

BURMESE MON, THAI MON, AND NYAH KUR: A SYNCHRONIC COMPARISON

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In 1970-71 I collected data on three Monic languages (as well as on twelve other Mon-Khmer languages in Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia) under a Guggenheim fellowship: a dialect of Mon from Moulmein, Burma; a dialect of Mon from Thonburi Province of Thailand; and a dialect of Nyah Kur (Chaobon) from Chaiyaphum Province of Thailand. Although data from the above three languages have contributed in a marginal way to four previous articles (Huffman 1976a, 1976b, 1977, and 1978), the total data have never been published. The purposes of this article, then, are

- 1) to present a synchronic phonological analysis of each of the above three languages;
- 2) to make some rudimentary comparisons of the three languages in terms of cognate percentages and phonological systems; and
- 3) to provide a comparative 900-word vocabulary of the three languages as a source of data for the historical reconstruction of Monic languages.

1. Phonological Analysis

1.1. Burmese Mon

My informant for Burmese Mon was Mr. Tan Suwanna, 27 years of age; he was born in Sangkharaburi, Kanchanaburi Province of Thailand, but at the age of three moved to Moulmein, Burma, and was educated through secondary school in Moulmein and Rangoon. He then returned to Thailand overland at the age of 27. The dialect studied here appears to be somewhat different from that represented in Shorto 1962.

1.1.1. Consonants

This dialect of Mon has the following inventory of initial consonants; only those consonants preceded by (-) occur finally.

/-p	-t	-c	-k	-?
b	d			
f	s			-h
-m	-n	-ŋ	-ɳ	
w	l	-y		
		r/		

- Notes:**
- 1) Voiceless stops are tense before tense (1st register) vowels and partially voiced before lax (2nd register) vowels (see 1.1.2.).
 - 2) /b d/ are pronounced with light preglottalization [?b ?d].
 - 3) /w/ is [β] before lax vowels, [Φ] before tense vowels.
 - 4) There is no /-t -n/ = /-c -ŋ/ contrast after /i ɿ/, but since the articulatory position is similar to that of /-c -ŋ/ after /a o ɔ a/ (where dental vs. palatal contrasts do occur), they are here analyzed as /-c -ŋ/ after /i ɿ/.

1.1.1.1. Initial Clusters

Based on the present corpus of some 1,000 words, the following clusters occur in this dialect (the numbers correspond with the examples listed in Table 1a):

	h	r	l	w	y	m	n
p	1	2	3		4		
t		5					
c		6					
k	7	8	9	10			
h			11			12	13
ph					14		
kh		15					

1)	/phoa/	full	2)	/preang/	buffalo
3)	/plæe/	male	4)	/pya/	blue
5)	/thɔt/	strong	6)	/chɛh/	horse
7)	/khah/	good	8)	/krip/	run
9)	/klon/	do	10)	/kwan/	village
11)	/hloa/	wide	12)	/hman/	ask
13)	/hnean/	feather	14)	/phya/	market
15)	/khra/	widely spaced			

Table 1a: Examples of initial consonant clusters in Burma Mon

1)	/phoa/	full	2)	/prèa/	female
3)	/plæe/	young (man)	4)	/thaʔ/	throw
5)	/chu/	write	6)	/khok/	cup
7)	/kraoh/	male	8)	/klàŋ/	much
9)	/kwan/	village	10)	/kyä/	wind
11)	/hloa/	full	12)	/hya/	market
13)	/hman/	ask	14)	/hnam/	skin
15)	/phrəŋ/	cavity	16)	/phləŋ/	fire
17)	/khlaŋ/	sad			

Table 1b: Examples of initial consonants clusters in Thai Mon

1.1.2. Vowels

Burmese Mon vowels can be analyzed in terms of the following nine segmental phonemes:

/ i		u
e	ə	o
ɛ	a	ɔ
a /		

Diphthongs can then be analyzed as sequences of the above phonemes:

/ ea, oa, ae, ao, ae /

To this inventory must be added a phoneme of register /`/. Mon is a "register" language; i.e. every vowel can be assigned unambiguously to one of two "registers" or "manners" or "phonation types" (see Huffman 1976b):

- 1) a "tense", "clear", or "head" manner (usually called 1st register), or
- 2) a "lax", "breathy", or "chest" manner (usually called 2nd register).

