# MANUAL

OF THE

# SIKKIM-BHUTIA LANGUAGE

OR

# DÉ-JONG KÉ

BY

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# TO THE READER.

The writer of these pages has often wondered why those who spend so many months yearly at Darjiling never seem to take the slightest interest in the language spoken by the bulk of the population there. They may not be aware that the uncouth-sounding chatter of the Bhutias about the place is in reality a dialect of one of the great literary languages of Asia. It differs in many particulars from Tibetan but on examination will be found full of interest, and by no means so barbarous a speech as is supposed. To acquire the Sikkim dialect might form a preliminary step to the study of the Tibetan tongue, which has been so long and strangely neglected. Moreover, now that Sikkim is being fast opened out, the traveller, and especially the missionary, the sportsman and the soldier, will find a knowledge of this dialect most desirable. At any rate an exposition of this Bhutia speech, never previously analysed, is here made for the first time and presented to the public.

Jhansi: N. W.P., July 1888.

# INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The native state of Sikkim is that portion of the Eastern Himalaya Mountains which lies wedged in between the kingdom of Nepal and the independent territory of Bhutan. The northernmost point on the Tibetan frontier falls under Lat. 28-7' 30" N. and the southern apex lies in Lat. 27° 5' N., barely ten miles north of Darjiling. Comprising as it does some of the highest and most rugged mountains in the world, as well as being rent and parcelled out in every direction by ravines and rivergorges of stupendous depth and labyrinthine course, the actual area of Sikkim cannot with certainty be estimated. However the theoretical superficies measured in one plane may be put down at 2684 square miles and not 1550 square miles as given in Hunter's Gazeteer. Moreover, before the Darjiling and Kalimpong districts were severed from this little state, the area approached 4000 square miles.

"Sikkim" is only the Gurkha name of the territory we are dealing with. The Tibetan appellation is Dái jong or "fruit district;" whilst the Lepchas or Rong-pa (i.e., "Ravine folk,") said to be the oldest occupants of the country, formerly styled

it Nelyáng but now call it Ren jong.

In estimating the inhabitants of the country we shall naturally class with them the native population of Darjiling and Kalimpong, who, but for the recent overflux of Nepalese immigrants, are practically one with the Sikkim folk. Tribes of various races have settled in these mountainous regions; but the Dé-jong-pa or Sikkim Bhutias everywhere predominate; and these latter are being constantly augmented by accessions from their Tibetan and Bhutanese cousins. The rightful occupants of the country are apparently the Lepchas whose kings formerly were rulers here. But the Sikkim Bhutias can now fairly claim an historical connection with the land; and, though of Tibetan origin, by this time have acquired an autonomy and local characteristics of their This Tibetan race began to over-run Dé-jong or Sikkim some 380 years ago; and the first Bhutia King, P'unts'o Namgyai by name, assumed control here about the same year that King Henry VIIIth ascended the British Throne. Bhutias came from the province of Tsang in Tibet and doubtless brought with them the then prevailing dialect of that province. Both their sovereigns and their speech have continued to the present day. Although the Lepchas also have maintained their own language: yet, as the Bhutias both in numbers and in power are the predominant people of the land, we may, we think, not

unreasonably speak of the Bhutia tongue as the Dé-jong Ké or vernacular of Sikkim. The language in question is admittedly a Tibetan dialect—some doubtless would style it a corrupt Tibetan, because both in vocabulary and grammatical forms it differs from the speech of Lhasa. So far as pronunciation goes, however, it seems to be the speech of Lhasa which has acquired corruptions; whilst the Dē-jong Kè, in common with the dialect of Balti beyond Ladák, has retained, in some notable instances, a purer method of pronunciation—at least a method more in accord with the ancient spelling.

It must not be supposed that the Dé-jong dialect is the general speech of all Tibetans in Sikkim. Our tenancy of Darjiling has attracted many from the mother country and elsewhere, who rarely use, though they may understand, the grammatical peculiarities of the Sikkim folk. In the Kalimpong district many families speak the Tibetan dialect of Bhutan. At Ghum are settled pure Tibetans and Wallung-pa from Nepal, who rather despise the Sikkim race. The Sharpa Bhutias, a cross race between the Lepchas and Bhutias, make use of the Dé-jong vernacular.

The great divergence between the orthography and the pronunciation of Tibetan words is well known. Thus the word spelt dbugs ("breath") is sounded as "ū" merely; another spelt spyod is pronounced cho; but all according to settled rules of orthoëpy. The salutation in Tibetan letters painted up over the entrance to the Bhutia School at Darjiling is written byon-ba legs-so (welcome) but is spoken chonwa le-so. Naturally the Sikkim Bhutias make use of Tibetan characters and modes of spelling; and those who do write generally eschew the more peculiar colloquialisms of this dialect. As the present treatise is intended to deal with, rather than to avoid, these peculiarities, we shall have no occasion to introduce any but Roman characters into these pages. As a dialect distinct from the general Tibetan language, the Dé-jong Ké cannot claim to be called a written Sikkim indeed in past years has been the native home of literary authors, both of the Lepcha and Bhutia race, who have issued works in their own respective languages. of the two great Sikkim monasteries, Labrong and Tashiding, are always held to be incarnate lamas, having within them the spirits of two of the Buddhist apostles who converted the Lepchas (in part) and the Murmis to the latter faith. Two or three of the line of these incarnate ones have produced in their day religious works, written of course in classical Tibetan. These were printed either at Nart'ang in Tibet or else in Khams. One popular Bhutia composition is said to be indigenous to Sikkim, where it is met with chiefly in MS. form, namely, the Bkrashis Gsung. There also exists a Lepcha translation of the book.

The official language of Déjong is Tibetan and in the Kalimpong and Darjiling districts our Government notices are printed collaterally in Bengali and Tibetan. At the Kutcheri in Darjiling the notice boards are covered with lengthy notifications in Tibetan characters and in the Tibetan tongue with the Sikkim style eliminated to the best of the ability of the Bhutia clerks who compose the same However, we have no desire to elevate the Dé-jong Ké to the dignity of a literary language: for it owes all that is literary about it to the mother speech as cultivated at Lhasa, Tashi-lhumpo, and Nart'ang.

The running hand employed in letters and business contracts, as written by the Lamas of Sikkim, appears to be rather different from that in general use in Tibet. We wish we could have reproduced a specimen as written for us by Lama Ugyen Gya ts'o; but the expense of lithography must not be incurred, at least in the

present form of this little book.

# GRAMMAR

OF THE

# DE-JONG LANGUAGE.

The sounds occurring in the Dé-jong dialect of Tibetan are these:—

#### CONSONANTS.

k; pronounced as the English k in "king."

kh: the aspirated k as in the Hindustani "khana."

g; as our hard g in "goat;" a letter rarely occurring ng; occurring both as an initial and as a final; at the commencement of a word sounded something as our gn in "gnarled" but more nasal.

ch; as in our "church."

chh; the aspirated ch—as the ch and h taken together in sounding the words "reach-hither."

j; as in our "jim," but generally more aspirated.

ny; an initial whose sound may be learnt by pronouncing n and y together in such a word as "nyim."

t: as our t.

d; as in "den"

th; not as our "th" but as t and h together in such a combination as "hit him" and as in the Hindi: "thana." We shall represent this sound by t'.

dh; d aspirated as the last letter, to be represented by d'.

\*\*\* The four last-named letters sometimes occur with a slightly different sound. Instead of being pronounced with the tongue touching the teeth or gums, they are varied by being sounded with the tongue put back and pressed against the front part of the roof of the mouth. They are then called cerebrals; and will be represented by the ordinary letters with a dot underneath.

p; as in our "put."

ph; the last letter aspirated; not sounded as f, but as the p and h together in "top-heavy;" here to stand as p'.

b; as the English b.

m; as in "mast."

ts; as in "tsi."

ts'h; same aspirated,

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dz; our d and z sounded together as a rough z.
w; as our w in "woof."
zh; as the French j in "jules"—a rough sh.
z;
y;
r;
l;
sh;
sh;
ky; The k, g, and aspirated p, sounded w
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ky; The k, g, and aspirated p, sounded with y immegy; diately following; the last to be represented here by p'y.

hl; the l aspirated. Not unlike the sound of the Welsh

double 1.

#### VOWELS AND DIPHTHONGS.

á; as a in "father." a; as u in "fun." e; as a in "lane."

i; as ee in "teem."

i; as i in "tin."

o; always as o in "stone;" never as o in "pot," &c., except in potso a boy and about two other words.

u; as oo in "Poona;" shorter than our oo in "pool."

ai; as i in "mine."

au; as au in "taught" or as ou in "ought."

eu; as u in "cue."

ái; the Tibetan mode of sounding their as; either like "é" as above, or more correctly as "á" followed rapidly by a very short i (ee). Thus Dài-jong or Dé-jong.

ö; is our o and e conjoined and sounded with the opening of the mouth narrowed as if about to whistle; or one might describe it as an e said with affectation. In German a well-known sound.

ü; as eu in the French word "feu," pronounced with the

lips pointed and almost closed.

At first when speaking it will be found difficult to give the sounds the exact accent, or rather twang, of the Bhutia natives. The two last mentioned diphthongs are puzzling sounds to initate; and yet, if an ordinary o and u were to be used in their places, perfectly different words would be understood to those you intended.

