

12 BEASTS OF BURDEN- Warfare and working elephants.

Elephants have been working animals since at least the Indus Valley Civilization and continue to be used in modern times. The animals are typically captured from the wild when they are 10-20 years old and can be trained easily and quickly. They are captured with traps and lassos. Asian elephants perform tasks such as hauling loads into remote areas, moving logs to rivers and roads, transporting tourists around national parks.



1948 MONACO -Lassoing an elephant



1982 THAILAND Roping an elephant



1954 KENYA Warfare



1991 THAILAND logging



1943 BURMA



1938 BURMA



1945 BURMA



1982 LAOS Logging



गजमुत्तशी-दाक्षायणी

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A lot of attention was given to the capture, training, and upkeep of the elephants. Many treatises were written on these subjects, and many important works of the ancient period, like Arthashastra of Kautilya, give a lot of information.

The main use of the elephant was for its routing ability; at one sweep it could get rid of several enemy foot soldiers, scare away horses, and trample chariots. It was also about the psychological impact it could have.