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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Professor J. N. Phukan's *Ahom Primer* is unique, and we thought it was a pity to leave it unpublished.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
ᩅ	ᩄ	ᩃ	ᩂ
t	th	d	n
ᩁ	ᩀ	ᩉ	ᩈ
p	ph	b	m

ᩇ	ᩆ		ᩅ
s	ch		ny
ᩄ	ᩃ	ᩂ	ᩁ
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 ᩉᩈᩈ *kun*. This is described in lesson 1. The final consonant *-m* is often written by a superscript ^ᩈ, as in ᩈᩈ *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 ᩈᩈᩈ *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 ᩈᩈ *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	iuw

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;
ꞛ	â (long)	mꞛ
o	i (short)	m ^o
ø	î (long)	m ^ø
u	u (short)	m _u
û	û (long)	m _û
e/	e (short)	e/m
e/ˆ	ê (long)	e/mˆ
ˆ	âi (as in <u>pâi</u>)	mˆ
o	a (as in <u>kan</u>)	m _o
ˆ	âu	mˆ
o	âo	m _o
ˆ	ow	m _o ˆ
ˆ	oi (as in <u>loi</u>)	m _o ˆ
e/ꞛ	aw (as in <u>maw</u>)	e/mꞛ
o	iao	m ^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, ˆ; kha, ˆ; ta.

ꞛ

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

Note : Any of the two signs ; or ꞛ 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 :

ˆ; m; ˆ; ˆ; ˆ; ˆ; ˆ;

ˆ; ˆ; ˆ; ˆ; mꞛ ˆꞛ ˆꞛ

၎် 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

၀်ကံ	worship V
၀်အ်	make V
၀်ဗ်	ten
၀်ဋ်	cold
၀်အ်	seven

၀်အ်	eight
၀်ဗ်	town
၀်ဋ်	soil
၀်ဋ်	stone
၀်ဗ်	ten

Exercise 9 : Translate :

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| a) | ဋ် ၀်ဋ် | ဗဋ် ထံ ၀်ဋ် | ဗဋ် ကံဋ် ဗကံ |
| b) | ၀်အ် ဗျ | ၀်ဋ် ဗ; ၀်ဗ် | ၀်ဋ် ဗ; ထံ ဗဋ် |
| c) | ၀်ဗ် ၀်ကံ | ဗဋ် အံကံ ၀်ဋ် | ဗျ ကံဋ် ဖဲ; |
| d) | ၀်အ် ဗဋ် | ၀်ဋ် ကံဋ် ၀်ကံ | ဋ်ဋ် ဋျ ဗံ |
| e) | ဋ်ဗ် ဗံအ် ဗံ | ၀်ဗ် ကံဋ် ဖဲ; | ဗဋ် ဗျ ၀်ဋ် ၀်ကံ |

Exercise 10 : Translate :

- do not say
- ten years
- cold water
- do not drink cold water
- elephants eat grass
- he goes to field
- soil of field (is) good
- '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 v° pī, ဗ° mī, ၀° jī, etc.

Vocabulary 5 :

၀်	spirit
ဗ်	have V
၀်	ride V
၀်	four
၀်	granary

အ်	to
ဋ်	good
၀်	year
ဗ်	fan
ဗ်	bear

Exercise 11 :

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------------|
| a) | ဗဋ် ၀်ကံ ၀် | ဗဋ် ၀် ဘဗ် က; ကအ် |
| b) | ၀်ဋ် က; အ် ၀်ဗ် | ၀်ဗ် ၀် ၀် ဝိ |
| c) | ၀် ဘဗ် ကံဋ် ဖဲ; | ဗဋ် ဗ် ၀် ၀်ကံ |

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 កុង kun, ឃ្លូង lung.

Vocabulary 6 :

កុង	man
ឃ្លូង	big
ឃ្លូង	tree
ឃ្លូង	fall V
ឃ្លូង	king
ឃ្លូង	mouth

ឃ្លូង	banana
ឃ្លូង	garden
ឃ្លូង	bird
ឃ្លូង	child
ឃ្លូង	dig V
ឃ្លូង	six

Exercise 13 : Translate :

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ៗ ម្នាក់ | ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ឃ្លូង ៗ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ |
| ឃ្លូង ឃ្លូង ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ |
| ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ |
| ឃ្លូង ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ ម្នាក់ | |

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
ᄌᄀᄆ	conquer V
ᄌᄀᄇ	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 :

- The king conquered four big cities
- The mouth of the river is big
- His mother eats fruit
- Mother says, 'do not worship spirit'
- There is big tree in the garden
- 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	မူ ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း ပံ ကံ နံ
မင်း ၎င်းတို့	ကံ နံ	မင်း ပံ ကံ ဇံ ၎င်းတို့
နံ ၎င်းတို့	မင်း ကံ ဇံ	ပံ ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့
ကံ ကံ	ပံ ကံ နံ	မင်း နံ မင်း ပံ ယူ ၎င်းတို့

Exercise 20 : Translate

- Grandchild calls pig
- 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 ຈີ ຈີ ທຸ້ຍ ຊຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ຈີ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຈີ ຜີ ທຸ້ຍ ມ; ພູ ອາ ທຸ້ຍ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ທຸ້ອ ພ ພ ຈີ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຈີ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຈີ ທຸ້ຍ ທຸ້ຍ ຈີ ຈີ ຈີ ຈີ ກວຸ້ນ ທຸ້ຍ ສຸ້ນ ກວຸ້ນ ອາ ຈີ |
|--|---|

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

ငွေ	star
-----	------

၀	rice
---	------

Exercise 25 : Translate :

အိမ် မိမိ ဝေ	ကံ ဟံ ယူ ဝါ ဟံ
ကံ ဝေ မိမိ ဝေ	အိမ် ဝေ မိမိ ဝေ
အိမ် မိမိ ဗ	ဝေ ဟံ ဝေ ဟံ ဝေ ဝေ
မိမိ ဝေ ဟံ ဝေ	ဝေ ဟံ ဝါ ဝေ
မိမိ ဟံ ယူ ဟံ	ဝေ ဟံ ဝေ ဝေ ယူ ဝါ မိမိ

Exercise 26 : Translate :

- a) Who is the owner of this horse?
- b) Man does not eat grass
- c) This old man has no teeth
- d) There is fruit in the tree
- e) We will not come this year
- f) We do not drink cold water
- g) I do not have book
- h) We do not sleep at day time
- i) Who is the owner of this elephant ?
- j) Stars are not seen at day time

Lesson 13

၀ Of the two signs, one sits below the letter towards right, the other sits above towards right. they have the power of ow such as ဝ ကow, ဝ thow, ဝ tow.

