

# Rajan Sankaran

## Survival the Reptile - Volume 1 and 2

Reading excerpt

[Survival the Reptile - Volume 1 and 2](#)

of [Rajan Sankaran](#)

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## Genus: Dendroaspis (Mambas)

### Introduction

Mambas are the FASTEST MOVING, HIGHLY STRUNG and EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE of all the land dwelling snakes of Africa. The word Dendroaspis literally means 'tree snake', though their preferred locale is on the ground. They are also capable of burrowing and swimming. The mamba snakes are capable of MOVING WITH GREAT SPEED, be it on ground or in water, which allows them to even overtake man.

### Venom

Their VENOM is very dangerous to man. Their bite is nearly 100% FATAL, if the victim does not receive medical care and antivenom. Just two drops of poison is enough to cause RAPID DEATH. In fact, they are able to inject formidable amounts of venom.

### Method of attack and defense

Mambas are generally SHY, but unlike most other snakes, if the mambas are cornered or threatened they will STRIKE REPEATEDLY. The trigger for their AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR IS OFTEN SOMEONE BLOCKING THE RETURN ROUTE TO THEIR LAIR OR HIDING SPOT. These DIURNAL hunters can actually run down their prey. The mamba's threatening display behavior is similar to that of the cobra, with the mouth gaping. A mamba will raise the front portion of its body vertically, stretch the neck skin into a hood (slightly smaller than the cobra's), and flick its tongue and hiss.

## Possible common expressions of Dendroaspis in patients

Here we will observe the common expressions of snakes and the Elapidae family. The specific expressions of the mambas are:

- Extreme aggression
- Fast moving, speed
- Strike repeatedly when threatened
- Speedy death
- Poison/venom

## *Dendroaspis polylepis* [black mamba]

Class: Reptilia  
Order: Squamata  
Suborder: Serpentes/Ophidia (Snakes)  
Family: Elapidae  
Genus: Dendroaspis  
Species: Dendroaspis polylepis  
Common name: black mamba

### Introduction

The black mamba is THE FASTEST land snake in the world, reaching to a speed of 11 kilometres an hour over short distances<sup>1</sup>. This is fast enough to overtake someone moving at a brisk run. However it USES THIS SPEED TO ESCAPE DANGER, RATHER THAN CATCH PREY.

Black mambas are LETHALLY VENOMOUS, and WHEN THREATENED THEY CAN BE HIGHLY AGGRESSIVE. They have been blamed for numerous human deaths. They are SYNONYMOUS WITH DEATH in South Africa and if not treated by antivenom its bite can KILL A PREY WITHIN 15 MINUTES. PEOPLE ALLERGIC TO BEES REACT MUCH FASTER TO THE MAMBA'S BITE.

Many people believe that the black mamba will actually chase and attack humans. This is a myth, and is probably fueled by the great speed with which this species can move. For all these reasons, the black mamba is widely considered the world's DEADLIEST snake, as an expert rightly calls them 'DEATH INCARNATE'.

### Habitat

The black mamba LIVES IN A PERMANENT LAIR and DOES NOT CHANGE PLACES UNLESS DISTURBED. They COME BACK TO THEIR HOME EVERY NIGHT, which would be a hollow in a tree or in the cavities of old termite/insect mounds or even rock crevices. They are not an arboreal/climbing species, though can often be seen warming up on cold days high in trees. They also seem to have PERMANENT BASKING SPOTS to which they will return daily.

1. Ref: *Life in Cold Blood* by David Attenborough.

### **Anatomical characteristics**

The black mamba is not named for the color of its body, which is usually a shade of metal grey, charcoal, olive green, dark olive or greyish brown, and some even have light bands on their body. It is named for the **HIGHLY PIGMENTED INTERIOR OF ITS MOUTH** an **INKY BLACK**, which it readily displays when threatened to scare a predator. An adult mamba grows to a length of 2.5 m/8 ft, to a maximum of 4.5 m/15 ft. Despite its size, it is **highly agile**, effortlessly **sliding** through thorn bushes and trees.



