speak TIBETAN
like a Tibetan

Dialogues in Colloquial Tibetan

Dhondup Tsering
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Preface

Learning a new language is difficult but it can be exciting and rewarding later. Often boring at the beginning, it becomes more interesting as you cross the first stage. One feels like an early explorer not knowing what to expect around the next mountain or the next village. You keep discovering new things day after day. It is more like a journey with all the excitement involved in making a real one but without any dangers. As the intricacies of a language are slowly understood and the learner able to communicate, the mysteries surrounding a people and its culture are unravelled giving a valuable insight to whoever is passionate about them. It is an absolute must for anyone studying the history, culture, politics, arts, religion etc., of any country to learn the spoken language of that people.

Learning a language is also important for someone who intends to visit any foreign country. It makes his experience complete. By knowing the language of a place, even if not perfect, brings the visitor closer to the locals. It makes him/her less vulnerable to overcharging and unfortunate incidents. In a larger sense, it makes the world a closer and a friendlier place to live in.

For a long time, I felt the need to write a book for learning colloquial Tibetan; one that was sensitive to the needs of learners who are complete strangers to the language. A book that is at once easy to understand and also interesting at the same time. I have tried that in this book and in a way it has somewhat succeeded judging from the favourable response to the first edition of this book. It even received an offer to be translated into German.

This revised edition has some significant additions, the most important of which is the underlining of letters that have to be pronounced in a high tone with low aspiration. Such differences can have a major effect on whether a word is pronounced correctly or not. I have also
added footnotes at the end of some pages to help learners with some tricky Tibetan words. I hope this book helps bridge the communication gap between Tibetans and the outside world.

I am indebted to Susan Marfield, USA for making this book possible. I would like to thank Ngawang Yeshe, Chemi Tenzin, Norbu Wangchuk, Phurbu Tsering and all my friends for their support and encouragement.

Dhondup Tsering
Dharamsala
July 2003

### 1

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<th>Script</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
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<td>ཀ</td>
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<td>king (c)</td>
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<td>kha</td>
<td>quiz (q)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ག</td>
<td>ga</td>
<td>god (g)</td>
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<td>nga</td>
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<td>chha</td>
<td>NEE</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ja</td>
<td>jump (j)</td>
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<td>na</td>
<td>name (n)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ཌྷ</td>
<td>pa</td>
<td>pop (p)</td>
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* No English Equivalent
There are five vowels in the Tibetan language like that of English. Unlike the English language, the Tibetan vowels are not represented by any letters but by entirely different symbols except in the case of the vowel 'a' which is represented by the final Tibetan alphabet. The other four vowels are:

- i
  king (i)
- u
  pull (u)
- e
  bed (e)
- o
  pot (o)

For the above Tibetan NEE words, we will explain them by giving examples of words that are nearest in equivalent.

- cha

The difference between cha and chha is same as that of between the sound of 'dh' in dharma and 'th' in threat. 'Dh' in dharma is pronounced in a higher tone when compared to 'th' in threat. While you pronounce 'cha' in a high tone as that of 'ch' in chat, you have to pronounce 'chha' in a lower tone and with a strong aspiration. The difference between the two can also be observed in the difference between 'k' as in 'kill' and 'q' as in quiz. 'cha' has to be pronounced like 'k' and 'chha' has to be pronounced like 'q'.

- nya

Catch the sound of 'ny' in canyon and you might come close to the original sound.

- ta

When learning to pronounce this letter, you have to take into consideration the difference between 'd' in drama and 'dh' in dharma. You
have to pronounce 'ta' like that of 'dh' in dharma but with a low aspiration and not as that of 't' in truck or tent.

tsx

The sound of 'rts' in parts comes close to the original. It has to be pronounced in high tone.

tsx

If you know how to pronounce tsunami, there is no problem. This letter has to be pronounced with a strong aspiration. The difference between the above two words is same as that of between 'dh' in dharma and 'th' in threat.

shha

Catch the sound of 's' in leisure and vision. If you pronounce 'sh' as in sharp but with a strong aspiration like that of 'th' in threat, you will come close to the sound of shha.

sza

You can understand this letter easily once you know the difference between 'sh' and 'shha'. Here the difference is between 's' as in sand and 'sza'. Sza has to be pronounced like that of 's' but with a strong aspiration like that of shha above.

'a'

Catch the sound of 'h' in 'weh' and you might just get lucky. When this Tibetan letter is the base letter in a word, it will be indicated by the English word 'w' and when this letter follows another base letter, it will be indicated by 'a'.

Note: Although the above examples might help readers depending upon the individual, the best solution for these NEE letters will be to find a Tibetan to help you learn them.
2

Pronunciation guide-II

Of the total 29 Tibetan alphabets, 14 are closely related in pronunciation; the only difference being whether they are pronounced with a strong aspiration or not. Take the case of the first two alphabets of the Tibetan language 'ka' and 'kha'. While 'k' in 'ka' is the same as 'k' in king (high tone, low aspiration), the letter 'kha' finds its equivalent in 'q' of quiz (low tone, high aspiration). While people not familiar with the Tibetan language may find them totally unrelated, Tibetans look at the two letters as similar in sound and indeed one finds them together (except in the case of 'sha' 'shha' 'sa', and 'sza') in the order of the Tibetan alphabet.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>high tone, low aspiration</th>
<th>low tone, high aspiration</th>
<th>low tone, moderate aspiration</th>
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<tr>
<td>ka</td>
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<td>ga</td>
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<td>ja</td>
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<td>pha</td>
<td>ba</td>
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<td>tssha</td>
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<tr>
<td>sa</td>
<td>sza</td>
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</table>

Some of the Tibetan alphabets not in this group acquire similar characteristics as above when superscribed or subjoined or preceded by another letter most notably in the case of nga, nya, na, ma, and ya. Take for example the case of 'nga' meaning '1' and 'nga' meaning 'five'. Nga is in low tone with moderate aspiration while nga is in a high tone with low aspiration. All underlined letters should be pronounced in a high tone with low aspiration.

In the following I have made further list of Tibetan letters which when superscribed or subjoined by another letter make an entirely different sound or a similar sound but with high or low aspiration in contrast to the sound of the base letter.

The following examples are three letters 'ka', 'kha' and 'ga' subjoined by the letter 'y'. It creates a new sound not found in the alphabets.

\[ \text{'kya'} \text{ can be pronounced like that of 'c' in cute.} \]
\[ \text{'khyaa'} \text{ can be pronounced like that of 'kya' but with strong aspiration.} \]
\[ \text{'gya'} \text{ can be pronounced like that of letter 'g' in regulate and not as in gun.} \]

The following examples of 'ka', 'kha', 'ga', and 'ha' subjoined by the letter 'r'.

\[ \text{'tra'} \text{ is pronounced like that of 't' in top. It will be indicated by the 'tr' letter combination in the following chapters.} \]
\[ \text{'thra'} \text{ is pronounced softly like of 't' in triumph. This will be indicated by the 'thr' letter combination.} \]
\[ \text{'dra'} \text{ is pronounced like that of 'd' in drama.} \]
\[ \text{'rha'} \text{ is pronounced like that of 'r' as in rock but with strong aspiration.} \]

The letters 'ka' and 'sza' subjoined by the letter 'l'.

\[ \text{[1]} \text{ [2]} \]
'e' is pronounced like that of 'i' as in late but in a much higher tone and with low aspiration.
'dha' is pronounced like that of 'dh' in dharma.

3
Pronunciation guide-III

In Tibetan words, letters following vowels which comes after a base letter as in 'yodh' (stay) or 'drag' (rock) should not be stressed clearly like 'ck' in the name Jack. These letters are there to indicate how the vowels should be emphasized. The letters 'dh' indicate that you have to pronounce the preceding vowel as if it has 'dh' after it.

Let us take the example of the English word 'bang' (gunfire). Although there is the letter 'g' at the end, we don't pronounce it clearly as we would do in 'drug' or 'dig'. Even then the letter 'g' being there in the first place, we pronounce the word 'bang' in such a way that it automatically comes to our understanding that there is the letter 'g' at the end. Now imagine the same word without the letter 'g' at the end. Then it would be 'ban' which would sound completely different. Similar is the case with the above Tibetan words.

Although a first time language learner will have some difficulty in understanding such subtle features of the Tibetan language, it is best that they pronounce these letters softly.

Mey (ey)-Here emphasize the letter 'e' as in bed or red but without pronouncing 'd'. The stress of 'o' in red should be there in Mey.
Rey (ey)-Same as above.
Pey (ey)-As in Day or May in English.
Yodh (o)-Here the stress on 'o' is important to indicate the presence of 'dh' after it. The 'dh' of course remains silent. Don't pronounce the word as in both.
Tra (ra)-The letter 'r' does not have to be pronounced as is truck or tray. 'Tr' should be pronounced as in take or tame.

3. The 'o' in 'yodh' should be pronounced like the German 'v'.
4

Essential words⁴

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<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
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Plane
Nam-dru

Please6
Ku-chi

Perhaps
Chig-je-na

Rain
Chhar-pa

Read
Log-pa

Restaurant
Sza-khang

Road
Lam

Sit
Dhe-pa

See
Thong-wa

Shop
Tsong-khang

Stand
Lang-wa

Student
Lob-thruk

Sorry
Gon-dhag

Table
Chog-tse

Talk
Ke-cha

Telephone
Kha-par

Time
Dhus-tssodh

Tired
Thang-chhe

Thanks
Thuk-je-chhe

They
Khong-tsso

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6. Used when making a request.

7. The 's' in 'dhus' is silent.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>English</th>
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Note: In the Indian sub-continent where the majority of the Tibetan refugees live, a bus is called 'bas' (a loan word from English) and bus stations are called bas ti-sing. Ti-sing is a corruption of the English word 'station'. In central Tibet however, a bus is called jang-khor and bus depots are called jang-khor bab-tssug. Ri-li also is a corruption of the English word 'rail' and is used by Tibetans in exile.

