

# Classic Historic

## **AITIHASIK (Gorkhali Sainik)**

*The replicated version in style, shape and size of the original kukri that was issued to the “Gorkhali Army” in the 18th century..*



- **Blade Size:** 13 inches approx.
- **Thickness:** 8.5mm approx.
- **Actual Weight:** 710 grams
- **Overall Weight:** 975 grams
- **Shipping Weight:** 1475 grams
- **Function:** Collection, Combat, Gift, Military, Outdoor, Regular work
- **Origin:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 18th Feb 2009)
- **Category:** Classic Historic
- **Blade Finishing:** Polish

"Aitihasic", historic or antique is the legend of all khukuris that has a proud historic significance in Nepal. It is actually the replicated version in style, shape and size of the original kukri that was issued to the “Gorkhali Army” in the 18th century. The Gorkhali Army or famously known as the “Goorkhas” is the first recognized and documented Arm Force of Nepal that was started by King Prithivi Narayan Shah from Gorkha who went to war with a mission to unite all scattered kingdoms into one. The strong military force armed with khukuris, spears, swords and few pump guns conquered all kingdoms and united them into one kingdom, one nation in 1768 AD, which later became Nepal. The Gorkhali Army not only united Nepal but also prevented the British from invading the country who had already taken over India then. Its history dates back to mid 18th century when Gorkhali Sainik led by the king and many of his successful army generals initiated the national campaign of expanding its borders far and further. Soldiers in the battle carried the khukuri for both reasons, as a main weapon and as a back up weapon in their armory. The famous battle of

“Nalapani” in Deheradun of India, commanded by the great general Bhakti Thapa (also shown in the khukuri picture) from Gorkha’s side, witnessed the Aitihasik khukuri in full action, swinging and slaughtering the British, proving it as a lethal and decisive weapon in a hand of a Gorkha.

This khukuri played such a vital and successive role and King Prithivi was so impressed that he later named some of his regiments after its name like the Narasingha Khukuri Brigade, Kaalbhairab 1st Khukuri Brigade to name a few.

The glory of Gorkha, Goorkhas and Khukuri started from this era...

- The khukuri has unpolished blade to resemble the originals
- The khukuri has two straight fullers to resemble the originals
- The shape of the blade is forged wider towards the head/upper portion, done for better swing and force
- The wooden handle is slightly curved towards the end for easier and better grip
- Its scabbard is made from special buffalo hide with embossing and patterns overlaid
- Tip or Kothi is discarded in the scabbard unlike the regular ones. This absence gives the feeling of originality and a look of very traditional khukuris
- Also designed as a solid jungle utility knife like a machete

### **Materials / Features:**

Special buffalo leather scabbard, Rosewood handle

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### **All-by-Hand BhaktaPure (Chakra BK)**

*where 100% bare hand is put to use - forging, cutting, hammering, pounding, shaping, sizing, filing and finishing etc everything is entirely done by hand..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 10 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 10mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 600 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 850 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1150 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Domestic use, Indoor, Outdoor, Show Piece, Trekking
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, BhaktaPur, Nepal (released on 28th Dec 2012)
- **CATEGORY:** Classic\_Historic
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Raw

### Background

The greatness of KHHI that makes it stand out from the crowd and ahead of its competitors is the superior quality and services it provides and also the effort it puts to always come up with wide range of varieties from the very modern ones to the very traditional that would suit every walk of life. KHHI in the process of growing and specializing into the field has modernized its production activities yet continues the primitive way of making that has become a legend and recognition of a kukri. In the same manner, "All-by-Hand BhaktaPure" khukuri(as the name goes) is yet another exceptional knife added to KHHI's huge selection of khukuris where 100% bare hand is put to use to making this one of a kind kukri. The forging, cutting, hammering, pounding, shaping, sizing, filing and finishing etc, everything is entirely done by hand. Unlike other kukris of KHHI where final finishing is done by a bench grinder, this BhaktaPure khukuri sees nothing but a pair of expert hands, artistic head, dedicated heart, full sweat, and hard labor. This particular laborious and time consuming way of making a khukuri now only exists in the very remote villagers where facilities are short and thus makers are reluctant. However KHHI with a view and intention of having an all out all-by-hand khukuri for those who seek for Man over Machine (anti machines) khukuri started its production in this method to continue the legacy of the authentic Nepalese khukuri. For this KHHI has put up a small work place in the northern part of Kathmandu in a place called BhaktaPure where this khukuri is made, and thus the name.

