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G.N. Phukan's 'Primer and Grammar of Ahom (Tai) Language

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J.N. PHUKAN

An introductory Primer & Grammar of Ahom (Tai) Language

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Introduction by the editor

Professor J. N. Phukan's *Ahom Primer* is unique, and we thought it was a pity to leave it unpublished. We believe it will be useful both for Tai languages students and for researchers working on Assam lore and history. Professor Phukan decided to call it a *Primer*, but this book is far more than that. It is also the only philological introduction to date in the vast *buranji* literature, in English language at least.

Ahom is a “dead” language, and is associated with the Tai people who “landed” in Assam in the 12th century and further extended their rule from the 15th to the 19th century. Many documents (most of them *buranjis* : chronicles) are written in this language, which are of paramount importance for Tai comparative studies and as primary sources for the history of North-Eastern India. Most of these documents are not published, but are deposited in various institutions, among which the *Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies*, in Gauhati (Assam, India).

The typing of Professor Phukan's *Primer* was made possible thanks to the electronic font cleverly devised by Stephen Morey, the Australian specialist of Tai languages of Assam.

The reader will find here the exact text of Prof. Phukan’s book, minus the Assamese text ; in Prof. Phukan’s manuscript explanations are given, with identical meaning, in English and in Assamese.

Prof. Phukan’s book includes a *Primer* divided in 18 lessons (all with vocabulary and exercises); a Grammar ; and lists of useful vocabulary (specially for people who intend to decipher the historical *buranjis*).

N.B. The manuscript copy which was provided by Professor J.N. Phukan did not include the table of letters, with transcription, which we added in the beginning. This table, and the transcription, was made according to the system which is used in the book.

We are very thankful Professor Phukan completely checked his earlier version for this on line publication.

Within this *Brahmaputra Project*, this revised version is now easily accessible on line.

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Ahom alphabet and the transcription used in this book

Consonants

ᩉ	ᩈ	ᩇ	ᩆ
k	kh	g	ng
ᩄ	ᩃ	ᩂ	ᩁ
t	th	d	n
ᩉ	ᩈ	ᩇ	ᩆ
p	ph	b	m

ᩉ	ᩈ		ᩆ
s	ch		ny
ᩉ	ᩈ	ᩇ	ᩆ
y	r	l	h

Syllabic patterns

Syllables often are consonant + vowel
or consonant + vowel + consonant

In this latter case, the final consonant is marked with a superscript ^ᩈ, for instance in ᩉᩈᩆ *kun*. This is described in lesson 1. The final consonant *-m* is often written by a superscript ^ᩈ, as in ᩉᩈᩆ *dam* (see Lesson 2).

In the rare cases when the syllable begins with a vowel, the vowel sign is added to the letter ᩈ, for instance in ᩈᩆ *on*.

The sign ᩈ, which is used as a vowel sign, is also used as a sentence ending marker and, when double ᩈᩈ as a paragraph ending mark.

Vowels (see Lesson 3)

When no vowel sign is added, the vowel sound is a /a/, for instance in ᩈᩆ *tat*.

In the orthography chosen for this *Primer*, there are two groups of vowel signs. To the first group belong vowel signs that are supposed to indicate 'long' and 'short' vowels :

short	long
ᩈ	ᩈ
a	â
o	o
i	î
u	û
ᩈ	ᩈ ᩈ

e	ê
---	---

To this traditional group, may be added another couple, which J.N. Phukan transcribes in a different way:

◌◌	◌◌ ◌
a	aw

The transcription of the subscript ◌ by 'a' is not felicitous, because of the possible confusion with the unwritten vowel which is also transcribed 'a'. This is because in Indian scripts, two 'a' are usually contrasted : one 'long a', or 'â', which is normally pronounced [a] and one 'short a' which in Assamese is pronounced [ɑ], an open [o] ; consequently, it seems very normal for Assamese trained scholars to write 'a' something which is pronounced [o]. Moreover, this subscript small circle which is often found in scripts of Indian origin corresponds to a [w] or [v] sound, and this is also the case in Ahom : see Lesson 10.

The second group is actually made of various diphthongs :

◌◌	◌◌
ai	au
◌◌	◌◌
oi	ow
◌◌	◌
ao	o
◌◌	◌
iao	iu

Here again the choice of transcribing ◌ by 'o', for instance in ◌ 'mong' "country", is not happy. It is obvious that Professor Phukan is worried here, since there is no indication about ◌ in the Lessons. Tai languages specialists currently think that this sign notes a central vowel like [ɤ].

We will also often find a sign group ◌◌ which is not commented upon in the Lessons.

Professor Terwiel suggested that the sign ◌ is another writing of ◌, but in Professor Phukan's book, the two graphs seem distinct.

Modifications used in the lexicons at the end of this book

In order to provide an unambiguous transcription, slight modifications are used in the appended lexicons :

◌	◌	◌◌	◌◌
o	ü	üw	iüw

Part 1 : Lessons

Lesson 1

Exercise 1 :

Identify the following letters :

អ ក ខ គ ឃ ង ច ប ម ក រ ល វ ឃ ង ឆ
 ឆ ង ឆ ង ក រ ក រ ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង
 ម ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង ង

Note : Every letter of the consonant series is accompanied by the sound â and therefore ក, ខ, ង etc. are read as kâ, khâ, ngâ, etc. For this reason two consonants can form a word without the help of any vowel sign. In such case, the sign ̂, called sât is placed above the second consonant. This sign extinguishes the second â from the second letter. Thus, កង (read as) = kân, កង (read as) = pâk, កង (read as) = phâk, កង (read as) = khâp, etc.

Vocabulary 1 :

មង	he
កង	bite V*
ង	see V
មង	fruit
កង	middle
កង	market

ង	day
ង	sword
ង	grandchild
ង	vegetable
ង	elephant
ង	hundred

* V means 'verb'.

ង ង	hundred days
កង ង	vegetable market
ង មង	his elephant
កង ង	at day time
មង ង	vegetable seed
ង ង	his grandchild
មង ង ង	he sees elephant

Exercise 2 : Translate :

- a) ង ង ង ង កង កង
- b) ង ង ង ង ង ង
- c) ង ង ង ង ង ង ង
- d) មង កង ង ង ង ង ង
- e) មង ង ង ង ង ង ង
- f) ង កង ង ង ង ង ង

Exercise 3 : Translate :

- a) at day time
- b) vegetable seed
- c) his elephant
- d) grandchild's sword
- e) grandchild sees elephant
- f) vegetable (from) market
- g) he sees (the) sword
- h) hundred grandchild

Lesson 2

๖ = ° At the end of a word ๖ is represented by the symbol ° sitting above the consonant slightly towards the left. It carries the sound âm such as ๖ khâm, ๖ nâm, ๖ dâm.

Vocabulary 2 :

๖	water
๖	ask V
๖	black
๖	gold
๖	good

๖	at
๖	three
๖	and
๖	bell

Exercise 4 : Translate :

- a) ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖
- b) ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖
- c) ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖
- d) ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖ ๖

Exercise 5 : Translate :

- a) gold water
- b) he sees elephant
- c) he asks grandchild
- d) grandchild sees him
- e) grandchild asks him
- f) three black horses
- g) gold bell
- h) ask him

Lesson 3

Vowel signs

There are no vowel letters in the Ahom language but vowel signs only. These signs do not express any meaning or form any word by themselves. They are combined with consonants to form words.

Symbol	Power of symbol	Position of the symbol (with letter <u>k</u> as example)
;	a (short)	m;
ꠘ	â (long)	mꠘ
o	i (short)	m ^o
ø	î (long)	m ^ø
ꠘ	u (short)	mꠘ
ꠘ	û (long)	mꠘ
ꠘ	e (short)	ꠘm
ꠘꠘ	ê (long)	ꠘm ^ꠘ
ꠘ	âi (as in <u>pâi</u>)	m ^ꠘ
o	a (as in <u>kan</u>)	m _o
ꠘ	âu	m ^ꠘ
o	âo	m _o
ꠘ	ow	m _o ^ꠘ
ꠘ	oi (as in <u>loi</u>)	m _o ^ꠘ
ꠘꠘ	aw (as in <u>maw</u>)	ꠘmꠘ
o _o	iao	m _o ^o
o	iu	m _o

Ahom is a tonal language. The meaning of a word depends on tone. A slight variation in the tone changes the meaning of a word. It is, therefore, very important to learn the vowel sound carefully from a speaker of the language.

;

This sign sits on the right hand side of the consonants. It carries the sound of a (short) such as m; ka, ꠘ; kha, o; ta.

ꠘ

This sign sits on the right hand side of consonants. It carries the sound of â (long) such as ꠘ mâ, ꠘ pâ, etc.

Note : Any of the two signs ; or ꠘ when added to a consonant forms a complete word. they cannot, therefore, be followed by any letter in the same word. For this reason these signs are called FINALS.

Exercise 6 : Read :

ꠘ; m; ꠘ; o; u; ꠘ; ꠘ;

ꠘ; u; ꠘ; ꠘ; mꠘ uꠘ ꠘꠘ

၎် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ်

Vocabulary 3 :

ဗ်	come V
မ်	go V
ဗ်	say V
ဖ်	grass
ဗ်	horse
ၵ်	eye

ဗ်	tooth
၎်	field
ဗ်	cloth
ၵ်	servant
ၵ်	five
ဗ်	PROHIBITIVE

The prohibitive particle sits before the verb.

Exercise 7 : Translate :

- a) ၵ် ဗ် ၵ် ဗ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဗ်
- b) ဗ် ဖ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဖ် ၵ် ၵ် ဖ်
- c) ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဗ်
- d) ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဗ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဗ်
- e) ၵ် ဗ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ၵ် ဗ် ဗ်

Exercise 8 : Translate :

- a) grandchild's servant
- b) grandchild's horse
- c) five fruits
- d) fruit market
- e) water (of) eye
- f) his cloth
- g) do not go
- h) do not go (to) market
- i) he says, 'do not go (to) market'
- j) grandchild sees elephant

Lesson 4

° This sign sits above a consonant towards right. It carries the sound of i / e such as ၵ် ngin, ၵ် tin, ၵ် kin.

Vocabulary 4 :

ၵ်	eat V
ၵ်	call V
ၵ်	become V

ၵ်	silver (money)
ၵ်	knife
ၵ်	book

၎်ကံ	worship V
၎်အ်	make V
၎်ဗ်	ten
၎်ဋ်	cold
၎်အ်	seven

၎်အ်	eight
၎်ဗ်	town
၎်ဋ်	soil
၎်ဋ်	stone
၎်ဗ်	ten

Exercise 9 : Translate :

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| a) | ဋ် န်ဋ် | ဗဋ် ထံ နဋ် | ဗဋ် ကံဋ် ဗကံ |
| b) | ၎်အ် ဗျ | ၎်ဋ် ဗ; ဎ်ဗ် | ၎်ဋ် ဗ; ထံ ဗဋ် |
| c) | ၎်ဗ် န်ကံ | ဗဋ် န်ကံ နဋ် | ဗျ ကံဋ် န်; |
| d) | ၎်အ် ဎ်ဋ် | ၎်ဋ် ကံဋ် နကံ | ဎ်ဋ် ဋျ ဎ် |
| e) | ဎ်ဗ် ဎ်အ် ဎ် | ၎်ဗ် ကံဋ် န်; | ဗဋ် နျ နျ ကံဋ် နကံ |

Exercise 10 : Translate :

- a) do not say
- b) ten years
- c) cold water
- d) do not drink cold water
- e) elephants eat grass
- f) he goes to field
- g) soil of field (is) good
- h) 'mit' knife from market (is) good

Lesson 5

° This sign sits above a consonant towards right. It carries the sound of i / e (long) such as ဎ် ပိ, ဎ် မိ, ဎ် ညိ, etc.

