## Sigbin

the Sigbin or Zegben. Some say that this is another form that the Aswang transforms into and yet some say it is the companion of the kikik. Its appearance is said to be similar to the <a href="chupacabra">chupacabra</a> and Tasmanian devil in appearance, although with spotty fur. It supposedly has a wide mouth with large fangs.

One of the most popular legends in the visayas region is the infamous Aswang **Tiniente Gimo**(lieutenant Gimo) of the town of Dueñas, Iloilo.



**Sigbin** is a creature of Philippine mythology said to come out at night to suck the blood of victims from their shadows. The creature walks backward with its head lowered between its hind legs. It resembles a hornless goat, emits a very nauseating smell and possess a pair of very large ears which are capable of clapping like a pair of hands. It is also claimed to issue forth from its lair during Holy Week, looking for children that it will kill for the heart, which is made into an amulet.

It is also believed that there are families known as Sigbinan ("those who own Sigbin"), who possess the power to command them. The <u>aswang</u> is said to keep it as a pet, along with another mythical creature, a bird known as the Wakwak. The sigbin is said to bring wealth and luck to its owners.

In the Eastern Visayas they are also known as the *Amamayong*.

There is speculation that the legend may be based on sightings of an actual animal species that is rarely seen; based on the description of the *sigbin* in popular literature, the animal species might be related to the kangaroo.Borneo of the cat-fox, a potential new species of carnivore described as having hind legs that are lower than its front legs, the animal species that is the possible basis of the legend as well as the reported sightings of *sigbin* may belong to or is related to the cat-fox species.

Ref.: http://www.mythicalcreaturesguide.com/page/Sigbin