### Khukuri

A typical village version; fatter blade with rat tail tang, carried by farmers, porters, hunters, villagers, travelers in the far hilly regions of Nepal. Its shape goes board at the mid section and goes narrow as it finishes towards the tip and handle section. It has a wooden handle strongly secured by two metal fixtures at the two ends; Bolster (Kanzo) and Butt Cap (Chapri). The blade is carbon steel and is well tempered by judging the color of the heated steel in the right time by the skilled craftsman. The whole knife is unpolished/raw and even the hammering marks are visible. The final finishing is as what it comes out from the various flat and round files the maker uses it to get the job done. Even the final check-up (quality test) by KHHI staffs before shipping is achieved by files (so NO machine at all - right from the start till the very end). The kukri is made to use so everything is done as per it to ensure that no users is left disappointed.

### The Maker Himself

The man behind the BhaktaPure is Mr. Chakra Bahadur BK who has been making khukuri since the tender age of 8. He was born in Bhojpur VDC in lower class family where making khukuri has been there lively wood since generations. He has a wife, three kids and a mother back home in his village. Now employed by KHHI and settled in BhaktaPur, he delivers his magical skill in the form of the BhaktaPure khukuri that he was born to make.

We appeal all our visitors and buyers to buy his creation and thus in the process support him financially so that he could make a decent living and look after this family well.

Lastly, this all-by-hand BhaktaPure khukuri made by the very skilled craftsman will without a doubt please all kinds of users.

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## Ganjuwal SWISS (Multi)

*With the history and origin of the kukri dating back to the 18th century, Ganjuwal was and still is one of the famous and favored kukri knives..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 10.5 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 9mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 525 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 725 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1075 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Collection, Gift, Outdoor, Regular work, Show Piece
- **ORIGIN:** Ganjuwal (Far Eastern Nepal)
- **CATEGORY:** Classic\_Historic
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Polish

With the history and origin of the kukri dating back to the 18th century, Ganjuwal was and still is one of the famous and favored kukri knives within the villager's and farmer's community. The knife proved to be more useful, like a utility tool because of its exclusive construction/feature when villagers had to make long journey into woods away from home, thus the kukri was excessively used and selected for the very reason. The original "Ganjuwala" (what it was called then) actually used in history have been long gone in the midst of time and civilization therefore a replicated (authentic and usable) version of it, the "Ganjuwal Swiss" has been introduced (the word "Swiss" derived from Swiss Army knife to support Ganjuwal's multi functional accompanying tools) by KHHI. The kukri blade has also been slightly modified to meet the demand and market of the modern era (blade shortened and polished, decorative pattern introduced). The Ganjuwal still holds its legacy as a perfect utility tool and also a precious possession of a farmer in the rural villages of Nepal.

The scabbard of the Ganjuwal Swiss is where all the time, effort and money is invested. The making or preparation of this special kind of buffalo leather is a painstaking job that needs hard work and patience. It goes through a number of stages and requires numerous materials and supplies to complete the process, which, thus may not be possible to mention them all. Therefore briefly speaking, the buffalo hide is submersed in water mixed with salt and lime for almost a month and regularly rubbed by feet to soften the leather. Adding various natural herbs from roots of plants and barks of selected trees is also one of the steps in the process done to prolong the life span of the leather and to avoid decaying. Then the prepared leather is again continuously rubbed, twisted and folded for hours with “Tori ko Pina” (paste of mustard plant achieved after grinding) while making the scabbard to get the natural embossed pattern within the leather. The excessive rubbing of the leather results into tiny beads like mold all over the surface, which makes the scabbard distinctive, attractive, durable and decay free. Then traditional pattern and linings are overlaid in the scabbard to beautify its look. This simple yet attractive adornment of the Ganjuwal have been its trademark that distinguishes and recognizes the kukri from the rest.

