

The war-elephant, either in what is called the tower, or just on his bare back, carries three fighting men. Two of them shoot from the side, while one shoots from behind. There is also a fourth man, who carries in his hand the goad he uses to guide the animal.... A private person is not allowed to keep either a horse or an elephant. These animals are held to be the special property of the king, and people are appointed to take care of them.

-Megasthenes, reconstructed, "Megasthenes, Indica" (1877) excerpt.