*Black mamba displaying the inky mouth*

### **Specific method of attack and defense**

Black mambas are generally shy and will **escape when confronted**. They **HUNT BY DAY**. They use their **INCREDIBLE SPEED TO ESCAPE THREATS (A SUDDEN RUSH)**, not to hunt prey. **IF CORNERED OR DISTURBED, THEY CAN GET EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE**. A black mamba's first form of attack is to **threaten or warn** the predator by **RAISING THE FRONT THIRD OF ITS BODY OFF THE GROUND IN AN ARCH SHAPE, BALANCING ON THE REAR PART OF THE BODY AND MOVING SWIFTLY TOWARDS THE ATTACKER**. This position allows the snake to reach heights of approximately 1.2 m/4 ft. **IT SPREADS ITS HOOD AND OPENS ITS MOUTH WIDE, REVEALING THE INKY BLACK INTERIOR**. The

most incredible thing about them is that **THEY ARE NEVER SCARED TO SHOW THEIR INKY BLACK MOUTH TO SCARE ANY ANIMAL**. This is in contrast to the behavior of some rattlesnakes (genus *Crotalus*) and viperids (genera *Echis* and *Cerastes*), that express their warning signal from a dark hiding place, where they cannot be readily seen.

If this attempt fails, they will not hesitate to **STRIKE REPEATEDLY** with **DEADLY PRECISION**. **THEIR EYESIGHT IS USED PARTICULARLY TO DETECT ANY MOTION, AND ANY SUDDEN MOVEMENT WILL CAUSE THEM TO STRIKE**. They are capable of attacking even from a distance of 1.8 m/6 ft. While hunting large animals, the black mamba delivers one or two deadly bites and then backs off, stalking its prey, waiting for the neurotoxin in its venom to paralyze the prey. When killing a bird or a small animal, however, the black mamba will cling to its prey, **not letting go of its grip**.

The **BLACK MAMBA HAS NO THREAT FROM ANY PREDATOR BECAUSE NO ANIMAL IS ABLE TO KILL IT**.

*Black mamba snake*



### Few proving excerpts from Rajan Sankaran's book "Provings":

- Felt one is alone, and has to do things alone. This is an important feature of the Elapidae snakes.
- Whereas in the proving of *Crotalus cascavella*, (now called *Crotalus durissus*), the important symptom that came up was: a constant fear and anxiety that I might make a mistake or do something wrong in the future, as a result of which my friends will not want me anymore. Fear that I will be left alone. They need company.
- Alone vs. others: A prover said, 'I went to college one morning to find that everyone was accusing me of having raped a girl I didn't even know. They were all pointing fingers at me, and accusing me. (I felt pushed to a corner and how do I get out of this).'
- Boy looks like a girl.
- A person surrounded by eunuchs. Was trying to get out of the grip (also indicates the strong grip of the Elapidae snake bite). Held him (HG: round and round).
- Felt surrounded by a black cloud, by darkness. No possibility of going ahead.
- One female prover who had been disappointed in love developed a very vindictive attitude during the proving. Her friends reported that she had been making several blank telephone calls late in the night to disturb her former boyfriend who was now married. She also made several phone calls to the families of her former boyfriend and his wife and, posing as someone else, started to spread maligning statements about them. She was doing this deliberately and cold-bloodedly and seemed to derive immense pleasure out of it. When it was brought to the notice of the proving master and she was questioned about it, she did not repent, and instead had absolutely no remorse. This behaviour did not persist once the proving was over.
- Reacting in a rapid and aggressive manner. Was abusive when a friend said something about me which wasn't really bad.

This is opposite of *Crotalus cascavella*, which will hold back, not strike immediately. Then when the limit is reached then it will finish, or they will wait for the right time.