Gajuwal’s number of accompanying tools along with the basics (Karda and Chakmak) also makes the kukri so different and special. Karda and Chakmak are made with special care and attention. A screwdriver, ear cleaner, tweezers and needle complete the utility set of the Ganjuwal. A small leather pouch is also secured at the back of the scabbard’s throat to store small but important objects like flint powder, traditional medicine dust etc. An extra empty hole or bag is also fitted, just incase an extra tool is needed.

The blade of the Ganjuwal is a standard sized kukri knife but with three keepers in pommel to reinforced the handle fixture.

### **Materials / Features:**

Water buffalo treated leather scabbard, rosewood handle, 2 x small knives, 4 x small working tools, 1 x storing pouch, 1 x extra bag

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### **Jung Bahadur (The Ruler)**

*The exact replica of the original version owned by Jung Bahadur Rana, the 1st PM of Nepal..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 14 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 10mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 1000 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 1275 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1775 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Collection, Combat, Lethal, Regular work, Show piece
- **ORIGIN:** Dharan, Eastern Nepal
- **CATEGORY:** Classic\_Historic
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Semi-Polish

The name itself speaks for the identity and history of the kukri. It was widely used during Jung Bahadur Rana's dynasty in the 19th and 20th century so the name follows. Jung Bahadur Rana was the first prime minister of Nepal who came to power in 1846 AD. His powerful Rana dynasty of hereditary prime ministers that lasted till 1951 for 104 years is considered to be as the "Dark Days of Nepal". The basic rights and opportunities to the people were seized/taken away and forced into slavery. Jung Bahadur Rana was also known for his fondness of women and weapons. He had tons of collection of modern and antique weapons among which kukri was one of his favorites. It was immensely used by him and his generation until they were strip from power.

The Jung Bahadur Kukri is the exact replica of the original one owned by Jung Bahadur Rana himself. The shape of the knife is similar to the 'Aitihasic' type used by Gorkhali Sainik, however slightly curved and longer. The unusual section of the kukri is the handle which is imitated from antique swords. The handle is made from solid iron/metal rod with hand guard on both sides as shown in the picture. A metallic arch made from iron sheet is fixed to the front guard of the handle. The metallic handle gives the ever-lasting strength and hand guard provides much needed protection to hand during hand-to-hand combat. The handle is given a suitable shape/design to go with the blade. This kukri as a whole appears to be fearsome, faithful and destructive. The scabbard is made from wood from inside and carefully wrapped by buffalo leather as in regular kukris.

Jung Bahadur is a perfect show piece and a collection item with historic background rarely found today. It is also a superb cutting kukri knife having a rock-hard metallic handle.

Deadly and brute like its creator ...

#### **Materials / Features:**

Water buffalo leather scabbard, metallic full flat tang hand-guard handle, semi polish blade

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#### **Parshuram SPL (Classic)**

*For those people who love the traditional and iconic design over the modern ones and for those who seek for effective, high mobility and a persistent khukuri knife..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 13 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 7mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 700 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 1000 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1400 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Collection, Domestic Use, Show Piece, Gift, Jungle warfare, Regular Work
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 30th July 2014)
- **CATEGORY:** Classic\_Historic
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Polish

Another outstanding khukri by another outstanding Kami (master craftsman) of KHHI forged to fill up the vacuum of Traditional and Classic version from the history, that is built very light but with heavy re-curved and broad blade projected to deliver a very good balance, feel and cutting power. The desire to own an authentic version of the iconic kukri from the past with all its original features and details, that come very striking and unique and is versatile at the same time, ends with the “Parshuram SPL (Classic)” - a master stroke from a master craftsman who has been making khukuri since he was just a kid. Original and Classic “Parshuram SPL” is for those people who love the traditional and iconic design over the modern ones and for those who seek for effective, high mobility and a persistent khukuri knife.