8. The 'o' in 'go' like 'ô' in German.
First contact

When approaching a stranger for help or information use the following openers:

- Rin-po-che to a lama
- Ku-shok-la to a monk
- Ani-la to a nun
- Gen-la to someone older than you
- Jo-la to someone young (male)
- Acha-la to someone young (female)
- Bu-la to a boy
- Bumo-la to a girl

When approaching someone familiar to you, use 'la' which is an honorific term much like sir after his or her name. For e.g.,

- Tashi-la
- Pema-la

You can also use Ta-shi de-lek which means good luck. This is a good opener to greet both strangers and friends. There are other openers indicating time like:

- Good morning
  nga-dro dhe-lek
- Good afternoon
  nyin-gung dhe-lek

Good evening
gon-dro dhe-lek

Male
pho

- Choephel
  chhos-phel
- Damdul
  dram-dhul
- Dawa
  dha-wa
- Dhargyal
dhar-gyal
- Dhondup
dhon-drup
- Gyalpo
gyal-po
- Gyaltser
  gyal-tsen
- Gyatso
gya-tssao
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Dialogue-I

Good morning
nga-dro dhe-lek
киса
Do you speak English?
khye-rang in-ke shes-gi yo-pey. 9
"киса" киса
Yes but very little.
yag-po shes-gi mey.
киса
What is your name?
khye-rang ming ga-re yin.
"киса" киса
My name is Dhondup.
ngey ming Dhon-dup yin.
киса киса
How are you?
khye-rang ku-szug dhe-po yin-pey.
"киса" киса
I am fine.
nga dhe-po yin.
киса киса
Please come inside.
yar pheb-gang.
киса киса
Thank you.
thuk-je-chhe.
киса

Where are you from?
khye-rang lung-pa ga-nes 10 yin.
"киса" киса
I am from USA.
nga A-ri nes-yin
киса киса
Are you here on vacation?
khye-rang dhey gung-seng la pheb-pa yin-pey.
"киса" киса
Yes.
la-wong.
киса
How long do you plan to stay in India?
khye-rang gya-gar-la yun ring-los 11 shug-ye yin.
"киса" киса
Only one month.
dha-wa chig-rang-chig.
киса киса
Only one month?
dha-wa chig lab-pey.
киса киса
Yes. I want to go to Africa also.
wong. nga Africa ley dro-go yodh.
киса киса
I have to go now.
dha-nga dro-go yodh.
киса киса
Goodbye.
"киса" киса

9. Ke should be pronounced like 'ca' in cage and shes as 'sha' in shade. The 's' that follows the vowel 'o' is silent in shes.
10. The 'nes' in 'nes' should be pronounced like 'te' in less with 'es' silent. Words like 'les' 'ches' etc should be pronounced in a similar way.
11. The 's' in 'los' is silent and the 'o' as 'o' in German.
Dialogue-II

Nice weather
Nam-shis yag-po dhug.
Are you visiting India for the first time?
gya-gar-la pheb-pa theng12 dhang-po yin-ney.
So hot today.
dhey-ring tssa-wa shhe-dra dhug.
Sorry. Say that again.
gon-dhang go-nes lab-dhang.
Nice place.
sa-cha yag-po dhug.
Can you speak more slowly?
khye-rang ke-chha lhodh-lhodh13 she-rog gang.
Yes. It is a nice place.
dhug sa-cha yag-po dhug.
This is my first visit to India.
ngaa gya-gar yong-wa theng dhang-po yin.
Where are you from?
khye-rang lung-pa ga-nes yin-ney.
I am from France.
nga France-nes yin.
Does it rain a lot there?
france-la chhar-pa mang-po gyab-gi re-ney.
No. Why?
ma-rey ga-re yin-na.
Here it rains a lot.
dhey-la chhar-pa mang-po gyab-gi rey.
You must buy an umbrella.
khye-rang nyl-dhug chig nyo-go rey.
What do you do?
khye-rang ga-re je-gi yodh.
Do you work?
chhag-les gang-gi yo-ney.
Yes.
wong.
Where?
ga-wa-la.

---
12. The 'th' in 'theng' should be pronounced like 'th' in theatre.
13. The 'dh' in 'lhodh' is silent. The 'o' as in German 'go'. The 'th' should be pronounced like the usual 't' but with strong aspiration and low tone.
As a teacher in TCV school.
TCV-la ge-gen yin.
And you?
khye-rang.
I am a writer.
nga dheb tsom-pa-po yin.
Where are you staying?
ga-wa shhug-gi yodh.
I am staying at Hotel Tibet.
bodh-gi sza-khang-la dhe-gi yodh.
How is Dharamsala?
dha-ram-sa-la ga-dre'14 dhuug.
It is a very nice place.
sa-cha yag-po dhuug.
There are so many tourists here.
tro-cham-pa mang-po shhe-dra dhuug.15
You meet many people here.
dhe-y-la mi mang-po thug-gi rey.
How long have you been here?
dhe-y-la jeb-nes nyi-ma ga-tsodh chhin-song.

About a week.
dhun-thrag16 chig-tsam chhin-song.
I have to meet someone.
nga mi-chig thug-go yodh.
It was nice meeting you.
khye-rang thug-nes ga-wo shhe-dra jung.
When shall we meet again?
anga nyi yang-kyar ga-dhus thug-ge.
Same place tomorrow.
sang-nyin sa-cha dhi-ga rang-la.
See you.
jel-yong.

Dialogue-III

Hello
ha-lo
Let us go and have tea.
ja thung-ga dro.
Let us go to Om hotel.
om sza-khang-la dro.

14. Dre, Dra and dro in the sentences that follows should be pronounced as 'd' in drama with no emphasis on 'r': Dre as in day, dra as 'da' in dart, and dro as 'do' in doe.
15. Pronounce the 'u' in 'dhuug' as 'oo' in look with the 'g' silent.
16. The 'th' in 'thrag' should be pronounced like 'f' in treat with the 'g' silent.
Can I smoke here?
dhey-la tha-ma thung chhog-gi re-pey.

Of course.
yin-dha-yin.

I want to smoke too.
nga-ye tha-ma thung-gi yin.

Can you please smoke outside?
khye-rang tha-ma chhi-la thung-rog nang.

Sorry.
gon-dhaq.

Are you married?
chhang-sa gyab tssar yin-pey.

No, I am single.
gyab-mey. nga rhang-rhang\(^{17}\) yin.

How old are you?
khye-rang lo ga-tssodh yin.

I am 37.
nga lo so-dhun yin.

You look very young.
khye-rang shhon-shhon thong-gi dhung.

---

17. The 'rh' in 'rang' like normal 'r' with strong aspiration.

Do I?
dhung-ge.

Are you free tomorrow?
sang-nyin les-ka yo-pey.

We will go to Bhagsu Nath tomorrow.
sang-nyin bag-su-nath-la dro.

It is a nice place by the riverside.
dhi chhu thri'\(^{18}\) sa-chha kyi-po chig yo-rey.

There is also a beautiful waterfall.
dhey-la bab-chhu ny\(\text{\`i}ng\)-je-po chig yo-rey.

How far is it?
thag-ring-los yo-rey.

It is about 20 minutes walk.
kar-ma n\(\text{\`i}ng\)-shu gom-pa gyab-na jeb-gi rey.

We will go there tomorrow.
sang-nyin dhey-la dro.

I should go now.
da-nga dro-go yodh.

It is getting dark.
nag-gung ch\(\text{\`i}ng\)-gi dhung.

---

18. The 'thri' in 'thri' should be pronounced like 'r' in treat.
It is too early now.
dhan-ta nga-po rey.
du'u chư gi la
I am coming too.
nga-ye yong-gi yin.
du'u chư gi la
I will pay.
ngul nga tre'go.
du'u chư gi la
Good night.
szim-ja gang-go.
shim-de nhup-ha du'n

Dialogue-IV

What is the matter?
ga-re je-song.
shur-mo rang
Nothing.
ge je-ma-song.
du'u chư gi la
What do you want?
khye-rang la ga-re go-pey?
shur-mo ran-ga-re nga-de
I want to talk to you.
khye-rang nyam-dhu ke-cha she-dhodh yodh.20
shur-mo ran-ga-re nga-de nhup-ha du'n
Why are you angry?
khye-rang khong-thro ga-re je-nes sza-song.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de

You are late.
khye-rang chhi-po |eb-song.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
I am in a hurry.
nga drel-wa yodh.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
I am feeling cold.
nga khyag-gi dhung.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
I am tired.
nga ka-les khag-song.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
I am disappointed.
nga lo pham-song.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
I can't do this.
dhi-nga je thub-sa ma-rey.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
Do you understand me?
ha-go song-vey.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
Perfectly.
go yag-po tssodh-song.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
Do you know this person?
khye-rang mi-dhi ngo shes-gi yo-pey
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
Not very well.
ngo yag-po shes-gi mey.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de
Please write this down.
ku-chi, dhi dri-rog gang.
shur-mo rang kho-du nga-de

19. The 'tr' in 'tre' should be pronounced as 't' in Tibet.
20. The 'dh' in yodh and dhodh is silent. The 'o' as in German 'o'.

34
What is the meaning of this?
dhi ga-re rey.
You should leave now.
dha khye-rang pheb-rog pang.

6
Eating and Drinking
Dialogue-I

Are you hungry?
tog-gi dhug-ge.
Yes. Let us eat somewhere.
wong. kha-lag sza-ga dro.
Where shall we go?
ga-wa dro-ge.
Let us go to Tibet restaurant.
bodh-gi sza-khang-la dro.
How is the food there?
kha-lag ga-dre yo-rey.
It is excellent.
yag-po shhe-dra yo-rey.
What do you want?
ga-re chho-di-gi yin-pey.
I love rice.
nga dre-la ga-po yodh.
I don't like meat.
nga sha-la ga-po mey.

I am thirsty.
nga kha kom-gi dhug.

Have a coke.
coke thung-nang.

I will have a beer.
nga-la bi-yar chig tre-rog nang.

We don't serve beer here.
nga-tsso bi-yar tsong-gi mey.

I will have a milk tea.
nga-la ja-chig tre-rog gang.

Do you serve Tibetan food?
bo-dh-pei kha-lhag szo-gi yo-pey.

Can we have the menu.
kha-lag ming-shung ton-rog nang.

We serve Tibetan food.
bo-dh-pei kha-lhag yodh.

Have thukpa.
thuk-pa chhodh-dhang.

I am a vegetarian.
nga sha sza-gi mey.

We have special vegetable thukpa.
nga tsso tsel-thukpa mig-sel yodh.

Can I have a glass of water?
chu phor-ba gang tre-rog nang.

Do you have Tibetan butter tea?
ob-dh-ja yo-pey.

Yes, but it will take some time.
yodh. yi-nay dhus-tsoch tog-tsam gor-gi rey.

The bill, please.
nugz-in tre-rog nang.

Keep the change.
nugl hag-ma khye-rang nyar-ang.

Dialogue-II

Hello! You must be very happy.
ha-lo. khye-rang kyi-po shhe-dra yo-gi rey.

Why?
ga-re je-nes.

You have been promoted.
khye-rang go-nes phar-shag.

