

ASIAN ELEPHANT

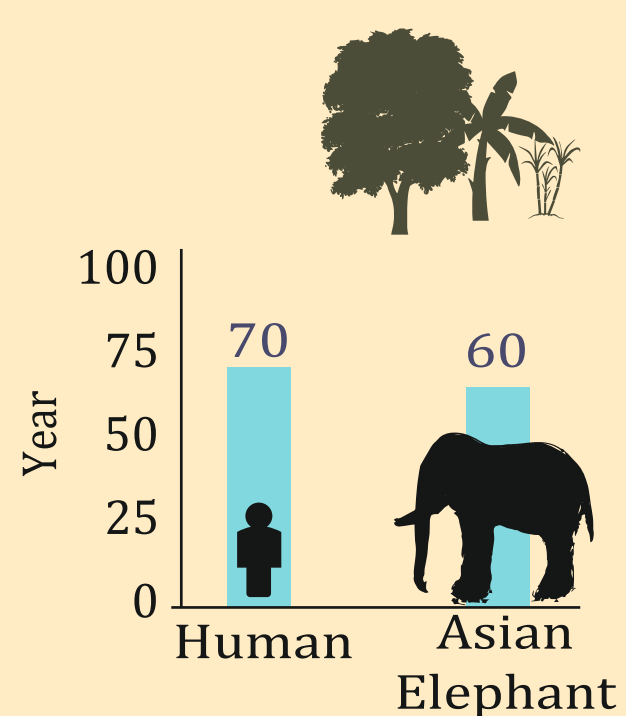
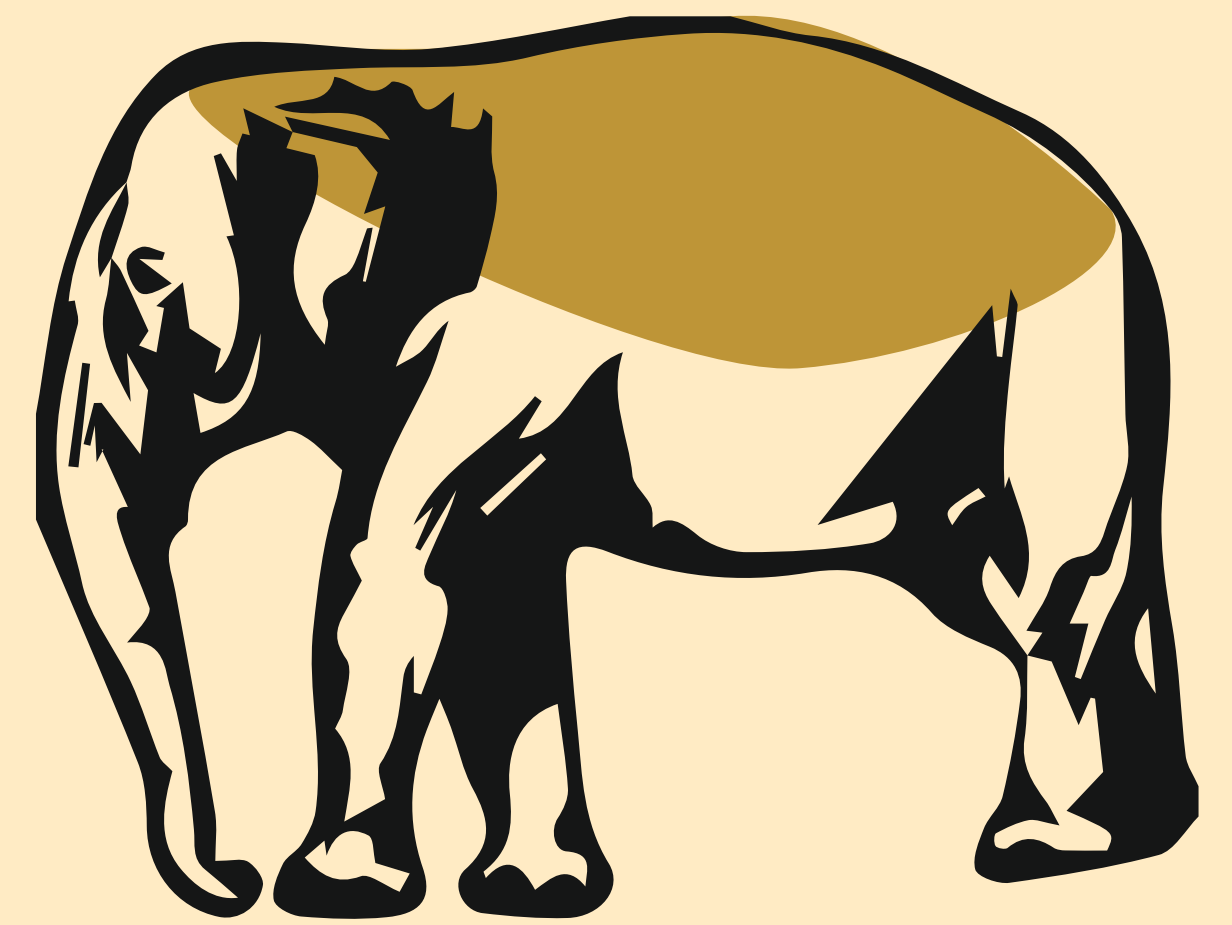