Vocabulary 5 :

၎်	spirit
ဎ်	have V
၎်	ride V
၎်	four
၎်	granary

၎်	to
ဎ်	good
၎်	year
၎်	fan
ဎ်	bear

Exercise 11 :

- | | | |
|----|------------------|--------------------|
| a) | ဗဋ် န်ကံ ဎ် | ဗဋ် ဎ် ဎ်ဗ် က; ကအ် |
| b) | ၎်ဋ် က; ၎် ဎ်ဗ် | ၎်ဗ် ဎ် ဎ် ဎ် |
| c) | ၎် ဎ်ဗ် ကံဋ် န်; | ဗဋ် ဎ် ဎ် ဎ်ကံ |

d) ឃ្លា ៗ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់

Exercise 12 :

- a) He worships the spirit of water
- b) He goes to market riding on horse
- c) He says, 'He drinks cold water'
- d) He has four good fans
- e) Grandchild has four granaries

Lesson 6

This sign sits below the letter towards the right side. It carries the sound of u such as ក្រុង kun, ក្រុង lung.

Vocabulary 6 :

ក្រុង	man
ក្រុង	big
ក្រុង	tree
ក្រុង	fall V
ក្រុង	king
ក្រុង	mouth

ក្រុង	banana
ក្រុង	garden
ក្រុង	bird
ក្រុង	child
ក្រុង	dig V
ក្រុង	six

Exercise 13 : Translate :

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ក្រុង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ៗ ម្នាក់ | ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង | ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង |
| ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ក្រុង | ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង | ក្រុង ម្នាក់ ក្រុង ក្រុង |
| ក្រុង ម្នាក់ ក្រុង ក្រុង | ម្នាក់ ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង | ក្រុង ក្រុង ម្នាក់ ក្រុង |
| ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង | ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង | |

Exercise 14 : Translate :

- a) Birds eat fruit
- b) Ten men are eating banana
- c) Grandchild sees big elephant
- d) Birds eat fruits of big tree
- e) Ten childs drink water
- f) Elephant tusk is big
- g) The king calls his servant
- h) King's son rides elephant

Lesson 7

This sign sits below the consonant towards the right side. It carries the power of ê (long) such as ᄀ rê, ᄁ juê, etc.

Vocabulary 7 :

ᄀ	head, beginning
ᄁ	bridge
ᄂ	cow
ᄃ	see V, keep V
ᄄ	animal
ᄅ	pig

ᄆ	stay V
ᄇ	grandfather
ᄈ	every
ᄉ	snake
ᄊ	man (person)
ᄋ	look V

Exercise 15 : Translate :

ᄇ ᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆ ᄆᄃ ᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄁ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ
ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ
ᄆᄃ ᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ
ᄆ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆ ᄆᄃ
ᄆ ᄆᄃ	ᄆ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ	ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ ᄆᄃ

Exercise 16 : Translate :

- Every day cow eats grass
- Every day grandfather comes to banana garden
- The pig is staying at the end of the bridge
- Birds stay in big tree
- Every year he worships spirit

Lesson 8

ᄌ This sign sits in front of the letter. It has the sound of e (short) such as ᄌᄆ ke, ᄌᄇ pe, ᄌᄈ te etc.

ᄌᄀ Of the two signs, the first sign sits in front of the consonant, the second above it but towards right. They have the sound of ê (long) such as ᄌᄀᄆ pê, ᄌᄀᄇ mê, ᄌᄀᄈ chê etc.

Vocabulary 8 :

ᄌᄀᄆ	dish
ᄌᄀᄈ	town
ᄌᄀᄃ	conquer V
ᄌᄀᄄ	mother

ᄌᄀᄆ	river
ᄌᄀᄈ	old
ᄌᄀᄆ	PERFECTIVE

The perfective particle indicates the completion of an act.

Exercise 17 : Translate :

၎င်းတို့ နိုင်ငံ	မင်း ဗား ယူ နှစ် နှစ်	၎င်းတို့ နေရာ
မင်းတို့ ၎င်းတို့	၎င်းတို့ ဗား ယူ နှစ်	၎င်းတို့ ထံ မင်းတို့
မင်းတို့ ၎င်းတို့	မင်းတို့ ၎င်းတို့ ဗား ယူ ၎င်းတို့	၎င်းတို့ ဘုရား ၎င်းတို့ ယူ ၎င်းတို့
၎င်းတို့ ၎င်းတို့		

Exercise 18 : Translate :

- a) The king conquered four big cities
- b) The mouth of the river is big
- c) His mother eats fruit
- d) Mother says, 'do not worship spirit'
- e) There is big tree in the garden
- f) Every day the old man goes to town

Lesson 9

' This sign sits above the letter on the right hand side. It has the sound of âi such as ကံ kâi, ပံ pâi, etc.

Vocabulary 9 :

ဇံ	feast
ဇံ	shining
ကံ	sand
ကံ	fire
မံ	wood
ကံ	fowl

နံ	this
ကံ	letter
ကံ	egg
ကံ	die V
ပံ	go V
နံ	get V

Exercise 19 : Translate

မင်း ပံ ၎င်းတို့	ဗူး ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း ပံ မိမိ ၎င်းတို့
မင်း ၎င်းတို့	ကံ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း ပံ မိမိ ဇံ ၎င်းတို့
နံ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း မိမိ ဇံ	ဗူး ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့
ကံ ကံ	ဗူး မိမိ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း နံ မင်း ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့

Exercise 20 : Translate

- a) Grandchild calls pig
- b) This bird lives in this tree

- c) Four eggs of this fowl
- d) He writes this book
- e) This year he built storehouse
- f) This fowl died
- g) The king goes to the big town
- h) The old man eats meal

Lesson 10

◦ This sign sits below the letter towards right. It removes the sound a from the consonant such as ກວຸ້ນ khvan, ກວຸ້ມ khvam.

Vocabulary 10 :

ກຸ້ຍ	cannon
ຊຸ້ຍ	lake
ຊຸ້ນ	sleep V
ທຸ້ຍ	two
ທຸ້ນ	ask V

ທຸ້ອ	burn V
ກວຸ້ນ	vitality, life force
ທຸ້ຍ	go downstream V
ສຸ້ນ	spear
ທຸ້ຍ	brass

Exercise 21 : Translate :

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ຜີ ທຸ້ຍ ມ; ພູ ຈາວ ຊຸ້ນ ຊຸ້ນ ອາ ອາ ຍາ ຍາ ທຸ້ຍ ຊຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ວາ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຊຸ້ນ ຜີ ທຸ້ຍ ມ; ພູ ອາ ມາ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ທຸ້ອ ພ ພ ອາ ອາ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຊຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຊຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ມ; ກວຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ສຸ້ນ ກວຸ້ນ ອາ ຊຸ້ນ |
|--|---|

Exercise 22 : Translate

- a) Two years and two months
- b) Two drums and two spears
- c) Grandfather sleeps at daytime
- d) Do not ask for this book
- e) The bird is in the middle of the lake
- f) Grandchild's spear is big
- g) Father called the khvan
- h) Mother says, 'do not sleep at day time'
- i) He comes downstream the river
- j) This year his granary was burnt by fire

Lesson 11

- a) Mother brings new cloth
- b) The messenger is bringing a book
- c) The old man brings stick
- d) Bring the stick
- e) Two young men go to market
- f) The messenger said, 'where did he go ?'
- g) Nine persons come from town
- h) This old man is their grandfather

Lesson 14

◌◌◌ Of the two signs, one sits below right side and the other above right side. Their combination gives the sound of oi, such as woi, moi, boi.

Vocabulary 14 :

ꨀ	hill, mountain
ꨁ	pray V
ꨂ	swim V
ꨃ	buffalo

ꨄ	again
ꨅ	tribute
ꨆ	small
ꨇ	COMP

The COMP particle ꨇ sits after the verb to indicate the completion of act.

Exercise 29 : Translate :

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| ꨃ ꨂ ꨁ ꨀ | ꨂꨀ ꨄ ꨂ ꨀ |
| ꨂꨀ ꨁ ꨀ ꨀ | ꨁ ꨀ ꨂ ꨀ ꨀ ꨂꨀ |
| ꨀ ꨂ ꨀ | ꨂꨀ ꨄ ꨂ ꨀ ꨀ |
| ꨀ ꨁ ꨂ ꨀ ꨀ | ꨂ ꨀ ꨁ ꨀ ꨀ |
| ꨀ ꨁ ꨀ ꨀ | ꨀ ꨂ ꨀ ꨀ ꨀ ꨀ |

Exercise 30 : Translate :

- a) The hill is small
- b) There is no tree in this hill
- c) He prays to god
- d) Little birds cannot swim
- e) The buffalo is under the tree
- f) He said again to the king
- g) Which bird lives in the hill
- h) Do not swim in the water at the river
- i) Two messengers bring tribute to the king
- j) He has no child

Lesson 15

၎် ၎် Of the two signs, one sits in front of and the other after the consonant. they carry the sound of aw such as ၎် po', ၎် ho', ၎် to' etc.

Vocabulary 15 :

၎်	neck
၎်	palace
၎်	father
၎်	fight V

၎်	spike
၎်	priest
၎်	a unit of land measurement
၎်	CL human being

Exercise 31 : Translate :

၎် ဟံ ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်

၎် ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်
 ၎် ၎် ၎် ၎်

Exercise 32 : Translate :

- The king stays in the palace
- The old man told him
- King's father went to the palace
- This year I saw buffaloes fighting
- Two *puras* of land (din)
- The old king comes to this hill and prays to the spirit of this hill
- Two priests worship the spirit of water

Lesson 16

၎် ၎် Of the three signs, one sits above the consonant, the other two after the consonant. They carry the sound of something like ieo such as ၎် mieo, ၎် kieo, ၎် sieo, etc.

Vocabulary 16 :

၎်	swift
၎်	basket
၎်	finger

၎်	bangle
၎်	cat
၎်	catch V

Exercise 33 : Translate :

နို့ ဗ	ဗို ဗ် နို့ နှစ်
လို့ ဝံ ဗ	ကျွန် နို့ ဝံ ကံ နို့ လေ
လို့ နို့ နှစ်	လက် ယူ နို့ နို့
လို့ နို့ ကံ	ဗို နို့ ယူ နို့
လို့ ဗ် နို့ လေ နို့ နို့	

Exercise 34 :

- a) This is our cat
- b) This cat is ours
- c) Cat catches bird
- d) Our men went and fought
- e) This river is swift
- f) The cat is in the basket
- g) He caught tiger in the hill
- h) Gold bangle is beautiful to look at

Lesson 17

◌ Of the two signs, one sits above the right side and the other below right side. they carry the sound of iu such as နို့ ngiun, နို့ riun, နို့ liung.

