

# Military\_Standard-Issue\_OLD

## GI2 (Gurkha Issue 2nd)

*GI2; for hardcore Gurkha fans and for serious kukri collector, it would also not disappoint a harsh kukri user..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 15 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 8.5mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 920 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 1150 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1650 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Attacking, Collection, Combat, Fighting, Gift, Lethal, Military, Show Piece
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 1st Jan 2009)
- **CATEGORY:** Military\_Standard-Issue\_OLD
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Unpolish

A fearsome, faithful and functional standard army knife that paved its way through to victory and glory encrypting its name into the history book forever. The exact replicating by KHHI of this one of a kind awesome military issue comes as vacuum filler in the huge collection of the kukri world.

The Great Indian Mutiny in 1857 AD brought the British and Gurkhas closer than never before. Thereafter proper and standard military uniforms, gears and equipments were issued to each Gurkha Soldier as they were changed/upgraded to regular national army from so called local or back up army. GI2 was probably the second standard kukri issued to Gurkhas that initiated from very early of the 20th Century. The Great World War or 1st World War enforced mass production of GI2 numbering into thousands. GI2 was seen in action in frontlines like Gallipoli, Mesopotamia, France, Egypt, Sharqat, Ypres, Loos and many more. Unlike the other GIs, GI2 is rarely marked or stamped. A few models have been seen stamped with "FW" letters which may be the inspection mark from "Fort William". The actual production of this khukuri started from 1903 to 1915 till the end of the 1st World War. The kukri was extensively used

by Gurkhas in the battle as their main weapon / armor as guns and ammunition were scarce and of poor quality. GI2 is a very large and heavy kukri measuring almost 15" long (blade only). Since the user had to rely on the knife as the main back up weapon the long blade was specifically designed to attack, not to defend. The shape is also unusual; more straight, broad panel and flat belly. However the most interesting part is the handle; very short compared to the very long blade (relatively). It has a rat tail tang that goes all the way through the handle and fixed by a diamond shape steel keeper. Butt cap is completely discarded. The wooden handle is fat and straight with thick circular ridge made for easier grip. The scabbard is made from buffalo hide, painted black having flat inner wooden frame underneath it. A brown colored frog is used to probably match it with the belt and holster of the carrying soldier. Like any other GIs, both small knives (Karda /Chakmak) are discarded.

"GI2; for hardcore Gurkha fans and for serious kukri collector, it would also not disappoint a harsh kukri user"

### Materials / Features:

Water buffalo leather scabbard, Indian rosewood handle, Brown leather frog

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### GI3 (Gurkha Issue 3rd)

*KHHI pays its tribute and reproduces this original war kukri for kukri fanatics..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 13 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 9.5mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 900 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 1100 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1600 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Attacking, Collection, Combat, Defending, Fighting, Gift, Heavy Duty, Hunting, Lethal, Military, Show Piece
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 1st Jan 2009)
- **CATEGORY:** Military\_Standard-Issue\_OLD
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Unpolish

An exclusive and excellent product by KHHI that is a true legend that carved the history by its decisive swing. It is with the power and employ of this kukri that the Gurkhas earned a fearsome and respectful reputation as the most formidable soldiers on Earth.

GI3 is one of the many standard issue kukris of the Gurkhas in post WW1 and particularly in WW2. The name GI3 is given so because of KHHI's deep research on Military Kukris point to the fact that this knife probably falls in the 3rd number of the numbers of kukris issued to Gurkhas. Officially starting and counting from 1857 after the Great Indian Mutiny where the Gurkhas earned high respect and recognition from their British counterparts, it is our belief that GI3 is arguably the 3rd numbered official standard issue to the Gurkhas by the British authority.

The GI3 was in good production and already issued to the soldiers by 1915, and this continued until at least 1944 thus making it as the largest military kukri ever produced or used by the Gurkhas; as the strength of soldiers were significantly increased, sometimes 5000 heads per enlistment, for imminent war objectives and threats. The kukri was initially manufactured by many local companies and individuals in India like the DHW, RGB, E Boota & Sons and later, pre and during WW2, well known companies like ATD (Army Traders Dahrudun), MIL, Pioneer Calcutta, Queera Bros and others produced the kukri in massive scale to keep up with the demands. (Please be notified that all these name of companies have been taken from the engravings or stampings found in the original GI3s). Most GI3s would have stampings like the name of the manufacturer or inspector, manufacturing or inspection date, company/regiment initials etc and an arrow mark pointing up to symbolize official or authorized issue.

The unpolished blade is 13 inch long with deep belly and broad main body, curved shaped with almost flat shoulder (Peak). It has a typical khukuri shape from the history however handle is significantly modified from its ancient siblings. A distinctive handle where the tang is flat, goes all the way through the handle and fixed with two rivets on both sides. The wooden handle also curves downward as it finishes towards the butt cap. Steel fixtures are used to enhance the fitting process. The handle and its fixtures are polished unlike the blade (unpolished). GI3 has a regular leather case with a protective steel chape. The interior wooden box is flat and wrapped by black colored water buffalo hide. The leather frog has twin belt loops at the back for the belt to go through and a fasten-up leather string to tie the two ends of the frog.

Can be used for just about anything as a cutting knife and a utility tool but since the knife carries so much history and honor KHHI highly recommends this master piece for collection or decoration as a remarkable and a commemorative historic symbol.

