Tigers of Bandhavgarh
Tiger Stripes Identification
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At the start of Project Tiger in the 1970s, the Indian Forest Department created the method of pugmark identification to distinguish between tigers and arrive at an estimate of the number of tigers in a park. Work by wildlife scientists proved that this method was highly unreliable, since the same tiger’s pugmarks could look very different depending on the terrain. The high element of human subjectivity in casting and reading the pugmarks resulted in the same animal being counted multiple times, and thus tiger numbers were highly inflated.

Since then, stripe patterns have been recognized the most reliable and unique identifiers. During the 2006 census, the camera trapping method pioneered by Dr. Ullas Karanth was used by WII and NTCA in various tiger reserves for the first time and since then photographic evidence has continuously gained importance. Photographs taken by tourists also prove to be an excellent resource to identify, track and monitor individual tigers every season.

This booklet has been prepared as a handbook to help easily identify tigers in the field in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. Certain stripe patterns have been highlighted, but identification should be carried out through a combination of markings.
Name: Damdama Cub 1
Born: Aug 2013
Sex: Female
Parentage: Damdama female
Damdama Cub 1, F

Has 'T' like marking above the right eyebrow.

Has a 'cross' like marking on the side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
Name: Sukhi Patiya Cub 1  
Born: Nov 2012  
Sex: Female  
Parentage: Sukhi Patiya young female
Sukhi Patiya Cub 1, F

Has 'T' like marking above the right eyebrow
Name: Sukhi Patiya Cub 2
Born: Nov 2012
Sex: Female
Parentage: Sukhi Patiya young female
Has 'D' like marking above the right eyebrow

Sukhi Patiya Cub 2, F
Name: Rajbehra Cub 1
Born: April 2012
Sex: Female
Parentage: Rajbehra female
Has a prominent inverted '4' like marking on the right side of her face.

Rajbehra Cub 1, F
**Name:** Rajbehra Cub 2  
**Born:** April 2012  
**Sex:** Female  
**Parentage:** Rajbehra female

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Has a prominent elongated 'v' above both its eyes. Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
**Name:** Rajbehra Cub 3  
**Born:** April 2012  
**Sex:** Female  
**Parentage:** Rajbehra female
Rajbhera Cub 3, F

- Right side- has a prominent flower like marking on the right flank
Name: Banbehi Cub 2
Born: April 2011
Sex: Female
Parentage: Banbehi female and Bamera

Has an arrow mark '▼' on the left side of her face.
Has a cross like marking '†' on the right side of her face.
Name: Chorbehra Cub 2
Born: Nov 2009
Sex: Female
Parentage: Chorbehra female and B2

Has a triangle like marking resembling an 'A' on the left thigh
Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.
Name: Mirchaini (younger)
Born: July 2009
Sex: Female
Parentage: Mirchaini female and B2
The marking above the left eye is an inverted (7) and the marking above the right eye is like a small hill.

Mirchaini (younger), F
Name: Mahaman (younger) 1
Born: April 2009
Sex: Female
Parentage: Mahaman female (elder) & Bokha

‘ज’ marking on both sides of her face
Mahaman (younger) 1, F

‘ज’ marking on both sides of her face
Name: Mahaman (younger) 2
Born: April 2009
Sex: Female
Parentage: Mahaman female (elder) & Bokha
Mahaman (younger) 2, F

Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
Name: Damdama
Born: Dec 2007
Sex: Female
Parentage: Mahaman female (elder) & Bokha

Has an inverted 'R' shaped marking
Damdama, F

Has an 'E' shaped marking

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Name: Banbehi/Amanala
Born: Oct 2007
Sex: Female
Parentage: Banbehi female (elder) and B2

Has a mark resembling a crossed loop on the neck

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Banbehi, F

Has a prominent cut on the left ear

Has a mark resembling a crossed loop on the neck
Name: Rajbehra/Dhitti
Born: Sept 2007
Sex: Female
Parentage: Jhurjhura female and Bokha
Rajbehra, F

Has a spectacle like vertical marking at the center of her flank.
Name: Sukhi Patiya (younger)
Born: 2006
Sex: Female
Parentage: Sukhi Patiya female (elder) & Bokha
Sukhi Patiya (younger), F

Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.
Name: Mirchaini (elder)
Born: April 2004
Sex: Female
Parentage: Banbehi female (elder) and B2

Has a light 'y' like marking on the left neck
Mirchaini (elder), F

Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.
**Name:** Mahaman (elder)  
**Born:** April 2002  
**Sex:** Female  
**Parentage:** B2 & Chakradhara female
Mahaman (elder), F

Has a ‘U’ like marking on the right side of the face.

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Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.

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Name: Sukhi Patiya (elder)
Born: 2000
Sex: Female
Parentage: Unknown

not available
Sukhi Patiya (elder), F

Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.