Vocabulary 13 :

ဝ	arrow
ဝ	wish
ဝ	young man
ဝ	stick

ဝ	nine
ဝ	messenger
ဝ	new
ဝ	old

Exercise 27 : Translate :

မိမိ ဝ မိမိ ဝ ဟံ	ဝ ဝ ဟံ ဝါ ဝ
ဝ မိမိ ဝ ဟံ	ဝ ဟံ မိမိ ဝ
ဝ ဟံ ဝေ	ဝ ဝ ယူ ဝါ
ဝ ဝ	ဝ ဝ ဝ ဝါ ဝ
ဝ ဟံ ဝါ	ဝ ဝ ဝါ ဝ

Exercise 28 : Translate :

- 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 ꨁ ꨂ ꨀ ꨄ | ꨁꨀ ꨄ ꨂ ꨁ ꨄ |
| ꨁꨄ ꨂ ꨀ ꨄ ꨄ | ꨂ ꨄ ꨀ ꨄ ꨀ ꨁ ꨁꨄ |
| ꨄ ꨂ ꨁ ꨄ | ꨄꨀ ꨄ ꨂ ꨀ ꨄ ꨄ |
| ꨄ ꨂ ꨁ ꨂ ꨁ ꨄ ꨄ | ꨂ ꨀ ꨁ ꨂ ꨀ ꨄ ꨄ |
| ꨄ ꨂ ꨁ ꨀ ꨄ ꨄ | ꨄ ꨂ ꨀ ꨄ ꨄ ꨂ ꨁ ꨄ ꨄ ꨁ |

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 ဗော် နို့ နှစ်
ဖို ဝံ ဗ	ကုန် နို့ ဝံ ကံ နို့ ဝေ
နို့ နို့ နို့	တစ် ယူ နို့ နို့
ကံ နို့ ကံ	ဗို နို့ ယူ နို့
ကုန် ဗံ နို့ ဝေ 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 :

နို့	white
နို့	month
နို့	night
နို့	arrive V
နို့	house

နို့	one
နို့	enjoyment
နို့	sheet
နို့	kingdom
နို့	silver

Exercise 35 : Translate :

နို့ နို့	ကံ ဝါ	ဗံ ဝါ နို့ နို့ နို့ နို့
ကံ နို့ ကံ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	ဗံ ဝါ ကံ ဝါ ကံ	
ကံ ဝါ ကံ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	
ကံ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	ဗံ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ ဝါ	

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 | မိန် 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 ခု
1.00.000	၈
2.00.000	၈
3.00.000	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	10
၈	11
၈	20
၈	21
၈	30
၈	31
၈ / ၈	40
၈	41

once	၈
twice	၈
thrice	၈

first	၈
second	၈
third	၈
fourth	၈
fifth	၈
sixth	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
ৱদি	mouth
ৱদি	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 ৱদি	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 ৱদি	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

ນຸກົນ ນຸດີ	son + grandson	descendants
ດຳ ຫລ	down + sky	the world
ບູ ຊູ່ຍິ	elder + younger	brothers
ເມັດ ຫລີ	time + day	time

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

ນ້ຳ ດຳລົງ	water + fall V	waterfalls
ຫີນ ຫລີ	earth + burn V	brick
ຫລູ ຫລີ	cloth + wipe V	towel

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

ຫລີ ຫລື	wash + clothes	washer
ເຫັນ ທີ່	see + body	bodyguard
ເຫັນ ທີ່	see + elephant	elephant-keeper
ກິນ ທີ່	eat + country	ruler, governor
ກິນ ທີ່	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 ຫລີ ທີ່ ທີ່ ທີ່ meaning ຫລີ 'person' ທີ່ 'eat V' ທີ່ '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 :

ຫລີ ບໍ່ ທີ່	person + go + country	traveller
ຫລີ ທີ່ ທີ່	person + beat + drum	drummer
ຫລີ ທີ່ ທີ່	person + guard + house	house guard
ເຫັນ ທີ່ ທີ່	female + see + body	female attendant
ຫລີ ທີ່ ທີ່	person + cut + grass	grass cutter
ຫລີ ທີ່ ທີ່	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 :

ເຫຼັກ ຫລີ	metal + red	copper
ເຫຼັກ ທີ່	metal + yellow	brass
ເຫຼັກ ທີ່	metal + hard	bell metal
ຫີນ ທີ່	soil + black	coal

ဣဝိုင်း ဝါး	soil + white
ဣဝိုင်း မြေ	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 နေ formed by prefixing ဣ 'place' to verb နေ 'to sit', refers to articles like 'chair', 'stool', 'bench' etc.

Further examples are :

ဣ မှီ	place + eat V
ဣ မြေ	place + sleep V
ဣ ဝါး	place + worship V
ဣ ဟော	place + teach V

eating place
bedstead
temple
school, college

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

ကို / ဣ မှီ	that + eat V
ကို / ဣ ဟော	that + work V
ကို / ဣ မြေ	that + sleep V
ကို / ဣ ဝါး	that + go V
ကို / ဣ ဝါး	that + walk V
ကို / ဣ ဟော	that + talk V

food
work
sleep
travel
walking
conversation

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

ဟုတ် ဝါး	issue + war
ဟုတ် ဝါး	issue + fire
ဟုတ် ကျွတ်	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.

ကို ဣ မှီ	which scratch back
ကို ဟော ဝါး	which catch fish
ကို ဣ ဝါး	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 ក្នុង	Nam Khun
ជំ យ័ង	Nam Jin
ជំ ក្នុង	Nam Kiu
ជំ ណ៍ រ្វ	Nam Ti Lao

Dhansiri
Dikhow
Disang
Buri Dihing
Irrawady
Brahmaputra

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

ជំ ក្នុង យ័ង ក្នុង	Nam Khum Joyhagar
ជំ ក្នុង យ័ង	Nam Khum Lung
ជំ ក្នុង ច័ យ័ង ក្នុង	Nam Khum Bijoygar

Joysagar tank
Bar Pukhuri
Bijoysagar tank

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

ជ្រុង យ័ង	Nong Jang
ជ្រុង យ័ង	Nong Lung
ជ្រុង រ្វ ម្ម	Nong Kaw Mong
ជ្រុង រ្វ	Nong Taw