Vocabulary 17 :

လို့	white
လို့	month
လို့	night
လို့	arrive V
လို့	house

လို့	one
လို့	enjoyment
လို့	sheet
လို့	kingdom
လို့	silver

Exercise 35 : Translate :

လို့ လို့	ကံ လို	ဗ် လို့ လို့ လို့ လို့
လို့ လို့ လို့ လို့	ဗ် ဗ် ကံ လို လို့	
လို့ လို့ ကံ လို လို့	လို့ လို့ ဗ် ဗ် လို့	
လို့ လို့ လို့ လို့	ဗ် ဗ် လို့ လို့ လို့	

Exercise 36 : Translate :

- a) There was a king in a kingdom
- b) I have a big house in the town
- c) White tiger does not sleep at night
- d) You have white horse
- e) I have one big silver plate

- f) He arrived at namrup at night
- g) He stayed at home for three months

Lesson 18

Vocabulary 18 :

ဇုန်	boat
ဗုန်	cause
ဘုန်	name

မိန်	time
ကိန်	tiger
မိန်	salt

Exercise 37 : Translate :

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| ဖ် ကျိန် ယု ဇုန် ကိ | မိန် ဝဲန် ကိ ဂ် ဟ် ကိန် |
| ကိန် မိန် ယု ဘုန် | ယု ဟ် ဝဲန် ယု ကိ ဂ် |
| ကိန် ယု ဂ် ဝဲန် | ကျိန် ဝဲန် ဟ် ကိ ယု မိန် ဟ် |
| မိန် ယု ကိ ဇုန် | ဟိန် ကိ ဇုန် မိ ယု ဂ် ကိ |

Exercise 38 : Translate :

- a) Tiger eats cow and buffalo
- b) My name is Chao Kun
- c) He goes to the market in a big boat
- d) The messenger went to catch tiger
- e) Do not go to the field at this time
- f) Nowadays people do not fight elephant
- g) Buffalo eats salt
- h) The white tiger came at night
- i) He lives in house-boat
- j) Salt is in the boat

Part 2 : Grammar

Numerals

1	တံး
2	တံး
3	သံ
4	တံး
5	တံး
6	တံး
7	တံး
8	တံး
9	တံး
10	တံး
11	တံး တံး
12	တံး တံး
13	တံး သံ
19	တံး တံး
20	တံး
21	တံး တံး
22	တံး တံး
30	သံ တံး
31	သံ တံး တံး
40	တံး တံး
50	တံး တံး
90	တံး တံး
100	တံး တံး
101	တံး တံး တံး
200	တံး တံး
1000	တံး တံး
1001	တံး တံး တံး
1002	တံး တံး တံး
2000	တံး တံး
2001	တံး တံး တံး တံး
3000	သံ တံး
10 000	တံး

20 000	၈ ဝိ ဝိ
1.00.000	၈
2.00.000	၈ ၈
3.00.000	၈ ၈

Numeral signs

1	၈	၈	၈
2	၈	၂	၂
3	၈	၃	၃
4	၈	၄	၄
5	၈	၅	၅
6	၈	၆	၆
7	၈	၇	၇
8	၈		၈
9	၈	၉, ၉	၉, ၉
10	၈		

Remember the difference :

၈ ၈	10
၈ ၈	11
၈ ၈	20
၈ ၈	21
၈ ၈	30
၈ ၈ ၈	31
၈၈ / ၈ ၈	40
၈ ၈ ၈	41

once	၈ ၈
twice	၈ ၈
thrice	၈ ၈

first	၈ ၈
second	၈ ၈
third	၈ ၈
fourth	၈ ၈
fifth	၈ ၈
sixth	၈ ၈

Noun

On the basis of formation, nouns in Ahom language may be grouped into two classes :

A - single-word noun

B - multi-word noun

A/ Single-word nouns are formed by one word only :

ৱ	leg
ৱে	elephant
দি	water
ৱদি	tree
দি	field
ৱদি	village

ৱ	gold
ৱু	mouth
ৱ	eye
ৱদি	grand-child
ৱ	place
ৱ	hill

B/ Compound nouns are formed by the combination of two or more words. For instance :

ৱ ৱ	fire-place
ৱদি ৱদি	east

দি ৱ	tears
ৱদি ৱদি	rain

Compound nouns are formed in several ways :

(1) By suffixing words meaning 'male' or 'female' to class names of living beings :

ৱদি ৱ	issue, child + male
ৱ ৱে	person + female
ৱ ৱদি	buffalo + male

son
woman
male buffalo

(2) By combining two unrelated single-word nouns in a sense of some relationship or in a possessive form, the possessor following the thing possessed :

ৱে ৱে	stable + elephant
ৱ ৱদি	edge + house
ৱ ৱ	master + store
ৱ ৱ	place + fire
দি ৱ	water + eye

elephant stable
edge of house
store-keeper
hearth
tears

(3) By combining two single-word nouns having some sort of relation between them or identical meaning :

ৱদি ৱদি	country + village
---------	-------------------

country

ນຸກົ່ ນຸດີ	son + grandson	descendants
ຳ ຫລ	down + sky	the world
ບໍ ຊິ້	elder + younger	brothers
ຢືດ ຫດີ	time + day	time

(4) By combining a noun and a verb ; the verb following the noun :

ຕີ ານົມ	water + fall V	waterfalls
ຫຼັງ ຫຍື	earth + burn V	brick
ຫລ ຫຍື	cloth + wipe V	towel

(5) By combining a verb and a noun ; the verb preceding and acting on the noun :

ຫາກ ຫລ	wash + clothes	washer
ຕິ ຫຍື	see + body	bodyguard
ຕິ ຫຍື	see + elephant	elephant-keeper
ກິ ຢື	eat + country	ruler, governor
ກິ ຫຍື	eat + village	village headman

(6) By combining one verb and two nouns, one noun preceding and the other following the verb. The first noun acts as the subject and the second as the object.

For instance : the compound noun ຫຍື ກິ ຢື meaning ຫຍື 'person' ກິ 'eat V' ຢື 'kingdom', i.e. 'the person who eats (i.e. rules) the kingdom'. The term refers either to a king, governor, or viceroy or such other officials.

Other examples are :

ຫຍື ບໍ ຢື	person + go + country	traveller
ຫຍື າບ ຫຍື	person + beat + drum	drummer
ຫຍື ບໍ ຊິ້	person + guard + house	house guard
ຕິ ຫຍື ຫຍື	female + see + body	female attendant
ຫຍື າດ ຫຍື	person + cut + grass	grass cutter
ຫຍື ຫຍື າ	person + carry + dead body	carrier of dead body

Note : There is not much difference between type (5) and type (6). Compound nouns in type (6) are more specific and easily understood.

(7) By combining a noun and an adjective, the adjective following the noun :

ຫຍື ຫຍື	metal + red	copper
ຫຍື ຫຍື	metal + yellow	brass
ຫຍື ຫຍື	metal + hard	bell metal
ຫຍື ຫຍື	soil + black	coal

ဣဝံ ဝါဟံ	soil + white
ဣဝံ ဩ	soil + field

cement
cultivated land

(8) By placing ဣ before a verb. Such nouns always denote the place where the action of the particular verb takes place.

For instance, ဣ ဩ formed by prefixing ဣ 'place' to verb ဩ 'to sit', refers to articles like 'chair', 'stool', 'bench' etc.

Further examples are :

ဣ မိဝံ	place + eat V
ဣ ဩဝံ	place + sleep V
ဣ ဝါဩ	place + worship V
ဣ ဣဝံ	place + teach V

eating place
bedstead
temple
school, college

(9) By prefixing ဣ 'that' or ဣ 'that' acting as relative pronoun to a verb :

ဣ / ဣ မိဝံ	that + eat V
ဣ / ဣ ဣဝံ	that + work V
ဣ / ဣ ဩဝံ	that + sleep V
ဣ / ဣ ဝ	that + go V
ဣ / ဣ ဝ	that + walk V
ဣ / ဣ ဣဝံ	that + talk V

food
work
sleep
travel
walking
conversation

(10) By combining ဣ 'to come out', 'to issue' and a noun.

ဣ ဣ	issue + war
ဣ ဝ	issue + fire
ဣ ဣ	issue + cannon

soldier
spark
cartridge

(11) By combining a relative pronoun, a verb and a noun in such a way that all the three make a sentence in the form of a compound noun.

ဣ ဣ ဣ	which scrtach back
ဣ ဣ ဣ	which catch fish
ဣ ဣ ဣ	which boil rice

back-scratcher
fish-trap
pan

Proper names

Proper names are generally preceded by word or words denoting the class to which a particular noun belongs :

a) ជំ 'water, river' is prefixed to the names of rivers :

ជំ ណ៍ ម្ម	Nam Ti Ma
ជំ រ្វ	Nam Sau
ជំ ក្មុំ	Nam Khun
ជំ រ្វ័ជំ	Nam Jin
ជំ រ្វ័	Nam Kiu
ជំ ណ៍ រ្វ	Nam Ti Lao

Dhansiri
Dikhow
Disang
Buri Dihing
Irrawady
Brahmaputra

b) ជំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ 'pond, tank', is prefixed to the name of tanks :

ជំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ	Nam Khum Joyhagar
ជំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ	Nam Khum Lung
ជំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ រ័ ឃ្មុំ	Nam Khum Bijoygar

Joysagar tank
Bar Pukhuri
Bijoysagar tank

c) ជ្រុង 'lake', is prefixed to the name of lakes :

ជ្រុង រ័	Nong Jang
ជ្រុង រ័	Nong Lung
ជ្រុង រ័ ម័	Nong Kaw Mong
ជ្រុង រ័	Nong Taw

d) ណ៍ 'place', is prefixed to the name of places :

ណ៍ រ័	Ti Rap
ណ៍ រ័	Ti Pam
ណ៍ រ័	Ti Pong
ណ៍ រ័	Ti Loi
ណ៍ រ័	Ti Ru
ណ៍ រ័	Ti Mon

e) បង្កំ 'village', is prefixed to the name of villages :

បង្កំ រ័	Ban Lung
បង្កំ រ័	Ban Ruk
បង្កំ រ័	Ban Phi
បង្កំ រ័	Ban Rin
បង្កំ រ័	Ban Pet
បង្កំ រ័	Ban Tung

Bar Gaon
Banruk
Der Gaon
Sil Gaon
Ath Gaon
Bantuk

បង ហ្គ កុត	Ban Pha Kut
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Dhekial Gaon

f) វ័រ 'town', is prefixed to the name of towns :

វ័រ ហ្គ	Che Hung
វ័រ មង	Che Mun
វ័រ ទៃ ដៃ	Che Rai Doi
វ័រ បង	Che Pon

Garhgaon
Rangpur
Charaideo
Sepon

g) មង 'kingdom, country' is prefixed to the name of countries or kingdoms :

មង មង ហ្គ	(Mong) Mao Lung
មង មង	Mong Mit
មង វ័រ វ័រ	Mong Ke Se
មង ទៃ ទៃ	Mong Tiura
មង វ័រ	Mong Khe
មង ហង	Mong Phang

Manipur
Chutiya
China
Bengal

Note : In Ahom language, other smaller divisions of a state such as province, region, district, are also called មង . Hence this term is also prefixed to such smaller divisions :

មង ទៃ បំ	Ti Pam
មង វំ ហង	Kham Jang
មង ហ្គ	Mong Kang
មង ហ្គ ហង	Ha Bung
មង មង ទៃ មង	Ma-rang-ki

h) ដៃ 'hill', is prefixed to names of hills.

ដៃ មង ទៃ	Doi Kau-Rong
ដៃ មង ហ្គ	Doi Si-La
ដៃ ទៃ	Doi Dam
ដៃ វំ	Doi Kham
ដៃ បង មង	Doi Pat-Kai

Patkoi Range

i) ហ្គ 'field', is prefixed to names of fields :

ហ្គ ហង	Na Phuk
ហ្គ ហ្គ	Na Lung

Naphukpathar
Barpathâr

နီ နို	Na Noi
နီ မှ	Na Mau
နီ ငွေ	Na Deng

Sarupathâr
Na-pathâr
Rangâpathâr

j) နီ 'garden', is prefixed to names of gardens :

နီ ဖန်	Sun Phak
နီ မန် မေ	Sun Mak Lang
နီ ကဝ် မို	Sun Khao Min
နီ မ် မေ	Sun Mai Sang

Sâkbâri
Kathâlbâri
Haladhibâri
Bañhbâri

k) နီ 'mouth', is prefixed to names of places of confluence of rivers :

နီ နံ မှ	Sup Nam Sao
နီ နံ မို	Sup Nam Jin
နီ နံ မို	Sup Nam Ti

Dikhowmukh
Dihingmukh
Namtimukh

l) နီ 'god, goddess', is prefixed to names of gods or goddesses :

နီ မို ငွေ	Pha Leng-Don
နီ ကို မေ	Pha Tiu-Cheng
နီ မေ ငွေ	Pha Sang-Din
နီ က၊ ငွေ	Pha Ta-Ra
နီ မှ ကို	Pha Lao-Khri

m) နီ 'spirit', is prefixed to names of spirits :

နီ ငွေ	Phi Reun
နီ နီ	Phi Nam
နီ ထို	Phi Then
နီ တို	Phi Tun
နီ ငွေ	Phi Doi

House spirit
Water spirit
Forest spirit
Tree spirit
Hill spirit

n) နီ 'god', is prefixed to another class of gods who are believed to be guardian spirits of the universal bodies :

နီ ငွေ	Sang Duen
နီ ဝေ	Sang Ban
နီ ငွေ	Sang Din

Moon god
Sun god
Earth god

𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Sang Pha
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫	Sang Dao

Sky god
Star god

o) 𑜋𑜃𑜫 'palace', is prefixed to all names of houses built for the residence of gods or kings :

𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜋𑜃𑜫	Haw-Lung
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Haw Phi
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Haw Kham

(râj kêreng)
Temple of god/spirit
Golden Palace

p) 𑜇𑜤 'day', is prefixed to names of days :

𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Ban Dap-Mao
𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫	Ban Rai-Mit
𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Ban Khut-Si
𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	Ban Kap
𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	Ban San

q) 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 'month', is prefixed to names of months :

𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫	Din Ching
𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Din Sam
𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Din Ha

1 st Ahom month
3 rd Ahom month
5 th Ahom month

in this way, all the names of months are preceded by 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫.

r) 𑜋𑜃𑜫 'unit of time', is prefixed to indicate a particular period of time :

𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	the time preceding the crowing of cocks
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	the time of crowing of cocks
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	the twilight period
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	the time when people get up from bed
𑜋𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜫 𑜇𑜤	the time for morning wash

in this way, there are more than 25 units of time in a day.