"Ng," though easy enough to say as a final, when occurring as the *first* letter of a word requires much practice to acquire. Two separate sounds must not be made of the n and g. It is one letter, and therefore a single nasal "a" sound, uttered with the roof of the mouth, must alone be heard. Practice "unga"

and that will lead you to the correct sound.

To say "gy" rightly, personally I have found it almost advisable, strange though it may seem, to pronounce it as dy. Thus gyuk-she "to run" is almost dyuk-she.

Remember u is always long as our oo; not as our u in

"duck," but nearly as our u in "put."

In two-letter syllables ending in o, as bo, mo, the o is heard rather as an abrupt u (oo) yet still an o sound.

Now and then in these pages we have employed accents to shew where the stress should be laid; but á merely indicates the long Irish "a" as given above.

#### I.—THE ARTICLE.

The indefinite article a, an, is represented by *chik* placed after the noun or adjective. The final k is generally, however, left unsounded: *Pum chi'* a girl.

We do not often use this article except when the noun is in the nominative case, unless indeed it occurs in the sense of "one." Thus "a boy" will be Potso chi; "of a boy" Potso kyi; "of one boy" Potso chi yi.

The definite article is very much in use: di the. It is heard with inflected nouns as well as when the latter stand in the nominative. When the noun has a possessive pronoun attached we often find di still added (see IV. I. b)

Ordinarily di follows its noun; but where any singling out of the noun is desired we have one di placed before and another di after the word, e.g., di p'ya di the bird. (see also IV. 3. Exam.)

#### II.—NOUN SUBSTANTIVES.

1.—In the Dé-jong Ké the different cases of the noun are specified by means of short syllables, called postpositions, annexed to the words:—

#### Khim chi a house.

Nom: Khim chi a house.

Gen: Khim kyi of a house.

Dat: Khim lo to a house.

Accus: Khim or Khim lo a house.

Loc: Khim na at or in a house.

Abl: Khim ne or le from a house.

Agentive: (wanting)

# Jágma chi a squirrel.

Nom: Jágma chi a squirrel.

Gen: Jágma-i or yi of a squirrel.

Dat: Jágma lo to a squirrel.

Accus: Jágma or Jagma lo a squirrel.

Loc: Jágma na in a squirrel.
Abl: Jágma ne or le from a squirrel.

Agent: Jágma yī by a squirrel.

After a final vowel the gen. affix ought to be "i" or "yi" sounded separately; but kyi is often employed, especially after the article: e. g., di-kyi of the.

The plural number is not often expressed; but where doubt would arise, the particles chá or ts'o may be added, e. g., nyi-lam a dream nyi-lam chá dreams; Gya-mi a Chinaman Gya-mi ts'o Chinamen, Chinese. The case signs would follow the plural particle.

Where any case other than the nominative occurs the definite article is not expressed, e. g.

Potso-kyi lu di: The song of the boy; the boy's song.

Khyi-da di álii lo so-tap ong: The dog will bite the cat.

In the latter sentence álü lo is the accus. after the verb so-tap ong will bite, so-tap meaning tap strike, so (with the) teeth.

However the definite article is sometimes used with the accus, when the verb is in the Imperative Mood:—

Gom di p'i: Open the door! To-za di tso: cook the food!

The other connections of nouns such as "with," "upon," "under," "unto," will be explained under the heading Post-positions. These are indeed at times added where we should not consider their introduction required, as where we should use only a simple case sign, e. g.

Shing audi teng-khá dzek: Climb this tree.

Here teng khá "upon" is introduced in accordance with Tibetan idiom; and placed after Shing audi "this tree." The accus. case may be expressed by the simple word without the affix lo where

no ambiguity would result as to which were the nominative, especially in imperative sentences, as in the example given above:—

Gom di p'i: Open the door.

But where a dative sense is implied in any way the lo must be used:—

Mi-lo lam di ten nang: Shew (to) the man the way.

2.—A rather important case rule to be remembered is however this:—

Where both subject and object occur in any sentence, the subject is put in the agentive case, except where the verb of the sentence is part of the verb "to be."

Rule though this is, it is generally not observed by the uneducated; and therefore we shall not keep to it in our conversational examples to be given hereafter; the nominative being usually heard as in English. One Example is now given:—

Bágrak kyī ts'áng p'yá chen du': A spider is making a web.

We conclude the present section by appending a classified list of useful nouns:—

#### Animate Beings.

*mi* man pumo woman gárok husband kyermen wife áb'á father ámu mother p'ugu child potso boy pum girl shempa youth pumo daughter *úpi* grandmother pu son pün brothers á-cho eldest brother nu-wo younger brother singmo sister

tà horse

te mule ká-shá deer bú-mo cow jo-mo milch yak p'ág hog luk sheep khyi-dá dog alii cat búlakhú sable p'o calf jágma squirrel demo bear beu (byu) snake p'ya any bird bep frog nyam-yo cricket p'yú-wang bat zigmo porcupine

#### THINGS EATABLE.

Chú tea

tá-leb loaf

khu cake

shurbu dough-balls in tea or soup kyur-ru vinegar

to or to-zá victuals, dinner om milk

gongdo eggs mar butter

t'ukpa broth

shá-chuk dry meat

lug-shá mutton

chum rice

khim pyá fowl

nyá fish

chháng beer

khye-chháng murwar beer

chhu water

toma potato tárulbák yam dowa artichoke khámbu peach

ts'á lumpa orange kye-dong plaintain ts'erlum raspberry

kúra sugar ts'á salt

#### HOUSE AND ITS CONTENTS.

khim house

nyuk-khim house of bamboo shing-khim hut of wood

do-chhál the pavement

gom door

kháng-mik room gyá-kár window

entar floor

mi fire

chent'e table gyúťi chair

shu-ten cushion-seat

chhá cupboard

nye-sá bed

khyu-shong bathing tub

de-cho W. C. chumi lamp

p'orpa bowl

loknyo spoon

ki-chhung knife

káryo cup

derma dish

tse-o basket

chhá-li blanket

chhámbin teapot

dom box

púlla-túla scales

p'v-kyal flour-bag

sáng cooking-kettle, degchi

te-ko wash-basin

shel (glass in window, &c.)

khvimtse scissors

p'ákze brush

#### NATURAL OBJECTS.

nyim sun
dau moon
kám star
humpo cloud
ri mountain
gang hill-spur

káng-chen glacier rong ravine sá-ru landslip khá-ru snow-slip t'okpo deep gorge

*t'okpo* deep gorge *lam-t'ang* cliff-ledge *t'okzár* torrent-bed

*chh*áb rain *chhu-wo* riv**e**r tsá grass

mintok flower

shing tree

kyá-ma fern do stone mukpa fog káng snow khyákrom ice

ták rock

shá-mo fungus

söke shámo mush-room shing-gi dáma tree-leaf chhá-rá evergreen oak

pá-ma cypress gomrok holly shukpa juniper yáli maple

gyi dong india-rubber tree kyön-me shing pine tree

dum-po tree-trunk

# MISCELLANEOUS.

chhá khá thing
ming name
lu song
ur noise
lob-bön teacher
yig khang school
t'om market

rin price kyá hair go head gyáb back

sátá map

*tö-pa* belly dempo ch**ee**k mi-dŏ eye
námcho ear
lé-dum leg
lak-ko arm
ná nose
sci gold
gü silver

gü silver yi-ge a letter chho book khyú blood hlam boot

torma trousers
shambu cap
ko-lák coat

# III.---ADJECTIVES.

The adjective invariably follows its noun; and when the noun is thus qualified by an adjective the proper case-sign is affixed to the latter only, e.g.

P'iru noksu chi: a dark night.

Pötso tsok kyi lak di: the hand of a dirty boy.

Pu lem chi: a good son.

Where the adjective is used as an attribute, the article is often placed before as well as after the noun; e.g.

P'i-ru di noksu be or Di p'i-ru di noksu be The night is dark.

Here is the adjective as a single attribute: Nga t'ang chhć-po yin: I am tired.

The adjective is rendered more intense by various words placed before it:— $h\acute{a}$ -chang or nyogi = much, very.  $M\acute{a}m$  = very. But these are properly adverbs.

Tá di há chang nyambu du': The horse is very quiet.

Rin di há-chang be: The price is too much.

Di nyim di nyogi t'üm-po be: The sun is very hot.

Tá-to nyogi khyá bo be: It is very cold now.

# COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES.

"Greater" is rendered te-le chhe "than that, great."

"Stronger",, ,, te-le she "than that, strong."

Pá-shing audi te-le she min du': This pole is not stronger than that.

"Strongest" is rendered gün le she "than all, strong."

Zok p'idi gün le t'o be. That crag is the highest.

Tse-o di lo riyung audi le ringkyam chi go be: The basket requires a longer tie-rope than that: (lit: To the basket, than that tie-rope, a long is wanting.)

The comparative form of sentence may be slightly varied by the insertion of the word yang after the particle le which stands

for "than."

My heart is heavier than my load: Nge sem di nge toi di le yang ji-chen be

A common superlative expletive is chhok

This is the best: audi lem chhok be.

This way is the shortest: Di lam di t'ung kyam chhok be.

