PICTURES OF TIBETAN LIFE
- BEING -
A COLLECTION OF SKETCHES
- MADE BY -
Rev. Ahmad Shah,
DURING HIS TOUR IN TIBET.

PUBLISHED BY
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BENARES.
1908.

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This collection has been made from the water-colour sketches and photographs taken by Rev. Ahmad Shah in his Tibetan tour at considerable distances from Ladak. The Rev. gentleman lived for four years among the Tibetans in close intimacy with them, imbibed their habits of life and thought and pictured out all their conditions of life in his albums. He travelled over a large portion of Tibet and even tried to penetrate into Lhasa. But he was not more successful than the other tourists and after a trial of three months he had to return unsuccessful. After his return from the interesting country he went to England in 1896, and having entered the Oxford University, he stayed there for some time. His Mss. and albums were there seen by many distinguished men with whom he became acquainted and they were highly appreciated. Mention in detail of the interest that they aroused in England has been made in his Tibetan book now in the press. He had a mind to publish a work in England on his Tibetan experiences, but owing to certain causes this idea could not be carried out.

The Mss. and the picture albums of Rev. Ahmad Shah were for the first time, brought to our notice in 1904. The Mss. were found to contain an account of his tour, his experiences and some entertaining account of the sketches which latter, as a collection in themselves were full of interest as representing vivid and life-like pictures of the Tibetan people, their manufactures and belongings. The carpenter's workshop, the blacksmith's forge, the tillage, the marriage festivities, the funeral processions are all there. In fact, there is such profusion and detail in these pictures that nothing appears to have been left out. We undertook the publication of these pictures in one colour as well as of the Mss. There has been some delay in bringing out the book which is in course of publication. As a loyal and humble memento of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and the Princess of Wales to this city, this book containing only the pictures is offered to the public. The 46 sheets contain 148 sketches and descriptive foot-notes have also been given.

We trust that our humble offer will be appreciated by the public.

Medical Hall Press,

BENARES:

19th February, 1906.

E. J. LAZARUS & CO.,

Publishers.
The Origin of the Creation. A representation of the five species that are considered to have been created first, others having sprung from them.

The people of Lower Tibet.

A Tibetan lady on her journey preceded by a servant.


A Wedding Ceremony.

1. 2. Ale pots. (a) Dough for refreshment. 3. Ladies ready for dancing.

1. A wedding feast. 2. A bride’s maid. 3. Bride. 4. Bridegroom. 5. Best men. 6. Ale pots. Bricks made of dough; these are distributed to every family members. 7. A band, a gentleman on horseback.


Crossing a bridge.


Plate.

... 1  1. Pack mules. 2. A nomad driving his loaded sheep and his watch dog.

... 2  Fishing.


... 4  Ferry boats.

... 5  1. Ploughing and sowing. 2. Ink-pot 3. Pouch for ink-pot. 4. A pen case. 5. Digging manure.

Carpenters at work.

... 6  1. A prince receiving salute from Lamas and his procession. 2. A prince and his courtiers.

... 7  1. Buddha. 2. A devil made of sticks and strings to be burnt on their new years day 3. Mitre. 4. Wreath of a priest.

... 8  1. Chabbas or Tibetan traders. 2. Lamas. 3. A Nun of the red sect. 4. Nuns of the yellow sect.

... 9  1. Nomads paying their respects to a headman of the village. 2. Dictating from a manuscript.

... 10  A Lassa chief on his journey.

... 11  High Class Lassa Women.

... 12  1. Vessels containing sacred juice and sacred food. 2. Mitre. 3. Cantaple or chartern.

... 13  Articles belonging to the Buddhists Altar.

... 14  Flags, Musical instruments and an incense burner.


... 16  1. Administering holy communion.

... 17  2. A palaquin carried by mules.

... 18  A Kushook (incarnation) blessing a passerby.

... 19  A funeral procession. 2. Writing a charm. 3. Physician and his patient. 4. Exorcising. 5. Lamas reading.

... 20  Lamas in their Priestly Costume.

... 21  Devil dance.

... 22  Devil dance.

... 23  Devil dance.

... 24  A devil dance

... 25  1. A skirt dance. 2. A Juggler breaking a stone. 3. Manufacturing tea into bricks.
The Origin of the Creation. A representation of the five species that are considered to have been created first, others having sprung from them.
Plate 2.

The People of Lower Tibet.
A Tibetan lady on her Journey preceded by a servant.
Male attire.

Female Attire.

1. Ear flaps. 2. Ad ornament. 3. A brass shield with money bags hanging from it.
1. A money bag.  
2. A folded handkerchief.  
3. A locket.  
5. An insignia.  
6. A shell bangle.  
7. A locket.  
8. A silver bracelet.
1. A pen case.
3, 4. Knife and sheath.
5. A finger ring.
6, 7. Lock for head dress.
8. A jug.
9. A water bottle.
10. An Ink pot.
11. Amulet in which Buddha's image is carried about.

Bricks made of dough; these are distributed to every family member.
Plate 15.

A gentleman on horseback.
1. A prince receiving salute from Lamas and his procession.
2. A prince and his courtiers.
1. Buddha. 2. A devil made of sticks and strings to be burnt on their New Year's Day. 3. Mitre. 4. Wreath of a priest.
1. Chabbas or Tibetan traders. 2. Lamas.
Plate 33.

High Class Lassa Women.
1. Vessels containing sacred juice and sacred food. 2. Mitre. 3. Cemple or charten.
Plate 30.

Fig.: Musical instruments and an incense burner.
Plate 37

1. Preaching from a picture
2. Reading from a book
3. Trimurti (A three-headed image)
4. Incense burner
5. Image with demon hoods
6. Buddha
Devil dance.
"STUDIES IN THE QURAN No. 1."

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