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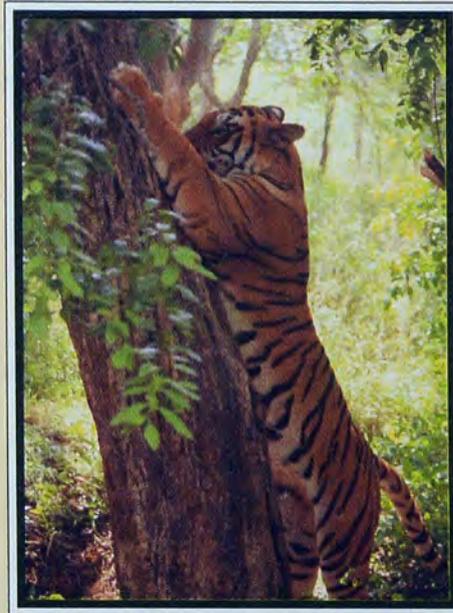
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INSIDE SANCTUARY

ASIA: THE ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE MAGAZINE

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14. Cover Story: Pictures from Paradise. A tiger leaves its calling card on the bark of a tree in an Indian wilderness. **Dr. T. Shivanandappa**, one of India's most accomplished photo-graphers, has been able to obtain many such images after years of patient work, for which he has won numerous plaudits and awards over the years. Here Sanctuary readers are able to savour a selection of 'Pictures from Paradise.'

22. The Forest Spotted Owllet Athene (Heteroglaux) blewitti is one of India's most enigmatic birds. Only seven specimens were ever collected, over a 13-year period, by three

British naturalists. There had been no definite records of the species for 113 years despite a number of concerted searches, notably by Dr. Salim Ali, Dr. S. Dillon Ripley and their colleagues. **Pamela C. Rasmussen**, writes here of how she and Dr. Nigel Collar of BirdLife International undertook a search in Maharashtra that returned the diminutive owl to the 'land of the living.'

26. The Iderganj Plateau in the Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary is threatened by a mining proposal put forward by the Indian Aluminium Co. Ltd (INDAL). **Neeraj Vaghlikar** travelled to the site to bring us this first hand report about a vital tiger habitat that also plays a crucial role in protecting the watershed of two major reservoirs, created when the Radhanagari and Kalamawadi dams were constructed.

34. Bhingad must live say **Durgesh Kasbekar, Major Mhaskar, Vishweshwar Madhav and Vrushal Dongre**, a group of young naturalists who wish to save this exquisite tiger-forest situated along the Karnataka-Goa border. They appeal to Sanctuary readers to help them buy up some critical patches of forest, to protect from commercial exploitation. Wroughtons frettailed bat, an endemic, insectivorous mammal, present here need urgent protection. A spot-visit update by **Anand Pendharkar**, supplements this report.

44. In a sea of despair, events taking place in the the Dalma Sanctuary provide hope for our beleaguered protected areas. **K. Christopher and Ashish Kothari** write here of initiatives linking the Forest Department and local communities in efforts to protect Dalma's low, forested ranges situated north of the Subarnarekha river and Jamshedpur city, at the edge of the Chotanagpur plateau. The area today, is one of the last remaining havens for the Asian Elephant, affectionately called Thakur Mama by locals who are fighting to counter the destruction unleashed by unbridled development.

59. The Sanctuary Papers: A natural history compendium.

63. Reality Bytes: A digest of conservation news culled from the Internet and from reports sent in to us by Sanctuary readers.