#### SOME ORDINARY ADJECTIVES.

Lem good

Málep bad

yakpo good ) of actions and

wákpo bad fithings.

shempa young

ge-po old

nyom-chhung poor

*ji-chen* heavy

yáng-ke or yáng-mo light

jam tong easy

*júm-po* soft

takia hard

kyáng all, the whole

sarpo fresh, new

nying-po old, not new

t'ümpo hot

kyá-bo cold

ring-kyam long

tung-kyam short

kom-bo dry bong-bo wet

lo-chen lazy

dze-pa pretty

chhempo or chhe great, large

chhung small

nyok-ma muddy

tsok dirty

tsanmo clean

noksu dark

wö-chen light

khé-ta or khésta clever

shé strong

shé-chhung weak

gyoba fast

bul-po slow

bom-po thick

sim-bu thin (slender)

zhengchen broad

zhengmé narrow

máp red

nák-po black

káp white

serpo yellow

leb-leb flat

dálchen quiet, smooth

kyur-po sour

#### IV.—PRONOUNS.

1. Personal Pronouns:—These are subject to inflection of case as nouns and adjectives are.

Ngá or ngá-rang I; nge of me, my; ngá-lo, me, to me; ngaī by me.

Chhö You: Chhö-kyi of you, your; Chhö-lo you, to you; Chhö Kyi by you.

Kho: he; Kho-i of him, his; Kho-lo to him, him; Kho-yī

by him.

Mo: she; Mo-i of her, hers; Mo-to her, her; Mo-yi by her.

Di: It; Di-kyi of it; Di-lo it, to it.

The use of mo as the feminine third personal pronoun is not universal, and kho in many parts of Sikkim as always in Tibet represents both "he" and "she."

In many districts ngá rang is always used in preference to nga.

Examples:—

Chhö pum lem be: You are a good girl.

Kho potso málep be: He is a bad boy.

Chhö-kyi mi-do tsum: Shut your eyes.

Kho ngá-lo gong-do gu ts'ong she'in: He will sell me nine eggs.

Mo-i kvà ring-kyàm du': Her hair is long.

Ngà-rang cho-li dàma sá do'in: I am eating cho-li leaves.

b.—A curious point in the use of the possessive case of these pronouns must be noted. The noun may be accompanied by both the possessive pronoun and the definite article.

Nge dóm di bā shok: Bring my box.

This is literally: "Bring the my box;" but the construction evidently arises from the pronoun being treated as a noun in the genitive case, and if a noun were to be substituted for the pronoun the above form would be perfectly regular. The rendering is really; Bring the box of me. The employment of this article in such cases seems often to be left to the choice of the speaker or else is ruled by the general custom in each individual instance. However the article must be used in this way where the intention is to particularise any thing belonging to a person as apart from the property of others. Where no stress is laid upon the ownership the article, may be omitted, e.g.

Moi pu shi song du': her son has died.

Moi pu di ngá-lo ten nang: Show me her son

Again:-

Di-kyi rin di nyogi be: The price of it is much.

N.B.—The pronoun di it, stands for "this" when the latter is used apart from any expressed noun, and is varied to te for "that" when similarly occurring.

2. Demonstrative Pronouns—Although we have appended the foregoing note to the preceding section, we find the article di often loosely conjoined to a noun to indicate both "this" and "that." In classical Tibetan we find the same practice; but, in the colloquial dialect of Sikkim, provision has been properly made for distinguishing the demonstrative pronouns from the mere definite article. The pronouns themselves are

Audi: this. Pidi: that.

However where we should ordinarily say "that" we frequently find audi is the pronoun used. The fact is, this usage really arises from the accuracy with which Tibetans (in common with other orientals) employ their demonstrative pronouns to discriminate at once the proximity or distance in situation of the thing indicated. We on the contrary generally use "this" or "that" almost indiscriminately and more in relation to the priority of the time of mentioning a thing than in reference to its actual place. In fact

Audi = this here; P'i-di = that yonder

These pronouns are used both when conjoined to nouns and when pure pro-nouns, e.g.

Audi ke-kyi khim bo? Whose house is this (or "that near

here")

Khim audi ke bo? Whose is this house?

Chhö audi kam p'yà du': Why are you doing that? (properly this)

Ngà-lo gom-pa p'idi nangsha ta go: I want to see within

that temple (yonder)

[We may usefully construe the last sentence. Nga-lo to me, go it is necessary ta (she) to see nang-sha within gompa p'idi that temple.]

In numerous instances, as in the case of the personal pronouns, the definite article is used in conjunction with the demonstrative pronoun. The latter is then placed before instead of after the noun, e.g.

Audi ki-chhung di nyogi ring-kyàm du'. That knife is very

long, (near at hand.)

Àudi dom di yà-te bàksong: Take that box up-stairs. Ngá-lo audi den di mingo: I don't want this carpet.

Where there is an interrogative pronoun also, the *di* by custom is placed after the latter: *e.g.* 

Audi pum ka di bo: Who is this girl?

3. Relative Pronouns.—These which hardly occur at all in literary Tibetan are perhaps altogether absent from Dái-jong ke', except in a few correlative phrases which need not be particularised here. However all the purposes of our relative pronouns are fitly compassed by means of participial clauses. The participial clause is introduced immediately in front of what would in English be the antecedent of the relative pronoun, and stands as if it were a huge compound adjective qualifying the antecedent noun to which it refers. Thus the sentence, "The man who lived in that house died yesterday" would take the form: "The living-in-that-house man died yesterday." Here "living-in-that-house" is the big adjective qualifying "man." In literary Tibetan this participial clause might be placed, like any ordinary adjective, either following the noun to which it was related, or else before it with the participle

of this clause inflected in the genitive case. In the Sikkim colloquial the latter alternative seems to be the only admissable practice, the genitive inflexion being, however, dispensed with.

The participle is formed by merely affixing the syllable khen to the root of the verb; and, save in a few exceptional instances, we find no difference in expression between the present and past participle. The context must determine the time to the English speaker; for the Tibetan sees no necessity to discriminate between a present and a past in mere dependent clauses. Thus we have: -ts'ong-nyi to sell; ts'ong khen, selling, who sells; ts'ong khen, having sold, who sold.

The participles passive would even be loosely rendered by the very same expressions as the foregoing; although if precision were required we should probably find the distinction marked by the addition of zhe' or kyap to the verbal root, thus:—ts'ong zhe' khen being sold, which is sold; ts'ong zhe' khen having been sold, which was sold, which had been sold. Kyap is used only with certain "Had been sold" might be further discriminated by the insertion of song, thus: ts'ong song zhe khen; but this compound would only be used where particular stress as to time and manner of the transaction was thought to be desirable.

#### Examples of Relative Clauses.

Chhö tasong nyo khen om-di nga-lo ná. Give me the Œ. milk which you brought this morning.

Khim lo lug bak yong khen shempa di-yī potso-i hlam ku bák song: The butcher who brought the sheep to the house stole the boy's boots.

(N. B. Shempa di yī the instrumental case as given in this sentence is grammatically correct; but commonly, as we have sufficiently shewn, the nom. is always used and thus the yi would most likely not be said.)

Konchhok lo de-pa kye khen di nga nyinpo kya-nyi. want to love those who have faith in God.

Di p'iru kyáng àb khen khyi-da di sung-khyi malep be. The dog who barks all night is a bad watch-dog.

(Here we find the definite article placed at the commencement and close of the relative clause, thus neatly marking it off. This is only an expansion of a similar use of the article already noticed in § I.)

4.—Interrogative Pronouns.—These are ká who, kan or kam which, what, kambe why, ke or ke-kyi whose, ke-nái from whom? All such are sufficiently illustrated under § V. 6 and 8.

# V.—THE VERB.

We find in the Sikkim colloquial a fairly systematic method of expressing the various phases of the verb. In fact the tenses are particularised in this dialect with greater accuracy and regularity than are to be found in the book language of Tibet. Some variety in the affixes appended to the verbal roots is met with according to the locality of the speakers. In the Darjiling and Kalimpong districts we find certain strange affixes which disappear as we proceed north of Tumlong. On the Tibetan frontier moreover the verbal inflections assimilate entirely with those peculiar to Tsang. We believe however the southern manner of inflexion to be that proper to the Sikkim dialect and to be generally comprehendible to natives and itinerants in the northern districts. Nevertheless all variations shall be noted below.

- 1. Infinitive.—This is formed by adding nyi or she to the root of the verb, e.g., káp-she or káp-nyi to cover. Shé is the usual affix throughout Tsang and equally common in Sikkim. Nyi is peculiar to the Darjiling district.
- 2. FUTURE TENSE.—From the Infinitive the future tense is formed by adding 'in (really yin) for the first person and sometimes du' (duk) for the 2nd and 3rd person. But usually when the 3rd person future has to be expressed the regular Tibetan future, formed by the addition of ong not to the infinitive but the root is resorted to.

Examples will make this sufficiently understood.

I shall drink:  $\begin{cases} Nga \ t'ung \ she'in. \\ or \ Nya \ t'ung \ nyi'in. \end{cases}$ He will drink  $\begin{cases} Kho \ t'ung \ ong. \\ or \ kho \ t'ung \ she \ du'. \end{cases}$ 

Ong becomes yong in northern Sikkim as in Tibet. Elsewhere always ong as in Balti.

The formation of the future from the infinitive, it will be noted, is very natural; for 'in = am, du' = is. So we have t'ungshe to drink; t'ung she 'in am to drink = will drink; t'ung-she du' is to drink = will drink.

3. PRESENT TENSE.—The root with do 'in annexed (probably du' 'in or duk yin) is generally heard when the first person occurs. The root with chen du' or chen be' for the 2nd and 3rd persons. Thus—

I am eating rice: Nya chum-lo sá do 'in.

He is coming home: Kho khim-lo ong chen du'.

You are beating the horse very much Chhö tá di lo nyogi dung chen du'.