Let us celebrate tonight.
dhe-ring gon-dhag nga-tsso kyi-po tang-go.
Where?
ga-wa-la.
In Hotel Tibet.
bodh-gi sza-khang nang-la.
We will meet at 6 pm today.
gon-dhag chhu-tssodh druk-pa-la thug-go.
Is everyone here?
mitsang-ma jeb dhug-ge.
Yes.
dhug.
Give me one large whiskey peg.
nga-la whiskey peg chhe-wa chig tre-log nang.
I will have a beer.
nga bi-yar thung-gi yin.
I want to drink chang.
nga chhang thung-gi yin.
Go to MajnuKatila.
Man-ju-ti-lar gyug.
Where is the liquor shop?
a-rak tssong-khang ga-wa yo-rey.
Near the bus stand.
bas ti-sing thri-la yo-rey.

Give me a bottle of whiskey.
whiskey shel-dham chig tre-log nang.
Which one?
ga-dhi.
Scotch whiskey.
scotch whiskey.
How much?
gong ga-tssodh rey.
Rs. 550.
gor nga-gya nga-chu.
Thanks.
thuk-je chhe.

VOCABULARY
Alcohol
a-rak
Bread
bag-leb
Butter
mar
Boiled
khol-ma
Beer
bi-yar
Breakfast
shhog-ja
Chair
kup-kyag
Chopstick
kho-tse
Cold
drang-mo
Curd
shho
Cup
phor-pa
Dry
kam-po
Egg
go-nga
Fresh
sos-pa
Fried
ngos-kyog
Food
kha-lag
Garlic
gog-pa
Glass
shel-phor
Hot
tssa-wo.
Milk
wo-ma
Meat
sha
Plate
dher-ma
Oily
shhag-zi
Potato
shho-gog
Restaurant
sza-khang
Rice
dre
Salt
tssa
Salad
drang-tssel
Work and Play

Dialogue I

Where do you work?
khre-rang chha-les ga-wa nang-gi yodh.
I work in a factory.
I work in a factory.
naga sao-drey nang lea-ka je-gi yodh.

When do you go to work?
chha-les nang-ga ga-dhus pheb-gi yodh.
I go to work at 8 a.m. in the morning.
shho-ga chhu-tsood gyo pa la.

When do you reach your workplace?
chha-les nang-sar ga-dhus leb-gi dhug.
I reach my workplace by 9 a.m.
choo-tsood gya-pa-la leb-gi dhug.

It is 15 minutes by bus.
bas nang-le dro-na kar-ma cho-o gya gor-gi rey.

Note: Dinner is called gon-dhag kha-hag and lunch nyin-gung kha-lag.
Kha-lag means food and gon-dhag and nyin-gung means evening and
daytime. Bar is called a-rak thung-su. It means a place where one can
consume alcohol.
I work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
nga shhog-ge chhu-tssodh gu-pa nes nga-pa bar les-ka je-gi yodh.
Isn't there a lunch break?
nyin-gung kha-lag gi bar-seng yo ma-re-pey.
It is from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
nyin-gung chhu-tssodh dhang-po nes nyi-pa bar rey.
How much is your salary?
khye-rang la ja-cha ga-tssodh ra-gi dhug.
It is Rs.4000 per month.
dha-wa-la gor shhi-long ra-gi dhug.
Dialogue-II

We work in the same office.
nga-ni les-khung chig-pa rey.
She works in a school.
mo lobs-drey nang les-ka je-gi yo-rey.
She is very busy.
mo-rang les-key drel-wa shhe-dra yo-rey.
He works hard.
kho-rang les-ka hur-po yo-rey.
I am unemployed.
nga les-mey yin
My sister is a teacher.
ngey a-chag ge-gen rey.
He is lazy.
kho-rang les-ka gyl-po yo-ma-rey.
I don't work on weekends.
nga sza pen-pa dhang nyi-mar les-ka je-gi mey.
Dialogue-III

Do you like your job?
les-ka ga-dre dhug.
Yes. I do.
yag-po dhug.
Is it interesting?
les-ka kyi-po dhug-ge.
No, but it pays a lot.
min-dhug. yi-nay la-cha yag-po dhug.
How is your boss?
khye-rang gi u-zin ga-dre dhug.
He is a very kind man.
kho-rang mi szang-po rey.
How are your colleagues?
khye-rang gi les-rog ga-dre dhug.
I don't talk to them.
nga kho-tsso nyam ke-cha shes-gi mey.
Why?
ga-re je-nes.
They are all animals.
kho-tsso tssang-ma sem-chen rey.
Animals?
sem-chen.
I work in a zoo.
nga chen-szig-khang nang les-ka je-gi yodh.

Dialogue-IV

How do you spend your Sundays?
khye-rang sza nyl-mar ga-re nang-gi yodh.
I go for swimming.
nga chhu gel-ga dro-gi yodh.
What about you?
khye-rang.
I play football.
nga kang-tse po-lo tse-gi yodh.
Where do you play football?
kang-pol ga-wa tse-gi yodh.

At the school's playground.
job-drey thang-la.
I love basketball.
nga lag-tse po-lo ga-wo yodh.
I also love basketball.
nga-ye lag-pol ga-wo yodh.
We will organise a basketball match this Sunday.
nga-tsso sza nyl-mar lag-pol dren-dhur chig go-drig je-go.
We don't have any uniforms.
nga-tsso-la drig-chhe mey.
You can wear white t-shirts.
khye-rang tssso gan-ji kar-po gon.
Do we need to wear halfpants?
ha-pen gon-go re-pey.
You can if you want.
gon-na drig-gi rey.

Dialogue-V

Where do you plan to spend your annual holiday this year?
khye-rang tssso dha-lo gung-seng ga-wa tang-tais 21 yodh.
Where do you play football?
kang-pol ga-wa tse-gi yodh.

21 The 's' in 'tais' is silent.
We are going to Tibet.

nga-tssto bodd-la dro-tsis yodh.

When?

gal-dhus.

At the end of May.

chi-dha nga-pey dha-jug-la.

It is good to visit Tibet during summer.

bodd-la yar-ka dro-na yag-po yo-rey.

We are also going to spend a week in Nepal.

nga-tssto bel-yul-la dhun-thrag chig dhe-tsis yodh.

Are you planning to climb Mt. Everest?

khiy-rang tssso Jo-mo lang-ma gang zags-tsis yo-pey.

Yes and that too naked.

dhug-log mey-nes zags-tsis yodh.

We also plan to do some cycling in Nepal.

bel-yul-la khang-khor tang-nes chham-chham dro-tsis yodh.

Nepal is very hot during summer.

yar-ka bel-yul-la tsssa-wa shhe-dra yo-rey.

We are not going to visit China.

nga-tssto gya-nag-la dro-tsis mey.

We might go to India.

nga-tssto chig-je-na gya-gar-la dro-gl yin.

Perhaps we will hire a car.

chig-je-na nga-tssto mo-tra 22 je-tsis yodh.

VOCABULARY

Occupation

tssso-les

Teacher

gan-gen

Reporter

sar-godh-pa

Photographer

par-pa

Barber

tre-shhar

Businessman

tssong-pa

Cook

ma-jen

Secretary

dru-gyl

22 Mo-tra is a corruption of the English word 'motor'. 'Tra' is pronounced like 't' in take.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Translator</td>
<td>ke-gyur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driver</td>
<td>kha-lo-wa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peon</td>
<td>yig-kyel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountant</td>
<td>tsis-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
<td>ngul-nyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>trim-tsodh-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>tsom-drig-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>men-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>em-ji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postman</td>
<td>drag-kyel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td>mo-tra szo-khen</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workplace</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>ngul-khang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop</td>
<td>tssong-khang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factory</td>
<td>szo-dra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>yig-tssang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>job-dra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td>thrim-khang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>sza-khang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>pe-zodh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Writers are called dheb tsom-pa-po. Dheb means books and tsom-pa-po means writer. Similarly, Librarians are called pe-zodh do-dham-pa. Pe-zodh means library and do-dham-pa means someone who is in charge of the library.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weather nam-shis</td>
<td>ཐུ་རུ་མ་ཞི་ས་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry</td>
<td>རུ་རུ་མ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>རང་མོ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot</td>
<td>རང་པོ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet</td>
<td>རྟོ་པ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy rainfall</td>
<td>རྟློ་པ་ཆུང་པོ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy snowfall</td>
<td>རྟློ་མང་པོ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freezing</td>
<td>རྟོ་བུ་ཆང་རང་མོ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunny</td>
<td>རྟོ་མ་ཡང་པོ་ཤར་བ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humidity</td>
<td>རྟོ་བུ་ཚླས།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fog</td>
<td>ཤུ་པ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>windy</td>
<td>ཤུང་ཚྲུང་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overcast</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clear sky</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hail</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitch-black</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daylight</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weather forecast</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ་གཏན་དབུ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seasons nam-dhus</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>སྣ་མ་མི་ལྟ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tibetan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>ཉིན་ཆོས།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>བཀྲུང་ཆོས།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>སྐོར་ཚྦོད།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>སྐྲིེའི་ཆད།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minute</td>
<td>སྐྲིེའི་ཟླ་།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hour</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་ཚྦོད།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་བུ་པ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་གུང་།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་དྲོ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་ཉིམ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Night</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་དྲེག་པ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yesterday</td>
<td>དངོས་གོང་།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>དེབ་རིང་།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
<td>སང་དྲི།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day after tomorrow</td>
<td>སང་དྲི།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last week</td>
<td>དོགས་ཀྱི་དོན་དགེ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Next sunday</td>
<td>སྐྲིེའི་ཕུག་པའི།</td>
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<tr>
<td>This year</td>
<td>ཚ་ལོ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་གུལ་གྱི་གྱི།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediately</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་དོང་སྲོང་།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right now</td>
<td>དངོས་ཤ་དངེ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One o'clock</td>
<td>སྐྲོ་ཉིམ་དངེ།</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Twelve noon
nyin-gung chhu-tssodh chu-nyi
ཞིན་་ངུང་འུ་སྐོ་བདོད་ཕུ་-འི
Twelve midnight
gon-dhang chhu-tssodh chu-nyi
མོང་དངང་ཕུ་སྐོ་བདོད་ཕུ་-འི
Quarter past seven
dhun-dang kar-ma cho-nga
དུན་དངང་དགར་མ་ཆོས་ང་།
Half past eight
gye dhang chhe-ka
གཡེ་དངང་ཆོས་ཀ་།
Quarter to nine
gu-pa szim-par kar-ma cho-nga
གུ་པ་སིདོད་པར་བཀའ་མ་ཆོས་ང་།
Five past three
sum dhang kar-ma nga
ཨུམ་དངང་བཀའ་མ་ང་།
Twenty to four
shhi-pa szim-par kar-ma nyi-shu
ཤི་པ་སིདོད་པར་བཀའ་མ་དུ་ཤུ་།
A minute to midnight
gon-dhang chhu-tsoodh chu-nyi szim-pa kar-ma chig
མོང་དངང་ཕུ་སྐོ་བདོད་ཕུ་-འི་སིདོད་པར་བཀའ་མ་དུ་ལྷོ་།
Seven o'clock in the morning
shhog-ge chhu-tssodh dhun-pa
ཨུ་གུ་བལ་ཕུ་སྐོ་བདོད་དགུན་པ་།
Two in the afternoon
nyin-gung chhu-tssodh nyi-pa
ཞིན་ངུང་ཕུ་སྐོ་བདོད་བ་-པ་

