

4 MY ANCESTORS -Evolution and extinct relatives (Prehistoric)

Over 185 extinct members and three major evolutionary radiations of the order Proboscidea have been recorded. When the *Elephas* disappeared from Africa the *Loxodonta* became dominant in the form of the modern species. *Elephas* diversified into new species in Asia, the likely ancestors of the modern Asian elephant. *Mammuthus* evolved into several species including the woolly mammoth.



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2015 NEPAL prehistoric elephants



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The main difference between Elephants and Mammoths is that Mammoths are extinct. Elephants lived in Africa and Asia while Mammoths ranged across a much broader territory. Mammoths had thick, woolly coats while elephants do not.



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1991 TANZANIA Loxodonta



2015 NEPAL Prehistoric mammoth



The South West African rock paintings are 29,000 years old showing the existence of elephants then.