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

ណ៍ រ្វ	Ti Rap
ណ៍ ប័	Ti Pam
ណ៍ ប្រុង	Ti Pong
ណ៍ យ័ង	Ti Loi
ណ៍ រ្វ	Ti Ru
ណ៍ ម្ម	Ti Mon

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

បង្កំ យ័ង	Ban Lung
បង្កំ រ្វ	Ban Ruk
បង្កំ យ័ង	Ban Phi
បង្កំ រ្វ	Ban Rin
បង្កំ ប័	Ban Pet
បង្កំ យ័ង	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 ហ្គ	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 មង	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) နှပ် 'mouth', is prefixed to names of places of confluence of rivers :

နှပ် နံ မှ	Sup Nam Sao
နှပ် နံ မို	Sup Nam Jin
နှပ် နံ တီ	Sup Nam Ti

Dikhowmukh
Dihingmukh
Namtimukh

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

နှဲ မှေ ငွေ	Pha Leng-Don
နှဲ တီဝ် မှေ	Pha Tiu-Cheng
နှဲ မှေ ငွေ	Pha Sang-Din
နှဲ တ၊ ရ၊	Pha Ta-Ra
နှဲ မှေ ကို	Pha Lao-Khri

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

နှိ ရှေ	Phi Reun
နှိ နီ	Phi Nam
နှိ တို	Phi Then
နှိ တု	Phi Tun
နှိ တို	Phi Doi

House spirit
Water spirit
Forest spirit
Tree spirit
Hill spirit

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

နှဲ ငွေ	Sang Duen
နှဲ ဝဲ	Sang Ban
နှဲ ငွေ	Sang Din

Moon god
Sun god
Earth god

𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Sang Pha
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫	Sang Dao

Sky god
Star god

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

𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫	Haw-Lung
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Haw Phi
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Haw Kham

(rāj kâreng)
Temple of god/spirit
Golden Palace

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

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

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

𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫	Din Ching
𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	Din Sam
𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 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 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫.

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

𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	the time preceding the crowing of cocks
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤 𑜇𑜤	the time of crowing of cocks
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	the twilight period
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤	the time when people get up from bed
𑜋𑜃𑜂𑜫 𑜇𑜤𑜃𑜂𑜫 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 ၵး	tears
တံ့ ၵး	oil
တံ့ ၵး	milk

တံ့ ၵး	honey
တံ့ ၵး	wine
တံ့ ၵး	mucas

b) တံ့ is prefixed to nouns denoting birds

တံ့ ၵး	fowl
တံ့ ၵး	duck
တံ့ ၵး ၵး	pigeon

တံ့ ၵး	crow
တံ့ ၵး	sparrow
တံ့ ၵး	dove

c) ၵး is prefixed to nouns denoting plants or trees

ၵး ၵး	a kind of peepul
ၵး ၵး	a kind of bamboo

ၵး ၵး	banana
ၵး ၵး	brinjal

d) ၵး is prefixed to nouns denoting cloth

ၵး ၵး	<i>rihâ</i>
ၵး ၵး	<i>mekhelâ</i>
ၵး ၵး	<i>dhuti</i>

ၵး ၵး	<i>châdar</i>
ၵး ၵး	turban
ၵး ၵး	towel

e) ၵး is prefixed to nouns denoting leafy vegetable

ၵး ၵး	edible fern
ၵး ၵး	hyacinth

ၵး ၵး	a kind of pot herb
ၵး ၵး	red spinach

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

ၵး ၵး	areca nut
ၵး ၵး	brinjal
ၵး ၵး	bitter gourd

ၵး ၵး	mangoe
ၵး ၵး	guava
ၵး ၵး	jack fruit

g) ၵး is prefixed to nouns of flowers

ၵး ၵး	lotus
ၵး ၵး	screwpine flower

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

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

ၵး ၵး	store house
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ၵး ၵး	house of spirit
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គ្រឹះ រំ	house of the dead
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គ្រឹះ រម្យ រ	House of malai
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i) រម្យ is prefixed to nouns of rest-house, yard, stable etc.

រម្យ ផ្ទះ	sitting house
រម្យ រោង	elephant stable

រម្យ គោ	boat yard
រម្យ ម្រ	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 :

រម្យ	father
ប្តី	grandfather
រាជ	master
រ	male
រ	male

រម្រ	mother
ម្រ	grandmother
និរ	lady
រម្រ	female
រម្រ	female

Note : ប្តី and ម្រ are father & mother of the father.

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

ប្តី រ	elder brother
និរ រ	younger brother
រ	man
រម្រ រ	son
រ រ	male servant
រ រ	bull
ម្រ រ	horse
ម្រ រ	he-pig
រ រ	cock
រម្រ រ រ	he-goat

ប្តី រម្រ	elder sister
និរ រម្រ / និរ រម្រ	younger sister
រ រម្រ	woman
រម្រ រម្រ	daughter
រ រម្រ	maid servant
រ រម្រ	cow
ម្រ រម្រ	mare
ម្រ រម្រ	she-pig
រម្រ រម្រ	fowl
រម្រ រម្រ រម្រ	she-goat

The following differences may be carefully noticed :

រម្រ រម្រ	female elephant
រម្រ រម្រ	female buffalo

រម្រ រម្រ	mother elephant
រម្រ រម្រ	mother buffalo

instance, the English phrase 'two dogs' is in Ahom ৰ; ৱুঙে ৱু, which literally means 'dog two animal'. Here the word ৱু meaning 'animal' is suffixed to ৱুঙে 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/ ৱুঙে or ৱু : human beings, generally male persons :

ৱুৱু ৱুঙে ৱুঙে

Two sons

ৱুঙে ৱু ৱু ৱুঙে ৱু

We four are of heavenly origin.

ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে ৱুঙে

Ten persons went to Namruk.

ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱুঙে

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

ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে ৱু ৱু

Two *Neogs* died.

2/ ৱু : things usually expressed in pairs

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Three pairs of gold bracelets

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

Two pairs of elephant tusks

3/ ৱুঙে : pairs of things

ৱু ৱুঙে ৱু

a pair of eggs

4/ ৱুঙে pieces of stone, earth etc.

ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱু

a piece of stone

5/ ৱু : words, speech etc.

ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু ৱু

I will say a word

6/ ৱুঙে : units or squads of men

ৱু ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে

twelve squads of servants

ৱুঙে ৱুঙে ৱু

one squad of men

7/ ৱুঙে : big bundles

ৱু ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে

three (big) bundles of pine wood

ৱুঙে ৱু ৱুঙে

two bundles of fuel wood

8/ ဝါး : cloth in pair

တူ ဝါး ၂
one pair of cloth

9/ ဂါး : words

ကွဲ နှိ နှိ နှိ ဂါး ၂
I heard an information

မိ နှိ နှိ နှိ ဂါး ၂
He said a few words

10/ ဗီ : meals

ကွဲ ဗီ ၂
one meal

ကွဲ နှိ ၃
three meals

11/ ဇီ : animals

ကွဲ ဇီ ၂
one elephant

မိ နှိ ၄
four horses

ကွဲ နှိ ၅
five cows

12/ ဇီ : trees with leaves

မိ ဇီ ၂
one tree

မိ နှိ ၃
three trees

13/ ဇီ : pieces of wood

မိ နှိ ၂
two pieces of aloe wood

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

ကွဲ နှိ ၂
two (small) bundles of straw

ကွဲ နှိ ၄
four (small) bundles of vegetable

15/ ဗီ : big packets

တူ ဗီ ၂
one packet of cloth

ကွဲ နှိ ဗီ တူ နှိ
whose packed of cloth is this ?

16/ ဗီ : tusked elephants

ကွဲ နှိ ၇
seven tusked elephants

မိ နှိ ကွဲ နှိ ၇

he brought six tusked elephants

17/ ပွက် : repeated actions

ဗဒ် ဘဲ ဟွံ ပွက်
he spoke twice

18/ ဟွံ : crowds of men or collections of individuals

ကျိ ဟွံ န
a crowd of men

19/ ဟိန် : broad sheets or articles with opening

ဟဲ ဟိန်
three pieces of cloth

ဟဲ ဟိန်
three letters

အံ ဟိန်
two gold trays

အံ ဟိန်
two silver dishes

20/ ဟ် : numbers of worship, prayers or prostrations

ဗဒ် ဗဲ ဟ်
he came and bowed three times

21/ ဗွံ : long and flat/round weapons

ကျိ ဗွံ
one cannon

ကျိ ဗွံ
nine swords

ကျိ ဗွံ
two gilted swords

22/ ဟွံ : baskets

ကျိ ဟွံ
two baskets of fowl

23/ နိ : steps or storeys

ကျိ နိ
nine-graded gold throne

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

ကျိ နိ
both king and queen

ကျိ နိ
both god and goddess

25/ နိ : small packets of leaves

ကျိ နိ
forty packets of betel leaf

26/ နိ : bunches of grain or paddy

ကျိ နိ

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

Case

Nominative case is expressed without adding any other word.

អ៊ុន ម្រ ហ៊ុ ម្រ ប៊ុ អ៊ុ
 Siu-ka-pha came (in) that year.

អ៊ុន អ៊ុ ហ៊ុ ម្រ
 Tiger caught cow

ម្រ អ៊ុន ហ៊ុ ម្រ
 He took his meal

ម្រ ហ៊ុ
 He said.

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

ម្រ អ៊ុន ប៊ុ ម្រ អ៊ុ អ៊ុន
 He went to Namrup

អ៊ុ ហ៊ុ អ៊ុន អ៊ុ ម្រ
 Aila had beaten him

ហ៊ុន ហ៊ុ អ៊ុន ប៊ុ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន
 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. អ៊ុន អ៊ុន ('house' 'I') : 'my house'

ម្រ អ៊ុន	my hand
ប៊ុន អ៊ុន	bird's wing

អ៊ុន អ៊ុន	foot of the hill
អ៊ុន អ៊ុន	birds of forest

អ៊ុន អ៊ុន អ៊ុ អ៊ុ អ៊ុន
 Where is this man's house ?

អ៊ុន អ៊ុន ហ៊ុ ប៊ុ អ៊ុន ម្រ
 The king's son went to the war.

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

អ៊ុន ហ៊ុ ម្រ អ៊ុន ម្រ
 I told him.

ម្រ ប៊ុ ម្រ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន
 He went him.

ម្រ អ៊ុន ម្រ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន ម្រ
 He speared the tiger

អ៊ុន អ៊ុន ហ៊ុ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន អ៊ុន
 Khun-Kum told Thao-Khun-Ra

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

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

អ៊ុន ហ៊ុ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន អ៊ុន អ៊ុន ប៊ុ ម្រ អ៊ុន អ៊ុន

The king went to Dibong from Garhgaon.

၎င်းက မင်းက ဝမ်းကွဲက အိမ်က ရွာက သွားခဲ့တာကို ဝမ်းကွဲက ဝမ်းကွဲက
My father went from Rangpur to Namti

ဤသီးက သီးက သီးက အပူချိန်က
This fruit has fallen from the tree.

မင်းက သီးက သီးက အပူချိန်က
I came from the jungle.

In **Instrumental case**, such words as က, အ are prefixed to the instrument.

မင်းက ကြေးနင်းက အပူချိန်က
I killed the tiger with spear.

မင်းက သီးက သီးက
He came in boat.

မင်းက ကြေးနင်းက အပူချိန်က
He cut the tree with an axe.

မင်းက ကြေးနင်းက အပူချိန်က
He fastened the buffalo with rope.

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

မင်းက သီးက အပူချိန်က
He lives at Tipam.

မင်းက သီးက အပူချိန်က
He was placed at Misa.

မင်းက သီးက အပူချိန်က
I stay at Kaliabor.

Adjectives

Adjectives follow the nouns or words they qualify.

ကောင်းသော ဝမ်းကွဲ	good man
ကောင်းသော ဝမ်းကွဲ	tall person
ဖြူရောင် ဝမ်းကွဲ	white elephant
နဖုကွက် ဝမ်းကွဲ	naphuk field
မည်းရောင် ဝမ်းကွဲ	black colour
ရှည်လျား ဝမ်းကွဲ	long post
ဝေးကွာ ဝမ်းကွဲ	distant place
ဆိုးဝါး ဝမ်းကွဲ	bad news
ငယ်လေး ဝမ်းကွဲ	small child

ကြီးမားသော ဝမ်းကွဲ	big earthquake
အလွန်ငယ်သော ဝမ်းကွဲ	very small stone
ငယ်လေး ဝမ်းကွဲ	small black bird
အလွန်မြင့်သော ဝမ်းကွဲ	very tall tree
ဆိုးဝါး ဝမ်းကွဲ	very bad news
ကြီးမားသော ဝမ်းကွဲ	great distant place
ကြီးမားသော ဝမ်းကွဲ	very big river
မင်းက သီးက	wild pig
ဝမ်းကွဲ	tamed elephant

Possessive adjectives

វា មា	my father
ផ្ទះ មា	my house
ផ្ទះ មា ចាស់	our old house
វាល មា	his field

ប្អូន ឃ ឆ	their younger sister
ប្អូន ចាស់ មា	his elder brother
ប្រទេស មា	our country
ប្រទេស មា ចាស់	our old country

មា ចូល ម; វា មា ចាស់ មា
He came back from his old village.

