

THE TIGER KING

Q1. What did the astrologer foretell when the Tiger King was born?

Or

Why was a tiger danger for the infant/prince?

Answer. When the royal prince was born, the astrologer predicted that he would become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes and champion of the champions. But the child had been born under the star of bull. Tiger and bull are enemies so one day the prince would be killed by a tiger.

Q2. Why was a tiger danger for the infant?

Answer. According to the chief astrologer, the prince was born in the hour of the bull. The bull and the tiger are enemies; therefore, the Tiger King would have to meet his end one day and the death would come in form of a tiger.

Q3. Why was the chief astrologer surprised when the infant spoke?

Or

What was the miracle that took place in the royal court?

Answer. A great miracle took place in the royal court after the prediction of the chief astrologer. The ten days old moved his little lips and challenged the prediction. He also raised/asked some intelligent questions about the manner of his death. When he came to know that he would be killed by a tiger, he uttered, "let tigers beware".

Q4. Why did the British officer visit Pratibandhpuram?

Answer. Once a high-ranking British officer visited Pratibandhpuram. He asked for/needed Maharaja's permission for tiger hunting and to take his photography with the carcass of the tiger. But the Maharaja did allow him for hunting expedition. In fact, he had to kill hundred tigers to belie the prediction and defeat his death.

Q5. Mention the condition the Maharaja had laid down for his marriage?

Or

How did the Maharaja get more tigers to kill, when he had killed all the tigers in his kingdom?

Answer. When Maharaja killed seventy tigers in his state, there was no tiger left to kill. He consulted Dewan and made a plan to marry a girl in a royal family with big number of tigers in the state. Whenever he visited the state, he would kill certain number of tigers. Thus, he killed ninety-nine tigers at last.

Q6. How did the Maharaja reward and later punished the villagers who had discovered the hundredth tiger?

Or

Why did the Maharaja order Dewan to double the tax?

Answer. The Tiger King was informed that a tiger has been seen/spotted in a village in Pratibandhpuram. He was very excited and exempted the villagers from all taxes. He set off for the hunting but could not find the tiger. He was raging with anger. He ordered Diwan to double the land tax. This shows the lunacy/eccentricity of the king.

Q7. Who procured the hundredth tiger and from where?

Answer. Maharaja threatened the Diwan to dismiss him from his jobs if he did not get the hundredth tiger. Diwan arranged an old and lethargic tiger from people's park Madras. He kept it in his house and the next day, he left it in the forest where the Maharaja was camping.

Q8. How was the 100th tiger honoured?

Or

How did the tiger king celebrate his victory over the killing of the hundredth tiger?

Answer. The maharaja thought that he had killed the hundredth tiger. Thus, he had belied the prediction of the astrologer and had defeated the awaited disaster/death. he ordered the ministers to bring his carcass in the big rally through the state. He also ordered to build tomb a in the memory of the tiger.

Q9. What did the hunters discovered about the tiger after the Maharaja had shot the 100th tiger?

Answer. Maharaja thought that he had killed the hundredth tiger. He left the place ordering the hunters to bring the body of the tiger in a big procession. The hunters went to collect the

body but the tiger looked back with rolling eyes. They realized that the Maharaja had missed the target. They pumped three bullets in his body and killed the tiger.

Q10. Why didn't the shopkeeper quote/tell the real price of the wooden tiger?

Answer. The tiger king selected a cheap and roughly made wooden tiger for this son on his birthday. The price of the tiger was only two annas. But the shopkeeper could not tell such a low price because he feared that he might be punished by the Maharaja if he told such a low price.

Q11. How was the king very near of losing his throne and how did he manage to retain/save it?

Answer. The king faced an unprecedented/unexpected danger and he was very close to lose his throne. Once a high-ranking British officer visited Pratibandhapuram and asked permission for tiger hunting. He also wanted to shoot his photograph with the carcass of tiger. But the maharaja decided not to allow the hunting expedition because it might allure other British officers to Pratibandhapuram. But in any case, he could not annoy the officer. As a substitute he agreed to organize the hunt for the boar, mouse and even the mosquitoes. He decided to make a present of precious jewelry to the wife of the British officer. He ordered for the samples of some expensive diamond's rings of different designs. He sent a pack of about fifty rings to the Duraisani the British officer's good lady. But she grabbed all the rings and sent a reply of thanks to the king. He had to pay the heavy bill of three lakhs for the rings. But somehow, he succeeded to please the officer and his wife. Thus, he managed to retain his kingdom.

Q12. How did the hundredth tiger take the revenge?

Answer. The Jung-Jung Bahadur thought that he had defeated the awaited luck/disaster after killing the hundredth tiger. But he did not know that he had missed the target and the tiger fell down with the shock of the bullet and latter killed by the hunters. Now he got some time to celebrate birthday of his only prince. He purchased a wooden tiger from a shop to present it to his son on the auspicious day. The tiger had been carved by some unskilled craftsman. It had a rough surface with tiny slivers of wood standing up like quills. One of the slivers pierced into Maharaja's right hand. But he ignored it and continued playing with the son.

The next day, infection flared/spread in the Maharaja's right hand. In four days, it developed into a suppurating sore and spread all over the arm.

Three famous surgeons were brought in from Madras. They decided to operate the king. They performed the surgery which proved unsuccessful. Thus, the tiger king had to face his true fate and the hundredth tiger took its final revenge from the king.

Q13. People show cruelty on innocent animals to get the blessing of the god but in the end, one has to accept his true fate. Elaborate.

Answer. Human life is surrounded with anomalies/difficulties. We try every way possible to get out of these problems and sacrifice of innocent animals is the most common of them. In almost every religion of the world, there are some certain rituals which people follow to get the blessing of The God. In temples and mosques, millions of innocent mute animals are slaughtered every day and on different occasions to please the god and goddesses. People believe that it will remove bad luck and bring happiness and prosperity to them and their families. But I strongly believe that such people are living in dark of ignorance. In fact, it is the hard work and deeds that matters more than following these baseless rituals. Just believe in yourself and work hard, you will get true blessing of the god. Don't forget that human and animals together share the beautiful world. The Jung-Jung Bahadur believed in baseless prophecy of the astrologer and killed ninety-nine innocent tigers. He thought that he had killed the hundredth tiger and defeated the awaited disaster. But in the end, he had to accept his hard luck and the hundredth tiger took the revenge.