26000 - 29000
Population in India

IUCN Status
Endangered

Elephant habitat

Wide range, prefers grass-rich, dry and moist deciduous habitats



Diet

Grass, twigs, bark, shoots, woody plants, herbs and shrubs.
250-300 kg each day

Lifespan

60 years

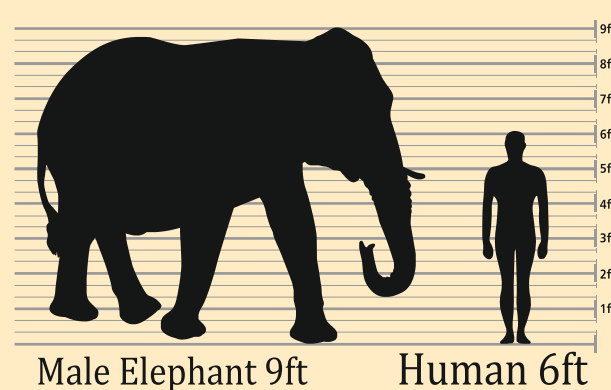
Reproductive age

14 years

Gestation period

18 - 22 months

Height:

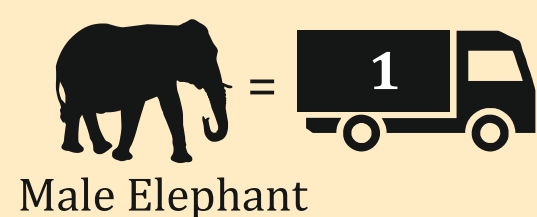


Weight

Calf: 100 kg at birth

Adult female: 2500-4500 kg

Adult male: 3000-6000 kg



Extremely intelligent, can mimic and use tools

Only the male Asian Elephant has tusks. The exceptions are *makhnas*, who are tusk-less males

Uses trunk as tactical contact and for holding

An elephant herd is led by the senior female, who is also called the 'Matriarch'

DO YOU KNOW?

Needs upto 200 litres of uncontaminated and potable water every day

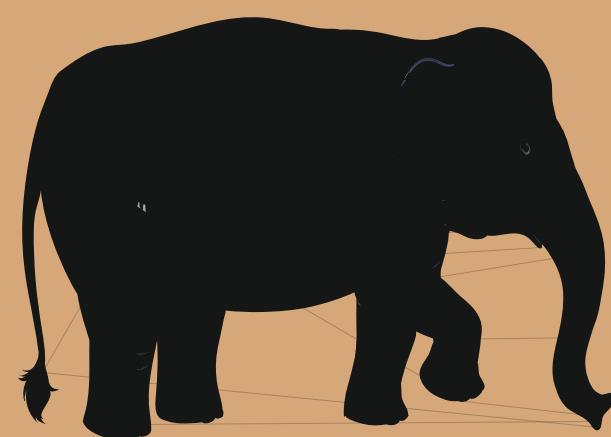
Shade is essential as it prevents dehydration

Digestion efficiency is only 40%, feeds constantly to compensate

Has no sweat glands, tosses mud on itself and uses large ears as fans to keep cool

India has a history of captive elephants that dates back to 1000s of years

Important facts



1

More than 100 elephants get killed every year in retaliation by people and several others by poaching

2

Not all elephants forage on crops. Alternate cropping and temporary elephant-proof barriers (during crop ripening) can be installed to reduce incidents