#### Blade:

The unique and special feature of this blade is that it is forged very broad at the belly and makes a sharp inward turn at its re-curve making the blade look very elegant, classic and lethal at the same time. The broad width provides excellent weight and feel in the upper section of the blade, making swinging and hacking much easier and more effective even though the overall weight of the kukri is very less. The heavy weight/mass at the front generates a natural swing that aids the knife in successfully executing heavy and stressful works. A beautiful pattern is carved in the upper spine of the blade as part of decoration.

#### Handle:

It has a traditional “Parawal” or “Rat Tail Tang” handle but sharply curved. The handle gets more curved as it finishes towards the butt cap made to provide an easier and better grip. The classic shaped wooden handle has thick long tang inside it that is strongly fitted by epoxy and firmly secured at the back by a thick pommel that is peened over. The curved handle provides a perfect balanced feel for the heavy broad blade at the front and thus handling is very easy. Thick (20 gauge) Brass Fixtures (bolster with lip and butt cap) are used to complete the making of the Parshuram SPL’s classic handle.

#### Sheath:

A special treated leather is used to make Parsuram SPL’s sheath similar to the classic ones. This typical sheath is used in order to complete the kukri as a perfect classic kukri that was used by villagers and farmers long time back. The scabbard requires much time, effort and money. The making or preparation of this special kind of buffalo leather is a painstaking job that needs hard work and patience. It goes through a number of stages and requires numerous materials and supplies to complete the process, which, thus may not be possible to mention them all. Therefore briefly speaking, the buffalo hide is submersed in water mixed with salt and lime for almost a month and regularly rubbed by feet to soften the leather. Adding various natural herbs from roots of plants and barks of selected trees is also one of the steps in the process done to prolong the life span of the leather and to avoid decaying. Then the prepared leather is again continuously rubbed, twisted and folded for hours with “Tori ko Pina” (paste of mustard plant achieved after grinding) while making the scabbard to get the natural embossed pattern within the leather. The excessive rubbing of the leather results into tiny beads like mold all over the surface, which makes the scabbard distinctive, attractive, durable and decay free. Then traditional patterns and linings are overlaid all over the scabbard to beautify its look. Finally the finishing touch like the two rounded button like shape (see photo) are mounted and deep pink lining is sewn on the sheath (see photo) to give a classic and authentic look.

#### The man himself::

Born in 1967 in a remote Far East village in Khotang, Diktel, Nepal, Mr. Parshuram BK studied till class 6 in a local village govt. school but soon had to quit his studies to work to help his father financially in order to support his very big family. The only thing he could possibly do then in such a tender age was to work alongside his father to make khukuri since it came from within (instinct) for him as this was something his decedents have been doing for generations. It was in his blood so to speak. Since then there was no looking back. Now at the age of 47, Mr. BK still continues to make khukuri. In such a long career of his as a khukuri maker and a master craftsman Mr. BK has made number of exceptional khukuris of all type and designs but his specialty is the traditional and classic version. Mr. BK still has the strength (does the beating and hammering himself) and the determination to carry on making high quality kukris for many more years to come. He says he would like to continue the profession until the moment his hands and mind are too old to carry any hammer. It is such an honor to work with such a legend. I, the writer, (Saroj Lama Tamang, MD and founder of KHHI) also find it worthwhile to mention that at one time Mr. Parshuram also made handmade traditional pump guns for various individuals purposed for hunting and self defense until it was too risky and officially

banned in his small village.

He is survived by his wife, seven children and four grand children and now temporary lives in Saatdobata, Patan since he joined KHHI in Jan 2014. After this kukri is sold, part of the amount will be bestowed to Mr. Parshuram BK for his outstanding and priceless contribution to enduring and uplifting this amazing, commendable and unique tradition.