- Am ready to take on anyone I come across: "Come on, let's fight, let's box." I feel I am behaving like an animal. The *Dendroaspis polylepis* contest is an open, direct fight undertaken by a lone individual against however many others posing a threat, unlike the *Crotalus cascavella* battle, which is a behind the scenes fight involving a group (cf. the mafia's modus operand!).
- Impulsively kicked my two-year-old cousin very hard, insensitively. (When the same prover was about to leave the house, his mother told him good bye. He replied, "I hope by the time I come back you must have already committed suicide.") And he said he had no feelings.
- The genus Naja (cobras) has this desire to cause injury, but black mamba is much more impulsive than Naja and they don't warn so much like Naja does. Naja will warn repeatedly 'Don't come too close, stay far.' Naja is more held back. Black mamba will attack very quickly and suddenly.
- Go ahead, make my day: My friends had played a joke on a stranger. He asked me which one of them was responsible. When I had refused to tell him, he had started to beat me up. I felt it was wrong. I too hit back, and threatened him, "You hit me once again and I will beat you up. And if you come here again I will see that you never go back." This is the warning before the attack of the Elapidae snakes.
- Dream of car racing; run, speed.
- Harsh and abusive.
- No control.
- HG direct, with a pointed finger.
- Has to be black or white, nothing in between.
- Impulse to make sexist jokes about women; sexual themes.
- Fight for others.
- No fear.
- Fight.
- Crocodile and snake themes.
- Insensitiveness, no guilt, unfeeling.
- Provoked, want to kill.
- Feels strong, reckless, risks, rash, no control.
- Images and dreams of Michael Jackson.



**Experience of Rajan Sankaran while conducting the black mamba proving:**

"Going inside a narrow tunnel, getting narrower and narrower and there is no way out. There is no feeling of claustrophobia or suffocation. Only feeling that there is no way out, this is the end, I am going towards the end. Total and black depression. But at the end of the proving I saw that many provers had the same symptom."

**From Michael Thompson's book "Snake Venoms and Homeopathy":**

(Important words in italics)

- *The world's most dangerous snake.*
- *Uncertain tempers coupled with copious amounts of exceedingly potent neurotoxic venom.*
- *Speed, agility, ferocity and deadliness.*
- *Listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as 'The World's Fastest Snake', and indeed, it is extremely fast and difficult to control when spooked.*
- *Antisocial reptile.*
- *Diurnal (active by day).*
- *Shy and extremely nervous, taking flight at the first sign of human encroachment and rarely allowing an approach of less than 23 m/75 ft. If cornered or an attempt to capture it is made, the black mamba will (when angered, which doesn't take much) give a threat display. They raise the front body and head well off the ground (1-1.2 m/3-4 ft in large specimens), spread aflat, narrow hood while shaking the head, gape the mouth, and show the purple-black interior. They also emit a long, hollow-sounding hiss that is thoroughly convincing.*
- *When confronted with an angry mamba displaying their 'threat display, FREEZE! Be forewarned. Unlike most cobras, this snake doesn't bluff, and will not hesitate to attack. It usually delivers quick, multiple bites, while dashing for freedom past the victim. The very large size attained by these snakes gives them the ability to strike from a long way out and bite the upper part of the victim (1.2-1.8 m/4-6 ft away). With patience by the would be victim, the mamba will slowly and cautiously retreat, allowing its escape.*
- *Climbs quickly and gracefully. Very fast moving. It often moves with the head and neck raised high.*



## Case (2) of *Dendroaspis polylepis*

By: Rajan Sankaran

Dec. 2002

### A case of an 8-year-old girl

She had pustular eruptions on her palms of the hand and between the fingers. The eruptions were quite severe with lot of itching and peeling of the skin. What her parents were mainly concerned about was her violent and destructive thoughts and her fears.

(Pertinent words marked in bold.)

**P: I get very upset when mother beats me.** When my parents wake me up, I get up in anger and **I feel like beating them.** If any enemy touches me or beats me I get very angry, feel like putting a knife in their stomach. When I am angry my hands and fingers become clawed and tight. I make a fist.