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

Water buffalo leather scabbard, full flat tang riveted curved wooden handle, twin belt loops frog

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#### **GI4 (Gurkha Issue 4th)**

*Most popular world war kukri reproduced by KHHI to sustain its amazing legacy..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 13 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 9.5mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 875 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 1075 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1500 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Attacking, Collection, Combat, Defending, Fighting, Gift, Heavy Duty, Hunting, Lethal, Military, Show Piece
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 1st Jan 2009)
- **CATEGORY:** Military\_Standard-Issue\_OLD
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Polish

Gurkhas with GI4 in World War II demonstrated awesome feat of military prowess and unswervingly courage and thus in the course permanently registered themselves in the glorious history, later which even succeeded in creating myths and legends of unbelievable tales to this day. With GI4 in a Gurkha's hand, in a close combat situation, the enemy could not expect what's next; as we are all too familiar with the beheading of enemy in a single blow, such was the outcome and reputation of the man and his unique knife.

With the beginning of the first kukri officially issued to Gurkhas after the Great Mutiny in 1857 where British finally comprehended the Gurkhas, it is our belief that GI4 is probably the number 4th official standard Gurkha knife issued by British as part of the army dress and equipment. GI4 was significantly produced during World War II in 1943-45 and was commonly used by all Gurkha units. It was designed for easy and fast production and was made by many companies so production may have reached even thousands as demands really steeped in the out break of the World War. Like the issued knives it also had the stampings representing manufacturer, inspector and issued date/year etc. Companies like MIL, WSC (Windlass Steel Crafts), CMW, Chowdri & DKW made very high quality GI4 that were easily distinctive from others of the same type.

It is still the most commonly issued kukri to the Indian Armed Forces and largely used by Indian Gorkha Army units across the country.

The 13 inch long kukri is highly polished unlike other GI kukris and has a pointed-alike overall shape where the main body is not so broad. It has a religious “Cho” like other khukuris made on practical and religious motives. The contour of the wooden handle is such that the best possible grip is offered by it. The full flat tang of the blade goes all the way through the unique handle which is secured by rivets on both sides and further fixed by steel pommel from the end. Surprisingly the regular bolster is completely ignored or discarded in this type; perhaps the creator wanted to break from the typical khukuri look or may be the need for a bolster was never there. Nonetheless both scabbards of GI4 and GI3 are exactly the same. It has a regular leather case with a protective steel chape. The interior wooden box is flat and wrapped by black colored water buffalo hide. The leather frog has twin belt loops at the back for the belt to go through and a fasten-up leather string to fasten the two ends of the frog.

GI4 is the most popular and commonly used kukri by the Gurkhas in WW II that made Gurkhas so famous and formidable, thus highly recommended for collection as the historic icon. Nevertheless can also be used as a domestic or utility knife after all it was and is produced as a versatile working and fighting knife.

### **Materials / Features:**

Water buffalo leather scabbard, full flat tang riveted single bold ridge wooden handle, twin belt loops frog

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### **Khaki Issue (20th Century)**

*In the early and mid years of 20th century Gurkhas were also issued with this type..*



- **BLADE SIZE:** 12 inches approx.
- **THICKNESS:** 8mm approx.
- **ACTUAL WEIGHT:** 615 grams
- **OVERALL WEIGHT:** 825 grams
- **SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 1175 grams
- **FUNCTION:** Attacking, Collection, Combat, Fighting, Gift, Military, Outdoor, Regular work
- **ORIGIN:** KHHI, Kathmandu, Nepal (released on 2nd Jan 2008)
- **CATEGORY:** Military\_Standard-Issue\_OLD
- **BLADE FINISHING:** Semi-Polish

The excessive study and research by Khukuri House Handicraft Industry and the historic documentations support the fact that in the early and mid years of 20th century Gurkha Soldiers were also issued with kukris camouflaged with “khaki” (olive yellow canvas) for various operations at different places; replicated here as “Khaki Issue” by KHHI to represent it. It is believed that in 1930’s the practice of covering the kukri scabbard with khaki cloth appears to stem from about this time when Gurkhas were called upon to secure the North-West frontier, an area rarely at peace. However it is also believed that it started much earlier in 1915 when Gurkhas were deployed in the Middle East during 1st world war. Similarly the practice also followed in the outbreak of 2nd world war in series of operations when Gurkhas landed in Sicily and in Italy in 1944-45. Likewise the Khaki version of the World War kukri was issued in 1945 when Gurkhas played a crucial role in containing the Japanese invasions and in regaining the lost territories in the Far East during the 2nd World War. This practice initiated when Gurkhas adopted themselves to best suit the environment, surroundings and to perfectly cope with the places to maximize their output. The total uniform/outfit was replaced by khaki in the above mentioned fronts and so was the kukri, to camouflage from the enemies’ eyes. The blade is basically the “World War” version but slightly larger (the exact size used). The scabbard is made from buffalo hide like the standard ones but wrapped by Khaki fabric from outside. A brown leather frog as depicted in the picture is for the belt to go through to hang the kukri from the waist. An extra effort to fix a leather string (loop) in the frog also comes handy to hang the kukri on wall for display. The wooden handle, as found in original ones, is slightly curved towards the end for better and more comfortable grip. Two accompanying knives are discarded to deliver the final touch of the original version issued then.

The “Khaki Issue” is the exact replica of the original version issued to the Gurkhas in the early and mid 20th century made after the intensive study by KHHI. It is truly a legendary kukri from the glorious history of the Gurkhas reproduced by KHHI for collection and at the same time a true utility knife when it comes to cutting.

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

Black normal leather scabbard wrapped by Khaki fabric, rosewood handle, unpolished blade, Brown leather frog with a loop string

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