In this analysis (and in fact throughout this paper) we shall call these two registers "tense" and "lax"; tense vowels will be unmarked while lax vowels will be marked with a grave accent /`/. All vowels and diphthongs occur both tense and lax except /ɔ, a, ao, ae /, resulting in the following 24 vowel nuclei:

Simple vowels			Diphthongs		
/i, ì		u, ù	/ea, èa		oa, òa
e, è	ə, è	o, ò		ae, àe	ao
ɛ, è	a, à	ɔ		æe/	
a/					

Notes: 1) Throughout this paper, laxness will be represented phonetically by underlining. Following are examples of minimal contrasts involving only register for Burmese Mon:

/ci?/	[c [‡] i·?]	'thoroughly'	≠	/cì?/	[c [‡] i·?]	'poison'
/tu/	[tu:]	'hammer'	≠	/tù/	[tu:]	'knee'
/sae/	[sə<:ε]	'bee'	≠	/sæe/	[sa·ε]	'slender'
/kloc/	[klo [‡] c]	'pig'	≠	/klòc/	[klo [‡] c]	'sarong'
/hnok/	[hnok]	'to itch'	≠	/hnòk/	[hnok]	'big'

/ləh/ [lə<ጀh]	'foolish'	≠	/lèh/ [ləጀ<ጀh]	'to dance'
/kwan/ [kɸa<n]	'village'	≠	/kwàn/ [kβaጀ·n]	'to climb'
/krop/ [krop]	'tile'	≠	/kròp/ [kroጀ·p]	'thing'

- 2) Length is not structurally contrastive in Mon.
- 3) /i, ጀ/ in all positions involve an on-glide from a high central position, e.g.:
- /kwi/ [kɸጀi:] 'cart' ≠ /kwጀ/ [kβጀi:] 'to wrap'
- 4) /e, ጀ/ are high front [i] in position but involve no diphthongization, e.g.:
- /ket/ [kiጀt] 'take' ≠ /cጀt/ [ciጀt] 'pure'
- 5) /ɛ, ጀ/ are lower-mid [ɛጀ] in quality; the tense and lax distinction is extremely difficult to hear in this position, and the two may be coalescing, e.g.:
- /kɛt/ [kɛጀt] 'short hair' ≠ /kጀt/ [kጀጀt] 'revolve'
- 6) /ə, ጀ/ have an offglide to a front mid position [əጀጀ] before /-Ø/ and /-ʔ/, e.g.:
- /təʔ/ [təጀጀʔ] 'yonder' ≠ /tጀʔ/ [tጀጀʔ] 'to quit'
- 7) /ea, ጀa/, parallel with /oa, ጀa/, are relatively high, and could alternatively be reinterpreted as /ia, ጀia, ua, ጀua/, especially as there is no /ia ≠ ea/ or /ua ≠ oa/ contrast in Burmese Mon as there is in Thai Mon; however the former analysis is phonetically more accurate.
- 8) [u.i], [uጀi] and [o.i] are interpreted as /uy, ጀuy, oy/, as they are never followed by another final consonant.
- 9) /a, o, ጀa/ have a high front off-glide [vጀጀ] before palatals /-c -n/, e.g.:
- /dac/ [dጀaጀc] 'water' ≠ /tac/ [tጀaጀc] 'to weave'
 /can/ [caጀጀn] 'chicken' ≠ /mጀn/ [moጀጀn] 'to hear'
- 10) /ɔ, ጀ, ao, ae/ have no lax counterparts.

1.1.2.1. Allophonic Distribution Chart for Burmese Mon Vowels

A chart of this kind, as shown in Figure 1, provides the following kinds of information:

- 1) specifies the positional variants (allophones) of vowels before all finals;
- 2) throws into relief the complementary distribution of allophones, thereby justifying the analysis; and
- 3) shows phonological distribution of vowels with finals.

Such a chart can be made even more powerful by including actual examples in each slot, but the length of this paper precludes doing so. In any case, the phonetic realization of any lexical item in phonological transcription in the final Glossary of this paper can be unambiguously reconstructed by reference to the above chart and to the phonetic information on consonants in section 1.1.1.