Half past six in the evening
gon-dhang chhu-tssodh druk dhang chhe-ka
མོང་དངང་ཕུ་སྐོ་བདོད་དྲ་ཕུ་དངང་ཆོས་ཀ་།

Days of the week
sza

Monday
sza dha-wa

Tuesday
sza mig-mar

Wednesday
sza lhak-pa

Thursday
sza phur-bu

Friday
sza pa-sang

Saturday
sza pen-pa

Sunday
sza ngyi-ma
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Tibetan Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>January</td>
<td>chi-dha dhag-po</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>chi-dha ngyi-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>chi-dha sum-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>chi-dha shhi-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>chi-dha nga-pa</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>chi-dha druk-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>chi-dha dhun-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>chi-dha gye-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>chi-dha gu-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>chi-dha chu-pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>chi-dha chu-chig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>chi-dha chu-nyi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. Chi-dha (literally outside month) means months according to the western calendar. The Tibetan calendar months are called both-chha.
8
The family

Dialogue-I

Do you have a photo of your family?
khye-rang nang-mi par yo-pey.
�ུ་རང་ནང་མི་པར་བོད་པ།
Yes. Here it is.
yodh. dhey-la szig-dhang.
ཞེས་དེའི་ཚོགས་ཚང་།
Where are your parents?
khye-rang gi pha-ma nyi ga-wa.
ཛྭུ་རང་གི་ཕ་མ་གྱི་བོ་བ་།
These are my parents.
dhi-nyi ngey pha-ma rey.
དྷུ་ནུའི་ངེས་ཕ་མ་རེ་།
They look so young.
shhon-shhon rey dhug-ga.
ཨེ་ི་ི་རྫོང་རྫོང་རྫོང་།
This photo is quite old.
par dhi gyin-pa rey.
པར་རྫོང་གོང་པ་རེ་།
What does your father do?
pa-la chhang-les ga-re nang-gl yo-rey.
པ་ལེ་ཆོང་གེས་གང་གི་བོད་པ།
He is retired. He used to be a soldier.
khong ge-yol rey. non-ma mag-mi rey.
སྟོང་གེའི་ལེ་འོ། ། གཞུང་མ་དམ་མི་རེ།

Who is that old man?
po-la dhi su-rey.
པ་ལེ་དོན་རེ་སུ་རེ་།
That is my grandfather.
dhi ngey po-po-la rey.
ཞེས་བབ་པོ་བོ་ལ་རེ་།
Who is he holding?
khong su-yi lag-pa szin-nes dhe dhug-ge.
ཆོང་ུ་ཡི་ལེག་པ་ཟིན་ཐེ་འཇིག་རྒྱས་།
That is my kid sister.
ngey sing-mo ohhung-wa rey.
ངེས་ཉི་མོ་ཞིབ་ཧོང་བ་རེ་།
Don't you have any aunt?
khye-rang la su-mo me-pey.
ཛྭུ་རང་ལ་སུ་མོ་མེ་པེ་།
No, but I have one uncle.
mey. yi-nay a-gu chig yodh.
མེད་ཡི་ནའི་ག་གི་ཡོད་།
He is not in this photo.
khong par-dhi nang-la yo-ma-rey.
སྟོང་པར་རྫོང་ནང་ལ་ཡོ་མ་རེ།

Dialogue-II

Are you married?
khye-rang chhang-sa gyab-tssar yin-pey.
ཛྭུ་རང་ཆུང་ས་གྱི་བར་ཡིི་ཕྱེ།
Yes. Sir.
lal-wong.
ལྷ་བོ་།
Who is your husband?
khye-rang gi khyo-ga su-rey.
ཛྭུ་རང་གི་ཆོས་ག་སུ་རེ་།
Passang is my husband.
ngay khyo-ga Passang rey.
Do you have any children.
khye-rang ngyi-lam thu-gu yo-pey.
We have two sons.
ngay ngyi-lam bu-ngyi yodh.
No daughters?
byo mo pey.
No. Unfortunately.
mya lo pham-pa chig-lam.
How old are your children?
khye-rang ngyi-gi thu-gu lo ga-tssodh rey.
One is 8 and one is 11.
chig lo gye-chang chig lo chu-chig rey.
Do you spend any time with your children?
thu-gu ngyam-duh tshus-tssodh kyel-gi yo-pey.
I don't get the time.
ngay tshus-tssodh ra-gi min-dugh.

**Dialogue-III**

Where do you live?
khye-rang ga-wa shug-gi yodh.

---

I live at home with my parents.
nga pha-ma ngyam-duh nang-la dhe-gi yodh.
Where is your house?
khye-rang gi khang-pa ga-wa yo-rey.
It is on the road to the library.
pe-zodg dro-sey lam-lam yo-rey.
Do you have a garden?
khye-rang nang-la dmum-ra yo-pey.
No. We have some flowers in pot.
mey yi-nay za-ma nang me-tok kha-shes yodh.
How big is your house?
khang-pa chhe-los yodh.
There are six rooms.
khang-mig druk yo-rey.
How is the water supply?
chu yag-po jeb-gi dugh-ge.
It is okay.
chu yag-po jeb-gi dugh.

**Dialogue-IV**

Let us go to my house.
ngay nang-la dro.
Isn't it locked?
go gyab yo ma-re-pay.

The key is with our neighbour.
dhe-mig khyim-tsse-la yo-rey.

Where are your parents?
khye-rang gi pha-ma nyi ga-wa yo-rey.

They left for Delhi.
khong-tsso dhi-lir dro-song.

I am all alone.
nga chig-po yin.

I want to eat something.
nga chig sza-dhodh dhuq.

Go in the kitchen.
thab-tssang nang-la gyug.

Where is the bathroom?
thrus\textsuperscript{24}-khang ga-wa yo-rey.

It is behind the kitchen.
thab-tssang gyab-la yo-rey.

Switch on the light.
dhang-po jog-par.

---

24. The ' in 'thrus' is silent.
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<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
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<td>Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>thru-gu</td>
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<td>Grandfather</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>po-po</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grandmother</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mo-mo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bu</td>
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<td>bu-mo</td>
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<td>Uncle (p*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>agu</td>
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<td>Uncle (m*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>a-shhang</td>
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<tr>
<td>a-ni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aunty (m)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>su-mo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brother (o*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>jo-lag</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brother (y*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>chung-po</td>
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<td>Sister (o)</td>
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<td>a-chag</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sister (y)</td>
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<td>chung-mo</td>
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<td>Nephew</td>
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<td>tssa-wo</td>
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<td>Niece</td>
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<td>tssa-mo</td>
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</table>

p=paternal, m=maternal, y=younger, o=older

**VOCABULARY-HOME AND AROUND**

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<td>tha-ma dhab-sa</td>
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<tr>
<td>nyel-thri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blanket</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>nyel-chhe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box
gam
Broom
chhag-ma
Bulb
shel-tog
Candle
yang-la
Comb
gyug-she
Curtain
thra-yol
Door
go
Envelope
yig-kog
Electricity
log
Fire
me
Flask
ja-dham
Flashlight
log-shhu
Frying pan
tsse-lang
Home
nang
House
khang-pa
Ink
nag-tssa
Kettle
ku-ti
Kichchen
thab-tssang
Knife
dri
Ladle
kyog
Lamp
sa-shhu
Litter
gy-tig
Match
tsag-dra
Mirror
shel-go
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<tr>
<td>Soap</td>
<td>དབྱིབས་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toothbrush</td>
<td>དྲུག་གུན་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toothpaste</td>
<td>མཚན་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Window</td>
<td>གི་གུང་</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 Doing the shopping

**Dialogue-I**

Where can I buy a toothpaste?
so- men nyo-sa ga-wa yo-rey.

It is in that shop.
tssong-khang phi-ge-la yo-rey.

Do you sell toothpaste?
khye-rang la so-men tsong-ye yo-ney.

Yes sir, we have different kind of toothpaste.
la-yodh, so-men dra-mi-drayodh.

Can I have one Colgate toothpaste?
nga-la kol-gate so-men tre-rog gang.

Big or small?
chhe-chhung gang-go.

Medium.

How much?
gong ga-tssodh rey.
Rs. 35
gor sum-chu so-nga.
Why is it so expensive?
gong chhen-po dhi-dre ga-re rey.
I said rupees not dollars.
gya-gar ngul lab-yin. dro-lar lab-mey.

Dialogue-II
I want to buy a shirt.
nga todh-thung chig nyo-go yodh.
We will go to that big store.
tssong-khang chhen-po pha-gi nang-la dro.
Can you show me that red shirt?
todh-thung mar-po dhi ton-reg nang.
It is too small.
bodh-dhe chhung-dra shhag.
Try this.
dhi ta-chang.
It looks old.
dhi nying-pa dra-po dhus.
May I try this on.
dhi ta-na drig-gi re-rey.

How much is the price?
gong ga-tssodh rey.
Rs. 500. It is the best quality.
gor nga-gya. gyu-cha yag-shos dhi-rey.
Will you give discount if I buy two shirts?
todh-thung ngyi nyos-na gong chag-gi re-rey.
No.
chag-gi ma-rey.

Dialogue-III
There is a hole on this shirt.
todh-thung dhi re-shhag
Where?
sha-wa-la.
Here. At the back.
dhey. gyab-la.
Let us go and return this.
dhi phar log-ga dro.
Sir. There is a hole on this shirt.
Take another shirt.
todh-thung shhen-pa len.
We want our money back.
ngul tssur tre-rog nang.

Okay. We will change this shirt for that green one.
a-les. dhey-dra yin-na todh-thung jang-gu pha-gi tre-rog nang.