He runs like a horse: Kho tá denda chāng be.

4. PERFECT TENSES.—The past definite form generally can be expressed by the root of the verb with zhe, che, or j'he (variously sounded) annexed. The past indefinite requires song zhe or song du'. Thus—

He wrote a letter: kho yige chi p'i zhe.

He has written a letter: kho yige chi p'i song du'.

Sometimes with du' alone:

Mo zung du' she seized, did seize. Mo or mo-i chhak du': She broke

There seems no decided distinction between active and passive voices: chhak song du' has been broken; but gyu chung often indicates the Passive, e.g., sa gyu chung has been eaten.

Certain styles are preferred for certain verbs. Thus shi she

to die, always forms the past tense with song.

shi song, died; shi song zhe has (quite) died, is dead.

shi song du' did die (emphatic)

t'ong che, saw; t'ong song zhe has seen

Other verbs have special past forms:—

gyu-she, to go; song went

bak do nyi, to take, take away; bák song zhe has taken.

p'ya-she, to do; zhe or che: did; zhe song has done.

And a few others.

5. IMPERATIVE.—The simple root; or else the root with tany and, as a politer form, with nany or nyá added.

Eat this: andi sá. Open the door: qom-di p'i! Cook food:

to tso tang!

Please show the way: lam di ten-náng.

Please give me a rupee: nga-lo tiruk chi p'in nang or p'in tang.

6. POTENTIAL MOOD.—The root, or sometimes the infinitive, with *chhug* or *ts'uk* annexed. The latter form is the real verb, *chhug* or *chhuk* being the provincial pronunciation of the *ts'uk*.

I can run quickly: Nya gyobá chang ts'uk.

He can climb up the tree: Kho shing di dzek chhuk.

The interrogative form is most frequently used and differs from the ordinary interrogatives to be explained hereafter:—

Can you read the book: Chhö chho di dok ts'uk-ká?

Can you see the gentleman: Chhö kusho di t'ong chhug-gá?

Is he able to use a gun: Kho mindá chi kyi p'ent'o p'yá she chhuq-qa?

Are you able to fight: Chho t'abmo kyap chhuq-qa?

Can the boy sing a song: Potso di lu kyap ts'uk-ka?

#### NOTE TO PAGE 21.

In all verbs the Plural Number is exactly the same as the Singular, so far as the verb itself is concerned; but the pronoun may be altered in the 1st and 3rd persons Plural where any stress is laid upon the Number:—

SINGULAR.

PLURAL.

Ngá or ngárang 'in: I am.

Ngáchá 'in: We are.

Chhö or chhörang be: Thou art.

Chhö be: You are.

Kho or khorang be: He is.

Khong be: Khong-ts'o be: They are.

# 7.—THE SUBSTANTIVE VERB.

Nga 'in: I am, Chhö be Thou art, you are, Kho be He is. An alternative form of be is me, found occurring after the vowel o.

I am very wet: Nga nyogi bong-bo'in.

You are a bad girl: Chhö pum málep be.

The book is easy to read: Di chho di dok-nyi jam-tong be.

You are a clean boy: Chhö potso tsang-mo me.

You are a filthy girl: Chhö pum tsok be.

He is an idle man: Khö mi shć-lo me.

The woman is pretty and dirty: Di pum di dzebo tárung málebo be.

We find occasionally du' substituted for be by the more Tibetanized folk.

That girl is my wife: Audi-pum di nge-kyermán du'.

That pretty girl is to be my wife: Pum dzebo audi nye kyermán chung she du'.

She is unmarried: Mo menshar du'.

The interrogative form of the verb "to be" runs thus:—
Nga yö' ta: am I? Chhö bo: are you? Kho bo: is he?
A common alternative form of bo is mo.

Where are you? Chho ká-khá mo?

Who is that lama behind the house: Audi lama khim di se-lo di ka mo?

Are you young: Chhö shempa bo? Is the horse cold: Tá di k'yábo mo?

Where is the man who came Nai khásong ong khen mi-di kahere yesterday khá be? or ka-kha bo?

Who is out there: P'á-ki p'ila ká mo?

8. The Possessive verb "to have."—As in Russian, Hindustani, and many other languages the possessive verb is rendered by the circumlocution. "There is near——"or "to——there is." Thus: "I have three children" becomes "To me three children are" "Nga-lo p'ugu sum be." Again: "you have a warm dry coat" is best turned "near you a warm dry coat is" "Chhö za ko-lák t'um-po kombo du'." Interrogatively: "Have you three children" Chhö lo p'ugu sum-bo? "Have you any boots to sell?" Chhö za di ts'ong khen hlam kan di bo? Here note how the double article di—di is used to bind the participle ts'ong-khen to its proper antecedent.

Where "have" is a simple auxilliary joined to another verb, it is usually represented by du.

9. GENERAL INTERROGATIVES.—These are usually rendered by the addition of the interrogatives auxilliary bo or mo to the proper tense of the verb required. Thus

Did you go to the bazaar yesterday: chhö khá-sáng t'om lo song bo?

What will you sell me: Chhö ngá-lo kan ts'ong she mo?

Are you drinking beer: chhö chháng t'ung do bo?

Are you bringing the dog: chhö khyi-da di bák nang bo?

Except when it is the verb substantive the interrogative particle is sometimes omitted if an interrogative pronoun occurs:—

Why are you doing that: chhö audi kambe p'ya du'?

When did you arrive: chho nam leb song?

With the potential auxilliary "to be able" the interrogative particle is never heard:—

Can you read: chhö dok chhug-ga?

Can you come to-morrow: chhö t'orang ong ts'uk-ka?

By custom the particle is abridged into "o" with certain verbs ending in k (really g).

Why did you break the cup: chhö káryö' di kam chhak-ko.

Where have you put the oranges: chho ts'á-lumpa di ká-na zháko?

Have you read it: chho di-lo doko?

10. NEGATIVES,—Are expressed by the particle *ma* with the perfect or imperative and by *mi* with the present or future tenses.

Don't talk nonsense: chhol-khá ma lap!

He did not give me one rupee: kho ngá-lo tiruk-chi' p'in ma che.

The girl will not come with me: Pum di ngá nyambu ong nyi min (or m'ong nyi 'in.)

He will not bite: kho so tap mi ong.

He is not reading your book: kho chhö-kyi chho di dok chen mi du'.

He is not eating now: Tá-to sá do min.

It will be observed from the above examples that the negative is either compounded with the auxilliary member of any

verb or placed immediately preceding the last syllable of the verb. With the past tense the latter course is always pursued: e.g., kho shi mi song: He has not died. With the infinitive form of the verb we find the negative placed last: e.g.

The idle man has nothing to eat: mi shélo di sa nyi mi.

- 11. Participles.—The syllable khen added to the verbal root forms the participle. This important branch of the verb is fully illustrated under § iv, 3.
- 12. GERUNDS.—These are formed by the addition of certain brief particles to the verb of the gerundial clause. These particles are te (often vulgarly ti), ne, táng, and par or war.
- a.—The first two are commonly employed to express clauses such as in English are introduced by the words "when," "as," "having." Examples will best illustrate our meaning:—

Having eaten his food, he desired the remainder: Ri-kyi to di sa song-te hlak-ma dö zhe du'.

(N. B.—Ri-kyi is here used for *kho-i* because the possessor is also the acting subject of the sentence.  $\S$  iv, 1, b.)

When you have done, come to me: chhö-kyī zhe song-ne nga-lo shok.

(Chhö-kyī is the agentive case which should always be used with transitive verbs instead of the nom. case; but colloquially the rule is only in a few such instances as the present one commonly observed. Zhe song is the past tense of p'ya she to do).

Go and fetch it (i.e., "going, fetch it"): song-te di-lo bàk shok.

(This form is exactly parallel to the Hindustani jákar usko

b.—Tang joined to the infinitive best interprets short dependent clauses:—

On my firing the gun, three men fell: nga mindá kyap pa tang mi sum tung song.

(Kyap-pa is the Tibetan form of the infinitive which in our dialect should be kyap-she; yet this is the form we generally hear with tang, which, be it noted, invariably requires the infinitive when used as a gerundial particle).

Hearing you call, I came: chhö ké kyap-ne nga nyen-pa tang ong zhe. (Lit: "you calling, I on hearing came.")

Looking down the kud, I saw the man lying: kad di tenglo ta-ne nga di nye khen mi di t'ong zhe.

c.—We find par or war joined to the repeated root to express concurrent clauses introduced in English by the word "while."

While I am sleeping, don't make a noise: nga nye nye par ur ma kyap.

While I am going to the market, you must dig up the artichokes: nga t'om la gyu gyu war chhörang do-wa ko go.

While I am gone, watch: nga song song par kug tang.

This section may be concluded by the enumeration of certain of the more commonly occurring verbs.

P'in-she to give ná-nyi to bestow gyu-she to go dul-nyi to walk chang-she to run gyuk-she to run ong-nyi to come sú-nyi to eat t'ung-she to drink tungshe to fall küm gha nyi to choke nye-she to lie down nya' do nyi to sleep dö or dü nyi to sit, or remain *nyo-nyi* to buy ts'ong-she to sell khyu-she to wash, bathe dok-she to read pi-she to write p'i-she to open tsum she to shut dzung-she to consider dzung-she to hold káp-she to cover nyen-she to listen, hear khá nyen she to obey bák ong nyi to bring

bák nang nyi to fetch

bák gyu nyi to take away

Tong-she to see dung-she to beat ko-tung she to throw away ten-nvi to show ta-nyi to look at kön-nyi to wear, put on zhak she to place, put p'ya nyi to do, make tsuk nyi to strike, push ts'uk she to be able chhug-she to be able t'ob-she to obtain ko-nyi to dig kyap-she to throw ngoshi she to know gii she to stay, wait shi nyi to die lap-she to speak ser-she to tell, to name gá deb she to laugh gyo do shor she to laugh go-she to want t'abmo kyap she to fight né kyap she to become ill tok-nvi to cut dzek she to climb lem she to crush den she to pull, draw.

sik she to hoist, shove up.