She then goes on to speak about a young boy of her age who lives in her neighborhood:

**P:** He beats me and pushes me. He even speaks bad words to my parents. **I feel like killing him.** But then I just beat him, and when I can't, I simply weep.

I feel I shouldn't leave him (*I should not let him go*). I should kill him by throwing stones, or putting a knife and turning (twisting) his head so he dies.

**If my enemy beats me then I just want her death. I feel like turning her head.**

I also get very scared of ghosts, alligators, snakes, tigers, lions, and water. When I am alone I get scared of ghosts. Fear that they will come from behind or from under the chair. Then I switch on the television and feel okay.

I don't like my face. It's like a full circle. I feel I look ugly.

In school if my enemies rank before me or get the first rank, then I feel very angry; but if my friends come first or get good marks then I am fine.

She narrated many significant dreams.

**Dreams:**

- Alligator is beating me and wants to kill me. Alligator can **change its color and shape**.
- Skeletons **catching me and want to kill me by throttling me**.
- A long insect comes quietly and bites me in sleep, and then goes under the bed. No **one can see it**.
- Many ghosts, wherever I go there is a ghost. I am surrounded by many ghosts. One of them catches my hand and another throttles me. Their faces are of different shapes — triangle, square, star, moon, while the body is made up of skeletons. Face is also very colorful — green, black, red, golden, silver.
- Many dreams of snakes.
- Snakes want to bite, kill, and pursue me, I am running.
- **Suddenly** a policeman becomes a ghost.
- Tigers and lions catch me, put their paws on me, and tear my body.
- Animals **suddenly come and catch me**.
- Often I see I am standing between tall grasses or near the water. Suddenly lions or tigers or alligators come and catch me from below.

**Past history:**

Anal fissures —with acute pain while passing stools.

Recurrent bronchitis.

**Desires:** Fish, smoked meat.

Earlier had craving for salt.

Profuse perspiration on neck and head.

Cracking of lips in winter.

**Mother's history during pregnancy:**

"Been through a very stressful period during the pregnancy.

In-laws would hurt and insult me and my parents. In-laws and parents were against the marriage. Many times my husband would also beat me and torture me. He would never support me.

I never thought he will change like this. I developed hatred. I would feel very lonely. Even attempted suicide. Wanted to die. Whenever I recollect my past I get very scared."

"We come from different casts, so the in-laws never accepted me. They don't behave well even with my daughter. They love my sister-in-law's children, but neglect my children. This affects me a lot. I feel very upset."

Case analysis:

Animal features

In this case we see a predominance, and a common thread of the issue of *survival-me versus you*. The child always feels someone is doing something to her, including her mother — beating, catching, killing, or torturing her. The animal kingdom is clearly understood here.

Reptile features

We also understand that the child expresses extreme violence, maliciousness, jealousy, and revenge. She also has a fear of being attacked from behind, or from a hidden position. Similarly her mother also experienced strong emotions — of being persecuted, suicidal feelings, hatred, that husband changed totally, and feeling left alone.

The dreams in this case are also very important. The characteristic elements of the dreams are:

- Suddenness
- Hidden; no one can see it
- Sudden change, change in color and shape
- Sudden attack, comes quietly and bites
- Killing
- Running, pursuing
- Many dreams of reptiles, snakes especially

Here we see a very prominent issue of '*suddenness*'. The child experiences a feeling of being *attacked suddenly*, but it is from a *hidden position*. This symptom of being attacked suddenly from a hidden position is a very strong indication of a reptile. Then there are other reptilian indications *like —running, killing, and many dreams of reptiles*.

### **Snake features**

Many times in her case she expressed her experience of '*throttling*' or '*desin to turn or hoist the neck*'. This is very characteristic in snakes as they have a sensitivity of the throat area.