3

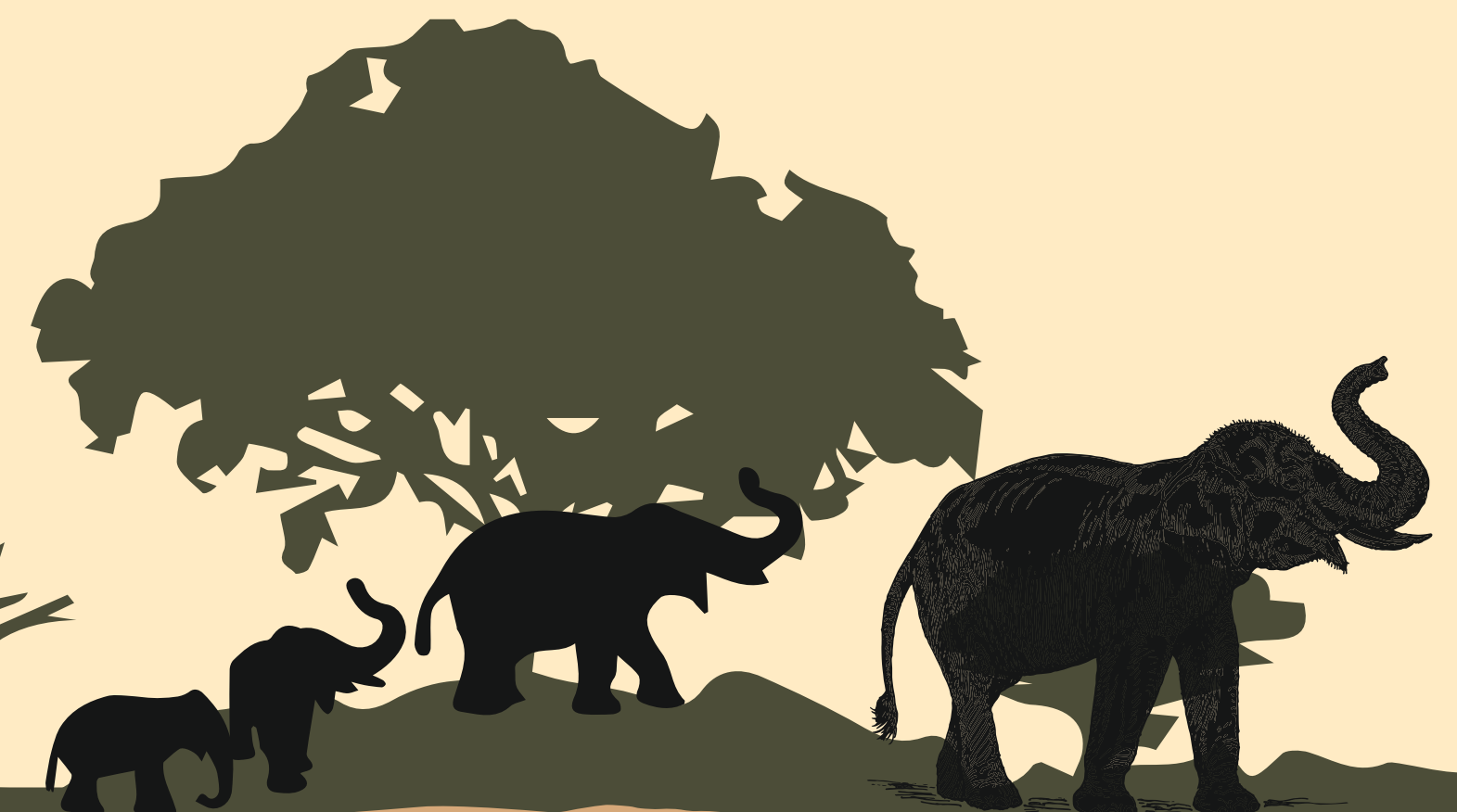
Human deaths happen mostly due to surprise encounters or going too close to elephants. Early warnings and avoiding elephants can prevent such incidents

4

Deforestation, expansion of agriculture, human encroachment are causing human-elephant conflict

Migration

Matriarch remember migratory routes clearly. Fragmentation of habitats and obstruction of migratory routes lead to human-elephant conflicts.



Indo-German Cooperation on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India
2017-2023
Taking a Harmonious Co-existence
approach to Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India



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