

Tigers in Film: Past, Present and Future Perspectives

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Abstract : This research examines the shifting portrayal of tigers in visual media, particularly cinema, to explore how cultural, political, and ecological perspectives influence animal symbolism. Through an interdisciplinary approach combining film studies, anthropology, art history, and material culture, this study investigates tiger representations in static and moving images, from early art forms to 20th-century films. The research highlights how the film has perpetuated, transformed, and politicised tiger imagery across contexts by analysing colonialism, identity, and ecological change themes. With a comprehensive focus on Indian and Western cinema, this study illustrates the tiger's enduring role as a cultural symbol and its impact on visual narratives, exploring techniques in cinematography, audience reception, and narratives that helped shape the animal's iconic status. This research aims to provide a comprehensive view of tiger representations in media, addressing the intersection of animal symbolism and sociocultural values across historical and regional landscapes.

Keywords : tiger representation, visual media, anthropology media, material culture, film studies, comparative analysis

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