Class nouns

Class nouns are words preceding words belonging to a particular class of objects.

a) 𑜇𑜤 is prefixed to nouns denoting liquid objects :

တံ့ ၵ	tears
တံ့ ၵ	oil
တံ့ ၵ	milk

တံ့ ၵ	honey
တံ့ ၵ	wine
တံ့ ၵ	mucas

b) တံ့ is prefixed to nouns denoting birds

တံ့ ၵ	fowl
တံ့ ၵ	duck
တံ့ ၵ	pigeon

တံ့ ၵ	crow
တံ့ ၵ	sparrow
တံ့ ၵ	dove

c) ၵ is prefixed to nouns denoting plants or trees

ၵ ၵ	a kind of peepul
ၵ ၵ	a kind of bamboo

ၵ ၵ	banana
ၵ ၵ	brinjal

d) ၵ is prefixed to nouns denoting cloth

ၵ ၵ	<i>rihâ</i>
ၵ ၵ	<i>mekhelâ</i>
ၵ ၵ	<i>dhuti</i>

ၵ ၵ	<i>châdar</i>
ၵ ၵ	turban
ၵ ၵ	towel

e) ၵ is prefixed to nouns denoting leafy vegetable

ၵ ၵ	edible fern
ၵ ၵ	hyacinth

ၵ ၵ	a kind of pot herb
ၵ ၵ	red spinach

f) ၵ 'fruit', is prefixed to nouns of fruits

ၵ ၵ	areca nut
ၵ ၵ	brinjal
ၵ ၵ	bitter gourd

ၵ ၵ	mangoe
ၵ ၵ	guava
ၵ ၵ	jack fruit

g) ၵ is prefixed to nouns of flowers

ၵ ၵ	lotus
ၵ ၵ	screwpine flower

ၵ ၵ ၵ	<i>Singkara</i> flower
ၵ ၵ ၵ	a kind of flower

h) ၵ 'house', is prefixed to nouns of houses

ၵ ၵ ၵ	store house
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ၵ ၵ ၵ	house of spirit
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𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	house of the dead
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𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	House of malai
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i) 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 is prefixed to nouns of rest-house, yard, stable etc.

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	sitting house
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	elephant stable

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	boat yard
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	entrance shed

Gender

In Ahom language, there are only two genders - masculine and feminine. they are formed in the following way :

1) By using separate words for male and female :

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	father
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	grandfather
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	master
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	male
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	male

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	mother
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	grandmother
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	lady
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	female
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	female

Note : 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 and 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 are father & mother of the father.

2) By affixing words meaning 'male' and 'female' to common words :

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	elder brother
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	younger brother
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	man
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	son
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	male servant
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	bull
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	horse
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	he-pig
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	cock
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	he-goat

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	elder sister
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 / 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	younger sister
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	woman
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	daughter
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	maid servant
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	cow
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	mare
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	she-pig
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	fowl
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	she-goat

The following differences may be carefully noticed :

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	female elephant
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	female buffalo

𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	mother elephant
𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫 𑜏𑜢𑜤𑜰𑜫	mother buffalo

Number

In singular number numeral **၎** written as **၎** meaning 'one' is suffixed to the noun :

ကျွန် ၎	a man
ဝဏ် ၎	an elephant
ဇုန် ၎	a boat
ဗှ် ၎	a year

ဗုန် ၎	a village
ပုန် ၎	a tree
ကွန် ၎	a drum
ဗှ် ၎	a month

To refer to a particular object, in singular number certain words known as numeral particles or numeral classifiers are placed between the numeral **၎** and the noun. Thus **ဗှ် ကျွန် **၎**** means 'a particular man'.

Other examples:

ဇုန် ၎	one house
ဗှ် ၎	one horse
ဗှ် ၎	one hill

ဗှ် ၎	one cup
ဗှ် ၎	one spear
ဗှ် ၎	One river

General plurality like 'many', 'all' etc. are expressed by adding the following words to nouns :

a) **၎** 'many' :

ဗှ် **၎ ဗှ် **၎** ကျွန် **၎****
The Baruas consulted together.

ကျွန် **၎ ဗှ် **၎** ဗှ် **၎** ဗှ် **၎****
The men were chained and placed there.

ဗှ် **၎ ကျွန် **၎** ဗှ် **၎****
The birds have eaten the paddy

b) **၎** 'many'

ကျွန် **၎ **၎** **၎****
Our many men died.

ကျွန် **၎ **၎** **၎****
Many men fled and died.

c) **၎** 'all'

ကျွန် **၎ **၎** **၎** **၎****
All the men discussed together.

d) **၎** 'all'

ဗှ် **၎ **၎** **၎****
All *thaos* ('officers') went to Sala.

instance, the English phrase 'two dogs' is in Ahom ৰ; ৱুঙ ৱু, which literally means 'dog two animal'. Here the word ৱু meaning 'animal' is suffixed to ৱুঙ meaning 'two'. There are a large number of such numeral classifiers which are used with almost every noun expressed numerically. Hence, learners should carefully acquire their use.

Rule : In singular number, the classifier precedes, and in plural number it follows the numeral.

A few common classifiers are given below with examples.

1/ ৱুঙ or ৱু : human beings, generally male persons :

ৱুৱন ৱুঙ ৱুঙ

Two sons

ৱুঙ ৱু ৱু ৱুঙ ৱু

We four are of heavenly origin.

ৱুঙ ৱুঙ ৱুঙ ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Ten persons went to Namruk.

ৱুঙ ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Three *firingi* (Europeans) came to our country.

ৱুঙ ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Two *Neogs* died.

2/ ৱু : things usually expressed in pairs

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Three pairs of gold bracelets

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Two pairs of elephant tusks

3/ ৱুঙ : pairs of things

ৱু ৱুঙ ৱু

a pair of eggs

4/ ৱুঙ pieces of stone, earth etc.

ৱুঙ ৱুঙ ৱু

a piece of stone

5/ ৱু : words, speech etc.

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

I will say a word

6/ ৱুঙ : units or squads of men

ৱু ৱুঙ ৱু ৱুঙ

twelve squads of servants

ৱুঙ ৱুঙ ৱু

one squad of men

7/ ৱুঙ : big bundles

ৱু ৱুঙ ৱু ৱুঙ

three (big) bundles of pine wood

ৱুঙ ৱু ৱুঙ

two bundles of fuel wood

8/ ဝါး : cloth in pair

တူ ဝါး ၏
one pair of cloth

9/ ဂါး : words

ကံ ငွ် ငါး ဝံ ဂါး ၏
I heard an information

မိ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဂါး ၏
He said a few words

10/ ဗ် : meals

ကံ ဗ် ၏
one meal

ကံ ဖံ ဗ်
three meals

11/ ဣ : animals

ကံ ဣ ၏
one elephant

ဗ် ဖံ ဣ
four horses

ကံ ဣ ၏
five cows

12/ ဣ : trees with leaves

ဗ် ဣ ၏
one tree

ဗ် ဖံ ဣ
three trees

13/ ဣ : pieces of wood

ဗ် ဣ ၏
two pieces of aloe wood

14/ ဣ : small bundles that can be handled by the palm

ကံ ဣ ၏
two (small) bundles of straw

ကံ ဣ ၏
four (small) bundles of vegetable

15/ ဣ : big packets

တူ ဣ ၏
one packet of cloth

ကံ ဣ ၏ တူ ဣ
whose packed of cloth is this ?

16/ ဣ : tusked elephants

ကံ ဣ ၏
seven tusked elephants

မိ ကံ ဣ ၏ ဣ ၏

he brought six tusked elephants

17/ ပွက် : repeated actions

ဗဒ် ဘု ဘု ပွက်

he spoke twice

18/ ဘု : crowds of men or collections of individuals

ကျိ ဘု န

a crowd of men

19/ ဘိ : broad sheets or articles with opening

ဘ ဘိ ဘိ

three pieces of cloth

ဘ ဘိ ဘိ

three letters

ဘ ဘိ ဘိ

two gold trays

ဘ ဘိ ဘိ

two silver dishes

20/ ဘ : numbers of worship, prayers or prostrations

ဗဒ် ဗ ပွဲ ဘိ ဘ

he came and bowed three times

21/ ဗ : long and flat/round weapons

ကျိ ဗ န

one cannon

ဘိ ကိ ဗ

nine swords

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

two gilted swords

22/ ဘိ : baskets

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

two baskets of fowl

23/ ဘိ : steps or storeys

ဘိ ဘိ ကိ ဘိ

nine-graded gold throne

24/ ဘိ : pairs of respected persons, kings, gods.

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

both king and queen

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

both god and goddess

25/ ဘိ : small packets of leaves

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

forty packets of betel leaf

26/ ဘိ : bunches of grain or paddy

ဘိ ဘိ ဘိ

- three bunches of paddy
- 27/ ခါး : small packets
 ၅ ခါး
 one packet of dried fish
 ၁၀ ခါး
 one packet of (boiled) rice
- 28/ မိ : houses or buildings
 မိ ၃
 three houses
- 29/ နှစ် : long and pointed objects
 နှစ် ၁
 one spear
 နှစ် ၃
 three silver sticks
- 30/ နှစ် : round, or round and conical objects
 နှစ် ၂
 two gongs
 နှစ် ၁
 one cap
 နှစ် ၂
 two brass cannons
 နှစ် ၆
 six elephant tusks
- 31/ မိ : trees without leaves or branches
 မိ ၁
 one tree
- 32/ ထောင့် : corners
 ထောင့် ၈
 eight sided gold tool
- 33/ မိ : objects like seat, chair, table etc.
 မိ ၂
 two gongs
 မိ ၁၀
 ten seats
 မိ ၂
 two elephant *howdah*
 မိ ၂
 two shields

Case

Nominative case is expressed without adding any other word.

អ៊ុន ម៖ ហ៊ុ ម៖ ប៊ូ អង្គ
Siu-ka-pha came (in) that year.

អ៊ុន ម្រ ហ៊ុ ម្រ
Tiger caught cow

មង ម្រ អង្គ ម្រ
He took his meal

មង ហ៊ុ
He said.

In cases where the subject has connection with previous events or statements, វ័រ អ្នក is suffixed to the subject.

មង វ័រ ហ៊ុ ម្រ អង្គ ម្រ
He went to Namrup

អ័ ហ៊ុ វ័រ អង្គ មង
Aila had beaten him

ម្រ ហ៊ុ វ័រ ម្រ ម្រ វ័រ
The king heard (the news)

Possessive case as such is absent in Ahom. It is expressed by merely juxtaposing two words, first the object, then the possessor, e.g. ម្រ អង្គ (‘house’ ‘I’) : ‘my house’

មង ម្រ	my hand
ប៊ូ អង្គ	bird's wing

អង្គ ម្រ	foot of the hill
អង្គ ម្រ	birds of forest

ម្រ អង្គ អង្គ អង្គ ម្រ
Where is this man's house ?