#### VI.—ADVERBS.

1. In the Sikkim colloquial we find no distinction made between the adjective and its corresponding adverb. Thus jampo = both "soft" and "softly;" sarpo = "new' and "afresh" "newly;" jam-tong = "easily" and "easy."

However, in addition to the adverbs derived from adjectives, there are in use a number of primitive adverbs, both simple and compound—adverbs of Time and Place.

A few of these may be noted here.

"Always" is rendered by át'ang mache; "after" by át'ang.

"Never" is expressed by *na-mo* or *na-mong* and a negative before the verb, thus:

Nga na-mo chha-kha malep mi ts'ong: I never sell bad things.

Other temporal adverbs are gyob soon, lok-te again, mölá immediately, har suddenly, ta-to now, táchi lately, and se-lo afterwards. Also those in connection with the measurement of time:—

Tá-ring to-day; tásong this morning; táring p'iru to-night. Khásang yesterday; dong last night; nyim-kyang all day. Ngaru: to-morrow (morning); t'orang to-morrow.

Adverbs of Place:—Nái here, p'áki yonder, hákyi there p'ina, in front, t'ekya-lo straight on, forward, ma-ki below, at bottom, khor round, khor khor around, pang kha outside, nang-kha inside.

2. INTERROGATIVE ADVERBS.—These are nam when, ká-khá where, ká-na whither, where, ká-lái whence, jhi-tar how, in what way, ká-dem how, ká dzii (mo) how much, tu-tu how many. They are employed precisely as the interrogative pronouns; in the sentence generally standing next before the verb. (See § v, 9.) Examples:—

Dum-ra náng-sha zigmo tu-tu t'ong song bo: How many porcupines did you see in the garden?

Kho nam shi song zhe: When did he die?

#### VII.—POSTPOSITIONS.

These are simple and compound; the first being merely the case signs already enumerated. On the former however a few remarks may be made here. Lo, the dative and accus affix rarely signifies "to" except after verbs meaning "to give." The locative na is of course the proper affix to use in these cases where we should say "at" or "to." However for "at" the post position za="near" is sometimes employed, just as pas is used in Hindustani. The best form for "from" is lé (pronounced lai in Tsang.) The Tibetan terminative case is hardly heard at all in southern Sikkim.

Compound Post positions are very frequent. The chief are these:—

n lpha n g-sha or n lpha-sha or n lpha-sha in, into. n lpha-sha or n lpha-sha or n lpha-sha on, upon. n lpha-teng-lo. down. n lpha-such as.

tandá le because of, on account of se-lo behind, after.

dün-tu before.

khá-wak under, beneath nyam-bo with, along with sán-te up to, unto.

On the above let us remark: teng-kha is sometimes used for "up," e.g. Shing di teng-kha dzek: climb up the tree; sánte when combined with a negative is the method of expressing "until." The latter usage is worthy of note. Thus: "I shall wait until you return" is rendered chhö lokté ma ong sán-te nga gü she'in. Often we hear this as chhö lok mong sánte nga gü she'in. Again: Walk on until you see a bamboo house chhö nyuk khim chi ma t'ong sánte long dul. Literally of course this would express the reverse of what is really understood, namely "Until you do not see a bamboo house, walk on. "When sánte has the signification of "as far as" or "to" the negative does not occur.

Properly all the compound postpositions govern the genitive case and ought to be preceded by nouns so inflected; but in practice such a rule is rarely if ever observed, the simple nouns or adjective standing uninflected and followed by the governing postposition. *e.g.*,

Khim náng-sha song: Go in the house.

Nga tiruk nyi p'in she 'in khyi-da di tanda le: I will give two rupees for the dog.

# VIII.—CONJUNCTIONS.

Rarely used; the gerundial affixes usually supplying their place when coupling clauses or sentences together. Thus "Go and tell him" becomes "going, tell him" song ti kho-lo ser just as in Hindustani we should say Jákar ussiko bolo! "Come and look:" Ong ti ta!

A copulative conjunction for coupling nouns is, however, in use:  $T\'{a}rung$ =and, e.g.,  $khy\cdot i$ -da  $t\'{a}rung$   $\'{a}l\ddot{u}$  dog and cat. When no stress is laid on the conjunction it is readily omitted:  $nga\ lo\ mar\ gongdo\ cha\ b\'{a}k\ shok$  Bring me butter, eggs and tea.  $T\'{a}rung$  means really "still more" "yet."

The conjunction "If" is rendered by nu placed after the verb, as in the following sentence:

Nyim kyang yige dok nu, chhō-kyi mik suk kyap ong: If you read all day, your eyes will ache (feel pain).

Chhö mi lem yin-nu, nga dung she 'in: If you are not good, I shall beat (you).

Chhö au-dem gvoba sa takye nu, kyöm gha ong: If you continue eating so fast, you will choke.

Sometimes the regular Tibetan form na is employed instead of the corrupted form nu. Moreover every Daijong man would, when writing, put na not nu.

Although is expressed by rung placed similarly to nu. Thus:—

Chhö né kyi kyap rung, sa go be: Though you are ill, you must eat.

Kho nyim ts'án kyang sa rung, na-mo gyak-sha mi ong: Although he ate all day and night, he would never become fat.

(Note here the absence of "and" between nyim and ts'an; also use of na-mo with negative for "never.")

When rung occurs with the verb "to be," the intensive form of that verb is generally resorted to namely the Tibetan mod-pa to be indeed, sounded  $m\ddot{o}$  pa:

Ri-kyi ro di dur nang-sha mö-pa rung chhö lok-te lang nyi 'in: Though your body is indeed in the grave you shall rise again.

#### IX.—FORMATIVES.

What is treated of in Grammars under the head of "Derivation" may be very briefly disposed of here.

1.—Certain adjectives are formed or "derived" from nouns by the addition of the syllable chen to the noun, e. g., rin price, rin chen expensive; ts'erma thorn, ts'erma-chen thorny, prickly; khyo anger, khyo chen angry; khyá blood, khyá-chen bloody. In fact most of our adjectives ending in "y" or "ous" are formed in Dé-jong Ké thus from substantives.

The negative formative corresponding to *chen* is *mé* "without"

- 2.—The affix chhok added to a verbal root goes to form those adjectives which signify capability of suffering anything, or fitness for being made use of. Sa-nyi to eat, sa-chhok eatable; t'ong she to see, t'ong chhok visible, capable of being seen, chhak-she to break, chhák-chhok breakable, &c. The negative form takes mi, as t'ong mi chhok invisible.
- 3.—A third formative is *khen* signifying chiefly the doer of any action, much akin to the Hindustani wala; as p'yá-khen doer, maker, dok-khen reader, bák-khen carrier. Like wala added also to substantives; as toi a load, toi-khen bearer of a load, hlam khen bootmaker, tá-khen a groom, sa'is.

#### NUMERALS.

Chi chu-chi eleven one twelve chu-nyi Nyi two thirteen chu-sum Sum three chub-zhi fourteen Zhi four Nga five chenga fifteen chu-tuk sixteen Tuk six chub-dŭin Dŭin seventeen seven chegye eighteen Gye eight Gu chu-gu nineteen nine khe-chik Chu-tamba twenty ten

> Sum-chu tamba thirty So-chi thirty-one thirty-two, &c. So-nyi, &c. Zhib-chu tamba : forty

forty-one, &c. Zhe-chi, &c.

fifty Nga-chu Khe-sum sixty Re-chi sixty-one Re-nyi, &c. sixty-two one hundred Gya-chi Tong-rok thousand

#### DAYS OF THE WEEK.

Sá-nyim: Sunday Sá-dou: Monday Sá-mikmá : Tuesday Sá-hlák-bo: Wednesday Sá-p'urbo: Thursday Sá-pásáng: Friday Sá-p'embo : Saturday.

Nái sá p'embo shok: come here on Saturday. Chhö lo ka dzü som-bo: How old are you? Nga-lo khe chik 'in: I am twenty years' old.

# COLLOQUIAL SENTENCES.

Note.—These sentences are nearly all in the Sikkim colloquial or Dé-jong Ké. Accordingly when Tibetans from beyond the Jé-lep, Donkya, Kangla, and other passes, are communicated with, the following rules may be observed: For be (is, are) use du' or yin; for bo or mo say du'ká or yö-tam or yin-ná. Bák song and bák sho' should be avoided, and khyer song "take away" and khyer sho' "bring," should be substituted. The future tense may be rendered by means of yong or gyu du' added to the verbal root: ten yong "will shew," dzek gyu du' "will climb." Song for the past tense is very universal, but chung or jhung is the commoner affix in Central Tibet, e.g., Ná-la di náng jhung du': "The rent has been paid;" but in Sikkim colloquial: Ná-la di p'in song zhe.

#### BRIEF ORDERS.

Come here: Nái shok! Come back Lokte shok!