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**Name:** Damdama Cub 2  
**Born:** August 2013  
**Sex:** Male  
**Parentage:** Damdama female  

*not available*
Right side- has a prominent, broad 'y' like marking on the right side of the face.
Name: Sukhi Patiya Cub 3
Born: Nov 2012
Sex: Male
Parentage: Sukhi Patiya (Younger) female
Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes. Has a ‘cross’ like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted ‘L’ on the left side.
Name: Rajbehra Cub 4
Born: April 2012
Sex: Male
Parentage: Rajbehra female
Rajbehra Cub 4, M

Has a prominent elongated 'v' above both its eyes. Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
Name: Kankatti Cub
Born: Nov 2011
Sex: Male
Parentage: Kankatti female and Bamera
Kankatti Cub, M

Has a prominent elongated 'v' above both its eyes. Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
Name: Banbehi Cub 1
Born: April 2011
Sex: Male
Parentage: Banbehi female and Bamera
Banbehi Cub 1, M

Has a prominent 'V' marking above both the eyes.
**Name:** Banbehi Cub 3  
**Born:** April 2011  
**Sex:** Male  
**Parentage:** Banbehi female and Bamera
Banbehi Cub 3, M

Has a loop like marking above his right eye
**Name:** Chorbehra Cub 1  
**Born:** Nov 2009  
**Sex:** Male  
**Parentage:** Chorbehra female and B2
Chorbehra Cub 1, M

Has a 'B' like marking on the right thigh

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Name: Mamu
Born: Unknown
Sex: Male
Parentage: Mahaman female
Mamu, M

Has a prominent elongated ‘v’ above both its eyes.

Has a ‘B’ like marking on the right thigh.

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©Mohan Thomas
Name: Mukunda
Born: 2009
Sex: Male
Parentage: Sukhi Patiya (elder) female and Bokha

Has a semi-circle and a dot inside it like ‘C’ on the left side of his face
Mukunda, M

Has a 'g' like marking on his right thigh
Name: Mangu
Born: Unknown
Sex: Male
Parentage: Unknown
Has a double hill like marking on the right flank.
Name: Bheem
Born: Unknown
Sex: Male
Parentage: Unknown
Bheem, M

Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
Name: Teer
Born: Unknown
Sex: Male
Parentage: Unknown
Has a vertical arrow mark on the right side of his face.
**Name:** Chota Charger  
**Born:** Unknown  
**Sex:** Male  
**Parentage:** Mahaman Female

not available
Has a prominent 'K' like marking on the right side of his face.
A prominent 'Y' like marking on his left flank ▼

Name: Blue-eyed
Born: 2006
Sex: Male
Parentage: Unknown
Blue coloured eyes, also has a prominent gash on his nose

Blue-eyed, M
Has a catapult shaped or a broad 'Y' shaped marking

Name: Jobhi
Born: Unknown
Sex: Male
Parentage: Unknown
Jobhi, M

Has a boat shaped marking which looks like ‘(’
Name: Bamera  
Born: Dec 2004  
Sex: Male  
Parentage: B2 and Chakradhara female

Left side of the face has a 'γ' like marking ▼
Bamera, M

Has a prominent elongated 'v' above both its eyes. Has a 'cross' like marking on the right side of its face and an inverted 'L' on the left side.
### Females
- Damdama Cub 1
  - Pg 2-3
- Sukhi Patiya Cub 1
  - Pg 4-5
- Sukhi Patiya Cub 2
  - Pg 6-7
- Rajbehra Cub 1
  - Pg 8-9
- Rajbehra Cub 2
  - Pg 10-11
- Rajbehra Cub 3
  - Pg 12-13
- Banbehi Cub 2
  - Pg 14-15
- Chorbehra Cub 2
  - Pg 16-17
- Mirchaini (younger)
  - Pg 18-19
- Mahaman (younger) 1
  - Pg 20-21
- Mahaman (younger) 2
  - Pg 22-23
- Damdama
  - Pg 24-25
- Banbehi / Amanala
  - Pg 26-27
- Rajbehra / Dhitti
  - Pg 28-29
- Sukhi Patiya (younger)
  - Pg 30-31
- Mirchaini (elder)
  - Pg 32-33
- Mahaman (elder)
  - Pg 34-35
- Sukhi Patiya (elder)
  - Pg 36-37

### Males
- Damdama Cub 2
  - Pg 38-39
- Sukhi Patiya Cub 3
  - Pg 40-41
- Rajbehra Cub 4
  - Pg 42-43
- Kankatti Cub
  - Pg 44-45
- Banbehi Cub 1
  - Pg 46-47
- Banbehi Cub 3
  - Pg 48-49
- Chorbehra Cub 1
  - Pg 50-51
- Mamu
  - Pg 52-53
- Mukunda
  - Pg 54-55
- Mangu
  - Pg 56-57
- Bheem
  - Pg 58-59
- Teer
  - Pg 60-61
- Chota Charger
  - Pg 62-63
- Blue-eyed
  - Pg 64-65
- Jobhi
  - Pg 66-67
- Bamera
  - Pg 68-69