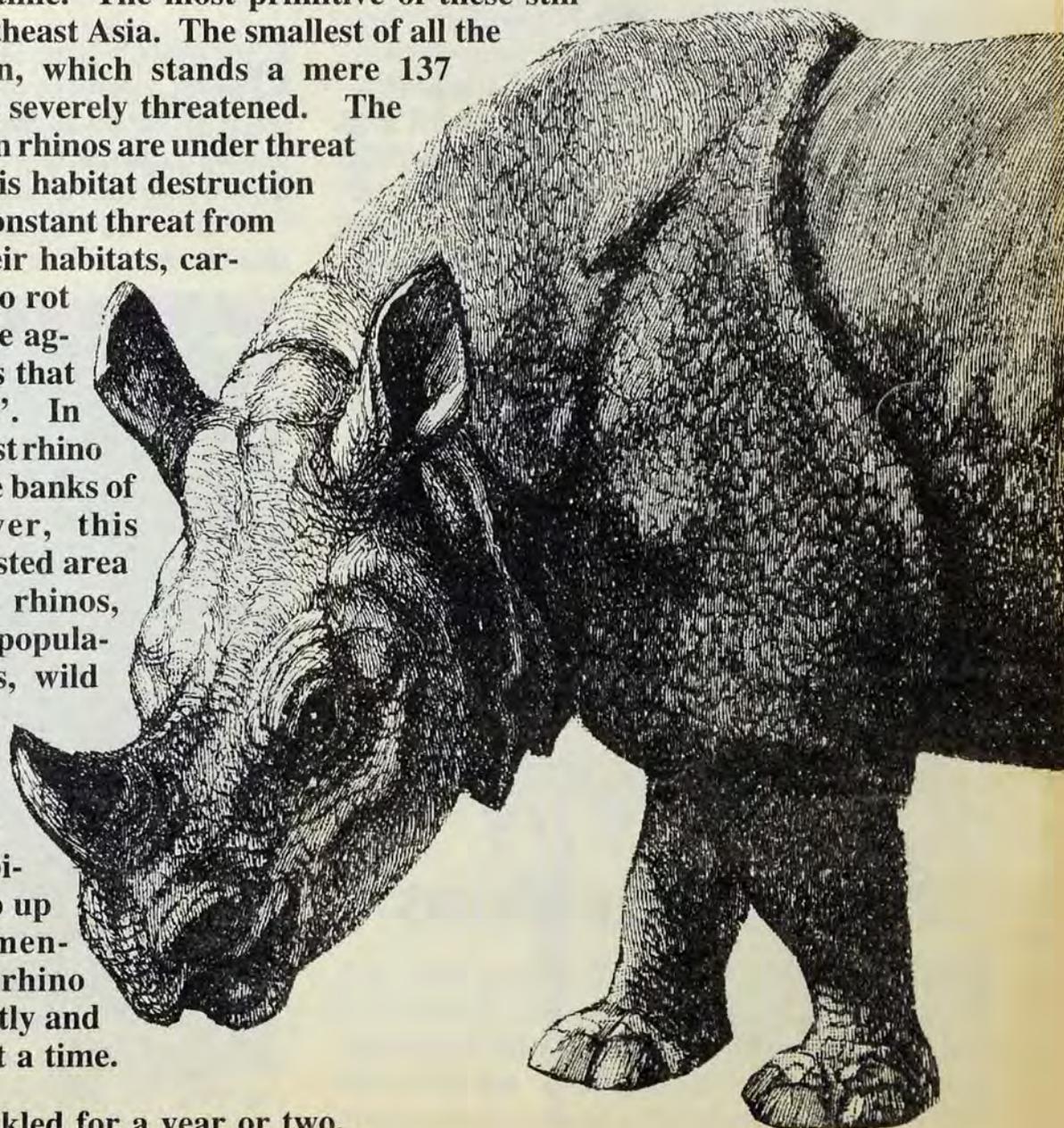
78. Tiger Link update from the Ranthambhor Foundation

88. Reader's Forum: Feedback from the field.

THE SANCTUARY PAPERS

A rhino story

50 million years ago the first rhinoceros' made their appearance on earth. They were smaller than the ones we recognise today, with more slender legs... rather like horses. Their plant diet nevertheless was much the same then as now but their brain to body size was relatively small. Many different forms of rhino eventually evolved, but only five species survived the passage of time. The most primitive of these still live in the jungles of Southeast Asia. The smallest of all the species is the Sumatran, which stands a mere 137 centimetres tall. All are severely threatened. The Indian, African and Javan rhinos are under threat from two sources. First is habitat destruction and added to this is the constant threat from poachers. All across their habitats, carcasses of rhinos are left to rot after criminals cut off the agglomerated mass of hairs that they believe to be 'horn'. In India, Kaziranga is the best rhino habitat left intact. On the banks of the Brahmaputra river, this swampy, grassy and forested area harbours around 1,000 rhinos, together with a healthy population of elephants, tigers, wild buffalo and one of India's most impressive pelicanries. One reason why rhinos are faring so poorly is their breeding biology, which cannot keep up with the twin-treats mentioned above. Indian rhino mothers breed infrequently and will bear a single baby at a time.



The little one will be suckled for a year or two.