មា ចាស់ មា ដំ វា មា ឆ មា
There is a tank in our village.

Demonstrative adjectives

នេះ មា	this village
នោះ មា	that house

នោះ មា មា	that lak-ni
នេះ មា មា	these men

នេះ មា មា មា
These buffaloes are mine.

នេះ មា មា មា មា
This big house is his.

នោះ មា មា
That long post.

To be noted, the difference :

នេះ មា ផ្ទះ មា	This is my house
នោះ មា មា មា	That is my dog

ផ្ទះ មា មា មា	This house is mine
មា មា មា មា	That dog is mine

Pronominal adjectives

គ្រប់ មា	each man
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គ្រប់ ថ្ងៃ	every day
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មា មា មា មា មា
He came every year

មា មា	another place
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មា មា	another country
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មា មា មា មា មា
He went to another place.

មា មា មា មា មា មា
The king came from another country.

មា មា មា មា មា មា
Other persons heard the news.

Quantitative adjectives

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	our one man
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တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	two trees
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တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို
Few boys came to our house.

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို
Many persons came to the king.

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Anybody can do the work.

Interrogative adjectives

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	what ?
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	whose ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	which ?
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	where ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 What day is today ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို ဘီယို
 What fish do you want ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Whose buffalo is this ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Whose house is this ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Which side did he go ?

Note the difference :

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Whose buffalo is this ?

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို ဘီယို
 Whose this buffalo is ?

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

Again, note the difference :

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	white rice
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	old rice
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	my tank

တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	old tank
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	nine tanks
တို့တိုင်း ဘီယို	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	ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ	ṁṁṁ ṁṁṁ

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 ṁṁ ṁṁ
I (we) went home.

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

ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ 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 ṁṁ ṁṁṁ ṁṁ ṁṁ 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 ṁṁ ṁṁ
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 လွန် လဲ လွန် ဘဝ် ကမ် ဂါမ် နါ
 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

မင်္ဂါ is the general term for third person singular number

မင်္ဂါ မှ ကံ
 He came.

မင်္ဂါ ဘဝ် is a respectable term used by inferiors for superiors

ဘဝ် ဟံ ဂါမ် နှံ ဗိုင်း ဂံ ဂါမ် မင်္ဂါ ဘဝ် ဂါမ်
 Chao Sam heard what his father said

ဘဝ် in addressing equals or inferiors

ဘဝ် မှ ဝါ မှ
 They came to this place.

ဘဝ် ဘဝ် in addressing persons of rank

ဘဝ် ဘဝ် မှ ထိုင်း ဝါ မှိုင်း နေ
 They arrive at our kingdom.

Possessive pronouns

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

- နေဝ် မှ ကမ် ဘဝ် This house is mine
- ဘဝ် မင်္ဂါ ကမ် မင်္ဂါ That elephant is his
- မူ မင်္ဂါ ဘဝ် ကမ် မှ These pigs are yours
- မင်္ဂါ မင်္ဂါ ကမ် ဘဝ် That tree is theirs

Relative pronoun

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

- ကမ် ကမ် ဝါ မင်္ဂါ ကမ် The man who is lame.
- ဟု ကမ် ဘဝ် ကမ် The cloth which is torn.
- မင်္ဂါ ဂံ ကမ် မှ The tank which is new.
- မိမိ ကမ် ကမ် The country which is old.
- ဟု ကမ် ကမ် မှ The *Phukan* who is new.

Demonstrative pronouns

မင်္ဂါ	this
ကမ် မင်္ဂါ	this

မင်္ဂါ	that
ကမ် မင်္ဂါ	that

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

Interrogative pronouns

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

Interrogative pronouns

រក	who ?
ដ៏	many
ហ្នឹង	others

រក មន្ត	anybody
មន្ត មន្ត	some
រក មន្ត	somebody

មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Some fled away.
 រក ហ្នឹង ក្រុង Who becomes king.
 រក មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត មន្ត Anybody not to see.
 រក មន្ត ហ្នឹង ក្រុង Anybody who becomes king.
 រក មន្ត គ្រឹះ មន្ត មន្ត Somebody is calling you.
 រក មន្ត មន្ត ដ៏ មន្ត មន្ត Nobody will come today.
 ក្រុង ដ៏ មន្ត ដ៏ 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 ဝဲ	They go.
ဆဝ် ဝဲ 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, **ကိ** is placed after the verb, and if there is any object, after it.

ဗဒ် ကိဝ်နိ ဝဝ် ကိ	He is eating
မဝ် ဝဲ ကိ	I am going
ဆဝ် ဝါဝါ ကိ	We are doing
ဝာ် ဝါဝါ ကိ	They are working

To indicate **Past Tense**, **မိ**, **ဝာ်**, **မိ**, **ဝာ်**, **ဝါ** are added to the verb.

ဗဒ် ဝဲ ဝာ်	He went
ဆဝ် မိဝ်နိ မိ	We ate
မဝ် မိဝ်နိ မိ ဝာ်	I had eaten
မဝ် ဝဲ မိ ဝါ ဝိ ဝါ	I went to Namsang
ဗဒ် ဝဲ မိ ဝါ ဝိ	He went to the hills
ဝါဝ်နိ မိဝ်နိ ဗါဝိ မိ ဝာ်	The king had ruled
မိဝ်နိ ဆဝ် ဝဲ မိ ဝါ	Our men came back
ဝာ် ယုဝ် ဝဲ မိ ဝါ	Defeated they fled

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

မဝ် ဝါ ဝဲ	I shall go
ဆဝ် ဝါ ဝါဝါ	We shall work
ဗဒ် ဝါ ဝဲ	He will go
မဝ် ဝါ မိဝ်နိ ဗါဝိ	I will rule the kingdom

Auxiliaries

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

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

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

Verbs and sentences

Some verbs, with examples, are given below.

Rule : Verbs follow subjects.

မံ	go V
----	------

မံ ဟံ မံ He went

ပု မံ ဘု မံ ဘု မံ ဘု မံ ဘု မံ ဘု မံ

His grandfather, father and son - three generations passed

မံ	bite V
----	--------

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

The tiger bit him, (but) he did not die.

