

# Modern-Day Alchemy Case Study Research

## PROMPT

What reasons do those wanting to allow the hunting of endangered species for alchemy and medicine give for allowing this? What actions do they take to make this occur?

Some people say that rhino horn is "said to help treat everything from cancer to gout when consumed in its powder form." (National Geographic), and "tiger bone crushed and made into a paste has been said to be usable to treat a variety of ailments, including rheumatism and back pain." Additionally, the concept of sympathetic magic is popular in religious Taoism, which likens the animal's appearance to the properties gained from ingesting the animal. For example, "Tigers and bears...were seen as powerful and virile animals, so it was presumed that eating tiger or bear parts would increase "male potency"." (Daily Kos).