Thank you.
thuk-je-chhe.

VOCABULARY

Bag
lo-phe\textsuperscript{25}

Big
chhen-po

Bigger
chhe-wa

Biggest
chhe-shos

Bunch
chhag-pa

Buy
nyos-pa

Change
sil-ma

Discount
chhe-chag

Empty
tong-pa

Factory
szo-dra

Few
nyung-nyung

Full
gang

Half
chhe-ka

Handmade
lag-szos

Heavy
jdh-po

Length
ring-tsse

Light
yang-po

\textsuperscript{25} The 'e' in 'phe' like 'e' in red.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>རྣམ་དཔ་།</td>
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<td>Rice</td>
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<td>Wheat</td>
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<td>Apple</td>
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Banana
ke-la

Coconut
be-ta

Dates
kha-sur

Mango
am

Peach
kham-bu

Pear
li

Pomegranate
siu

Drinks
thung-rig

Alcohol
a-rak

Black tea
tssa-ja

Cold drinks
chhu drang-mo

Milk
wo-ma

Tea
ja

Water
chhu

Materials
gyu-chha

Aluminium
ha-yang

Brass
rak

Bronze
li-ma

Ceramics
za-chhes

Copper
szang

Coral
ju-ru

Cotton
trin-bel
Crystal
shel-szug

Fur
tssa-ru

Glass
shel

Gold
ser

Iron
chag

Ivory
ba-so

Jade
zul

Leather
ko-wa

Magnet
ngar-chag

Metal
chag-rig

Onyx
szi

Paper
shu-gu

Pearl
mu-tig

Rubber
gylg

Silk
gos-chen

Silver
ngul

Steel
dhang-chag

Stone
dho

Torquoise
yu

Wood
shing

Wool
bel

Stores & services
tssong-khang

Antique
na-rgos

Bakery
bag-leb
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<tr>
<th><strong>Bank</strong></th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Barber</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Bookshop</strong></td>
<td>dheb tssong-khang</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clothing store</strong></td>
<td>dhug-log tssong-khang</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cobbler</strong></td>
<td>ham szo-khen</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Electrician</strong></td>
<td>log szo-khen</td>
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<td><strong>Fruit store</strong></td>
<td>shing-tog tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Grocery</strong></td>
<td>tssel tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Jewellery store</strong></td>
<td>gyen-chha tssong-khang</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Laundary</strong></td>
<td>thran-thru gyab-khen</td>
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<td><strong>Liquor shop</strong></td>
<td>a-rak tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Market</strong></td>
<td>throm</td>
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<td><strong>Musical instrument store</strong></td>
<td>rol-chha tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Newstand</strong></td>
<td>tssag-pa tsong-sa</td>
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<td><strong>Shoe store</strong></td>
<td>ham tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Tailor</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Toy shop</strong></td>
<td>tse-chhes tssong-khang</td>
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<td><strong>Watch maker</strong></td>
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**Numbers**

| **ang-drang**         | ༡༡༡༠༡༠། ༡༠༠༠༡ |
| 0 | je-kor          | ཐེ་ཁོར་ | 21 | nyi-shu tsa-chig | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་ཤྲུ་ཆིག་ | 61 |
| 1 | chig           | གཞིག་     | 22 | nyi-shu tsa-nyi  | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུ་ | 62 |
| 2 | nyi            | གཞིག་     | 23 | nyi-shu tsa sum  | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུ་ | 63 |
| 3 | sum            | ཤུན་སྦྱོན་ | 24 | nyi-shu tsa-shhi | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུ་ཤྲུཤྲྱ་ | 64 |
| 4 | shhi           | སྦྱོན་ | 30 | sum-chu         | ཤུན་སྦྱོན་ | 65 |
| 5 | nga            | མགྲ་ | 35 | sum-chu so-nga  | ཤུན་མགྲ་མགྲ་ | 66 |
| 6 | druk           | ཤུན་ | 36 | sum-chu so-druk | ཤུན་མགྲ་མགྲ་ | 67 |
| 7 | dhun           | ཤུན་ | 37 | sum-chu so-dhun | ཤུན་མགྲ་མགྲ་ | 68 |
| 8 | gye            | མགྲ་ | 40 | shhi-chu        | རྒྱ་ཆུ་ | 69 |
| 9 | gu             | མགྲ་ | 48 | shhi-chu shhee-gye | རྒྱ་ཆུ་ཤྲེ་གྱེ་ | 70 |
|10 | chu            | མགྲ་ | 49 | shhi-chu shhee-gu | རྒྱ་ཆུ་ཤྲེ་གྱེ་ | 71 |
|20 | nyi-shu        | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་ | 50 | nga-chu         | སྒྲུ་ཤུ་མགྲ་ | 72 |
Health

Dialogue-1

How are you?
khye-rang dhe-po yin-ney.
I am fine. Thank you.
dhe-po yin, thuk-je-chhe.
I don't feel well.
dhe-po min-dhug.
I have a slight headache.
go tog-tam no gi dhug.
What happened?
ga-re je-song.
I couldn't sleep last night.
dhang-gong nyi-khug ma-song.
You should see the doctor.
khye-rang em-ji-la ton-go rey.
I am seeing Dr. Dhondup at 10 a.m. tomorrow.
chhu-tsoodh chu-pa-la em-ji dron-drub thug-ye yin.
You are running high fever.
khye-rang la tssa-wa chhen-po dhug.

Take this pill every 6 hours.
men dhi chhu-tssodh druk-re-la re-re sza.

Dialogue-II

Are you alright?
ge-dre dhug.

I have sprained my ankle.
ngay kang-par tssig-chus song.

I have broken my leg.
ngay kang-pa chhang-song.

I hurt my head.
ngay go dchab-song.

Take him to the hospital.
men-khang thri-gyug.

Call the ambulance.
men-khang mo-tra ke-tang

Is he breathing?
kho ug tang-gi dhug-ge.

It is an emergency.
dhi ze-drag-po dhug.

Get a stretcher.
mii khyer-sa chig khyer-shog.

Carry him on your back.
ko kho khye-rang gi gel-par khyer-rog.

Don't worry.
sem-threl ma-nang.

Dialogue-III

Are you ill?
na gi dhug-ge.

I have tuberculosis.
ti bi na gi dhug.

Aren't you staying at the hospital.
men khang-la dhe gi me pey.

I just came to buy some fruits.
nga shing-tog nyo la yong wa yin.

You should eat well.
ha lag yag po sza go rey.

It is so boring to eat so many medicines.
men mang po sza ye myop to shhe po dhug.

Don't you also have to take many injections?
kha bong po gyab go ma re pey.
Twice every day.
nyi-ma chig-la theng-nyi.
It must be difficult.
ka-les khang-po yo-gi-rey.
life
I love it.
kyi-po dhug.
Dialogue-IV

What happened?
ge-re je-song
There has been a car accident.
mo-tra dhab-shag.
Did anybody die?
mi shi dhug-ge.
No. Fortunately
min-dhung, tab yag-ga-la.
The driver's leg is broken.
mo-tra tong-khen kang-pa chhang-shag.
Who else are with him?
shhen su-dhung.
There is a mother and a child in the back seat.
gyab-la a-ma chig-dhang thru-gu chig-dhung.
The mother is unconscious.
a-ma dhi dren-pa thhor-shag.
The child is okay.
thru-gu thhang-thhang re-shag.
Try to relax.
lhodh-lhodh nga-n.

VOCABULARY-I

Appetite
dhang-ga
Asthma
ug-sag na-tssa
Allergic
ma-thros-pa
Boil
nyen-bur
Blood
thrag
Blood pressure
thrag-shedh
Bandages
ma-tri
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<td>Cough</td>
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<td>Cotton wool</td>
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<td>རྡུ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprain</td>
<td>མཛོད་</td>
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<tr>
<td>tssig chhus-pa</td>
<td>བསྟོན་བརྡ་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgeon</td>
<td>བདེ་སྐོན་ཅོས་</td>
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<tr>
<td>shag-chos em-ji</td>
<td>བདེ་སྡོད་བཅོས་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toothache</td>
<td>དབྱུང་དྲག</td>
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<tr>
<td>so na-wa</td>
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<td>Temperature</td>
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<tr>
<td>tssa-wa</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
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<tr>
<td>tssa-wa ta-chhe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vomit</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kyug-pa</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**VOCABULARY-II**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parts of the body</td>
<td>ཀན་པའི་དབྱུང་</td>
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<tr>
<td>lus-gi chha-shes</td>
<td>གི་ནགས་བཛུགས་</td>
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<td>Abdomen</td>
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<td>Ankle</td>
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<td>bol-gong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arm</td>
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<td>lag-ngar</td>
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<td>chhen-gung</td>
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<td>todh-gel</td>
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<td>Backbone</td>
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<td>gel-tssig</td>
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<td>Belly</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<tr>
<td>to-wa</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<td>Blood</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Body</td>
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<td>szug-po</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bone</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ru-gog</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<td>Brain</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<tr>
<td>je-pa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
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<tr>
<td>nu-ma</td>
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<td>Calf</td>
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<tr>
<td>nyab-ril</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheek</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khur-tssos</td>
<td>འབྲུག་</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chest  drang-khog
Chin   ма-ли
Collarbone  jing-tssig
Ear    am-chog
Earlobe na-shel
Elbow dru-mo
Eye   ми
Eyebrow mjig-szi
Eyelid mjig-pag
Eyelash mjig-pu
Face  dhong
Finger zu-gu

Finger nail  сен-мо
Foot/feet  канг-па
Gums  со-ша
Hair(head) tra
Hair (body) pu
Hand lag-pa
Heart nyin
Heel ting-ga
Hip chi-go
Jaw dram-pa
Knee pi-mo
Leg kang-pa
Lip
chhu-to

Mouth
kha

Navel
te-wa

Nose
na-gu

Nostril
na-khung

Palm
lag-thil

Rib
tsig-ma

Shoulder
pung-pa

Skin
pag-pa

Skull
kab-li

Sole
kang-thil

Stomach
dro-khog

Temple
yar-khung

Thigh
ja-sha

Throat
mig-pa

Thumb
thhe-wo

Tongue
tche-le

Waist
kye-pa

Wrist
lag-tssig
11
Room hunting

Dialogue-I

Do you know where I can find a room?
gen-tshang yar-sa ga-wa ra-gi rey.

Where is it?
ga-wa yo-rey.

It is near the bus stand.  
bas til-sing dram yo-rey.

Is this Hotel Tibet?
dhi bodh-gi dron-khang re-pey.