/i/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ip	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ic	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i?	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ih	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> m	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> n
/ʌ/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> p	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ic	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> m	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> n	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> i <u><i>ɛ</i></u> n
/e/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ^:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> p	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> t	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> am	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> an	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> an
/ɛ/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ^:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> p	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> t	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ?	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> am	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> an
/ɛ̄/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄p	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄t	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄?	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄m	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ̄m
/ə/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> e:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> e	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> e	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄k	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄?	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄n
/ə̄/	[<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ē:]	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ē	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> ē	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄k	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄?	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄h	<u><i>ɛ</i></u> v̄n
/a/	[<u><i>a</i></u> ̄:]	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄t	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄c	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄v̄?	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄h	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄n	<u><i>a</i></u> ̄n
/à/	[<u><i>a</i></u> :]	<u><i>a</i></u> :t	<u><i>a</i></u> :c	<u><i>a</i></u> :v̄?	<u><i>a</i></u> :h	<u><i>a</i></u> :n	<u><i>a</i></u> :n
/u/	[<u><i>u</i></u> :]	<u><i>u</i></u> :p	<u><i>u</i></u> t	<u><i>u</i></u> ?	<u><i>u</i></u> h	<u><i>u</i></u> n	<u><i>u</i></u> n
/ù/	[<u><i>u</i></u> :]	<u><i>u</i></u> :t		<u><i>u</i></u> ?	<u><i>u</i></u> h	<u><i>u</i></u> m	<u><i>u</i></u> n
					<u><i>u</i></u> ?	<u><i>u</i></u> n	<u><i>u</i></u> y

Figure 1: Allophonic distribution in Burma Mon

/o/	[o:]	op	ot	ɔ̄t̄	ōk̄	ō?ō	oh	ō.ō	ū.ō	ū.t̄ō	ū.t̄.c̄	ū.c̄	ū.c̄.ȳ	oy	
/ɔ̄/	[ɔ̄:]	d̄p̄	t̄c̄	ɔ̄t̄.c̄	ōt̄.c̄	ō?k̄	ō.k̄	ō.ō	ū.ō	ū.t̄.ō	ū.t̄.c̄	ū.c̄	ū.c̄.ȳ	ɔ̄y	
/c̄/	[c̄:]	d̄c̄	t̄c̄	ɔ̄t̄.c̄	ūc̄.ḡ	ūc̄.ḡ	ū.c̄.ḡ	ū.c̄.ḡ	ū.m̄	ū.v̄.c̄	ū.v̄.c̄	ū.c̄	ū.c̄.ȳ	c̄y	
/a/	[a:]	ap	at	āj̄c̄	ak̄	ā?	ah	ā.m̄	ā.n̄	ā.v̄.ī	ā.v̄.ī	ā.ī	ā.ī.ȳ	īy	
/ea/	[ēa]				īk̄	ī?	īē	ī.k̄	ī.ē	ī.v̄.ē	ī.v̄.ē	ī.ē	ī.ē.ȳ	ēy	
/ɛ̄a/	[ɛ̄ā]				ē?	ē.k̄	ē.ḡ	ē.k̄	ē.ḡ	ē.v̄.ē	ē.v̄.ē	ē.ē	ē.ē.ȳ	ɛ̄y	
/oa/	[ōā]				ō?	ao?	ao?	ō.ā	ao?	ao.ə̄	ao.ə̄	ao.	ao.ə̄	ə̄y	
/ɔ̄a/	[ɔ̄ā]														
/ae/	[ā.ē]														
/ɛ̄e/	[ɛ̄.ē]														
/ao/	[ā.ō]														
/æ/	[ā.ɛ̄]														

Figure 1, continued.

1.1.3. Syllable Structure

Burmese Mon phonological words consist either of a single stressed syllable of the structure /C(C)(C)V(V)(C)/, or of such a syllable preceded by an unstressed presyllable of the structure /CV-/. In such presyllables the vowel is almost invariably /a/ (varying in quality between [a] and [ə]), with several occurrences of /?i-/; e.g.:

/pasqn/	[p ^a só <i>i</i> n]	~	[pəsó <i>i</i> n]	'five'
/?inae/	[?i?ná•ε]	~	[?iná•ε]	'aunt (Fa01Si)'

Thus the syllable structure of Mon can be stated as (CV)C(C)(C)V(V)(C), with /CV/ as the minimal syllabic unit.