ម្រ ម្រ ម្រ ប៊ូ អង្គ ម្រ
The king's son went to the war.

Objective case is normally expressed by the use of អង្គ or ម្រ before the object.

ម្រ ហ៊ុ ម្រ អង្គ មង
I told him.

មង ប៊ូ ម្រ អង្គ ម្រ
He went him.

មង អង្គ ម្រ អង្គ ម្រ ម្រ
He speared the tiger

ម្រ អង្គ ហ៊ុ អង្គ ម្រ ម្រ អង្គ
Khun-Kum told Thao-Khun-Ra

ហ៊ុ ម្រ ម្រ ហ៊ុ អង្គ ម្រ ម្រ ម្រ
Pa-Meo-Pong said to Chao Chang-Nyeu.

In **Ablative case**, ម្រ អង្គ or ម្រ អង្គ is prefixed to the word(s) from which the action of the verb arises.

ម្រ ហ៊ុ ម្រ អង្គ វ័រ ម្រ ម្រ ម្រ

The king went to Dibong from Garhgaon.

၎င်းက မင်းက ဝင်္ဂဂျောင့် မှ ရာဂျောင့်သို့
My father went from Rangpur to Namti

ဗဟိုမှ အပူပိုင်းသို့
This fruit has fallen from the tree.

မင်းက ဗဟိုမှ အပူပိုင်းသို့
I came from the jungle.

In **Instrumental case**, such words as ဖက်, အဖွင့် are prefixed to the instrument.

မင်းက ဖက် အဖွင့် နှင့် နှစ်
I killed the tiger with spear.

ဗဟိုမှ ဖက် အဖွင့် နှင့်
He came in boat.

ဗဟိုမှ ဖက် နှင့် အဖွင့် နှင့်
He cut the tree with an axe.

ဗဟိုမှ ဖက် နှင့် နှစ်
He fastened the buffalo with rope.

In **Locative case**, အ is generally placed before the location.

ဗဟိုမှ အ အ
He lives at Tipam.

ဗဟိုမှ အ မှ
He was placed at Misa.

မင်းက အ အ
I stay at Kaliabor.

Adjectives

Adjectives follow the nouns or words they qualify.

ကောင်းသူ	good man
ကောင်းလူ	tall person
စင်စင်	white elephant
နီရဲ	naphuk field
မည်း	black colour
ရှည်	long post
ဝေး	distant place
ဆိုး	bad news
ငယ်	small child

ကြီး	big earthquake
အလွန်	very small stone
ငယ်	small black bird
အလွန်	very tall tree
ဆိုး	very bad news
ဝေး	great distant place
ကြီး	very big river
မင်း	wild pig
စင်	tamed elephant

Possessive adjectives

វា កា	my father
គ្រឹះ កា	my house
គ្រឹះ កា គា	our old house
ជ្រៃ មា	his field

ដូច រ រ	their younger sister
ប្ដី រ មា	his elder brother
មន្ត្រី គា	our country
មន្ត្រី កា គា	our old country

មា បូក ម; រក គា បា កា មា
He came back from his old village.

គា បា គា ជ រ កា គ រ
There is a tank in our village.

Demonstrative adjectives

បា ជ	this village
គ្រឹះ ជ	that house

រក ជ កា	that lak-ni
កា ជ រ	these men

រ ជ រ កា កា
These buffaloes are mine.

គ្រឹះ រ ជ កា មា
This big house is his.

រ រ ជ
That long post.

To be noted, the difference :

កា ជ គ្រឹះ កា	This is my house
កា ជ ម កា	That is my dog

គ្រឹះ ជ កា កា	This house is mine
ម ជ កា កា	That dog is mine

Pronominal adjectives

ក កា	each man
------	----------

ក បា	every day
------	-----------

មា ម; ក; ក ប
He came every year

គា គា	another place
-------	---------------

គា មន្ត្រី	another country
------------	-----------------

មា ម ក; គា គា
He went to another place.

គា គា ម; ក; រក គា មន្ត្រី
The king came from another country.

គា កា រ រ គ ម
Other persons heard the news.

Quantitative adjectives

တို့ နှစ် နှစ်	our one man
----------------	-------------

နှစ် နှစ်	two trees
-----------	-----------

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
Few boys came to our house.

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
Many persons came to the king.

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
 Anybody can do the work.

Interrogative adjectives

တို့ နှစ်	what ?
တို့ နှစ်	whose ?

တို့	which ?
တို့	where ?

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
 What day is today ?

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
 What fish do you want ?

တို့ နှစ် နှစ်
 Whose buffalo is this ?

တို့ နှစ် နှစ်
 Whose house is this ?

တို့ နှစ် နှစ် နှစ်
 Which side did he go ?

Note the difference :

တို့ နှစ် နှစ်
 Whose buffalo is this ?

တို့ နှစ် တို့ နှစ်
 Whose this buffalo is ?

In the first sentence တို့ standing for 'whose' is acting as interrogative adjective ; and in the second sentence တို့ standing for 'whose' is an interrogative pronoun.

Again, note the difference :

တို့ တို့	white rice
တို့ တို့	old rice
တို့ တို့	my tank

တို့ တို့ တို့	old tank
တို့ တို့ တို့	nine tanks
တို့ တို့ တို့	new tank

Pronouns

Personal Pronouns

		Nominative	"to"	"from"
--	--	------------	------	--------

s1	I, me	ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ
s2	you	ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ
s3	he, him / she, her	ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
p1	we, us	ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
p2	you	ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ
p3	they, them	ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁ

In Ahom, certain terms are invariably used in addressing persons according to their rank and status. It is, therefore, important to note the proper use of personal pronouns which are given below.

First Person :

ṁṁ in addressing equals by equals.

ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
I went home.

ṁṁ ṁṁ in addressing inferiors by superiors. very often it is used to lay emphasis on the authority of the speaker.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
Siu-ka-pha said : 'I will go and rule the down country'.

ṁṁ ṁṁ in addressing superiors by inferiors.

ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
We are ignorant like cows and buffaloes.

ṁṁṁ ('we') in addressing inferiors by superiors.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
I (we) went home.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ in addressing superiors by inferiors or juniors in polite conversation.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
We will go and fight the *Bangals*.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ when an inferior on behalf of several addresses a superior.

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
I arrived at your place.

Second person

ṁṁ in addressing inferiors or equals.

ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
What are you doing ?

ṁṁ ṁṁ / ṁṁ ṁṁ in addressing kings, high priests or highly respected people.

ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ
You would go and rule Mong Tipam
ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁṁ
I am the servant of your lord

ṁṁ in addressing inferiors or equals in plural

မူ ဖိ နှိပ် ဟု နှိပ် ချ နှိပ် ချ နှိပ် ချ နှိပ် ချ နှိပ် ချ
 You brothers do not quarrel among yourselves

မူ ဘဝ် in addressing superiors by inferiors.

မူ ဘဝ် မှ နေ ဝါ ထံ
 Come thee and sit here.

Third person

မာ် is the general term for third person singular number

မာ် မှ မာ်
 He came.

မာ် ဘဝ် is a respectable term used by inferiors for superiors

ဘဝ် နံ နာမူ နှံ နှံ နှံ နှံ နှံ နှံ နှံ နှံ
 Chao Sam heard what his father said

ဘဝ် in addressing equals or inferiors

ဘဝ် မှ ဝါ ထံ
 They came to this place.

ဘဝ် ဘဝ် in addressing persons of rank

ဘဝ် ဘဝ် မှ ထံ မှ မှ မှ
 They arrive at our kingdom.

Possessive pronouns

The personal pronoun is affixed to the noun to form possessive pronouns.

- နိမိတ် မှ မာ် ဘဝ် This house is mine
- ဘဝ် မာ် မာ် မာ် That elephant is his
- မူ မာ် မာ် မာ် These pigs are yours
- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် That tree is theirs

Relative pronoun

In relative pronoun မာ် performs the function of 'who', 'what' and 'which' according to connection.

- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် The man who is lame.
- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် The cloth which is torn.
- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် The tank which is new.
- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် The country which is old.
- မာ် မာ် မာ် မာ် The *Phukan* who is new.

Demonstrative pronouns

မာ်	this
မာ် မာ်	this

မာ်	that
မာ် မာ်	that

ក្រុង ដ៏ គ្រឿង មន្ត This is my house.
 ដ៏ រក មន្ត មន្ត What are these ?
 ក្រុង ដ៏ ជួ It is (a) rat.
 គ្រឿង រក គ្រឿង មន្ត មន្ត Those are my sisters.

Interrogative pronouns

<input type="checkbox"/> ឃ	who ?	ឃ	which
<input type="checkbox"/> មន្ត	what ?	ហ្ន	why ?
ឃ ឃ គ្រឿង ម	who told you ?		
ឃ ឃ មន្ត មន្ត	who bit him ?		
ឃ ក្រុង គ្រឿង	who is that man ?		
ម ឃ មន្ត	what do you want ?		
ឃ ម	who is coming ?		
មន្ត ; ដ៏ រក ក្រុង ឃ	whose are these ?		
រក ក្រុង មន្ត	what do they eat ?		
ហ្ន មន្ត ម ម ;	why do you come ?		
គ្រឿង ដ៏ ក្រុង ឃ	whose house is this ?		

Interrogative pronouns

ឃ	who ?
ដ៏	many
ហ្ន	others

ឃ មន្ត	anybody
មន្ត មន្ត	some
ឃ មន្ត	somebody

មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Some fled away.
 ឃ ហ្ន គ្រឿង គ្រឿង Who becomes king.
 ឃ មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Anybody not to see.
 ឃ មន្ត ហ្ន គ្រឿង គ្រឿង Anybody who becomes king.
 ឃ មន្ត គ្រឿង គ្រឿង មន្ត មន្ត Somebody is calling you.
 ឃ មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Nobody will come today.
 គ្រឿង មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Many died and many fled.

Verbs : Tense

The tenses in Ahom are often expressed by adding some words to the verbs.

The present Indefinite Tense

is generally expressed without any auxiliary.

မဝ် မိဝ်နိ ဝဝ်	I eat rice.
ဝာ် ဟ်	They go.
ဆဝ် ဟ် ဝါ ဝိဝ်နိ	We go home.
ဗဒ် ယု ဝါ မာ်	He lives in the market.

Present Continuous

To indicate an action going on at the moment of speaking, ဣ is placed after the verb, and if there is any object, after it.

ဗဒ် မိဝ်နိ ဝဝ် ဣ	He is eating
မဝ် ဟ် ဣ	I am going
ဆဝ် ဟ်ဝါ ဣ	We are doing
ဝာ် ဟ်ဝါ ဣ	They are working

To indicate Past Tense, မ, ဝာ်, မ, ဝာ်, ဝာ် are added to the verb.

ဗဒ် ဟ် ဝာ်	He went
ဆဝ် မိဝ်နိ မ	We ate
မဝ် မိဝ်နိ မ ဝာ်	I had eaten
မဝ် ဟ် မ ဝါ ဝိ ဝာ်	I went to Namsang
ဗဒ် ဟ် မ ဝါ ဝိ	He went to the hills
ဝာ်နိ မိဝ်နိ ဗါဗိ မ ဝာ်	The king had ruled
မိဝ်နိ ဆဝ် ဝုဂ် ဗ ဝာ်	Our men came back
ဝာ် ယုဒ် ဟ် မ ဝာ်	Defeated they fled

To indicate Future Tense, ဝါ or ဝါမ် is prefixed to the verb.

မဝ် ဝါ ဟ်	I shall go
ဆဝ် ဝါ ဟ်ဝါ	We shall work
ဗဒ် ဝါ ဟ်	He will go
မဝ် ဝါမ် မိဝ်နိ ဗါဗိ	I will rule the kingdom

Auxiliaries

To mean 'to be', 'to have', 'to exist' etc. ဝါ, ဗ, ယု are used.