Are there any vacant rooms?
dhe-yi khang-mig tong-pa yo-rey.

Yes.  
yo-rey.

Do you want a double room?
khye-rang la mi-nyi nyel-khang go-pey.

How much is the room rent?
khang-la ga-tssodh rey.

It is Rs.450 per day,  
nyin-ber gor shi-stya nga-chu rey.

That is too expensive.  
gong chee-dra-shhag.

Sorry. We don't have any cheaper rooms.  
gon-dhaq nga-lssor dhi-les gong khe-vey khang-pa re-

Where can I find cheaper rooms?
khang-mig khe-wa ga-wa ra-gi rey.

Go to Shangrila hotel.  
shang-ri-la dron-khang-la.

Dialogue-II

Are there any vacant rooms?  
khang-pa long-pa yo-pey.

We have two vacant rooms.  
khang-mig tong-pa nyi-yodh.

How much is the rent?  
khang-la ga-tssodh rey.
Can I have the keys of my room?
ngey khang-mig gi dhe-mig tre-rog gang.
Can I have the keys of my room?
ngey khang-mig gi dhe-mig tre-rog gang.
Here they are.
dhe-mig dhey-la yodh.

Dialogue-III

Can you help me find a place to stay?
nga-la nes-tssang yar-sa chig tssel-rog gang.
There are so many hotels here.
dhey-la dron-khang mang-po yo-rey.
I don't want to stay in a hotel.
nga dron-khang nang dhe-dhodh mey.

Why?
ga-re je-nes.

I plan to stay here for a year.
dhey-la lo-chig dhe-tsis yodh.

Doing what?
ga-re je-tsis yodh.

I want to study Buddhism.
nang-chhos jang-ye yodh.

You should stay in the villages.
khya-rang drong-seb nang-la dhe-go-rey.
Are they safe?
drong-seb ten-po yo-re-pey.

Yes and they are cheap too.
yo-rey. gong-yang khe-po yo-rey.

I want to stay near the Tibetan library.
nga pe-zodh-khang dram-la dhe-dhodh yodh.

There are families who rent out rooms.
nang-mi kha-shes so-sos ger-gi khang-pa yar-gi rey.

I will stay in one of them.
nga dhey-dre khang-pa chig-nang dhe-gi yin.

Will they reduce the rent if I stay for a year?
lo-chig dhe-na khang-la chag-gi re-pey.

I don’t know. Maybe.
ha-go ma-song. chig-je-na chag sidd-pa rey.

Dialogue-IV

Where is the hotel manager’s office?
dron-khang gi gen-zin ga-wa yo-rey.

Why?
ga-re je-song.

I have to speak to him.
khos-nyam ke-cha she-go yodh.

You can register your complaints here.
sam-chhar yodh-na dhey-la lab-na drig-gi rey.

The fan in my room is not working.
ngey khang-mig gi lung-khor dro-gi mi-dhug.

The common toilets are very dirty.
sang-chodh zor-po shhe-po dhub.

I need more blankets.
nga-la nyel-chhe kha-shes go.

There is no towel in my bathroom.
ngey thru-khang nang-la a-chor min-dhug.

Can I leave my room keys here.
ngey khang-mig-gi dhe-mig dhey-la shhag-na drig-gi re-pey.

When is check-out time?
ga-dhus thon-go rey.

Checkout time is 12 noon.
nyin-gung chhu-tssodh chu-nyi-la thon-go rey.

I want to shift to another room.
nga khang-mig shhen-la po-gi yin.

Where is the landlord?
khang-dhag ga-wa chhin-song.

Can I pay my room rent next month?
khang-la dha-wa je-ma tre-na drig-gi re-pey.
I will pay six months room rent in advance.

dha-wa druk-gi khang-la ngon-la tre-gi yin

VOCABULARY

Advance

nga-dhon

Bag

to-phe

Bed

nyel-thri

Cheap

gong khe-wa

Checkout time

thon-ye dhus-tssodh

Clean

tsang-ma

Complaint

sam-chhar

Dirty

zor-po

Double

mi-nyi nyel-sa

Expensive

gong chhen-po

Fan

jung-khor

Form

geng-shog

Help

rog-pa

Hotel

dron-khang

Key

dhe-mig

Landlord

khang-dhag

Lock

go-chag

Luggage

cha-lag

Manager

gen-zin

Office

yig-tssang

114
12
Travelling

Dialogue-I

I am taking a two months leave.
nga dha-wa ngyi gong-pa len-ye yin.

drum gur med rig byed kyi yin

Why?
ga-re je-nas.

ngal mo dang

I have to go to India.
nga gya-gar-la dro-go yodh.

drum gur med rig byed kyi yin

To do what?
ga-re je-ga.

ngal mo dang

I want to study Buddhism.
nang-chos jang-ye yin.

have-wa stcro dbyin

Have you booked your air tickets?
nam-dru tri-ka-si nyo-tssar yin-pey.

ngal mo dang

I plan to do it today.
dhey-ring nyo-tsis yodh.

ngal mo dang

I need an economy class ticket to Delhi.
dhi-li bar-dhu nam-dru tri-ka-si gong khe-wa chig gang-log.

ngal mo dang

Private

ger

Pillow

ngel-go

Reduce

gong-chag-pa

Rent

khang-ja

Room

khang-mig

Single

mi-chig nyel-sa

Signature

tssten-tag

Stay

dhe-pa

Shift

po-wa

Towel

a-chor

Vacant

tong-pa
That will be $500
dro-lar nga-gya rey.

We will make the necessary arrangements.
nga-tssos dra-drig je-chhog.

When do you plan to leave?
ga-dhus thon-chhar yodh.

Next Friday.
dhun-thrag je-mey sza pa-sang.

Don't carry any excess baggage.
cha-lag mang-po ma-khyer.

I always travel light.
nga ga-dhus yi-nay cha-lag mang-po khyer-gi mey.

How long will the air journey take?
nam-dru rang-la chhu-tssodh ga-tssodh dro-go rey.

About 24 hours.
chhu-tssodh ngyi-shu tsa-shhi tsam dro-go rey.

Have a nice journey.
ga-le pheb-go.

Farewell
gyog-po jel-yong.

---

Dialogue-II

Are you visiting India for the first time?

Yes.
la-wong.

Where do you plan to go?
gya-gar sa-chu ga-wa-la dro-tsis yodh.

Dharamsala.
cha-ram-sa-la

For what purpose?
les-dhon ga-re yin-na.

Study.
lab-jong.

Can we have a look at your passport?
khye-rang gi pa-si ton-rog rang.

Of course.
yin-dha-yin.

You may go now.
khye-rang dro-na drig-gi rey.

Where can I get a taxi?
trek-si ga-wa ra-ji rey.

26. Trek-si is a corruption of the word taxi.
At the back of this building.
thog-tseg dhi gyab-la.
Is there a train to Dharamsala?

dha-sa bar ri-li yo-rey.

How much to the Imperial hotel.
dron-khang bar-dhu gong ga-tssodh rey.
There is but it does not go all the way to Dharamsala.


We will go by the meter.
nga-tssso mi-tar shhir-szung dro-go.
So?

As you wish.
As you wish.
khye-rang thug-mos tar.

Here is the Imperial hotel.
dron-khang-la leb-song.
It goes to Pathankot.

I have booked a room for two days:
ngel ming-thog-la nyin-pyi ring khang-pa je-yodh.
From there you will have to take a bus to Dharamsala.

khye-rang gi tssen ga-re yin-na.
dhi-nes khye-rang dha-sa bar ba-si nang dro go-gi rey.

Sir, what is your name?

khye-rang gi tssen ga-re yin-na.
How far is Dharamsala from Pathankot?

Jack.

bas nang dro-na chhu-tssodh shhi-rey.
I think I will take the direct bus.

Sign here, please.
dhe-y-la tssen-tag kyod-log nang.

About four hours ride by bus.

I have to go to Dharamsala.
nga dha-ram-sa-lar dro-go yodh.

You should take the Potala bus.

khye-rang Po-ta-la ba-si nang dro-na yag-po yo-rey.

How much is it?

la-cha ga-tssodh rey.

Dialogue-III

Rs.350.
miri-ror sum-gyo nga-chu.

120
Isn't that too much?
dhi gong chen-po ma-re-pey.
The price of petrol has gone up.
gong phar yo-rey.
When does the bus leave?
ba-si ga-dhus thon-gi rey.
It leaves at 6.30 p.m.
gon-drag chhu-tseodh druk chang chhe-ka.
How long is the bus journey?
ba-si nang yun ring-los dro-go rey.
About 12 hours.
chhu-tseodh chu-nyi tsam.
Where is seat no.27?
kub-kyag ang-ki nyi-shu tsa-dhun ga-wa rey.
Here. At the back.
dhey. gyab-la.
Where will the bus stop?
ba-si dhi ga-wa ka-gi rey.
It will stop for sometime at Chandigarh.
chan-dhi-car-la tog-tseam ka-gi rey.
For how long?
ga-tseodh ga-gi rey.

About 30 minutes.
kar-ma sum-chu tsam.
Is there a restaurant there?
phi-ge-la sza-khang yo-re-pey.
Yes.
Driver, can you please stop?
kus-chi. ba-si tog-tseam ka-rog dang.
We can’t stop in the middle of nowhere.
nga-tseo ga-wa ga-sar ka chhog-gi ma-rey.
I have to go to the toilet.
nga chhab-sang-la dro-go yodh.