1.2. Thai Mon

My informant for this dialect was Mr. Khema Thepawan, 45 years of age. He was born and lived all his life in Bangkradi, Tambol Samedam, Amphoe Bang Khun Thian, Thonburi Province. Bangkradi is a village of some 2,000 inhabitants where even the children still speak Mon in the village, in spite of education in Thai. Mr. Khema had some renown as a singer of Mon folk songs, and had appeared on television presentations on Mon culture and traditions.

1.2.1. Consonants

Bangkradi Mon has the following inventory of initial and final consonants (those consonants preceded by [-] occur also finally):

-p	-t	-c	-k	-?
b	d			
-m	-n	-ŋ	-ŋ	
f	s			-h
-w	l	-y		
	r/			

- Notes: 1) Voiceless stops are tense before tense vowels and partially voiced and lax before lax vowels (although less so than in Burmese Mon).
- 2) /b d/ are slightly preglottalized [?b ?d].
- 3) /f/ is [Φ^w] before tense vowels and [β^w] before lax vowels.
- 4) [š] is analyzed as /hy-/ , parallel with /ky-/.
- 5) Although there is no dental ≠ palatal contrast after /i, ɿ, u, ɻ/, finals in this position are analyzed as /-c -ɲ/, as they are phonetically similar to /-c -ɲ/ after /ə, a, ɔ, ɑ/, where dental ≠ palatal contrasts do occur.

1.2.1.1. Initial Consonant Clusters

Based on the present data, Bangkradi Mon has the following initial clusters (the numbers correspond with the examples listed in Table 1b):

	h	r	l	w	y	m	n
p	1	2	3				
t	4						
c	5						
k	6	7	8	9	10		
h	.		11		12	13	14
ph		15	16				
kh			17				

The three-place initials /phr-/, /phl-/, and /kh1-/ are apparently introduced solely by Thai loans.

1.2.2. Vowels

Bangkradi Mon has the following nine vowel phonemes:

/i		u
e	ə	o
ɛ	a	ɔ
a/		

Like Burmese Mon, Bangkradi Mon is a register language; tense (1st register) vowel nuclei are unmarked while lax (2nd register) vowel nuclei are marked by a grave accent `//. The combination of the above segmental phonemes with the phoneme of (lax) register produces the following inventory of 27 vowel nuclei:

Simple vowels			Diphthongs		
/i, i̥	u, u̥	/ia, i̥a	ua, u̥a		
e, e̥	o, o̥	ea	oa, o̥a		
ɛ, ɛ̥	a, ḁ		ae, àe		
a/	ɔ		ao		
			æ/		

A 28th nucleus /ia/ is apparently introduced purely by Thai loans. The phonetic quality of the above nuclei is specified in the following Allophonic Distribution Chart; however we can make the following comments and generalizations:

- 1) Following are some examples of minimal contrasts involving register only:

/kwi/ [kw [‡] i:]	'cart'	/kwi/ [kw [‡] i:]	'to wrap'
/pəŋ/ [pə•ŋ]	'cooked rice'	/pəŋ/ [pə•ŋ]	'stomach'
/krat/ [krat]	'to wash'	/kràt/ [krat]	'to sow'
/krop/ [kro [‡] p]	'tile'	/krop/ [kro [‡] p]	'thing'
/sae/ [sa. [‡] ɛ]	'bee'	/sæe/ [sa. [‡] ɛ]	'slender'
/tak/ [ta [‡] k]	'to strike'	/tàk/ [ta [‡] k]	'poor'
/cuc/ [cu [‡] c]	'to put'	/cùc/ [cu [‡] c]	'bone'
/haton/[həto [‡] n]	'to study'	/hatòn/[həto [‡] n]	'bridge'

- 2) Vowel length is not contrastive.

- 3) /ɔ, a, ao, ae, ia/ have no lax counterparts; /ea/ has no tense counterpart.

