



District Administration  
Champawat



उत्तराखण्ड  
सचमुच स्वर्गीय

# TREADING IN CORBETT'S FOOTSTEPS



—*Champawat Unveiled*—

“There are two things that interest me: the relation of people to each other, and the relation of people to the land”


(Jim Corbett, *Tree Tops*, 1948)



# JIM CORBETT

Edward James Corbett, better known as Jim Corbett, was a renowned hunter, tracker, naturalist, and author born in 1875 in Nainital, British India. He is widely recognized, both as a hunter and as a conservationist.



 **MAN-EATERS KILLED BY JIM CORBETT:** 33 man-eater big cats (19 tigers and 14 leopards) mostly in Kumaon region with an estimated death toll of nearly 1200.

Jim Corbett's upbringing in Kaladhungi, Nainital, combined with his innate curiosity about the natural world, made him an excellent tracker and hunter.

## JIM CORBETT & CHAMPAWAT

In 1907, the British Government enlisted the help of Jim Corbett to track down a man-eater terrorising the border villages of Champawat, which had reportedly killed 434 people (200 in Nepal, 234 in Kumaon).

### JIM CORBETT'S FIRST MAN-EATER KILL CHAMPAWAT MAN-EATER (1907)

Jim Corbett finally killed the famed 'Champawat Tiger' after its 7 year reign of terror in 1907 and with it 'Champawat' also gained fame worldwide. Its final tally of human kills stood at 436 (A *Guinness World Record*).



Jim Corbett reported that she was a female bengal tiger with a broken lower and upper canines, likely caused by a gunshot wound, preventing her from hunting her natural prey, leading her to become a man-eater.

### MYSTERY: CHAMPAWAT BUNGALOW

Jim Corbett had a peculiar encounter at the Champawat Forest bungalow (*Phungar FRH*). Reportedly, Corbett fled his room in a panic and slept on the bungalow's verandah the night before killing the man-eating Champawat. This event was referred to in two of Corbett's books as "...tales' beyond the laws of nature".

## THE PANAR MAN-EATER (1910)

The Panar man-eater is second only to the Champawat Tiger in human deaths, with an estimated 400 victims. He was a male leopard that got his first taste of human flesh from the cholera epidemic's human corpses.



Panar Man-Eater was killed in 1910 by Jim Corbett at the border of Almora & Champawat district near panar river.

## TALLA DESH MAN-EATER (1929)

A tigress that terrorized the Talla Desh area, in Champawat in 1920s. She was responsible for 150 human deaths spanning a period of 8 years before Jim Corbett eventually managed to hunt her down on April, 1929 at thulakot village. Jim Corbett discovered she killed humans to feed her kids because of an old porcupine quill wound.

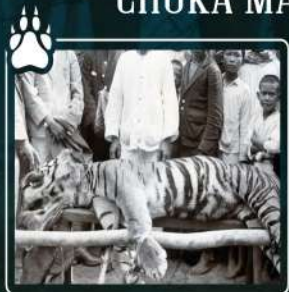


## MYSTERY: PURNAGIRI LIGHTS

While hunting the Talla Des Man-Eater, Jim Corbett saw strange floating lights near the Sharda Gorge. This 'purnagiri lights' account has become popular yet remains unexplained.



## CHUKA MAN-EATER (1937)



He was large 10ft male Bengal Tiger, who had killed four people in the Chuka - Kaladhunga region. Chuka Man-Eater was shot dead in April, 1937 by Jim Corbett. Jim Corbett discovered him to have a broken canine tooth and multiple gunshot wounds which led him to become a man-eater.

## CHUKA / KALADHUNGA· FISHING PARADISE

Jim Corbett's books mention Chuka and Kaladhunga region recurringly in Chuka and Talla Des Man-Eater chapters. Jim Corbett, a keen angler wrote this:

*"For a lover of nature, or for a keen fisherman, there are few places in Kumaun to compare with Kaladhunga."*



## THAK MANEATER CORBETT'S LAST MAN-EATER (1938)

She was a female Bengal Tiger, who killed 4 people in the Thak and Chuka region. Jim Corbett shot the Thak Man-Eater in November 1938 and is claimed to be the last man-eater he killed. Jim Corbett was aged 63 at the time.



Corbett found two bullet wounds on her, which he felt drove her to kill humans to feed her cubs.

## JIM CORBETT "THE SAVIOUR OF CHAMPAWAT"

 Jim Corbett killed 5 Man-Eaters in Champawat region amounting to nearly 800 human deaths, which would mean countless lives saved.

It is fitting that Jim Corbett killed his last man-eater in Champawat, where he killed his first, the Champawat Man-Eater. Later, he traded his gun for a camera and became an ardent conservationist, establishing the Halley National Park in 1936, which was renamed the now-famous Jim Corbett National Park after his passing in 1955.



# PLACES OF INTEREST

## DEVIDHURA TEMPLE

Jim Corbett's book recounts his 1909 encounter with the Temple Tiger in Devidhura during Panar Maneater hunts. The Temple Tiger became famous after Jim Corbett called it *"one of the most interesting and exciting shikar experiences I've ever had."*



## DEVIDHURA FRH

Jim Corbett stayed at this Forest Rest House during his pursuit of the Temple Tiger and the dreaded Panar Man-Eater who killed 400 people.



## KALDHUNGA FRH

Linked to Jim Corbett's hunting trip for the Chuka Man-Eater and the Thak Maneater.



## MANCH FRH

Associated with the hunt for the deadly Talla Des Man-Eater



## DURGAPIPAL FRH

Connected with the Thak man-eater hunt in the Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary region.



## BOOM FRH

Related with the Chuka and Talla Des Man-Eater hunting adventure.



# JIM CORBETT'S INTERESTING FACTS AND FACETS



Two conditions that Jim Corbett placed on the government to hunt the Champawat Maneater demonstrate his respect for nature, hunting as a sport, and ethical hunting.

1) Cancel Government awards: Reward hunting was unethical and against the spirit of hunting.

2) Withdrawal of all special shikaris: He didn't want hunters shooting him or each other.



It is estimated that Jim Corbett killed a total of 33 man-eating big cats (19 tigers and 14 leopards), resulting in roughly 1200 deaths.



Became an avid photographer when it was not in fashion.



First person to successfully film a wild tiger in its natural habitat.



Panthera tigris corbett, the Indochinese tiger, was named after him in 1968.



Corbett only had one hunting companion dog Robin (a spaniel).



Corbett made his first big cat kill, a leopard when he was 11 years old.



Corbett wrote 6 books which have sold more than 5 million copies worldwide.

for more information please visit



[www.champawattourism.com](http://www.champawattourism.com)