We will stop at Una for five minutes.
nga-tseo u-nar kar-ma nga-tseam ka-gi rey.
Where is the toilet?
sang-chodh ga-wa yo-rey.
There is no toilet.
dhey-la sang-chodh yo-ma-rey.
What is the name of that village?
drong-seb pha-gi ming-la ga-re rey.
Kangra.
kang-ra.
This is Dharamsala.
cha-sar jeb-song.
Do they show English movies?
in-ji log-nyen ton-gi yo-re-pey.
\[\text{ exhibiting Western movies.}\]
Can you get me a porter?
nga-la ku-li" chig tssel-rog gang.
They show the latest Hollywood movies.
in-ji log-nyen sar-pa tssang-ma ton-gi yo-rey.
\[\text{ exhibiting Western movies.}\]
Take these luggage to Hotel Tibet.
cha-lag dhi-tssod bodh-gi dron-khang-la khyer-rog.
Where can I change dollars?
dro-lar je-sa ga-wa rey
\[\text{ exchange rate.}\]
Dialogue-IV
Ask that man with the red cap.
mi pha-gi shha-mo mar-po gon-gen dhey-la ke-cha dris.
\[\text{ Can I have an audience with H.H. the Dalai Lama?}\]
Where is the hair salon?
tra shhar-sa ga-wa rey.
nga gong-sa-chhog jel chhog-gi re-pey.
\[\text{ Where is the post office?}\]
There are two in the next street.
sang-lam phar-chhog nang tra-shhar-sa nyi yo-rey.
khye-rang dsa-lar chig-la gtsas-tsho thre-gi yodh.
\[\text{ There are two on the way to the post office.}\]
How much for a haircut?
tra shhar-la ga-tssodh rey.
Rs. 20.
\[\text{ Haircut costs Rs. 20.}\]

gor nyi shu.
\[\text{ Haircut costs Rs. 20.}\]
Are there any video parlours here?
dhey-la log-nyen ta-sa yo-re-pey.
Register your name at the Security office.
\[\text{ There are two on the way to the post office.}\]
There are two on the way to the post office.
drag-khang dro-sey lam-la log-nyen ta-sa nyi yo-rey.
\[\text{ There are two on the way to the post office.}\]
Are there any video parlours here?
dhey-la log-nyen ta-sa yo-re-pey.
\[\text{ There are two on the way to the post office.}\]

27. Kuli is a corruption of the Indian word coolie (porters).
Dialogue-V

I want to make a phone call.
nga kha-par tang-go yodh.

Where?
ga-wa-la.

New York.
a-ri New York.

Please wait a minute.
kar-ma chig gug-rog nang.

The line is not very clear.
kha-par sel-po shhe-dra min-dhug.

Hello! Who is this speaking?
ha-lo. su yin-pey.

This is Jack speaking.
dhi Jek yin.

Can you speak louder?
sung-ke chhe-si kyon-rog nang.

I want to speak to my father.
nga pa-la nyam-dhu ke-cha she-go yodh.

He is in the kitchen.
kho-rang thab-tssang nang dhug.

Please hold the line. I will call him.
kar-ma chig gug-rog-nang, nge ke tang-go.

He went outside.
kho-rang chhi-log-la chhin-shhag.

Can you call back later?
khye-rang kha-par je-la tang-rog nang.

Do you have any message?
jag-len ga-re yo-pey.

Call me at this number?
ka-par ang-drang dhi-thog nga-la drel-wa nang-rog.

My telephone number is 231156.

I will call back later.
nga je-la kha-par tang-go.

Dialogue-VI

Where is the post office?
drag-khang ga-wa yo-rey.

Take a two minute walk down this street.
sang-lam dhi-gyudh gom-pe kar-ma nvi gyab-na jeb-gi rey.

I want to mail this.
nga yi-gi dhi tang-go yodh.

Airmail?

nam-drag yin-pey.
No, sea mail.
Tsong-drag yin.

How many days will it take to reach USA?
A-ri jor-ye nyi-ma ga-tssodh gor-gi rey.
15 days.
Nyi-ma cho-nnga.

Do you want it registered?
Yi-gi dhi dheb-kyel je-gi yin-pey.
Yes. Of course.
Yin-dha-yin.

How much does it weigh?
Jidh-kog ga-tssodh dugh.
It weighs one kilo.
Ki-lo chig dugh.

Dialogue-VII

Where is the dry-cleaner?
Log-thrus gyab-khen ga-wa yo-rey.
What do you want?
Khye-rang ga-re go.
I want to dry clean this shirt.
Gsey todh-thung dhi tru-go yodh.

Take this receipt.
Ngul-zin dhi khyer-rog nang.

Give us some advance money.
Nga-tssor ngul tog-tsam dha-la ngor-la tre-rog nang.

When can I get it back?
Todh-thung ga-dhuss tssur ra-gi rey.
Tomorrow, 6 o'clock.
Sang-rnyin gon-dhag chu-tssodh druk-pa-la.
You haven't washed this properly.
Yag-po trus min-dugh.
Please wash this again.
Gon-nes tru-rog nang.
The buttons are broken.
Theb-ghi kha-shes chhab-dugh.
There is a stain here.
Dhey-la nag-thig gos-shag.
I am not paying you.
Ngul tre-gi min.

Dialogue-VIII

How far is Dhondup photo studio?
Dhon-drub par-khang ga-wa yo-rey.
Ngor-dzor par-khang ga-wa yo-rey.
It is just around the corner.
gyab dhi-ga rang-la.
Do you develop films?
khye-rang phing-shog tru-gi yo-pey.
Yes.
yodh.
Does it take long?
mang-po gor-gi re-pey.
It takes two days.
nyi-ma nyi gor-gi rey.
Do you rent cameras?
khye-rang par-ches yar-gi yo-pey.
No, we don't.
me-y, yar-gi mey.

Dialogue-IX

I want to visit Sherabling monastery in Bir.
nga Bir She-rab-ling gon-pa-la dro-go yodh.
It is about 4 hours journey by bus.
ba-si nang chu-tssodh shhi-rey.

I will hire a taxi.
nga mo-tra les-ye yin.
Come with me.
khye-rang ngey nyam-du shog.
Why?
ga-reje-ga.
You can be my guide and translator.
khye-rang ngey ke-gyur dhang lam-ton-pa ji.
Are there any short cuts to Bir?
gyog-lam yo-re-pey.
The road is very rough.
gyog-lam yag-po yo-ma-rey.
We will leave at dawn.
nga-tso shhog-pa nam lang-du-sus dro-go.
Yes. It will be cool then.
rey. dhey-du-sus sil-po yo-rey.

Dialogue-X

I am leaving on Thursday.
nga sza lhak-pa-la thon-ye yin.
Where?
ga-wa-la.
To Delhi and then back to USA.

Do you plan to come back?
khye-rang tssur pheb-tsis yo-pey.

I don’t know.
dhan-la ha go-gi min-dhug.

May be after three years.
chig-je-na to-sum je-la yong-gi yin.

Keep in touch.
drel-wa nang-rog.

Where is kokonor travel agency?
ko-ko-nor drim-drul les-khang ga-wa yo-rey.

It is located behind this temple.
tha-khang dhi gyab-la yo-rey.

Can you book a taxi for me tomorrow?
nga-la sang-nyin mo-tra chig go-dhug.

Where are you going?
khye-rang ga-wa pheb-ye yin.

To the airport.
nam-thang-la.

When?
ga-dhurs.

8.30 p.m. Tomorrow.
sang-nyin gon-dhag chhu-tssodh gye-dhang chhe-ka-la.

Driver, please stop smoking.
tha-ma ma-thung-rog nang.

Can you please reduce the volume?
ke chung-tsam tang-rog nang.

This is the latest Hindi pop number.
gya-gar shhe sar-shos dhi-rey.

I want peace.
nga-la shhi-dhe go-dhug.

VOGABULARY

Ant
drog-ma

Bamboo
nyug-ma

Bat
tsi-tsi kam-po

Bear
dhom

Bee
dhug-drang
Bird
ja
Branch
yel-ga
Buffalo
ma-ye
Camel
nga-mong
Cat
shhi-mi
Climate
nam-shis
Cloud
trin-pa
Cow
ba-chhug
Crane
trung-trung
Cuckoo
khu-yug
Deer
sha-wa

Dog
khyi
Donkey
bung-gu
Earthquake
sa-yom
Elephant
jang-chhen
Fish
nya
Flood
chhu-log
Flower
me-tok
Fly
drang-ma
Forest
shing-nag
Fox
wah
Goat
ra
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>བཀའ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill</td>
<td>མཚན་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly hock</td>
<td>བཞིང་ཐེ་ནར།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>རྒྱུ་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Island</td>
<td>རྡོ་རྗེ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insect</td>
<td>རྡུ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackal</td>
<td>རྒྱལ་ཆོང་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniper</td>
<td>ལུགས་པ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landslide</td>
<td>སྣ་རུས་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake</td>
<td>རླ་སྐོ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>འབྲུ་པ་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lotus</td>
<td>རྣམ་ས་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marigold</td>
<td>རྔ་བུ་ཀུམ་</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monkey</td>
<td>ོིུ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>རྣ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain</td>
<td>རྡུས་བོད་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak</td>
<td>རྡུ་རེ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>རྣལ་ཐོས་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owl</td>
<td>རྡུ་པ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ox</td>
<td>རྡུ་སྐོ་ཀོག་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peacock</td>
<td>རྡུ་མ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>རྡུ་པ་</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pine
thang-shing

Rabbit
re-bong

Rhododendron
tag-ma

River
tsang-po

Sheep
lug

Sky
nam

Snake
drul

Star
kar-ma

Sun
nyi-ma

Tent
gur

Thrush
jol-mo
13
Discovering Lhasa

The Potala

Who built Potala Palace?
po-ta-la sus shheng-pa rey.

Potala Palace was built by the Fifth Dalai Lama.
gyal-wang ku-threng nga-pey shheng-pa rey.

When?
ga-dhus.

During the second half of 17th century.
dhus-rab chu-dhun gi kyil-losam-la.

Can we visit Potala tomorrow?
sang-nyin nga-tso po-te-lar dro-na drig-gi re-pey.

Tomorrow it is closed.
sang-nyin go-gyab yo-rey.

Drepung monastery

How many monks live here?
dhey-la dra-wa ga-tssodh yo-rey.

Gyantse city

How far is Gyantse from Lhasa?
lhasa nes gyantse bar thag-ring-los ga-tssodh rey

It is 395 km from Lhasa.
lhasa nes kilometre sum-gya gu-chu go-nga rey

In which direction?
chhog ga-wa yo-rey.

It is situated west of Lhasa.
lhasa nes nub-chhog-la yo-rey.

What is there to see in Gyantse?
gyang-tse-la ta-gyu ga-re yo-rey.
There is a fort and two very old monasteries.
_zong chig dhang gon-pa nyaw-ling-pa nyi yo-rey._

**A Tibetan village**

What crops do you sow in the field?
_shing-ge nang-la ton-tog ga-re tab-gi yodh._

Barley and peas.
_nes dhang tre-ma._

Do you keep any dogs?
_khye-rang tso khyi nyar-gi yo-rey._

We have only one dog.
_nga-tso-la khyi chig yodh._

When is harvest time?
_tse-ma nga-wey dhus-tssodh ga-dhus rey._

It is in Autumn.
_ton-ka la-rey._

**A Tibetan nomad camp**

What is this tent made of?
_gur-dhi ga-re szos-pa rey._

This tent is made of yak-hair.
_gur-dhi khyi gi pus szos-pa rey._

Do you have any neighbours?
_khye-rang tssor khyim-tse me-rey._

They live 100 km away.
_khong-tso kilometre gya-yi sa-char yo-rey._

How many yak do you have?
_yak ga-tssodh yodh._

We have 10 yaks.
_yak chu yodh._

**Mount Kailash**

What do you call Mount Kailash in Tibetan?
_kailash-la bodh-ke nang ga-re rey._

We call it Gang Rinpoche.
_gang rin-po-che rey._

Is this your first time to Mount Kailash?
_khye-rang gang rin-po-cher yong-wa theng dhang-po yin-rey._

This is my tenth.
_theng chu-pa yin._

You came by bus to Mount Kailash?
_ba-si nang yong-wa yin-rey._

I came here by doing full length prostrations.
_kyang-chag tssel-nes yong-wa yin._
Monlam prayer festival

Who started this festival?
dhus-chen dhi sus go-tsug-pa rey.
This festival was started by Tsongkhapa.
je Tsong-kha-pa chhen-pos go-tsug-pa rey.

