

***Tum-us-kot-pasuy* (Chopsticks)**

Tum-us-kot-pasuy are finely carved chopsticks used for special events and rituals. Each chopstick, including the small part that dangles from the top, is carved from one piece of wood. They are often given by parents to their children as gifts on joyous occasions such as a first birthday celebration. If the infant manages to break the dangling part off, it is considered a sign of strength and health. Parents sometimes give their adult sons and daughters a new set of chopsticks on their wedding day. The top half of *tum-us-kot-pasuy* usually feature traditional geometric designs, which carry spiritual and protective significance.