A Tibetan Kha-tā (Khā-där)

A Tibetan Kha-tā (scarf) is a finely woven white silk or cotton sheet and varies in size, quality and colour. Higher the status of the person to be honoured the best type of Kha-tā is used.

Kha-tā is a common object used by Tibetans in expressing their gratitude, friendly and respectable feeling towards the honourary. Tibetans offer such Kha-tā even to friends who visit the family to express their warmth. When a letter is sent to a friend, relative or an officer a Kha-tā is also sent along with it, and without it the act is considered improper. On the other hand a letter accompanied by a Kha-tā is an indication of "submission with a god's robe" to support it. Now a days owing to the public postal facilities sending of the Kha-tā is discontinued.

There are mainly three modes of offering of the scarves. When a scarf is offered to a superior it should be raised to the level of his forehead and offered. When offered to an equal it is raised to shoulder level. It is spread on the nape when given to a person who is lower in status.
Now owing to poverty the different varieties have gone and only the white, silken and the cotton Khā-tās are found. Cotton Khā-tās are even presented to seniormost lamas, including H.H. the Dalai Lama, which in the past was used only for the commoners.
1. Tibetan Village Settlement
2. Local labourers working in a Tibetan field

3. Stock of paddy and maize in the Tibetan Settlement
4. Food grains stored in the verandah of a Tibetan house and the housewife clearing the food grain.
1. Tibetan children in a nursery school.
2. Celebration of Republic Day in the Central School for Tibetans.
3. Tibetan and local youth at a valley ball match.
4. A lama teaching in the settlement school.
1. Ploughing with the help of a tractor.
2. Local labourer teaching a Tibetan to handle the native plough.
3. Local labourers collecting the harvested paddy into rikes.
1. Tending the calves of improved cows.
2. A watch tower in the field.
3. Tibetan girls learning sewing and knitting in the Central School.
4. A mother and her baby in the maternity ward.
1. Feeding the nature controlling spirits by Lamas in Lapsa Festival.

2. A meeting of village leaders.

3. Interior arrangements in a monastery

4. An inmate of the old and infirm block with his belongings.