မဝ် ဝါ ဗ ဝါ ဝါ	I have a dog
ဗ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	You have a boat
ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	There is a snake in the hole
မိဝ်နိ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	There is a tiger in the jungle
မိဝ်နိ ဝါ ဝါ	Birds live in nest

Verbs of mutuality like 'to love', 'to fight' etc. take မိဝ်နိ after them.

၀ါၵ်	climb V
------	---------

၀ဝ် ၀ၤ ၀ါၵ် ၵ်းၵ် မံ ၵ်း
 The king ascended the Reun Mai-kaw house.

ဇ်း	hear V
-----	--------

ၵံ့ ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 The king heard the (piece of) news.
 Note : ဇ်း is generally preceded by ၵ်း 'to get' :
 ၵ်း
 Chao Sam heard what his father **said** to him.

ဇ်း	sit V
-----	-------

ဇ်း ၵ်း
 In place of elder brother, his younger brother sat on the throne.

ဇ်း	sleep V
-----	---------

ဇ်း ၵ်း
 Birds sleep on tree at night.

ဇ်း	become V
-----	----------

ဇ်း ၵ်း
 his son Siu-rem became *chao-pha*.

ဇ်း	plant V
-----	---------

ၵံ့ ၵ်း
 The king planted Tun-rung (tree) at Tham Phai.

ဇ်း	go V
-----	------

ဇ်း ၵ်း
 My father went to Bengal.

ဇ်း	win V
-----	-------

ၵံ့ ၵ်း
 The wild boar got victory over the tiger and the crocodile.

ပွဲ	guard, protect V
-----	------------------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အားလုံး ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့
 All the persons guarded the idol of Seng.

ဖတ်	read V
-----	--------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ဖတ် ဖတ်
 I read book.

ဆောက်	build*, construct
-------	-------------------

* boat, bridge etc.

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အားလုံး ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့ ဖွဲ့
 Our men (all) built rafts.

ခုတ်	cut (with blow)
------	-----------------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ်
 One day they came and cut three of our persons.

တော်	revolt, conspire
------	------------------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ်
 King's younger brother revolted and fled to Manipur.

ပြော	say V
------	-------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ်
 The Hindus call (him) Lakshmi Singha.

ထား	place, put V
-----	--------------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ် ခုတ်
 Siu-ka-pha placed Thao-mong Kan-ngan at Tipam.

တောင်း	pray V
--------	--------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ တောင်း တောင်း တောင်း တောင်း
 I pray to god Leng Don.

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ တောင်း တောင်း တောင်း တောင်း
 I pray to goddess Ta Ra

လာ	come V
----	--------

មង ម; ក; ល ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ លំ បំ ដំ មិន ឆ្នាំ អំ
He came to our home this year in the Third Month (*Magha*).

ម	have, possess V
---	-----------------

ហ មិន ប្រិ ចន ម ក្រុម ល
Pa-Meo-Pung did not have male child.

វ	get (in mind) V
---	-----------------

រំ ដំ មង វ ល ហ វ លំ ដំ
Having heard the news the king got much pleasure.

យ	remain, stay V
---	----------------

ឆ វ ក្រ ឆ្នាំ ហ ល យ យ យ
We live in the jungles with monkeys.

ក	wash (cloth) V
---	----------------

ហ ក ក្រ ដំ ក ហ ល ល ល ដំ
The small girl is washing cloth at the river *ghat*.

ក	wash* V
---	---------

*wash face, vegetables etc.

ក ក ក ក
Wash face, wash vegetables.

ម	deposit, hand over
---	--------------------

ក; យ ម ក ម; ម ល ល ហ វ
Some were captured and handed over to the king.

ល	catch, capture V
---	------------------

ល ហ ល ល ម ក ដំ ក ក
The king caught elephants at the mouth of the Dikhow.

ឆ	call V
---	--------

ល ល ល ក ឆ ឆ ល ល ល ល ល ល
Then the *Barphukan* called all the *Baruas*.

𑜇	lose, miss V
---	--------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏𑜏 𑜇𑜏𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 Chao Siu-pat-pha was lost from the kingdom.

𑜇	beat (drum etc.)
---	------------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 He is beating drum.

𑜇𑜏	wash* V
----	---------

*wash hands, plates etc.

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 He is washing dishes and cups.

𑜇𑜏𑜏	count (numbers)
-----	-----------------

𑜇𑜏𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 In *lak-ni* Kap-si, the people of the country were counted.

𑜇𑜏𑜏	get up, rise V
-----	----------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 He gets up early in the morning.

𑜇𑜏	chase, drive away
----	-------------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 The king had driven him to his residence.

𑜇𑜏	exchange V
----	------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 We have exchanged rice with him.

𑜇𑜏𑜏	fondle (in water)
-----	-------------------

𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏 𑜇𑜏
 Do not fondle in water at the beginning of the year.

𑜇𑜏	fall (in illness)
----	-------------------

ທົວ ພາ ນຸ້ ວໍ ພໍ

The king fell in great illness.

ພໍ	tell, narrate V
----	-----------------

ຜີ ຜ; ພໍ ດໍ ທົວ ພາ

He came and told the king.

ຊໍ	see, observe V
----	----------------

ຊໍ ດໍ ນໍ ຈໍ ຊໍ ພໍ ທາ ຈໍ

Seeing the letter Ram Singha said.

ຮໍ	get V
----	-------

ທົວ ຮໍ ທໍ ຈໍ ທ ;

I got the fowl.

ຖໍ	come in sight, view V
----	--------------------------

ຊົວ ທ; ພາ ພູ ຜ; ຖໍ ພູ ດໍ ພໍ

Siu-ka-pha coming down saw the mouth of Nam Saw river.

ພໍ	send, despatch V
----	------------------

ພໍ ຈໍ ພາ ພໍ ທົວ ດາ ພໍ ທຸ້

They sent three *chao-tangs* (messengers).

ຊຸ້	fall* V
-----	---------

*from tree or horse, in water

ທຸ້ ດາ ຈໍ ຊຸ້ ດໍ ພໍ

Our men fell in water.

ດໍ	write V
----	---------

ຊໍ ດໍ ນໍ ຈໍ ດໍ ດໍ ພໍ ພໍ

Raja Ram Singha wrote letter.

ພູ	wash (body) V
----	---------------

ຜີ ພູ ດໍ ພໍ

He took bath.

ကွက်	come out, appear
------	------------------

စစ် ကျက် ကွက် မ; ဝံဇ် အက် ငုံ
 The Bangals coming out of the rampart fell in water.

ကံ	take V
----	--------

ကဝ် အ; ကံ ကွက် ငုံ
 I take the glass of water.

က; ဟ်	go and inform V
-------	-----------------

ဟု ကွဲ နီ ငွမ် က; ဟ် အိ စဝ် ဟဲ က်
 The Raidangia Phukan went and informed the king.

က; ဝံ ယူ	went and stayed
----------	-----------------

ကံ စစ် က; ဝံ ယူ ကျပ် ငုံ အိ
 They went and stayed at the mouth of Namti.

ကွပ် ဝံ	bow down V
---------	------------

က ကွဲ စစ် အက် ကွပ် ဝံ ဟဲ ကံဇ် ငွမ် ဝံ ကပ် ဟ်
 Both the kings bowed down to Lengdon ten times.

ကွဲ ဝံ;	come back V
---------	-------------

စစ် အက် ကွဲ ဝံ; ယူ ဝံဇ် ဝံ
 They came back and stayed at Athgaon.

ဝံ ကံ	go and rule V
-------	---------------

ကဝ် စဝ် အက် ဝံ ကံ ဝံဇ်
 I will go and rule the country.

ဝံ ကံ	go and catch
-------	--------------

စဝ် ဟဲ ဝံ ကံ စစ် အ; ကျပ် ငုံ မ; ကံ
 The king went and caught elephant at the mouth of Masang

ဝံ ဝံဇ်	go and arrive
---------	---------------

မံ ဝံ ဝံဇ် ကံ ငွမ်

He went and reached the mouth of Dulung.

ບໍ່ ມາ ພໍ	went and entered
-----------	------------------

ຍັງ ບໍ່ ມາ ພໍ ຍັງ ອີງ ອີງ
He went and entered Mong Mit kingdom.

ບໍ່ ພໍ	run away
--------	----------

ຖືກ ບໍ່ ຖືກ ມາ ພໍ ບໍ່ ພໍ
Being defeated, the Bangals fled away.

ຍາ ພໍ	come and stay
-------	---------------

ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
Chao-pha Siu-hum came and stayed at Marangi.

ຍາ ພໍ	come and inform
-------	-----------------

ມາ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
The Taiban people came and informed the king.

ຍາ ພໍ	arrive at
-------	-----------

ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
In *lak-ni* Kap Cheu, he arrived at Khamjang.

ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ	catch and bring
----------	-----------------

□ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
The store-keepers were arrested and brought.

Composite verbs

ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ	come upstream
----------	---------------

ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
Afterwards he advanced upstream the Timâk.

ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ຍາ	come out from inside
----------------	----------------------

ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ ພໍ
The Chungis then came out of the forest.

၁၅၀၀ ချိ	weigh and see
----------	---------------

၁၅၀၀ ၵ၊ ဟေ ၁၅၀၀ ချိ ချိ ချိ
 Siu-ka-pha weighed the water of the Dikhow.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	bring fast
--------	------------

၁၅ ၵ၀ ဟေ ၁၅၀၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 The three ministers quickly brought the *rung kham* tree.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	set fire
--------	----------

၁၅၀၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 Our men set fire to houses.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	get offended
--------	--------------

၁၅ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 The king got greatly offended.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	capture and place
--------	-------------------

၁၅ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 He captured and placed the bird in basket.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	come downstream
--------	-----------------

၁၅၀၀ ၵ၊ ဟေ ၁၅၀၀ ၵ ၵ၀ ၵ၊ ၵ၊
 Siu-ka-pha came downstream the river Nam-Jin.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	get and come
--------	--------------

၁၅၀၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 Our men obtained some small canoes and brought to Taimong.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	bring with
--------	------------

၁၅ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 They brought six tusked elephants and offered to the king.

၁၅၀၀ ၵ	take with
--------	-----------

၁၅ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀ ၵ၀
 I took the horse to Namruk.

ကံ ဝံ	take and place
-------	----------------

စဝ် ဟဲ ဝါဒိန် ဝံ စဝ် ကံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ ဝံ
 The king took back the idol of Seng on elephant back and placed it at the temple.

Adverbs

Excepting a few adverbials of time which may be placed at the end, most adverbials of time sit at the beginning of a sentence.

ကံ၊ ဝါ	before
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	afterwards
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	formerly
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	at first
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	then
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	thereafter
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	then
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	now
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	now
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	ancient time
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	today

ကံ၊ ဝဲ	then
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	formerly
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	then
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	this year
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	last year
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	that year
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	sometime ago
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	now
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	yesterday
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	tomorrow
ကံ၊ ဝဲ	that time

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Thereafter Pu-phi-su stayed at Kao-ring-kha.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Then Jasingpha said to Khun-chang.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 In ancient time there was no god or man.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Afterwards whosoever becomes king.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Then he came (and) stayed at Che-kham.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Formerly in the reign of Siu-dang-pha.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 Then the Phukans consulted.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ
 This year is *lak-ni* Tao-si-nga.

ကံ၊ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ

Chao-lung Siu-ka-pha came in that year.

ဗါဝ် ကံ ကဝ် ဝါ နှိုဝ် မိ ဝဗ်

Sometime earlier I was not in the house.

ဗါဝ် နှိုဝ် ဝံ ဝဗ် ဝဗ် မိ ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

Then there was no king for three days.

ဗါဝ် နှိုဝ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

At that time king Siu-hum-pha made Chao-seng-lung.

Note : If the time is specific, adverbs of time follow in order of year, month, week, day and hour.

ဗိ ဝဗ် နှို နှို နှို ဗါဝ် နှို ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

In the year *lak-ni* Rung-Keu in fourth month on Dap-kau day the Bangals came.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

In *lak-ni* Kap-San in Din-ha month one Utai revolted.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

On the Mong-rao day, the *chiring* of the Miris came to the king and paid hoamge at Garhgaon.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

In *lak-ni* Rai-san, in Din-kam month on Ring-sau day, the king went from Garhgaon and stayed at Nang Kham.

