



Smithsonian Institution Archives

## Nepal Tiger Project Oral History Interviews, 2000

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# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Historical Note.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	Nepal Tiger Project Oral History Interviews
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 9611
<b>Date:</b>	2000
<b>Extent:</b>	4 audiotapes.
<b>Creator::</b>	
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 9611, Nepal Tiger Project Oral History Interviews

### Use Restriction

Restricted. Contact [SIHistory@si.edu](mailto:SIHistory@si.edu) to request permission.

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## Historical Note

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Conservation and Research Center of the National Zoological Park, Institutional History Division Historian, Pamela M. Henson interviewed several visitors from Nepal to record the history of the Smithsonian-Nepal Tiger Ecology Project. Tigers were declared endangered in 1968, and so, in 1972, Smithsonian Secretary S. Dillon Ripley created the project to train and develop conservation leaders in the field of tiger ecology, develop a deep understanding of tiger behavioral ecology, and formulate a set of conservation actions that would ensure tiger survival in Nepal. Research concentrated in the region of the Royal Chitwan National Park in Nepal.

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## Introduction

The Oral History Program is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives. The purpose of the program is to conduct interviews with current and retired members of the Smithsonian staff who have made significant contributions, administrative and scholarly, to the Institution. The project's goal is to supplement the published record and manuscript collections in the Archives, focusing on the history of the Institution and contributions to the increase and diffusion of knowledge made by its scholars.

The Nepal Tiger Project interviews were accessioned into the Oral History Collection because of the significance of this pioneering conservation program in Southeast Asia.

## Descriptive Entry

This interview of Anup Raj Joshi, Bishnu Bahadur Lama, and Pralad Yonzon, conducted by Pamela M. Henson, discussed their roles in the Nepal Tiger Project and reminiscences of Smithsonian staff and activities for the project. The collection consists of one interview session, totaling approximately 2 hours of recording and 60 pages of transcript.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Animal behavior
- Endangered species
- Environmental protection
- Ethics
- Interviews
- Mammals
- Oral history
- Tiger

### Types of Materials:

- Audiotapes
- Transcripts

### Names:

- Conservation and Research Center (National Zoological Park)
- Henson, Pamela M., interviewer
- Joshi, Anup Raj
- Lama, Bishnu Bahadur
- National Zoological Park (U.S.)
- Nepal Tiger Ecology Project
- Ripley, S. Dillon (Sidney Dillon), 1913-2001
- Yonzon, Pralad

### Geographic Names:

- Nepal
- Royal Chitwan National Park (Nepal)

## Container Listing

### Interviews

Interviews

#### **Interview 1: May 4, 2000**

Interviews

The interview begins with the work of Mssrs. Joshi and Lama at the Chitwan National Park, working with Kirti Man Tamang, Melvin E. Sunquist, J. L. David Smith, and Hemanta Mishra; learning to track, capture, and put radio collars on the tiger population their study area; recounts the story of an rhinoceros attack on David Smith and tiger attack on Kirti Man Tamang; and reminiscences of field experiences. At 8 minutes into second tape, Pralad Yonzon joined them and discussed his education at University of Michigan and University of Maine, wildlife research on red pandas and other species; role as a trustee of the Board of King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation; research for the Nepal Tiger Project; and reminiscences of field work on tigers; c. 1970s to 2000.

Interviews

Transcript, pp. 1-60 of audiotape recording, 2.0 hours.

Interviews

Audio Recordings of Interview: Total Recording Time: 2.0 hours

Note:

- Original Masters: 4 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes
- Reference Copies: 2 cassette audiotapes