Come with me Nge nyambu shok!

Nge tsar-ka (or "zà") shok! Come near me

T'orang-ra shok! Come to-morrow

Kulup lap! Speak slowly Long song! Go away : Go at once: Hlem song! Go to the market: T'om na song!

Go and fetch some water: Song we chhu atsiche bak shok!

Pang kha song! Go outside:

Go and tell him what I say: Song ne nga ser khen di lap!

Khim-na lok song! Go home again: Go further: P`ar-tsam song

Go gently: Kále song

Bring me some tea: Cha nga·lo bák shok Bring more water: Chhu yáng-kyár bák shok

Tà di nái t'i. Fetch the horse here:

Take away those things: Chha ka di ták bák song!

Take the coat and dry it: Di kolak di bak song di kam ba

shok.

Di t'u ko tang! Throw it away:

Send word (Give notice) Lon ser!

Send him here: Kho-lo nài tong. Make haste: Gyo bá p'yá!

Take care: U'ip!

Be steady (or careful): Riko gyimbo Sit down now: Tá-to dii! Remain here: Nài gü! Say that again: Lok te lap

Don't tell a lie: Dzun ma kyap! Open the door: Gom di p'i.

Put my box on the ground: Ngé dom di sa zhàk. Climb up that hill and look: P'idi gang-di dzek nài tà!

# USEFUL QUESTIONS.

Can you speak Hindustani: Can you speak English:

Do you know that man:

Who is this boy:

What are you doing: Why are you doing that:

Why are you asking:

When did you see him: Where did you see it:

Chhö Hindu kyi ké lap ts'ug-ga? Chhö Ingrezi ké lap ts'ug-ga?

Chhö kyī mi p'idi ngoshi bo?

Potso audi kà mo Chhö kam p'ya du'

Chhö audi dem kambe p'ya du

Chhö kam-be t'e du'

Chhö kho-lo nam t'ong bo? Chhö di-lo ka-khà t'ong bo? Look! do you see him: Is he dead:

Where have you been: Can you write a letter:

What do you want:

What is his name:

Where do you live:

Will he come back soon:

Can she carry this load:

Where have you put my boots:

Where have I put my keys: Who are you? What name:

Ta! chhö kho-lo t'ong be bo?

Kho shi song zhe bo? Chhö ka-khà song zhe?

Chhö yi-ge chi p'i she ts'ug-ga?

Chhö kan go she bo? Kho-yi ming kà de'su

Chhö ka-khà dü-do mo? (or dü-

to bo?)

Kho ma-la lok hleb she bo?

Mo toi di bak ts'ug-ga

Chhö nge hlam ka-na zhàko Nga ri-kyi dimi ka-na zhàko? Chhö ka mo? ming kam bo?

# ON A JOURNEY.

Make everything ready for start- Chhà-kha kyang gyuk tok.

ing:

Pack up the tent: Roll up the rugs:

Fasten that bundle more

curely than that :

You carry the tent-poles:

That is your load:

Your load is not heavy:

Now we must set off:

It is time to go:

Lift up that box:

Turn the horse round:

Walk quickly:

Hold the bridge firmly:

You go over the bridge first:

Are you tired:

We have not travelled far:

I am tired:

You can climb as quickly as a

Carry that slowly up the hill:

Tell him to come here quickly: That leech is sucking your blood:

Sit down:

Go into that house and buy some food:

grass:

Ugūr t'altik p'yà

Chhà-li di gyil p'yà

se- Di t'um-po di te le t'ang dam

Chhö gur-shing bak song! Audi chhö-kyi toi di du' Chhö kyi toi di min du'

Ta-to gyu go

Gyu-gyi tüi cho be

Go in front: I will walk behind P'ina song; ngarang chhö kyi so-

le gyu she 'in Di dom di ya t'o Tà di khor kyap Gyoba dul

Sampa di tángpo chhin Chhö sam tengkha p'ina gyu

Chhö t'ang-chhe-po nya

Ngacha t'a ringkyam ma song

Nga t'ang-chhe-po yin

Chhö tà chi da denda dzek ts'uk (or chhuk) be

Di chhà-kha di gang tengkha kulup bak song

Kho-lo gyoba nái shok lap

Audi pü-po di chhö-kyi khya jip chen du'

Sà dü

Khim audi nang-sha song-te to à-tsi -chi nyoba sho'

Do you see many leeches on this Chhö pü-po nyogi tsà audi tengkha t'ong-ga.

Do you see any leeches on my Chhö pü-po à-tsi-chi nge lé-dum tengkha t'ong-ga?

Chhö t'à ring t'ung kà dzoi gyu How far can you walk:

ts'uk?

#### ASKING THE WAY

Whose house is that: Khim audi ke bo?

What is the name of the village: Yults'o kyi ming kà mo?

P'idi gompa gang tengkha di bo? Is that a temple on the hill: Nga-tong-kyi lam di nga-lo ten Show me the way to Nga-tong:

nang.

Say that again: Lok-te lap Speak slowly: Kulup lap

Where is the bridge: Sampa ka-khà mo? To where does that road go: P'idi lam di kà lo? Is the path difficult: Lam-khà khákpo mo?

It is an easy path to Namgà? Namgá na lam jam-tong du How far is it from here to Tum- Nai-le Tumlong san-te t'à ring lü

kà dzoi mo? long?

How far is it from Darjiling to Dorjeling-le Sargong lo t'à ring

Sargong? t'ung kà dzoi mo?

Is it a long way to Lachhung: Làchhung sante lam ring-kyam

Di lam di kà mo? Which is the way:

The village is near that monas- Audi chhoide di tsa-ne yul-ts'o

tery:

Do you know the way to go? Chhà-kyī gyu-she lam di she-sa The path goes round the hill: Lamkhà di gang kor kor ran chen

I am going to the Je-lep pass:

Ngarang Je-lep là lo gyu do'in It is a district full of ravines: Yul rong-yul be

Chhö kà-le yong do mo? Where are you coming from: Where are you going: Chhö ka-khà na gyu do 'in

#### THE WEATHER.

P'iru di nyogi noksu be The night is very dark: Chhàb bàb she 'in Rain is going to fall:

The rain will not cease to-day: Chhàb di tàring mi chhé ong

Nga humpo lang te tà I see the mist rising: Sà di tà-to bong-bo du' The ground is wet now:

Di chhàb di gyoba ong she 'in The rain will soon come: Chhö gyoba chang ts'ug-ga (or Can you run quickly:

chhug-ga)

Là di kàng-ma chen kyang be The pass is filled with snow: Ngarang kàng nàngsha gu chen I am sinking in the snow: du'

When the rain ceases the air will Di chhàb di chhé-ne ngara salwa grow clear: ong she du'

The sun is very hot: Di nyim di nyogi t'um be

The sun will cause pain in your Di nyim di chhö-kyi go nà-sha head: suk kya be

There is no moon to-night: Taring p'iru dou kan de me' Lung di lang chen du'

The wind is rising:

Put wood on the fire:

Lung di lang chen du'
Shing mi na t'suk

Shake the cloak well: Chhàb khebma zob-zob phyà
The wind is very cold: Lung di nyogi khyàbo be

The air will be mild at Nar-ling: Nga-ra di Narling za jampa ong she 'in

#### BUYING AND SELLING.

I want to buy some milk: Nga um nyo go be

These Lepchas sell eggs: Di Rong-pa di gongdo ts'ong What will you sell me: Chhö nga-lo kan ts'ong she bo?

How much is the price of this: Audi gong kà dzoi mo?

What do you want: Chhö kan go she bo? What have you got: Chhö-lo kam bo?

Nothing to-day: Taring kan de me'. (or) Taring

I want nothing: Mingo ("not wanted.")

Do you sell tea, butter, salt: Chhö chà, mar, ts'à ts'ong bo? Chho nga-lo sha t'up tsug-ga?

You ask too much: Chhö nyogi gong zhu do' in. (or)

zhu chen du'.

Your price is very high: Chhö-kyi rin di ma-nyung be. I cannot give that price: Nga gong di p'in mi ts'uk.

I will give you to rupees for that Nga chhö lo tiruk chu tamba p'in book:

yong audi chho di tanda lé.

I want twenty rupees for it: that Nga di ten lé tiruk khe-chik go; is the exact price: audi rin zhib-chha di be.

Go away: I don't want the thing: Long song:

Ngà-lo chhà-khà di mingo.

What have you got in that bag: Chhö audi gyiup di nangsha kan ta bo?

Show me some other things: Nga-lo chhà-khà zhü-ma di ten

nang.

I want to buy a knife:

Nga-lo ki-chhung chi nyo go.

I want to buy a knife:

That is not a good goat:

Give me two rupees for it:

Nga-lo ki-chhung chi nyo go.

Audi ràma di lem min du'.

Nga-lo tiruk nyi phintang di tenlé.

Have you any boots to sell: Chhö ts'ong khen hlam du'bo?

Give me another: Zhü-ma nga-lo tong.

Are you a Wallung man or a Chhö Wallungki mi bo, ya-men Sikkim man: ne Dai-jong ki mi bo?

Come again to morrow: Nga-ro lok-te shok.

I want nothing to-day: Nga taring kan de mingo.

# PREPARING AND EATING FOOD.

Make the water boil:

Make the fire burn brightly:

Bring the fish in a basket: Bring the eggs: be careful:

Bring some hot water now: Put tea in the tea-pot:

I do not want tea to-day :

Give me some bread: I don't Nga lo khu atsichi nang:

want pak (sops):

gravy.