မံ	eat V, rule V
----	---------------

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

Having taken bath, Leng-Seng took his meal.

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

The king ruled the country for ten years.

မံ	cross* V
----	----------

* cross river, lake, pass etc.

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

Siu-ka-pha came and crossed the Nang-pu river.

မံ	ride V
----	--------

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

Riding on elephant, Khun-luong and Khun-lai surveyed the country.

မံ	worship V
----	-----------

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

The king came and worshipped the water god.

မံ	dig, excavate V
----	-----------------

မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ မံ

In *lak-ni* Tou Chou, the Jaysagar tank was dug.

၀ါၵ်	climb V
------	---------

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

ဇ်း	hear V
-----	--------

ၵံ့ ၵ်း ၵ်း ၀ဝ် ၀ၤ ၵ်း ဇ်း ၵ်း
 The king heard the (piece of) news.

Note : ဇ်း is generally preceded by ၵ်း 'to get' :

၀ဝ် ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ဇ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 Chao Sam heard what his father **said** to him.

ဇ်း	sit V
-----	-------

ဇ်း ၵ်း ၀ဝ် ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 In place of elder brother, his younger brother sat on the throne.

ဇ်း	sleep V
-----	---------

ဇ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 Birds sleep on tree at night.

ဇ်း	become V
-----	----------

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

ဇ်း	plant V
-----	---------

၀ဝ် ၀ၤ ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 The king planted Tun-rung (tree) at Tham Phai.

ဇ်း	go V
-----	------

ဇ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း ၵ်း
 My father went to Bengal.

ဇ်း	win V
-----	-------

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

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

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အားလုံး ဖွဲ့စည်း ပွဲ နေ့ နေ့
 All the persons guarded the idol of Seng.

ဖတ်	read V
-----	--------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ ဖတ် နေ့
 I read book.

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

* boat, bridge etc.

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အားလုံး ဖွဲ့စည်း နေ့ နေ့
 Our men (all) built rafts.

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

ဖွဲ့စည်း နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့
 One day they came and cut three of our persons.

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

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

ပြော	say V
------	-------

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

ထား	place, put V
-----	--------------

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

တောင်း	pray V
--------	--------

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

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့ နေ့
 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 រំ រំ ហ ល យ យ យ
We live in the jungles with monkeys.

ក	wash (cloth) V
---	----------------

ហ ក ក 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 ក
Wash face, wash vegetables.

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

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

ក	catch, capture V
---	------------------

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

ក	call V
---	--------

ក ក ក ក ក ក ក ក
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 𑜇𑜏 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)
----	-------------------

တဝ် ဟဲလ် ဟံ့ ဝဲ ဖဲ

The king fell in great illness.

ဖဲ	tell, narrate V
----	-----------------

ဗဲင် ဗဲး ဟံ့ ဝဲ တဝ် ဟဲလ်

He came and told the king.

ဒဲ	see, observe V
----	----------------

လဲင် နီ ဟံ့ ဝဲ ဒဲ ဟံ ဟဲ ဝဲ ဖဲ

Seeing the letter Ram Singha said.

ဒဲ	get V
----	-------

တဝ် ဒဲ ဟံ ဝဲ ဖဲ တဲး

I got the fowl.

ဟဲင်	come in sight, view V
------	--------------------------

ဟိဝ် တဲး ဟဲလ် ဟံ့ ဗဲး ဟဲင် ဟဲလ် နီ ဖဲ

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

ဖဲ	send, despatch V
----	------------------

ဝဲ ဝဲ ဟဲလ် ဟံ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဟံ ဟဲင်

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

ဝဲဟဲင်	fall* V
--------	---------

*from tree or horse, in water

ဟဲင် ဝဲ ဝဲ ဟဲလ် ဝဲ ဟံ ဟဲ

Our men fell in water.

ဝဲ	write V
----	---------

လဲင် နီ ဟံ့ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ ဝဲ

Raja Ram Singha wrote letter.

ဟဲင်	wash (body) V
------	---------------

ဗဲင် ဟဲင် နီ ဟံ

He took bath.

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

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

ကံ	take V
----	--------

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

က; ဟံ	go and inform V
-------	-----------------

ဟု ကွဲ နီ ငွမ် က; ဟံ အိ စဝ် ဟု ကံ
 The Raidangia Phukan went and informed the king.

က; ဝံ ယု	went and stayed
----------	-----------------

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

ကုပ် ဝံ	bow down V
---------	------------

က ကုပ် စစ် အက် ကုပ် ဝံ ဟု ကံ ငွမ် ဝံ ကံ ဟံ
 Both the kings bowed down to Lengdon ten times.

ကလိန် မ;	come back V
----------	-------------

စစ် အက် ကလိန် မ; ယု ဝံ အိ ဝံ
 They came back and stayed at Athgaon.

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

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

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

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

ဝံ ကလိန်	go and arrive
----------	---------------

မိ ဝံ ကလိန် ကု ငွမ် ကျပ်

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

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

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

ຍາ ພໍ	arrive at
-------	-----------

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

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

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

Composite verbs

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

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

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

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

၁၅၀၀ နှု	weigh and see
----------	---------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ နှု ၁၅၀၀ နှု နှု နှု
 Siu-ka-pha weighed the water of the Dikhow.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	bring fast
--------	------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 The three ministers quickly brought the *rung kham* tree.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	set fire
--------	----------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 Our men set fire to houses.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	get offended
--------	--------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 The king got greatly offended.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	capture and place
--------	-------------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 He captured and placed the bird in basket.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	come downstream
--------	-----------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 Siu-ka-pha came downstream the river Nam-Jin.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	get and come
--------	--------------

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

၁၅၀၀ ၏	bring with
--------	------------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 They brought six tusked elephants and offered to the king.

၁၅၀၀ ၏	take with
--------	-----------

၁၅၀၀ ၏ ၁၅၀၀ ၏
 I took the horse to Namruk.

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

စဝ် ဟေ 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.

ဗိုလ်ကံကံ ဝါ နှိုင်း မိ ဝဗ်

Sometime earlier I was not in the house.

ဗိုလ် နှိုင်း ဝံ ဝဗ် ဝဗ် မိ ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

Then there was no king for three days.

ဗိုလ် နှိုင်း ဝဗ် 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.

ဗိုလ်ကံကံ နှိုင်း နှိုင်း ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ်

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

ဗိုလ်ကံကံ 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 ဝဗ်

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

ဗိုလ်ကံကံ 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.