- 4) [u·i, u·i] and the infrequent [o^e, o·e] are interpreted as /uy, ùy, oy, òy/, as they are never followed by another final.
- 5) Bangkradi Mon has the contrasts /ia, ìa/ ≠ /èa/ and /ua, ùa/ ≠ /oa, òa/, as in
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| /ciak/ [ci ^ä k] 'gt.-gt.- | grandchild' | /yiak/ [yi ^ä k] 'smoke' |
| | | /haceak/ [hace ^ä k] 'to drag' |
| /ŋua/ [ŋu·a] 'day' | | /mùa/ [mu ^ä a] 'one' |
| /phoa/ [pho ^ä a] 'full' | | /pròa/ [pro ^ä a] 'rain' |

The diphthongs /ia, ìa, ua, ùa/, lacking in Burmese Mon, may have been introduced by Thai loans and then have spread by contagion to certain Mon-Khmer roots.

- 6) /i, ì/ in all positions have a high central on-glide [̥i].
- 7) /e, è/ are high mid [e^] while /ɛ/ is lower-mid [ɛ̄] ; /ɛ̄/ is low [ǣ] and appears to occur only in Thai loans.
- 8) The mid and low vowels /ə, ð, a, à, u, ù, ɔ, ɑ/ have the familiar high front off-glide before palatal finals /-c -ɲ/; e.g.:
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| /kləc/ [klə ^ä c] 'pig' | /klàc/ [klà ^ä c] 'sarong' |
| /kapac/ [kəpa ^ä c] 'side' | /pàc/ [pa ^ä c] 'to hack' |
| /cuc/ [cu ^ä c] 'to put' | /cùc/ [cu ^ä c] 'bone' |
| /?ason/ [?aso ^ä n] 'five' | /pan/ [pa ^ä n] 'full' |
- 9) /e, o/ as second elements of diphthongs are notably low in quality, e.g.:
- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| /sae/ [sa· ^ɛ] 'bee' | /sàe/ [sa· ^ɛ] 'slender' |
| /kao/ [ka· ^ɔ] 'flower' | /tae/ [ta· ^ɔ] 'already' |
- 10) /ɔ/ has a fronted onset in some positions, e.g.:
- /tɔh/ [t^äɔh]

1.2.2.1. Allomorphic Distribution Chart for Bangkradi Mon

The following chart shows both allomorphic (phonetic) and phonological distribution of Bangkradi Mon vowels with finals. The chart can also be used, along with the preceding phonetic

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description of the consonants, to reconstruct the phonetic realization of any lexical item in the final Glossary. (See Figure 2.)

/i/	[<u><i>ɛ̄i:</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:p</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:t</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:m</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:n</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i·m</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i·n</i></u>
/ʌ/	[<u><i>ɛ̄i:</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:p</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:t</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:m</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i:n</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i·m</i></u>	<u><i>ɛ̄i·n</i></u>
/e/	[e:]	e^p	e^t	e?	eh	e^m	e^n
/ɛ̄:/	[e:]	e^·t		e?	eh	e^·m	e^·n
/ɛ/	[ɛ̄:]			e?	eh	e^·m	e^·n
/ə/	[ə:]			ə?	əh	ə^·m	ə^·n
/ə:/	[ə:]			ə?	əh	ə^·m	ə^·n
/æ/	[æ:]	ǣp	ǣt	æ?	ǣh	ǣm	ǣn
/ɑ:/	[ɑ:]	ap	at	a?	ah	a^m	a^n
/ɔ:/	[ɑ:]	a^t	a^k	a?	a^h	a^m	a^n
/u:/	[u:]	ūc	ūk	u?	uh	u^m	u^n
/ju:/	[u:]	ūp	ūt	u?	ūh	u^m	u^n
/o:/	[o^:]	o^p	o^t	o^k	o^h	o^m	o^n
/ɔ:/	[o:]	op	ot	ɔ?	oh	om	on
/ɔ̄:/	[ɔ̄:]	ɔ̄c	ɔ̄t	ɔ̄?	ɔ̄h	ɔ̄m	ɔ̄n
/ɑ:/	[ɑ:]	at	a^c	a?	ah	am	an