Toast this meat at the fire:

Place the dishes on the table:

I shall eat rice this evening:

Have you any:

Make the dumplings hot:

I am eating dinner now; go Nga ta-to to (or sama) sà do away:

She cannot eat rice:

mouth:

Give me the cup which is on Chen-t'e tengkha karyo' di nga-

the table:

Do you drink tea or beer:

Cover the ashes: bank up the Mi-dak kap; mi nyal zhak. fire (lit: "put the fire to bed.")

Chhu kol p'yà

Mi di leba bao zo'.

Nya di tséó ná-sha bak shok. Gongdo di bak shok: U'ip! Ta-to chhu t'um chi bak nang. Chà-lo chàmbi ná-sha zhàk.

Nga táring chà mingo.

Will you eat tsampa in the tea: Chhö tsampa chà ná sha sà she

pak mingo.

I shall dip bread in the meat- Nga khu di shà-ruk ná-sha pák

she 'in

Di shà di mī dün-tu sek p'yà. Pákna so-só di chen-t'e tengkha zhàk.

Nga táring p'iru chum sà she 'in.

Chhö-lo átsichi bo?

Shurbu di t'um p'yà.

'in; lok **so**ng!

Moi chum sà mi ts'uk be,

Shut your eyes; open your Chhö kyi inido tsum; chhö-kyi kha gyang.

lo nang tang.

Chhö chhang t'ung do bo, cha

t'ung do bo?

# HORSES AND GUNS.

Is this a quiet horse:

Sir, it is:

Can it run quickly: How old is the horse:

It is four years' old: Give the horse its food:

Make the horse ready:

Put on the saddle:

Have you the whip: Have you the whip: (less Chho-lo buiko di du bo?

politely)

Bring me a warm coat:

Where is my gun:

Ta audi nyambu bo?

Lha; là-so. (or) Kusho, là du'.

Di gyoba chang chhug-ga. Di tá di lo kà dzü som bo?

Di-lo lo zhi 'in. Ta-lo ri-kyi to tong.

Get bamboo leaves for the horse: Nyuk kyi dámá t'ub tà di ten-le.

Tà di t'al-tik p'yà. Tà-ga di zhak.

Chhö-lo buiko di yöp nya'.

Nga-lo kolàk t'umpo chi bak shok!

Nge mindá ka-khà mo?

The gun-stock is dirty. Lengthen the stirrupstrap:

Now, the other one:

Bring the powder: Be careful:

Can you shoot with a gun:

There are leopards in that hill: P'idi gang di teng-kha sà t'ub be.

a noise:

Gumda di malebo be. Yob-t'ak di ring-po p'yà.

Ta-to, zhü-ma-di.

Médze bak shok. Riko gyimbo!

Chhö mindá kyap ts'ug-ga.

Come behind me; don't make Nge so-le shok; ur ma kyap!

#### SHOOTING IN THE HILLS.

See! a leopard:

It went behind that rock: Go softly like a snake: Carefully! Don't cough: Stop! Come back here:

I have hit him:

Give me the other gun:

Beat that long grass:

Take your bamboo stick: We must climb up this hill:

I am going down the kud: Sit down! Wait till I come:

Wait here and watch:

Yes, Sir, yes:

I have seen some deer:

When? Just now:

Is the ground firm:

Do you see peacocks in this Mábja di sà-chhà audi t'ong

part:

What other birds are here:

Go out of the way:

Tá! sá chi.

Tàk-kyi gyab lo song. Byü dem jampo gyu! U'ip! lo-cham ma kyap. Khok! nái lók-te shok.

Nga kho-lo dung chhé. Mindá zhü-ma nang.

Take care! He is coming at us: Riko gyimbo! kho nga-chhok lo

ong chen du'.

Di tsà ring-po di dung. Ri-kyi pà-shing bák song. Gang audi tengkha dzek go.

Nga ghad teng-lo gyuchen du'.

Sà dü! Nga ma ong sànte gü.

Nái kug-te dü. Kà-so, kàs.

Nga khà-shà t'ong-chhé. Nam bo? Ta-to, ta-to.

Sà di taktà bo?

chen bo?

P'yà zhü-ma nái kam bo?

Lam-khá long song!

# ENGAGING COOLIES.

I want twelve coolies (carriers): Nga-lo bák-khen chu-nyi go be.

much baggage:

Thirty seers each coolie:

man per day:

I will give wages and food:

a day:

You will need twenty for so Chhö-lo toi ma-nyung nyam-po khe-chik go she be.

How much will each coolie Bak-khen so-só kà dzü bak nang she bo?

Bak khen bak khen sir sum-chu

How much will you give each Mi so-só lo nyim di nyim di gong kà dzü p'in she bo?

Ngarang là to p'in she 'in.

I will give each man four annas Nga mi so-só lo nyimdi nyimdi anna zhi p'in she 'in.

The custom in Sikkim is five Shrol di Dai-p'ong-kyi anna nga annas: du'.

Your load is light: Chhö kyi toi di yang-ke be. This is not a heavy box: Di doin di jhi-chen min du'.

Lift up the box: Di dom di yà t'o.

Can this woman carry like a Pum audi bak khen chi dem bak coolie: nang chhug-ga.

She can carry more than a man: Mo mì chi le chà-khà chhe bák nang chhuk.

Where is your tie-rope: Chhö-kyi ri-yung di kà-khà mo.

Start now: make haste: Tà-to gyuk: gyoba p'yà. I shall want two mules: Nga-lo te nyi go nyi 'in.

Wait at the bridge until I arrive: Nga ma lep sán-te sampa di za gü. Wait at the temple until you Chhö nga-lo ma t'ong sán-te

see me : gompa di za gü.

You are an idle man: Chhö mi shailo (shé-lo) chi mé.

You sleep all day: Chhö nyim-kyam nye bo é.

Lift up that basket on her back: Tsé-o audi mo-i gyap kha yà t'o. You are always sitting down: Chhö àtong-màche sa dü chen be.

#### AT AN INN.

Where is the landlord: Nā-bo di kà-na du'.

I am the landlady; Sir Salaam: Ngarang nā-mo yin, ku-sho,

chhà' pe.

I want lodgings this night please: Nga-lo nā-ts'ang tùring p'iru di

go nyà. Sir ; you are welcome : Ku-sho ; chhà pe' zhu nyà.

Many thanks: T'uk je chhe.

I am tired: please shew the bed: Nga t'ang chhe po'in; nye-sa di

ten-nang.

Is there a bathing-tub:

The bed is very hard:

The bed is not clean:

Khyu-zong chi mo?

Nye-sa di nyogi takta be.

Nye-sa di tsang-mo min du'.

There is no other: Zhu-ma chi min du'.

There are lice—bugs—on it: Di tengkha ō-chhō-deshi—du'.

Please shut the door:

Shake the coverlet well:

Give me a light:

Gom di tsum nang.

Khebma zob-zob zhe!

Nga-lo chū-mi p'in tang.

What is the charge: Nà là kà dzu mo?

#### TALK ON RELIGION.

There is only one God:

Di könchho di chik-po khar-kyang du'.

There is none besides the true Könchho ngotok di man-na min God:

du'.

Jesus Christ came down from Ye-shu Màshika nàm-kha le bap Heaven: song. He came into the world to Kho jig-ten nà-sha ong zhe Könspeak tidings from God:

Christ told men of another Mashika-kyi audi jigten di le jigbetter world than this present

When we die we shall enter Ngacha shi-ne ts'e sarpo chi a new life in Heaven:

We shall not enter another body Ngacha pumpo zhu-ma nà-sha in this world:

We shall not be born again Ngacha semchen tarung p'yà as animals or birds:

Tesus Christ died for you:

your sins:

I believe in Jesus Christ:

Alas! you do not believe:

real truth:

died as substitute for all:

but he never obtained happi-

sins have been forgiven:

chho kyi lön ser-nyi.

ten zhu-ma chi lem be lan song zhe.

namkha nà-sha t'ob nyi 'in.

audi jigten di tengkha gyu ma

lokte kye chung ma ong.

Ye-shu Màshika chhö kyi tandà le shi song.

He died to make payment for Khorang, chhö-kyi kyön kyi rin p'in nang khen-kyi ten le, shi song.

Ngarang Ye-shu Màshika lo yi chhe du' in.

Ho-kye! chhö yi mi chhe-so.

Pray to God to shew you the Könchho lo mönlàm kyap tàng chhö lo empa ngotok di tennyi.

Christ is the true thing and He Mashika di nga-wo kho rang di be; kho yang mi t'am-che kyi ts'abpo shi song.

Buddha became a good man; Chomdende mi lem chi chung song; kalte na-mong gàmochen mi t'ob song.

You reach happiness when your Chhö-kyi dikpa di sal chung ne chhö-kyi gamochen dub song.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER IN DE-JONG KE.

#### Cho-wo vi Monlam.

Kye ngàchà ki Yàb! Nyi-rang tà-to nàm-khà-i nà-shà du'. Chhö-kyi ming di dàmbu ser go. Chhö-kyi gyà-si p'eb she gong tang! Nam-kha-i na-sha chho-kyi ka-gyur di dub-te, audi dem jigten tenkha nyen she go. Nge nyim-chen to-za di nga-lo nyim nyim p'in tang. Ngembu dàk lo nö kyal-khen mi zö-ne, audi dem nge dik-pa sal p'ya sol-lo! Nga-lo dikpai ts'ö zung khen di nà ma nàng. Onte ngempo le nga-lo tol nyà. Gyà-si, wangbu, rakchen, kyang, nyi-rangchen be. Amén.

