The history of white tiger in India can be traced in some of the paintings, which were drawn and recorded after 27 years of an incident in 1561 AD (ref. 8). However, the earliest authentic report of shooting of a white tiger in India is stated to be in 1907 (ref. 9).

Reports of white tigers in Assam are available. In Sivasagar District, Upper Assam, there is a tea estate called ‘Boga-bagh’ meaning ‘white tiger’ in Assamese, and refers to two white tigers found there in the early 1900s (ref. 4).

Also, a report exists of the killing of a white tiger in Assam in March 1851. The unnoticed report is a much earlier record of the killing of a white tiger in India. According to The Orunodoi, a white tiger was beaten to death in Dibrugarh District, Assam and its head and skin were brought to ‘Shrijut Doctor Sharlok Sahab’. The fur of the tiger was long and completely white without any spots10. The report is also supplemented with a drawing of the tiger (Figure 1). This may be the earliest authentic report of killing of a white tiger in India.

Capturing of a white tiger from Sadiya (District Tinsukia, Assam) during the Ahom King Kamaleswar Singha (1795–1811) is also mentioned in the report.

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