

SEARCH

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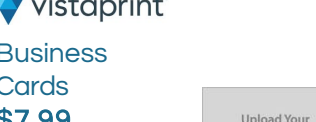
r (/symbols/Young (/symbols/Pliger.NEW (justadded.php)  RANDOM (random.php)

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Hindu tradition associates the tiger with the deities Shiva and Durga, and the animal's reputation for ferocity plays an important role in both cases. As the ultimate ascetic (renunciant), Shiva is often portrayed either wearing a tiger skin or sitting on one. This symbolizes his conquest of the rampant appetites and desires that plague other beings.

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The fierce goddess Durga was created by other Hindu deities to destroy evil demons. In that capacity, she carries a different weapon in each of her ten hands and is often portrayed riding a tiger (the symbolic link is clear).

All of these connections between the tiger and ferocity are plain for anyone to see, but there is another side to the coin of their symbolism. Despite their deadly reputation, or rather because of it, tigers are also key symbols of protection. Female tigers are extremely aggressive in defending their young, and in China, images of tigers are placed on graves as a way to frighten off malevolent spirits who may want to harm the dead. In Buddhist belief, the tiger symbolizes senseless anger on the one hand, but is also seen as a creature of awareness and confidence, merging together the diverse symbolism associated with this mighty animal.

It has a double meaning sun and moon; creator and destroyer.

Buddhist: one of three foolish animals of Chinese Buddhism, represents anger.

**Categories:** [Animal Symbolism \(/category/13\)](#), [Chinese Symbols \(/category/47\)](#).

**Tiger (/symbol/2113)** is part of the [Buddhist Symbols \(/group/28\)](#), [Hindu Symbols \(/group/29\)](#) groups.

[Edit this symbol](#)

## More symbols in [Buddhist Symbols \(/group/28\)](#):



[Dharma Chakra \(/symbol/1974\)](#)



[Conch \(/symbol/204\)](#)



[Coral \(/symbol/2235\)](#)



[Endless knot \(/symbol/205\)](#)



[Endless Knot \(/symbol/2680\)](#)



[Enso \(/symbol/2815\)](#)

## More symbols in [Hindu Symbols \(/group/29\)](#):



[Ajna: The Brow Chakra \(/symbol/383\)](#)



[Anahata: The Heart Chakra \(/symbol/385\)](#)



[Om \(/symbol/1353\)](#)



[Banana \(/symbol/2754\)](#)



[Boar \(/symbol/2663\)](#)



[Coconut \(/symbol/2224\)](#)

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