ဗါဝ် နှိုဝ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

In the month of Din-kam, planted the post of Bargarh.

Adverbs of manner are generally placed after the verb ; when there is a direct object, the adverb is placed after the object.

ဝဗ်	quickly
ဝဗ် ဝဗ်	slowly
ဝဗ် ဝဗ်	secretly
ဝဗ်	less
ဝဗ်	well
ဝဗ်	badly

ဝဗ်	loudly
ဝဗ် ဝဗ်	like this
ဝဗ်	more
ဝဗ် ဝဗ်	like that
ဝဗ်	rapidly
ဝဗ် ဝဗ်	greatly

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

Do not go quickly, (you) will get a fall.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

The girl is coming slowly.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

He speaks Tai well

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

Do not talk loudly, someone will hear.

ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

He talks like this.

ហេតុ ក៏ មិន ត្រូវ ទេ ច្រើន ទេ ម្ហូប
Do not eat much, (you) will have pain in stomach.

ទឹក ក្នុង ទន្លេ ហូរ លឿន
The river is flowing rapidly.

ឃ្នក ឃ្នាង ហ្វូង ហ្វូង ទៅ ក្រុង ប៊ុរហ៊ី ឌីហ្វឺង លឿន
The *Barphukan* sailed down the Burhi Dihing quickly.

ហេតុ ម្តេច ដូច្នោះ ទើប ដូច្នោះ ក្នុង ពេល យើង
Why has it happened like that in our time ?

Adverbs of frequency

ប្រហែល ម្តង	once
ពីរ ដង	twice
ដំបូង	firstly
តែ ម្តង	always

តិច ណាស់	seldom
ញឹក ញាប់	often
ម្តង ម្តង	again
ម្តង ម្តង ម្តង	occasionally

ខ្ញុំ ទៅ ផ្ទះ ខ្ញុំ ម្តង ម្តង ក្នុង ខែ ម្តង
I go home twice in a month.

គាត់ ទៅ ថៃ ម្តង ម្តង
He went to Thailand once.

ស្រី ខ្ញុំ ទៅ រៀន ម្តង ម្តង ក្នុង ថ្ងៃ
My sister goes to school every day.

អ្នក មក ម្តង ម្តង
You come again.

ភ្លៀង ធ្លាក់ ញឹក ញាប់ ខែ ក្រោយ ខែ
It rains frequently this month.

ខ្ញុំ ទៅ មើល រូប ភ្លើង តិច ណាស់
Seldom have I gone to pictures.

Interrogative adverbs follow the verb.

ម្តង ម្តង / ម្តង	when ?
នៅ ណា	where ?
ហ្វូង ម្តង	how ?

តិច ណាស់ / ម្តង	how much ?
ច្រើន ណាស់ / ម្តង	how many ?
ហេតុ ម្តេច	why ?

តើ អ្នក ចង់ បាន ប៉ុន្មាន ?
How much do you want ?

អ្នក ហូរ លឿន ប៉ុន្មាន ?
How fast do you swim ?

គាត់ ទៅ រៀន ម្តង ម្តង ?
How does he talk ?

តើ គាត់ ទៅ រៀន ម្តង ម្តង ?
How did the man die ?

ဗ် ကို အို ထွ်
Where do you live ?

ဗင်္ဂ် မံ; ဟံ ဟိ
Why did he go ?

ဗိဝ် ငွ် ဗ် အို မံ; ငွ်
When do you go to sleep ?

မဝ် အံ; မံ; ဟိဗိ ဣ
How shall I go ?

င်္ဂ် ဝံ; ဟံ ကို ကို အို အို ဗ်
How many people are there under the tree ?

Adverbs of degree

င်္ဂ်	very
င်္ဂ် ဟိဗိ	much
ဟိဗိ	too

ဟိဗိ	little
အိဗိ ဟိဗိ	wholly, fully
ဟိဗိ ဟိဗိ	Very little

အိဝ် ဗံ; မံ; မံ ဟိဗိ
We came too far.

ဗက် ဗိဗိ ငွ် ငွ် အိဗိ ဟိဗိ
The mangoe is wholly rotten.

ဝံ ငွ် မဝ် ဣ မံ; အိဗိ ဟိဗိ
I fully understand the matter.

ဟက် ကို ကို မံ ဝံ ငွ် ဟိဗိ
The boy ate much.

Adverbs of place

အို ထွ်	here
ဗိဗိ, အို ထွ်	there
မံ	outside
မံ	above, on
အို	below
မံ	near, adjacent
မံ	distant

မံ	in front of
ဟက် အိ	thence
မံ	inside
မံ အို	everywhere
အို ထွ် မံ	somewhere
အို ထွ် မံ	anywhere
ဟိဗိ	by the side

ဟဝ် ဟု ဝံ ငွ် ငွ် မံ; အို ထွ်
The king got a tank dug there.

ဗင်္ဂ် ဝံ ဣ မံ; အို ထွ်
He built a house there.

မံ ဗင်္ဂ် ဟု ဟိဗိ အို
It is raining outside.

ဗၼ် ဖံၼ် ဟံၼ် ဟံၼ် ဝံၼ် ထံၼ်
He stayed there for one year.

မံၼ် ဟံၼ် မံၼ် ဝံၼ်
I looked everywhere.

ဝံၼ် ထံၼ် ဝံၼ် မံၼ် ဝံၼ်
I did not go anywhere.

ဟံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ်
The sky is above, water below.

ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ်
The king placed thao-mong there.

ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ် ဝံၼ်
His dead body was buried there.

Prepositions

Are always placed before their nouns or pronouns.

ထံၼ်	in front of, before
ထံၼ်	in, within
မံၼ်	between, in (time)
ထံၼ်	outside
ထံၼ်	above, over
ဝံၼ်, ဝံၼ်	at, in, on, to
ထံၼ်	at, in (place)
ဝံၼ်	from
ဝံၼ်	below, under
ထံၼ်	for (purpose)

ထံၼ်	near, about
ထံၼ်	behind
ထံၼ်	from (place)
ထံၼ်	in, at
ထံၼ်	in, at
ထံၼ်	with
ထံၼ်	on
ထံၼ်	for
ထံၼ်	on account of
ထံၼ်	at

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
It is hot inside (the) house.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
It is cold outside (the) house.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
Birds live in nest.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
The Tais live on river bank.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
The letter is on the table.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်
The village lies in the middle of the forest.

ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ် ထံၼ်

The king came from Garhgaon

មង្គ ម៖ ហ្គារ៉ា ទាំ ចង្ក គ្រីក យ
He came from Banruk.

មង្គ ប្រាំ ហ្គីង យង ទា, ហ្គីង ជំ ជួន ចូង យ
He went (and) caught elephants at the mouth of the Dibong.

ជ័រ ហ្គី យំ យង យា ប្រាំ ម៖ ទាំ វា គ្រី ជួន
The king went to Chraideo in the morning.

មីង ចង្ក គ្រី យង យា វា យង យង ហ្គី ទាំ វា វា វា ហ្គី យ
One day the king went and caught fish at Sessa River.

ហ្គី ម្រំ យង យង មង យង
Do not eat rice at night.

មង្គ ជ័រ ហ្គី ហ្គី ទាំ ទាំ ម្រំ
The man fell from the tree.

ហ្គី ជ័រ យង ទាំ ទាំ ម្រំ
The cow is under the tree.

Conjunctions

Co-ordinate conjunctions sit in between words or sentences they join.

Sub-ordinate conjunctions sit before the subordinate clause.

In conditional sentences, conjunctions sit before the conditional clause.

ទាំ	with
ទាំ ម្រំ	with
ទាំ ទាំ វា	but
ម្រំ	with
យង	if, though
យង ជ័រ	for this
យង ជ័រ	for that
យំ	and

ហ្គី	or
ជួន យង	with (person)
វា	also, and
គ្រី	or
ហ្គី ជ័រ	because, for this
ហ្គី ជ័រ ជ័រ	therefore
ហ្គី ជ័រ វា / យង	therefore
ម្រំ	with

វា ប្រាំ វា ម្រំ
go and come.

មង ទាំ មង ម្រំ
I came with him.

យង យា ហ្គី គ្រី យង ទាំ ម្រំ ជ័រ ជួន ប្រាំ គ្រី
Choa-pha Siu-ram married Nang Doi.

យង ប្រាំ យំ យង ហ្គី ប្រាំ ម៖ គ្រី
Chao-pet and Chao-hum went home.

ហ្គី ជ័រ យង យា ហ្គី យង យង យង ទាំ យង
Therefore the king got offended with them.

យង មង ប្រាំ ទាំ គ្រី
If he goes home.

မုၢ် ဟံၣ် ဟံၣ် မံၣ် ဝဲၣ် မံၣ်
If it rains, I will not go.

ဝဲၣ် ဝဲၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ်
Therefore you went home.

မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ်
But he did not go.

မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ်

We live in the jungle with monkeys.

မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ် မံၣ်

Part 3 : Topics in lexicon

Couplets (Reduplication)

Ahom is a tonal language, and a word carries several meanings according to pronunciation. There is, therefore, every possibility of having ambiguity and confusion regarding the meaning of a word. To avoid such ambiguity, a device followed is the coupling of word or words with other word or words having the same or a similar meaning. A knowledge of this system makes the determination of meaning easier.

When two words or word groups having an identical or similar meaning are placed side by side, their common meaning will be understood, and nothing else. This device is extended to all classes of parts of speech, such as noun plus noun, noun plus verb, noun plus adjective, conjunction plus noun etc. Take for instance the pair of words 𑜋𑜂𑜫 𑜇 which means 'good' ; each of these words have different meanings individually, but when together they should be understood by their common meaning 'good'. Similarly, the couplet 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 is a combination of 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 and , 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 both having identical meaning (𑜇𑜂𑜫 'house' and 𑜇𑜂𑜫 'big' ; 𑜇𑜂𑜫 'palace' and 𑜇𑜂𑜫 'big'), and the result means 'palace' because a palace is a very big house. In the following pages, a few four-word couplets are given with their meaning because these couplets are very often met with in the original Ahom chronicles.

