

The flower **tiare** is known as the queen of Tahitian flowers, with its white petals arranged in the form of a star. **Tiare** is a type of gardenia, and its Latin name is *gardenia tahitensis*. Tahitian women and men have a particular affection for the *tiare*. This flower is traditionally a symbol for very strong feelings of love and friendship. It is believed that the beauty and the soft perfume of the *tiare* have the power to arouse unknown feelings of fullness, humility and kindness. Traditionally the people in Tahiti put the flower *tiare* behind the ear to show they are in peace and sharing with others the joy of life and the happiness to be together.

(Translated by: Kim, Tascha and Byron)