

Pack Animals for Transportation

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Abstract

Pack Animals such as camels, goats, elephants, mules, donkeys, horses and yaks are used by humans to transport goods, humans, etc. All the weight bears on pack animals' back. In ancient time, animals such as camels, goats, yaks, water buffaloes, elephants, mules, donkeys and horses were used for transportation. Most of the pack animals are ungulates. Elephants were used for carrying logs. Pack animals are filled with pack saddles. From the sixteenth century, pack animals have been used for carrying goods. The maximum load for animals is normally a $\frac{1}{4}$ of their body weight. The term 'pack animals' is traditionally used and is contrast to draft animals. Working animals pull loads such as pillows, carts or heavy logs. Rather than carrying cargo directly on its back, the pack saddle is designed to be secured on the back of horses, mule or other working animals. They can carry heavy loads such as luggage, firewood, small cannons or other weapons which are too heavy to be carried by humans. Pack saddles consist of wooden blocks, and breast collars which holds the saddle on the animals' back. In Sri Lankan history, according to professor Paranavithana, there were horse trainers and elephant trainers. Elephants were captured from Sri Lankan jungles and horses were imported from India. Also, in the past, essential things like rice, coffee and fertilizers were transported using bullock carts. "Tawalama" is the famous load carrier in Sri Lanka. Elephant cart was used to transport good. Donkeys were also used for transporting goods.

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