Blade size: 13 inches approx (polished)

Handle size: 4.5 inches approx. (polished)

Blade Thickness: 6-7 mm approx. (triangular) and tapering as it finishes at Tip

Weight: 700 gms approx. (Blade + Handle)

**Materials / Features:**

Special treated buffalo leather, Indian Rosewood handle, Brass fixtures, 5160 steel

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**Salyani (Immortal)**

*Salyan, a remote district in west Nepal continues to make the original classic model that was started in historic days when the then Army required khukuri for battles..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 12 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 7mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 650 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 900 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1250 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Collection, Decoration, Defending, Domestic use, Gift
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, KTM, Nepal (released on 12th Sept 2011)
- **CATEGORY:** Classic\_Historic
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Polish

Amongst hundreds of Khukuri makers (Villages) in Nepal, Salyan, a remote district in west Nepal, is the only one that has retained the originality and authenticity of its khukuri of the ancient existence till date completely ignoring the modern demand, time and adjustment. Salyan, the founder of Salyani khukuri continues to make the original classic model (version) that was started in historic days when the then Army required khukuri for battles. One of the major producers of kukris during the 18th and 19th centuries' wars, Salyanese contributed with varied range of kukris amongst which this particular Salyani khukuri is a reproduced model that was extensively used in many battles and also portrayed, including the Gorkha campaign of "Unification of Nepal".

Blade: The shape of the Salyani blade is very unique and distinctive with patterns (carvings) all along the panel of the blade. The blade is semi curved, almost a crescent shape with no shoulder (peak) at all. A series of pattern is forged all along the top panel of the blade on both sides. This is mainly done to give a distinctive identity and also to show craftsmanship at the same time. Salyani since ancient times had various traditional and beautiful patterns (buttas) all over the blade, sometimes with gold and silver decoration, to denote the religious and mythical aspect of the carrier and his ancestor. People of high status and figure were often seen carrying this "Buttewal" Salyanis (full of patterns) to exhibit their power and prowess. This itching in the blade is done by bear hands using very conventional tool thus is very time consuming and requires a great skill.

The bevel of the knife is also much bigger (deeper) than the regular ones. This long elongated deep bevel would facilitate a sharp and sleek edge to inflict deep and deadly cut. The legendary religious notch in place furnishes a typical and classic look to the knife. The semi curved blade of Salyani is slimmer and slender thus lighter.

Scabbard: The scabbard of the Salyani is also very special and laborious. It is where all the time, effort and money is invested. The making or preparation of this special kind of buffalo leather is a painstaking job that needs hard work and patience. It goes through a number of stages and requires numerous materials and supplies to complete the process, which, thus may not be possible to mention all. Therefore in brief, the buffalo hide is submersed in water mixed with salt and lime for almost a month and regularly rubbed by feet to soften the leather. Adding various natural herbs from roots of plants and barks of selected trees is also one of the steps in the process done to prolong the life span of the leather and to avoid decaying. Then the prepared leather is again continuously rubbed, twisted and folded for hours with "Tori ko Pina" (paste of mustard plant achieved after grinding) while making the scabbard to get the natural embossed pattern within the leather. The excessive rubbing of the leather results into tiny beads like mold all over the surface, which makes the scabbard distinctive, attractive, durable and decay free. Traditional pattern and linings are overlaid in the scabbard to beautify its look. This simple yet attractive adornment of the Salyani is its trademark that distinguishes and recognizes the kukri from the rest.

The old version of Salyani did not come with the belt holder as belt was not in practice (use). It was simply tucked in sash at belly. However in today's context the belt frog is fixed to ease carry and mobility.

Handle: It is basic and simple made from Indian Rosewood however longer and slender comparatively. The end portion towards the butt cap of the handle is slightly curved. It has some pattern made in the center of the handle, done to further beautify the whole look. The handle has steel fixtures (bolster and butt cap).

Salyani, the immortal kukri, has come a long way which continues to sustain its amazing legacy, which is as authentic as it was first forged centuries ago is an ideal kukri to own as a show piece, a master collection and is a great utility knife at the same time.

The two accompanying knives, KARDA (small knife) and CHAKMAK (sharpener) do not come with the Salyani.

**Materials / Features:**

Water buffalo treated leather scabbard, rosewood handle, metallic fixtures

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