. However he was born in the hour of the bull and the bull is the sworn enemy of the tiger. Therefore his death would come from the tiger.

4. What was the miracle that took place when the baby was ten days old?

Answer – When the prince was ten days old, a miracle took place in the kingdom of Pratibandapuram. The ten days old prince suddenly spoke and asked the astrologers to reveal the manner of his death. Everyone was stunned at this miracle.

5. How was the tiger king brought up?

Answer – Like other crown princes of British India, the tiger king drank the milk of an English cow, was brought up by an English nanny, tutored in English by an Englishman, and saw nothing but English films. Day by day the tiger king grew taller and stronger. Like this the tiger king was brought up.



6 .Why was the king once in danger of losing his throne and how did he overcome the trouble?

Answer-A high ranking British officer visited the state of Pratibandapuram and sought permission for tiger hunting from the Maharaja. But the Maharaja declined his request and offended him. Thus he stood on the verge of losing his kingdom. Later, he had to send fifty diamond rings to the officer's wife to please him.

7. Why did the Maharaja decide to get married?

Answer:The Maharaja decided to get married because after killing seventy tigers, the tiger population in his kingdom had come to an end. But he still needed thirty more tigers to fulfill his vow. So, he asked the Dewan to find a princess from the kingdom which had a large number of tiger population.

8. Why did the king order the dewan to double the tax?

Answer: The king could not find the hundredth tiger to hunt. As the days passed, his anxiety reached alarmingly. One day when his rage was at its height, the king called the dewan and ordered him to double the land tax.

9. How did the Tiger King meet his death?

Answer: The king brought a wooden tiger as a birthday gift for his son. It was made by an incompetent carpenter and tiny slivers of wood stood on its

surface. While playing with his son, a nail got stuck in Maharaja's hand. Soon the infection developed. Three surgeons operated on the king's hand. But the king was dead in spite of their declaration that the operation was a success.

## VII. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTION

1. Comment on the astrologers' prediction on the tiger king's death.

Answer- After the birth of the tiger king the astrologers predicted that the Tiger King would be killed by a tiger and he should be cautious of the hundredth tiger.

This statement of the astrologer forced the king to take the job of tiger hunting. Though he was very adamant to kill the hundredth tiger, ironically it was not killed by the king himself but by the hunters. After the king shot the old tiger and left, the hunters found out that the tiger had not died by the bullet of the king but only fainted by the bullet whizzing past him. .

The hundredth tiger which caused the Maharaja's death was a wooden tiger which the king had presented to his three-year old son. It killed the king merely by a sliver of wood protruding from it that pierced his right hand. The wound became fatal and the surgeons failed to save the king. Thus, the astrologer's prediction about the death of the Tiger King proved to be correct.