ဗိုလ် ဝဗ် ဝဗ် 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 មិន បាន
Do not eat much, (you) will have pain in stomach.

ទឹក ក្នុង ទន្លេ ហូរ លឿន ណាស់
The river is flowing rapidly.

ឃ្នក ឃ្នា ហូរ ចុះ ក្នុង ទន្លេ ប៊ុរហ៊ី ឌីហ្ស៊ីង លឿន ណាស់
The *Barphukan* sailed down the Burhi Dihing quickly.

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

Adverbs of frequency

ប្រហែល ម្តង	once
ពីរ ដង	twice
ដំបូង	firstly
តែ ម្តង	always

មិន ច្រើន ទេ	seldom
ញឹក ញាប់	often
ម្តង ម្តង	again
ម្តង ម្តង ម្តង	occasionally

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

គាត់ ទៅ ថៃ ម្តង ម្តង
He went to Thailand once.

ស្រី យើង 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 យើង
It rains frequently this month.

យើង មិន ទៅ មើល រូប ភ្នំ ទេ
Seldom have I gone to pictures.

Interrogative adverbs follow the verb.

ម្តង ម្តង / ម្តង	when ?
នៅ ណា	where ?
ហេតុ ម្តេច	how ?

ត្រូវ ប៉ុន្មាន / ប៉ុន្មាន	how much ?
ត្រូវ ប៉ុន្មាន / ប៉ុន្មាន	how many ?
ហេតុ ម្តេច	why ?

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

អ្នក ហូរ លឿន ប៉ុន្មាន ?
How fast do you swim ?

គាត់ ទាក់ ប៉ុន្មាន ?
How does he talk ?

គាត់ ទៅ ម្តង ម្តង ?
How did the man die ?

ဗ် ကို အို ထွ်
Where do you live ?

ဗင်္ဂ် မံ; ဟ် ဟိ
Why did he go ?

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

မဝ် အံ; မံ; ဟိဗိ ဣ
How shall I go ?

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

Adverbs of degree

င်္ဂ်	very
င်္ဂ် ဟိ	much
ဟိ	too

ဟိ	little
အိ ဟိ	wholly, fully
ဟိ ဟိ	Very little

အိ ဗံ; မံ; မံ ဟိ
We came too far.

ဗက် ဗိ င် င် အိ ဟိ
The mangoe is wholly rotten.

ဝံ င် မဝ် ဣ မံ; အိ ဟိ
I fully understand the matter.

ဟက် ကို ကို ဝံ င် ဟိ
The boy ate much.

Adverbs of place

အို ထွ်	here
ဗိဣ, အို ထွ်	there
ဣ	outside
ဝံ	above, on
အို	below
မံ	near, adjacent
မံ	distant

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

ဟဝ် ဟိ ဝံ ဣ ဣ မံ; အို ထွ်
The king got a tank dug there.

ဗင်္ဂ် ဟိ အို ထွ် မံ; အို ထွ်
He built a house there.

ဣ ဗင်္ဂ် ဟိ ဟိ အို ထွ်
It is raining outside.

ဗၼ် ဖိၼ် ဟူၼ် မ့ၼ် ဝၼ် ထံ
He stayed there for one year.

မၼ် ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ် မ့ၼ်
I looked everywhere.

ဝၼ် ထံ ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ် ဝဲၼ်
I did not go anywhere.

မ့ၼ် ဗၼ် ဟူၼ် ဝၼ် ဗၼ်
The sky is above, water below.

မၼ် ဟူၼ် ဝၼ် ထံ ဗၼ် ဝဲၼ် ဝၼ်
The king placed thao-mong there.

ဝၼ် ထံ ဝဲၼ် ဗၼ် ဟူၼ်
His dead body was buried there.

Prepositions

Are always placed before their nouns or pronouns.

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

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

မ့ၼ် ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ်
It is hot inside (the) house.

မ့ၼ် ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ်
It is cold outside (the) house.

မ့ၼ် ဟူၼ် ဝၼ်
Birds live in nest.

မ့ၼ် ဝၼ် ဟူၼ် ဝဲၼ်
The Tais live on river bank.

မ့ၼ် မ့ၼ် ဟူၼ် ဝၼ်
The letter is on the table.

ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ် ဟူၼ် မ့ၼ်
The village lies in the middle of the forest.

မၼ် ဟူၼ် မ့ၼ် ဝဲၼ် မ့ၼ်

The king came from Garhgaon

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

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

ជ័រ ហ្គី យ៉ា យា យា ប្រាំ ម៖ ទាំ ម្រុប គ្រី ជួន
The king went to Chraideo in the morning.

មីន ចង្ក គ្រី យា យា ម្រុប ម៖ ហ្គី ទាំ ម្រុប ម្រុប ហ្គី យ
One day the king went and caught fish at Sessa River.

ហ្គី ម្រុប ម៖ មង្គ យា មង្គ
Do not eat rice at night.

មង្គ ជ័រ ម្រុប ហ្គី ទាំ ម្រុប ម៖ ទាំ ម្រុប ម៖
The man fell from the tree.

ហ្គី ជ័រ យា ម្រុប ម្រុប ម៖ ទាំ ម្រុប ម៖
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 ម្រុប	with
ទាំ ម្រុប ម្រុប	but
ម្រុប	with
ម្រុប	if, though
ម្រុប ជ័រ	for this
ម្រុប ជ័រ	for that
ម្រុប	and

ហ្គី	or
ម្រុប ម្រុប	with (person)
ម្រុប	also, and
ម្រុប	or
ម្រុប ជ័រ	because, for this
ម្រុប ជ័រ ជ័រ	therefore
ម្រុប ជ័រ ម្រុប / ម្រុប	therefore
ម្រុប	with

ម្រុប ប្រាំ ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប
go and come.

ម្រុប ទាំ មង្គ ម្រុប ម្រុប
I came with him.

ម្រុប យា ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប
Choa-pha Siu-ram married Nang Doi.

ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប
Chao-pet and Chao-hum went home.

ម្រុប ជ័រ ម្រុប យា ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប
Therefore the king got offended with them.

ម្រុប មង្គ ប្រាំ ម្រុប ម្រុប ម្រុប
If he goes home.

မုၼ် ဟံၼ် ဟံၼ် မၼ် ဝၼ် မၼ်
If it rains, I will not go.

ဝၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ်
Therefore you went home.

မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ်
But he did not go.

မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ်

We live in the jungle with monkeys.

မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ် မုၼ်

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 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 is a combination of 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 and , 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 both having identical meaning (𑜏𑜃𑜫 'house' and 𑜏𑜃𑜫 'big' ; 𑜏𑜃𑜫 'palace' and 𑜏𑜃𑜫 '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

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

2/ noun and adjective

𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫	phukans and baruas
𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫 𑜏𑜃𑜫	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
ဟုတ် နှစ် ဟုတ် ဟံ	set fire to houses
ဗံ ဗိုဇ် ဗံ ဗိုဇ်	go everywhere
တတ် ဟု တတ် ဟုန်	collect men
ကံ ဟဇ် ကံ ဟု	ride on elephants and horses
ကံ ဟဇ် ကံ ဟု	bring presents
ကံ ကုဇ် ကံ ဟဇ်	bring goods
ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဗိုဇ်	press hands and legs
ကံ ကျ ကံ ဗိုဇ်	enter into forts

4/ Negative and verb

ဗဝ် နှစ် ဗဝ် နှစ်	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

နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	make dispute
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	quarrel
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	fight and cut
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	beat and cut
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	consult
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	fight
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	love
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	take oath

6/ Preposition and noun

နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	with wife and children
နှစ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ် ဂါဇ်	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 နု အဇ် ဝံ	discuss secretly
ကလဲ ဝဏ် ကလဲ အံ	cut and pierce greatly
ကလဲ ဝဏ် ကလဲ 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

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

ဘဝ်	prince
ဘဝ် နှိ	princess
ဘဝ် အံ ဝံ	prince of Tipam
ဘဝ် ကလဲ နှိ	prince of Sâring
ဘဝ် နှိ နှိ	prince of Nâmruk
ဘဝ် အဇ် ဝဏ်	prince of Tungkhang

2/ various types of *gohâins*

ဘဝ် ဝံ နုဇ်	prime minister
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ဝံ ဝဏ် ကလဲ ဝဏ်	Solâl Gohâin
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លេខ ប្លង់ ម៉ែ	Burâ Gohâin
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ ឃុំ	Bor Gohâin
លេខ ឃុំ ម៉ែ	Borpâtra Gohâin
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ	Gohâin
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ ឈ្មោះ ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Kaliâbariâ Gohâin
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ រៀង រៀង រ	Jabakiâl Gohâin

ប្លង់ ម៉ែ រៀង រ៉ូ	Sadiyâkhowâ G.
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ មា ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Marangikhowâ G.
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ រ៉ូ ឃុំ	Khâmjangiâ G.
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ បង ឆ្នាំ	Bânrukiâ G.
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ ម៉ែ ឆ្នាំ	Bhâtialiâ G.
ប្លង់ ម៉ែ រៀង រ៉ូ	Katak G

3/ various types of *phukans*

ឃុំ រ៉ូ	phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ ឃុំ	Bor phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ម	Na phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Pânî phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Nâobaichâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Chiring phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Dhekiâl phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Nâohaliâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Dâm phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Bhitaruâl phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ម៉ែ	Neog phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Chângrung phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Cholâdhara phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Châo hing phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Pikchâi phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ម	Tâmuli phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Bhâtdharâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Chengrâi phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Bâilung phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Deodhâi phukan

ឃុំ រ៉ូ បង រ៉ូ ឃុំ	Bardeoliâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Sonowâl phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Nagariâl phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Kataki phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Nyâysodhâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ម៉ែ	Dihingiâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ ម	Dekâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Abhoipuriâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Tipamiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Châringiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Nâmdangiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Hâtimuriyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ ម៉ែ ឆ្នាំ	Bhâtiyaliyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Râidangiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Kaliyâbariyâ phuk.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Khowâng phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Khangiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Parbatiyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Âhatguriyâ phukan
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ	Kalâbariyâ phukan

4/ various types of *râjkhowâs*, Ahom ឃុំ រ៉ូ ម៉ែ

ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Pâni-Dihingiyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Taruâ-Dihingiyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ ឃុំ	Bar-Abhoipuriyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Saru-Abhoipuriyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Mâju-Abhoipuriyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ ឆ្នាំ រ៉ូ	Pâni-Abhoipuriyâ r.

ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Nâm-Dayangiyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Bassâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Tipamiyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Salaguriyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Dikhowmukhiyâ r.
ឃុំ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ រ៉ូ	Tiurâl r.

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

ឃ. ជំនុំ ជូន	Nâmdangîyâ r.
ឃ. ឃ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Ahatgurîyâ r.

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

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

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

6/ other titles

ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	hâzarikâ
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឃ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kaliyâbarîyâ h.
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ រាជ ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ	Kharangî h.
ឆ្នាំ ឆ្នាំ ឃ ឆ្នាំ	Chungî h.
ឆ្នាំ រាជ	Hâtîmûrîyâ
ឆ្នាំ រាជ	Saikîyâ
ឆ្នាំ រាជ រាជ ឆ្នាំ	Châo-rak Saikîyâ

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

7/ other professions & duties

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

ဘု ဘေ နှို	boat-builder
ဘု ဝါင် ဘဲ	grass-cutter
ဘု ဝါင် ဘဲ ဘေ	grass-cutter for elephant
ဘု ကင် နှိ	sedan bearer
ဘု ငှဲ ပုံ	duck-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ မှ	pig keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ကံ	chicken-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ဘေ	elephant-keeper
ဘု ငှဲ ဘေ	male body-guard
မိမိ ငှဲ ဘေ	female body-guard
ဘု ငှဲ ဘုရား	palace-keeper
ဘု ဝါင် မှ	water-drawer
ဘု နှိ ဘေ	bearer of basket
ဘု နှိ ဝါ	dead-body carrier
ဘု နှိ ဝါ	box-carrier
ဘု ဘုရား	drummer
ဘု ဘုရား	cymbal-beater
ဘု ဘုရား	gong-beater
ဘု ပုံ မိမိ	Bairâgî
ဘု ကင် ဘေ	washerman
ဘု ဘေ နှိ	sharpener of swords
ဘု ဘေ မှ မှ	betel-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	cloth-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	Seng-dharâ
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	club-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	meal-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	load-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	jarâdharâ
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	bow-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	gun-bearer
ဘု ဝါင် ဘေ	stick bearer
ဘု ဝါင် မှ ကံ	arrow bearer
ဘု ဘေ ဘုရား	potter
ဘု ဘေ ကင်	blacksmith
ဘု ဘေ ဘေ	barber
ဘု ဘေ ကင်	writer
ဘု ဘေ ကံ	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