1/ Noun and noun

𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	the Tais and slaves
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	coat and trousers
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	boundary of the kingdom
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	gold and silver store
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	the land of forefathers
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	great grandfathers
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	sons and grandsons
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	life force of the kingdom
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	throne (of the kingdom)
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	border and frontier
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	male and female
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	north and south
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	boys and girls
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	sunlight and moonlight
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	days of the grandfathers

2/ noun and adjective

𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	phukans and baruas
𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜂𑜫	big officers

၀းံ့ ဘ၀်ကံ ဟု ဘ၀်ကံ	white cows and buffaloes
အိုဝ်း ဟုဗိ ခ်ကု ဟုဗိ	big palaces
ကုဝ်း ဝှံ ဘု ဝှံ	good persons
ကုဝ်း ဝှံ ကုဝ်း ဝှံ	good men
ဗါဗိ ဝှံ ဗါဗိ ဝှံ	down country
ဗါဗိ ကံဗိ ဗါဗိ ဘုဗိ	wide country
ဗါဗိ ဟု ဝှံ ဟု	devastated country
အိုဝ်း ကံဗိ အိုဝ်း ဝှံ	canoes of different types
ကုဝ်း ဟု ဘု ဟု	many men
အိုဝ်း ဝှံ အိုဝ်း ဟုကံ	light and small canoes
ကုဝ်း ဟုဗိ ဝှံ ဟုဗိ	big guns and cannons
ဝှံ ဝှံ ခ်ကု ဝှံ	good cups and dishes
ဘု ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	big and famous kings
ခါဗု အိုဝ်း ခါဗု ဟုဗိ	chief priests

3/ verb and noun

ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ, ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	become good
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	become king
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	become brothers
ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ	make merry
ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ	make good
ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ	make chief
ကုဝ်း ဝှံ ကုဝ်း ဝှံ	eat country
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	give things
ဟုဝ်း အိုဝ်း ဟုဝ်း ဝှံ	burn houses and granaries
ကုဝ်း ဝှံ ကုဝ်း ဝှံ	eat cow and pig
ခါဗု အိုဝ်း ခါဗု ဝှံ	repair houses
ခါဗု ဝှံ ခါဗု ဝှံ	repair roads
ခါဗု ဝှံ ခါဗု ဝှံ	worship spirits
ခါဗု ဝှံ ခါဗု ဝှံ	worship the dead
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	pray to the spirits
ကုဝ်း ဝှံ ကုဝ်း ဝှံ	look good
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	roam everywhere
ခါဗု ဝှံ ခါဗု ဝှံ	kill cows and pigs
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	distribute animals
ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ ဝှံ	distribute men

ပတ် ဟံ ပတ် ကျ	cut right and left
ဝံ ကျ ဝံ ဗိုဇ်	cross obstacles
ဗို နှစ် ဗို ဂါဇ်	have heads and legs
ဗို ဟုတ် ဗို ဟန်	have progeny
ဗို ဟံ ဗို ဟဇ်	seize spirits
နပ် ဟံ နပ် ဟဇ်	possess by spirit
ကုတ် ကျ ကုတ် ဗိုဇ်	construct defences
ဟွတ် နှစ် ဟွတ် ဟံ	set fire to houses
ဗံ ဗိုဇ် ဗံ ဗိုဇ်	go everywhere
တတ် ဟု တတ် ဟန်	collect men
ကံ တဇ် ကံ ဟု	ride on elephants and horses
ကံ တဇ် ကံ ဟု	bring presents
ကံ ကွဇ် ကံ ဟဇ်	bring goods
ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဗိုဇ်	press hands and legs
ကံ ကျ ကံ ဗိုဇ်	enter into forts

4/ Negative and verb

ဗဝ် ဂါဇ် ဗဝ် ဂါဇ်	not fight and not win
ဗဝ် ဂါဇ် ဗဝ် ကျ	not die and not cut
ဗဝ် နှစ် ဗဝ် ဂါဇ်	not see and not hear
ကံ ဂါဇ် ကံ ဂါဇ်	not have passage
ဗဝ် ဂါဇ် ဗဝ် နှစ်	not eat not sleep

5/ verb of mutuality

ကန် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	make dispute
ကန် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	quarrel
ဂါဇ် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	fight and cut
ဂါဇ် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	beat and cut
နဇ် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	consult
ကျ ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	fight
နဇ် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	love
ဟဇ် ကန် ဂါဇ် ကန်	take oath

6/ Preposition and noun

ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဟံ	with wife and children
ဂါဇ် ဗံ ဂါဇ် နှစ်	with brothers

အဇ် ဘဇ် အဇ် မျ	with elephants and horses
အဇ် နှိဟ် အဇ် ငွပ်	with swords and spears
မဇ် ဝဏ် မဇ် ဝါဏ်	in day and in night

7/ verb and verb

ကလဲ မး; နု မး;	run away
နု မး; ဝဇ် မး;	come back
ကလဲ ဝံ ကလဲ မး;	go and come
မး ကလဲ မး; ဝံ	come and prostrate
အဇ် ဝံ ဝဏ် ဝံ	settle and place

8/ Some more

ကု မလိဝ် ကု ဝဏ်	every day
ကု ဝံ ကု ငွပ်	every year and every month
ကု အံ ကု မဇ်	everywhere
ကု ဝဏ် ကု ဝါဏ်	day and night

အဇ် နုတ် အဇ် ဝံ	discuss secretly
ကံ ဝဏ် ကံ အံ	cut and pierce greatly
ကံ ဝဏ် ကံ ဝး	cut to pieces

Some Ahom titles and offices

They are given below in order to give an idea of the pattern of construction of compound nouns (or proper nouns) which are very often come across in the Ahom chronicles.

1/ kings and princes

ကဝ် ဝဏ်	king
ကဝ် နှိ	queen
ကဝ် နှိ နုဇ်	chief queen
ကဝ် နှိ ငွပ်	Parbatiya Konwari
ကဝ် နှိ ကိုဏ်	Saru Konwari
ကဝ် ဝံ	Deka Raja

ကဝ်	prince
ကဝ် နှိ	princess
ကဝ် အံ ဝံ	prince of Tipam
ကဝ် ကံ နှိ	prince of Sâring
ကဝ် နှိ နှိ	prince of Nâmruk
ကဝ် အဇ် ဝဏ်	prince of Tungkhang

2/ various types of *gohâins*

ကဝ် ထံ နုဇ်	prime minister
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ထံ မလိဝ် ကံ ဝဏ်	Solâl Gohâin
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លេខ ប្រាំ ម៉ែ	Burâ Gohâin
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ ម្ភៃ	Bor Gohâin
លេខ រាម ម្ភៃ	Borpâtra Gohâin
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ	Gohâin
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ ឈ្មៃ ឆ្មៃ ដំ	Kaliâbariâ Gohâin
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ រាម រាម រាម	Jabakiâl Gohâin

ប្រាំ ម៉ែ រាម ដំ	Sadiyâkhowâ G.
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ មា ឆ្មៃ រា	Marangikhowâ G.
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ រំ រាម	Khâmjangiâ G.
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ បង ឆ្មៃ	Bânrukiâ G.
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ ម៉ែ ឆ្មៃ	Bhâtialiâ G.
ប្រាំ ម៉ែ រាម ឆ្មៃ	Katak G

3/ various types of *phukans*

លេខ រាម	phukan
លេខ រាម ម្ភៃ	Bor phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ម	Na phukan
លេខ រាម ដំ	Pânî phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ឆ្មៃ	Nâobaichâ phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ឆ្មៃ	Chiring phukan
លេខ រាម រា រា	Dhekiâl phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ឆ្មៃ	Nâohaliâ phukan
លេខ រាម ដំ	Dâm phukan
លេខ រាម ដំ រាម	Bhitaruâl phukan
លេខ រាម ដំ ម៉ែ	Neog phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ឆ្មៃ	Chângrung phukan
លេខ រាម រា រា	Cholâdhara phukan
លេខ រាម រាម រាម	Châo hing phukan
លេខ រាម រាម រា	Pikchâi phukan
លេខ រាម មា ម	Tâmuli phukan
លេខ រាម លេខ រាម រា	Bhâtdharâ phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ឆ្មៃ	Chengrâi phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ម្ភៃ	Bâilung phukan
លេខ រាម រាម	Deodhâi phukan

លេខ រាម បង រំ ម្ភៃ	Bardeoliâ phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ឆ្មៃ	Sonowâl phukan
លេខ រាម លេខ រាម	Nagariâl phukan
លេខ រាម លេខ រាម	Kataki phukan
លេខ រាម រំ រា	Nyâysodhâ phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ម៉ែ រាម	Dihingiâ phukan
លេខ រាម ម	Dekâ phukan
លេខ រាម រា រា	Abhoipuriâ phukan
លេខ រាម រំ បំ	Tipamiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម រំ ឆ្មៃ	Châringiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម ដំ រាម	Nâmdangiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម ឆ្មៃ រាម	Hâtimuriyâ phukan
លេខ រាម ម៉ែ រា	Bhâtiyaliyâ phukan
លេខ រាម ឆ្មៃ រាម	Râidangiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ឆ្មៃ ដំ	Kaliyâbariyâ phuk.
លេខ រាម រា រាម	Khowâng phukan
លេខ រាម រាម	Khangiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម រាម	Parbatiyâ phukan
លេខ រាម រាម ឆ្មៃ	Âhatguriyâ phukan
លេខ រាម រាម រាម	Kalâbariyâ phukan

4/ various types of *râjkhowâs*, Ahom លេខ រាម ម៉ែ

ល. រាម ដំ	Pâni-Dihingiyâ r.
ល. រាម	Taruâ-Dihingiyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម រាម ម្ភៃ	Bar-Abhoipurîyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម រាម ដំ	Saru-Abhoipurîyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម រាម រាម	Mâju-Abhoipurîyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម រាម ដំ	Pâni-Abhoipurîyâ r.

ល. រាម រាម ដំ	Nâm-Dayangiyâ r.
ល. រាម រា	Bassâ r.
ល. រំ បំ	Tipamiyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម	Salaguriyâ r.
ល. រាម ដំ រា	Dikhowmukhîyâ r.
ល. រំ រាម	Tiurâl r.

ឃ. ឆ្នាំ រំពេច ឆ្នាំ	Upar-Dayangîyâ r.
ឃ. ឆ្នាំ រំពេច រំពេច	Mâju-Dayangîyâ r.

ឃ. ជំ ឆ្នាំ	Nâmdangîyâ r.
ឃ. ឃ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Ahatgurîyâ r.

5/ various types of *Baruâs* : Ahom ឃ រំពេច

ឃ. ឃ បំ	Tipamîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Sâringîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Khangîyâ b.
ឃ. ឆ្នាំ	Parbatîyâ b.
ឃ. ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Râidangîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ រំពេច	Dihingîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Gharphalîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Sonowâl b.
ឃ. រំពេច ឃ	Masâi b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Nâohalîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Hilaidârî b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Dhanudharîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Chiring b.
ឃ. ឃ ឃ	Bharâlî b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Hâtî b.

ឃ. ឃ	Ghorâ b.
ឃ. ឃ	Gâhari b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Majindâr b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Phul b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Dhekîyâl b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Jarâdharâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Bâilung b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Châodâng b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Dolâkâkharîyâ b.
ឃ. ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Dolîyâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Chângmâi b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kukurâchoâ b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Nagariyâl b.
ឃ. ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Hâbialîyâ b.
ឃ. រំពេច ឆ្នាំ	Rahiyal b.

6/ other titles

ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	hâzarikâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kaliyâbarîyâ h.
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ រំពេច ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kharangî h.
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Chungî h.
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Hâtîmûrîyâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Saikîyâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Châo-rak Saikîyâ

ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Châodâng barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Dâdharâ barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Ghorâchoâ barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kâkatî barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Deoalîyâ barâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Mitdharâ barâ

7/ other professions & duties

ឆ្នាំ, ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ, ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	envoy, messenger
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	disciple, <i>bhakat</i>
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ រំពេច ឆ្នាំ	palace guard
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	store-guard
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	house-guard
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	guard of god, goddess

ဘု ဘေဇ် နှိုဝ်	boat-builder
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘဲး	grass-cutter
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘဲး ဘေဇ်	grass-cutter for elephant
ဘု ကင်္ဂါ နှိ	sedan bearer
ဘု ငှဲ ပုဝါ	duck-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ဗု	pig keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ကံ	chicken-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ဘေဇ်	elephant-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ဘေဇ်	male body-guard
မိဇ် ငှဲ ဘေဇ်	female body-guard
ဘု ငှဲ ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	palace-keeper
ဘု ဝါကံ ငှိ	water-drawer
ဘု နှိ ဘေဇ်	bearer of basket
ဘု နှိ ဝါ	dead-body carrier
ဘု နှိ ဝါ	box-carrier
ဘု ဘေဇ် ကွဲ	drummer
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	cymbal-beater
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဝိ	gong-beater
ဘု ပဲ ဗါဇ်	Bairâgî
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	washerman
ဘု ဘေဇ် နှိ	sharpener of swords
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဗေဇ် ဗု	betel-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	cloth-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	Seng-dharâ
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	club-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	meal-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	load-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	jarâdharâ
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	bow-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	gun-bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ်	stick bearer
ဘု ဝါဝါ ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	arrow bearer
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	potter
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	blacksmith
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	barber
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	writer
ဘု ဘေဇ် ဘေဇ်	shield maker

ឃុំ ឃាច កុំប៉ូ	gun maker
ឃុំ ឃាច កុំប៉ូ	bow maker
ឃុំ ឃាច វ៉ូ	rope maker
ឃុំ ឃាច គីន	builder (house, building)
ឃុំ ឃាច រ៉ូ	goldsmith