When?
ga-dhus.

In 1409.
chig-tong shhi-gya gu-la.

So it is very old?
je-na nying-pa shhe-dra rey.

It is about 600 years old.
io druk-gya-yi nying-pa rey.

VOCABULARY-I

Directions

chhog

East
shar

West
nub

North
jang

South
lho

Northeast
jang-shar

Northwest
nub-jang

Southeast
lho-shar

Southwest
lho-nub

Left
yon

Right
ye

Centre
kyil

Far
thalm-ring-po

Near
dram-la

Top
tse
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bottom</td>
<td>དཔོད་།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shodh</td>
<td>མོད་།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above</td>
<td>གནོ་ལ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gang-la</td>
<td>གནོ་ལ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below</td>
<td>གྲོག་ལ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wog-la</td>
<td>གྲོག་ལ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front</td>
<td>དལྟ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dhun</td>
<td>དལྟ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back</td>
<td>ཡབ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gyab</td>
<td>ཡབ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corner</td>
<td>བླ་ར</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>szur</td>
<td>བླ་ར</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>དོ་ད</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>todh</td>
<td>དོ་ད</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>བར་མ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bar-ma</td>
<td>བར་མ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>ཁྱིད་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medh</td>
<td>ཁྱིད་</td>
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</tbody>
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**VOCABULARY-II**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abbot</td>
<td>བཀོད་པོ་</td>
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<tr>
<td>khen-po</td>
<td>བཀོད་པོ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonpo</td>
<td>མོད་པོ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter lamp</td>
<td>བློ་མོ་ལེ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet</td>
<td>ཕྱི་རྫོང་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drum-se</td>
<td>ཕྱི་རྫོང་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geluk</td>
<td>དགེ་ལུས་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incarnate lama</td>
<td>གྲོ་བོ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trul-ku</td>
<td>གྲོ་བོ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monastery</td>
<td>དགེ་བོད་པ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gon-pa</td>
<td>དགེ་བོད་པ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monk</td>
<td>དབྱང་པ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dra-wa</td>
<td>དབྱང་པ་</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunnery</td>
<td>དབྱང་བོད་པ།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a-ni-gon-pa</td>
<td>དབྱང་བོད་པ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nyingma</td>
<td>བོད་དགའ་མ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>nying-ma</td>
<td>བོད་དགའ་མ།</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offering</td>
<td>བློ་མོ་འབུལ།</td>
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<td>chhod-bul</td>
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<td>Sakya</td>
<td>འས་ཀྱི།</td>
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<tr>
<td>sa-ky-a</td>
<td>འས་ཀྱི།</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sect</td>
<td>Tsurpu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chhos-lug</td>
<td>tssur-pu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statue</td>
<td>Mindroling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ku-dra</td>
<td>min-dro-ling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple</td>
<td>Yungdrungling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lha-khang</td>
<td>yung-drung-ling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thangka</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>thang-ka</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Monasteries in Tibet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monastery</th>
<th>Tibetan cities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ganden</td>
<td>Lhasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ga-dhen</td>
<td>lha-sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drepung</td>
<td>Shigatse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dre-pung</td>
<td>shhi-ga-tse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sera</td>
<td>Gyantse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>se-ra</td>
<td>gyang-tse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tashihunpo</td>
<td>Chamdo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ta-shi-hun-po</td>
<td>chham-dho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kumbum Jampaling</td>
<td>Dartsedo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ku-bum jam-pa-ling</td>
<td>dhar-tse-dho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrang Tashikhyil</td>
<td>Golmud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lab-rang ta-shi-khyil</td>
<td>ker-mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sakya</td>
<td>Rebkong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sa-kyha</td>
<td>re-kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chabcha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>chhab-chha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gyalthang
gyal-thang

Nagchu
nag-chhu

Rivers in Tibet

Drichu
dri-chhu

Machu
ma-chhu

Zachu
za-chu

Ngomchu
ngul-chhu

Senge Khabab
sen-ge kha-bab

Tachog Khabab
ta-chhog kha-bab

Maja Khabab
ma-ja kha-bab

Langchen Khabab
ang-chhen kha-bab

Lakes in Tibet

Kokonor
tso ngon-po

Tsod Mapam
tso ma-pham

Yamdrok Yutso
yam-drok yu-tso

Namtso
nam-tso

Kyaring Tso
kya-reng tsso

Ngoring Tso
ngo-reng tsso

Lhamo Lhatso
lha-mo lha-tso

Mountains in Tibet

Kailash
gang rin-po-chhe

Everest
jo-mo jang-ma

Nyenchen Thangla
nyen-chen thang-la

Amnye Machen
am-nye ma-chhen
Tibetan animals

Yak
yak
Dri (female yak)
dri
Dzo (cross between a yak and cow)
zo
Drong (wild yak)
drong

Kiang (wild ass)
kyang
Druk (mythical serpent-like creature)
druk
Senge (mythical snow-lion)
seng-ge

Tibetan diet

Tsampa (roasted barley flour)
tsam-pa
Thukpa (soup)
thuk-pa
Momo (stuffed meat dumplings)
mo-mo
Pag (tsampa moistened with tea and kneaded into balls)
pag
Boja (Tibetan butter tea with salt)
bodh-ja
Tingmo (dumplings)
ting-mo
Chura (dried cheese)
chhu-ra
Chang (barley beer)
chhang
14

What, where, when, who and how?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Tibetan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What?</td>
<td>га-рэ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where?</td>
<td>га-ва</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When?</td>
<td>га-дхус</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which?</td>
<td>га-дхи</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>су</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How?</td>
<td>га-дри-си</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is your name?
кхье-ранг миң га-рэ гин.

What is this?
dхи га-рэ ре.

What did you say?
kхье-ранг ги га-рэ лаб гин-пей.

What shall I do now?
dга-нга га-рэ жи-га.

What is the matter?
га-рэ же-сонг

What do you want?
кхье-ранг ла га-рэ го.

What is your mother's name?
кхье-ранг а-мей миң-ла га-рэ ре.

What is your profession?
кхье-ранг чхаг-лис га-рэ гранг-гий юдх.

What are you doing now?
кхье-ранг га-рэ лаб-гий юдх.

What is the name of this place?
сача дхи-миң га-рэ ре.

What did you say?
га-рэ сунг гин-пей.

What do you charge?
gонг га-тсоодж лен-гий юдх.

What time does the office open?
лес-кхунг га-дхус го чнге-гий ре.

What is tsampa?
tsампа сэрг-на га-рэ ре.

What is your telephone number?
khye-rang gi kha-par ang-drang ga-re rey.

What is the charge per day?
nyi-ma chig-gi la-cha ga-tssodh rey.

What is my room number?
ngey khang-mig-gi ang-drang ga-tssodh rey.

What special food do you serve?
kh-i-lag mig-sel ga-re szo-gi yodh.

What time do you close?
Ga-dhus go gyab-gi yodh.

What is the name of that mountain?
ri pha-gi ming ga-re rey.

What is the name of this monastery/
gon-pa dhi ming ga-re rey.

What is the price of this/
cha-la dhi gong ga-tssodh rey.

What do you want to buy?
khye-rang ga-re nyo-ge.

What is the best time to visit this place?

What is the time?
Chhu-tssodh ga-tssodh rey.

What time are you going?
khye-rang chhu-tssodh ga-tssodh-la dro-ge.

What time will you return?
khye-rang chhu-tssodh ga-tssodh-la log-ge.

What is the date today?
dhey-ring tse-divang ga-re rey.

Where are you going?
Ga-wa dro-ge.

Where do you stay?
Ga-wa shhug-gi yodh.

Where can I buy newspaper?
tssag-par nyo-sa ga-wa rey.

Where is the post office?
Drag-khang ga-wa rey.

Where is the library.
Pe-zodh ga-wa rey.

Where can I find you?
khye-rang ga-wa nyo-gi rey.

Where is shop no.5?
tssong-khang ang nga-pa ga-wa rey.

Where is the bus stand?
Baa ti-sing ga-wa rey.
Where is the taxi stand?
mo-tra bab-tssug ga-wa rey.

Where is Dhondup restaurant?
dhon-drub sza-khang ga-wa yo-rey.

Where is Passang Hotel?
pa-sang dron-khang ga-wa yo-rey.

Where is Ngodup video parlour?
ngo-drup video ta-sa ga-wa rey.

Where can I get chang?
chhang ga-wa ra-gi rey.

Where is the hospital?
men-khang ga-wa rey.

Where shall we stop?
nga-tssao ga-wa ka-ge.

Where can I find her?
mo ga-wa nye-gi rey.

Where can I buy medicines?
men nyo-sa ga-wa rey.

Where did you go?
khye-rang ga-wa chhin-pey.

Where were you yesterday?
khye-rang chang-gong ga-wa chhin-pey.
When shall we stop?
nga-tsso ga-dhus tissam shhag-ge.

When should I start?
ga-dhus go tsug-ga.

When will they come?
kho-tsso ga-dhus yong-gi rey.

When did she go?
mo-rang ga-dhus chhin-song.

When will we reach Lhasa?
nga-tsso ga-dhus lha-sar jor-gi rey.

When does the party start?
tro-kyi ga-dhus go tsug-gi rey.

Which is my room?
ngay khang-mig ga-wa rey.

Who are you?
khye-rang su yin-peed.

Who is that girl?
bu-mo pha-gi su-rey.

Who is that person?
mi pha-gi su-rey.

Who is with you?
khye-rang myam-dhu su-yodh.

How are you?
khye-rang ga-dre ghug.

How many people were there?
mi ga-tssodh ghug.

How will you go?
khye-rang ga-dre-si dro-ge.
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