

A brief introduction to Tibetan *kha-btags* (ceremonial scarves)

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China is a country with lots of ethnic groups and every ethnic group has its own unique cultural and traditional customs for greeting friends from different cultures and foreign countries. For instance, *kha-btags* have been used as a tool to express one's sincerity for both happy and sad circumstances in Tibetan culture. People and friends from other ethnic groups and foreign countries are very pleased with this custom and it is being developed popularly. It is, I think, important to understand how the *kha-btags* tradition has been developed in Tibetan culture contact. This paper will illustrate my understanding of this particular tradition.

1. How the *kha-btags* tradition has become widespread and popular in Tibet
 - To understand the definition of the term "*kha-btags*"
 - Where is the origin of *kha-btags* tradition whether it adapted from other cultures or it is an indigenous one.
 - Difference between Mongolian *kha-btags* and Tibetan *kha-btags*.
2. Why should Tibetan *kha-btags* be white color only?
3. The tradition of offering *kha-btags*

offering *kha-btags* for VIPs (Lamas, Officials, ...)
offering *kha-btags* for relatives and friends;
Superior offers *kha-btags* to inferior

Discussion on Ya-Tar and Ma-Tar

My conclusion is that the tradition of the *kha-btags* is a part of our indigenous culture and it has been developed since its origin in the form of GarDak, and gradually developed Pel-Tar, Supshe, Chinyi, A'dra, A'ni and Nangzuel.