# MISCELLANEOUS SENTENCES.

How far is it from here to the Nài le làptse sàn-te t'à ring t'ung head of the pass: kà dzü mo?

What is the use of that flag?

plait of hair:

shell on your hand:

Paint worn by Tibetan women Tüi-ja. on their cheeks:

Shell worn on wrist:

Long plait of hair worn:

Dandi bearer (of Darjiling):

A China-man :

Cholera:

Revenue Superintendents of the Kà zi (Bkà gzigs). twelve districts into which Sikkim is divided.

What is the name of that peak? Gang-tse p'idi kyi ming kà de'su? Audi dar di kam p'yà du' mo. That woman wears a long Pum audi kyà hlow-wa chi kun chen du'.

What is the use of putting the Lak-koi tengkha t'ung di chhukte, p'ent'o kam bo?

T'ung-khà. Kyà hlow-wa. Dandi bàk khen.

Gyà-nak-pa; or gyà-mi.

Nyà-lok.

### GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES IN SIKKIM.

#### CHIEF TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

Tam-long (or Famous from Asar) the capital on the Labrong hill above the River Dig (Dig-chhu). Height above sea-level 5290 feet. Lat: 27°26′ N. Long: 88°38′ E.

Gàntak	Lingtam	Sung·ma	Ri-nog (Ri-ogtu)
Sinik	Namgá	Ràk-long	Gna-tong
Kartok	Tumtong	Dub-d <b>e</b>	La-geb
Youngten	Dé-nga	Te-mi	Chungtong
Sangabang	Jhà-tang	Pemiong	Tungu
Seriong	Singtam	Brak (Tak)	Phà-lung
Samdong	Rupkam	Ter-wan	Mo-mé.

# Monasteries (Chhoide and Gompa).

Lab-rong (Bslab-rong) the chief religious foundation in Sikkim where the chief lama of the country resides. His rank is that of a Khempo or abbot and he is popularly styled Kyap Gön Lama or the lama-protector. Tamlong is the lay-town of Lab-rong.

Pemiongchi	Ramt'ek
'Țashiding	Lin-gye
Sangyechiling	Emchhi
Nobling	P'adre
Dalling	P'adung
Ralong	P'ensung
Rinchhenpong	De-tong
Kyets'operi	Gya-tong
Dubde	Rin-khim
Màli	Ling-t'em
Senang	Tà-lung
Yan-gong	Là-chhen
Ling-tse	Chung-tong
Namchi	Là-chung
Barmi	Sam-dong
Gart'ok	

#### PRINCIPAL MOUNTAINS.

KANGCHHENJ'ENGA or Kangchhendzonga. The first name meaning "the five kings of the great snows" and the second name "the five treasure-boxes of the great snows." This mountain, commonly called Kinchinjunga by Englishmen, and Khambu Karma by the Sikkim Bhutias, has five summits, the two highest of which are 28,156 and 27,815 feet respectively. So extensive is the top of the mountain that these two peaks are in reality about 2 miles distant from each other.

Kyae-Ru or the Horn of Protection. Is situated S. E. of the above on the Nipalese frontier of Sikkim. Alt. 24,030 ft. 5 miles S. E. is another peak of same name.

KYOKCHIRANGKANG (The Snows of the Secret king or The Snows of the Crooked Head). A peak between Kyabru No. 1 and Kyabru No. 2 sometimes reckoned with these two and one more to the west as forming the 4 peaks of one grand summit. Alt. 22,450 ft.

P'OHUNRI or, more probably, P'o-yum-ri which would mean Father and Mother Mountain. On the eastern frontier of Sikkim; about 6 miles from the Donkya Pass, but separated from the pass by a deep valley. Alt. 23190 ft.

KANGCHENJHO (The Lord of the Glaciers) some 20 miles inward from the northernmost frontier line. Alt. 22550 ft.

JHOM-YUMO (The Queen of Dwarfs) on the northern frontier line in Long. 88° 34' E. Notwithstanding its name has a height of 22,290 ft.

YAK-CHAM (The Lover of Good) or Lama A-den (the Lama-fashioned) sometimes known in Reports as "D. No. 3." Alt. 19,202 ft.

Pandim, possibly Pandem (Dpa ldem) or Statue of Bravery. Is a lofty peak south from Kangchhenjenga and east of Kyabru; and in the view from Darjiling seen slightly to the right of the former mountain. Alt. 22,020 ft. Distance from Darjiling, 36 miles.

SI-VIMBO WANGCHIM; alt. 22,300 ft. and SI-NVOLCHUM; alt. 22,570 ft. are, in the view from Darjiling, the two summits nearest to Pandem on the right hand side. Glancing to the right from that mountain they appear in the order in which we have named them.

NAR-SENG (Uplifted as a Nose) the nearest to Darjiling of the really lofty summits. Only 32 miles distant. Alt. 19,150 ft.

There are, in addition to the above, numerous snowy peaks on the Sikkim-Tibetan border line, stretching N. N. E. of Kanchhenjenga all of which attain an altitude higher than 22,000 ft. One, due north of the famous mountain and only 20 miles distant from it, reaches nearly to 25,000 ft. The view of this lofty peak from Darjiling is completely blocked out by the interposition of Kangchhenjenga. The name of the stupendous mountain thus hidden has not yet been clearly ascertained from the natives; nor yet those of at least twelve others in close proximity to it.

# PRINCIPAL RIVERS (CHHU).

TEESTA.—This is only the Gurkha name of the RANG-NYO as it is called by the people of Sikkim.

RANG-NYIT, not the "Rungit" or "Rungeet" as commonly termed. There are two rivers of this name:—Rang-nyit Chhempo chhu (great Rang-nyit River) rising in the centre of Dé-jong amid the heights of Mount Mà-long (alt. 14,500 ft.) and flowing due south until British territory is reached, when it makes a sharp turn to the east and, after a course of some 12 miles as the southern boundary of Independent Sikkim, flows into the Rangnyo (Teesta) at Pà-shok. (2) Rang-nyit chhung chhu (Little Rangnyit river) now lying wholly within British territory. Rises in Mount Tonglu and flowing to the north of Birch hill empties itself after a tortuous course into the greater Rangnyit at Singla t'om.

RAMMAM rises in the Singilela range and flowing east along the southern boundary line of Sikkim joins the Great Rang-nyit at the sharp bend of the latter eastward.

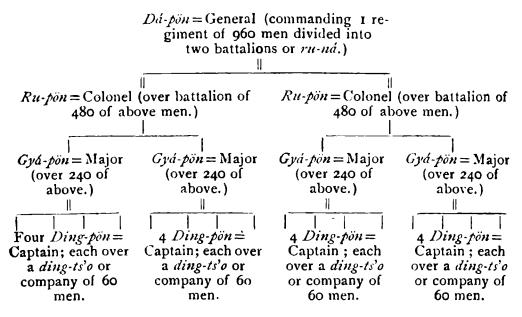
RANG-BI rises in the Gamot'ang lake district near Kang La and the Tangkun Pass, 20 miles due south of Kangchhenjenga.

LA-CHHUNG rises in the lofty heights stretching between Kangchhenjho and the Don-kya Pass. It is a big river and after a long southerly course joins the TA-LUNG Chhu (which arrives from the regions of Kangchhenjenga) at the Ling-t'em Monastery. The combined rivers thence flow due south under the new name of the Rang-nyo or TEESTA. The latter river, we know, eventually flows into the Brahmaputra at a point near the Garo hills.

#### MILITARY TERMS AND TITLES.

The ruler of Sikkim depends for military defence on Tibet; and the people of Tibet depend on China (Mahátsin). The Senior Ampàn, one of the two representatives of the Emperor of China at Lhàsà, is the Director General of the military affairs of Tibet and Sikkim. Nominally he only advises the native Tibetan Privy Council at Lhàsà. In reality it is he who, under cover of the Council, exercises complete control over both the Chinese and the Tibetan soldiers in the country. The ordinary army numbers 6500, out of which under ordinary circumstances 500 only are Chinese, the remainder Tibetan. Of the 6000

Tibetan troops, 3000 are relegated into a reserve force on half-pay and are permitted to engage in agricultural pursuits, being called out for exercise at strictly regular intervals. These latter are styled yul-mák or "country-force." The yul-mák on the peace footing are subject to the Dzong-pön (jong-pön) of the particular Dzong or fortress to which they belong. Under the Ampàn is a Mák-pön or professional military comptroller of the whole army. The whole army comprises 6 regiments; and from the Mák-pön the official rank in each regiment descends as follows:—



Under the Ding-pon are Chu-pon, a son of corporal, one to every 10 men.

Mák-mi a soldier

Mák-pung army

Mák-ts'o regiment

Ru-ná battalion

Ding-ts'o company

Mák-t'áb war

Kyá-pung the enemy

T'áb-mo an engagement

Pung-nön re-inforcements

Mák-ts'o nön-ma ditto

T'áb-rá earthworks, intrenchments.

Mák t'áb-she to fight.

Kyáp-lok p'yá-she to retreat.

Ts'ámpur or gyok a cannon.

Mindá a rifle.

Kyáp-she to fire.

Kyáp-du' yin are firing.

Kyáp-she 'in will fire.

Gyá mi ts'o Chinese.

Pö-kyi mi ts'o Tibetans.