May 22, 2003

Three-year-old befriends python

Sit Tbow (Cambodia) May 22
Cambodians are flocking to see a three-year-old boy they believe was the son of a dragon in his previous life because his best friend is a four-metre-long python.

Three-year-old Cambodian boy Oeun Sambath hugs his best friend, a four-metre long female python named Chamreun or 'Lucky' in the village of Sit Tbow on Sunday. Superstitious villagers are flocking to see the boy, who they believe, has supernatural powers and was probably the son of a dragon in a former life. — Reuters photo

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Sit Tbow (Cambodia) May 22
Cambodians are flocking to see a three-year-old boy they believe was the son of a dragon in his previous life because his best friend is a four-metre-long python.

Curled up for an afternoon snooze inside the coils of his companion, the child, Oeun Sambath, attracts regular visits from villagers anxious to make use of what they believe are his supernatural powers. "He has been playing with the python ever since he could first crawl," said his mother Kim Kannara. Reuters

Thu May 22, 9:41 AM ET

Three-year-old Cambodian boy Oeun Sambat hugs his best friend, a 13.1 feet long female python named Chamreun or 'Lucky' in the village of **Sit Tbow** on May 18, 2003. Superstitious villagers in the impoverished southeast Asian nation are flocking to see the boy, who they believe has supernatural powers and was probably the son of a dragon in a former life. (Chor Sokunthea/Reuters)

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The Tribune, Chandigarh, India - World

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Update November 27, 2007

Boy Plays With Giant Python

November 28, 2007—A seven-year-old Cambodian boy and his python pal like to eat duck and chicken. Only the 15-plus-foot python eats 22 pounds of it weekly.

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Koun Samang and the Python Chamreun whose name means “Lucky” are the same age. The snake showed up on the family’s doorstep, which is not unusual as pythons sometimes live near family dwellings where populations of rats and other vermin are likely to be high. Eats only chicken and duck, 22 pounds a week.

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