The child and the mother express strong feelings of being inferior, weak, powerless, and persecuted. The patient also has expressed jealousy. These are also characteristics of the snakes.

### **Elapidae features**

In this case we see that when she gets angry or when she feels attacked, it's always about beating, throwing stones, killing, turning or twisting the head, (*7 will not let him go*). All of these are indicative of the Elapidae family. Just go and kill, should not leave her enemies. This is Elapidae. Viperidae on the other hand will attack suddenly and leave swiftly. They will not hold on like the elapids.

### **Specific black mamba symptoms**

We also sense a kind of brutality or cold-bloodedness in her feelings of anger or being attacked. There is extreme violence and aggression. When I did a proving of black mamba, the characteristic symptoms were:

- Speed (black mamba is the fastest running snake)
- Extreme aggression, quarrelsome, fighting
- Rapid aggression
- Unfeeling, hard-hearted
- Malicious
- Strong and reckless
- Black depression
- Alone versus the rest of the world (experienced by the mother)

Remedy: *Dendroaspis polylepis* 1M single dose.

### **Summary of the patient's follow-up:**

Since 2002 she has been on the same remedy and has received about 15 doses. The improvement has been gradual. Over the years her eruptions got better, her emotional state improved. The degree and intensity of her violent thoughts and dreams significantly reduced. All her fears are much less now.

She continues to follow-up till 2009, and has received about 15 doses of *Dendroaspis polylepis* 1M. Her parents report an overall improvement in her physical health. The eruptions are completely better. She responds well to the remedy during acute episodes like malaria and appendicitis. Though she still gets fits of anger in which things upset her and she reacts immediately, there are no violent thoughts and no dreams anymore.

### Case (3) of *Dendroaspis polylepis*

By: Bart Lambert

Case of an 11-year-old girl with fear of her dad. Oct 31, 2006.

Excerpts of the case:

She's very afraid about the travel of her parents. They are planning to have a holiday in Africa. She feels very uncomfortable with men around, even her dad. She feels threatened. Some girls at school seem to have anorexia, and now she's afraid that she will have it too.

The reason her mother consults me is that since school camp in the forest she's very suspicious. She even controls her vagina to see whether anybody would have penetrated her without her knowing.

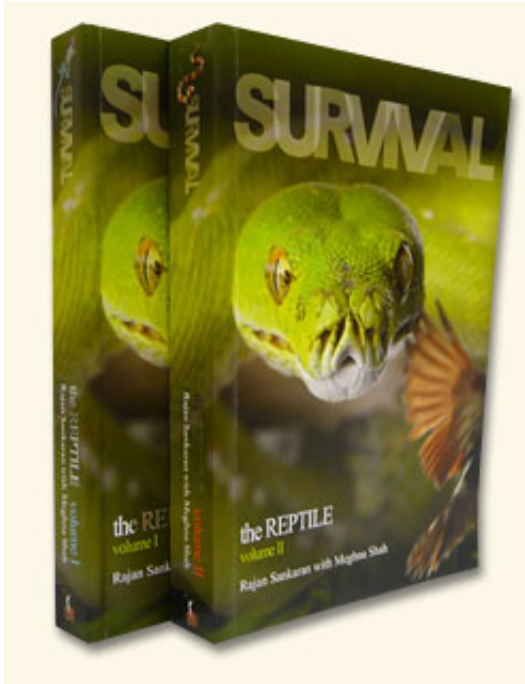
She's reluctant to talk to me, and when I ask her what is the matter she answers: "I can trust nobody anymore. I don't feel safe anywhere."

I ask her what she means by safe. She says: "Where no one can touch you. To be with mama."

Then i asked her how does it feel there? And she said, "There they can't touch me."

She also tells that she fears to be taken away, and never see her family again. She's afraid of this anorexia story at school. "I can't let go of it," she says and her mother adds it is all the time in her head. Then she doesn't want to talk to me anymore.

I decide to give *Naja naja* 1M.



Rajan Sankaran

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