Figure 2: Allomorphic distribution in Thai Mon

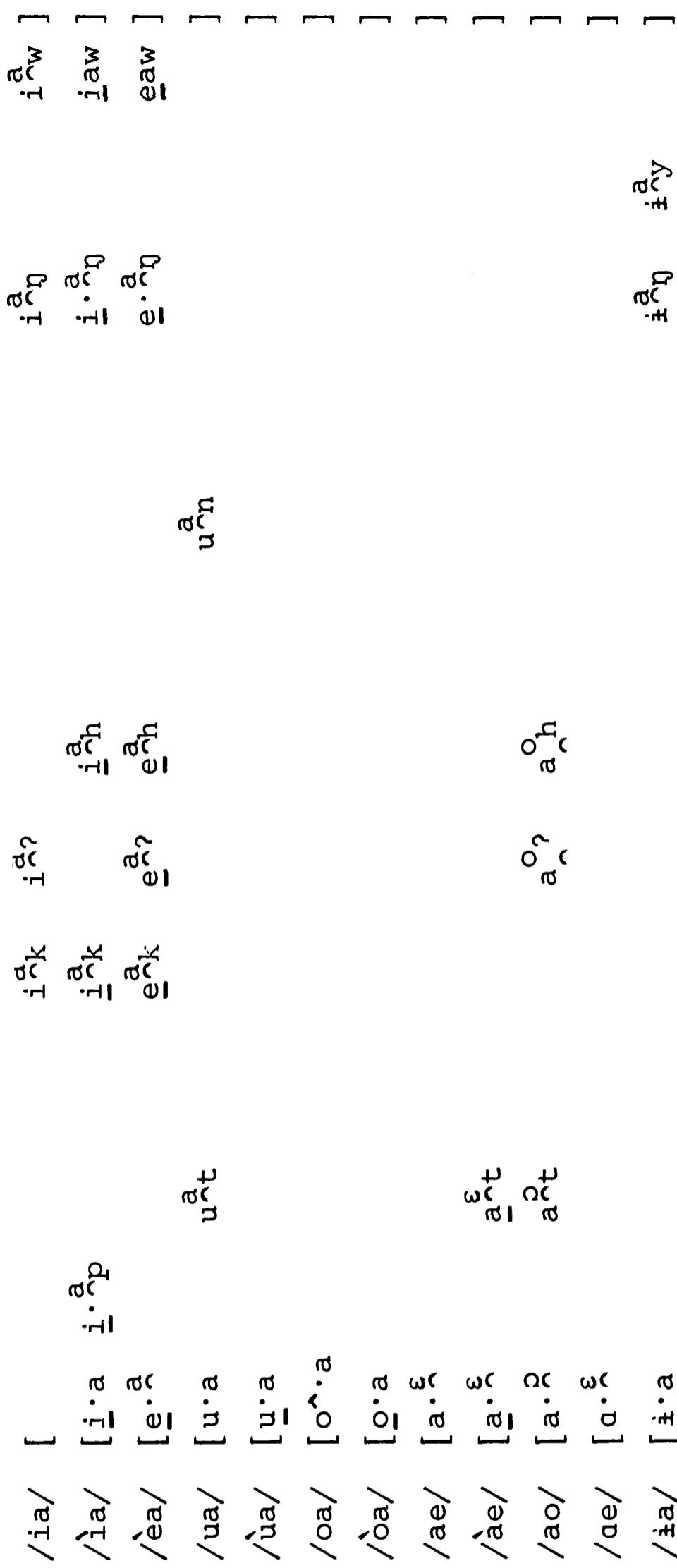


Figure 2, continued (diphthongs).

1.2.3. Syllable Structure

The syllable structure of Thai Mon appears to be basically identical with that of Burmese Mon, i.e. (CV)C(C)(C)V(V)(C), with /CV/ being the minimal syllabic unit.

1.3. Nyah Kur of Ban Wang Ai Pho

My informant for Nyah Kur was Mr. At Yumchaturat, 29 years old, of Ban Wang Ai Pho, Tambol Na Yang Krak, Amphoe Bamnech Narong, Chaiyaphum Province. The village of about 200 inhabitants, is located some 30 kilometers north of Huay Yai Chiu on the railway line, and was reached by logging truck. Referred to by the Thai as "Chaobon" ("upland people"), they call themselves /nah-kur/ or "mountain people."

1.3.1. Consonants

Nyah Kur has the following inventory of initial consonants; all consonants except /b d/ occur also finally.

/-p	-t	-c	-k	-?
b	d			
	-s			-h
-m	-n	-ŋ	-ɳ	
-w	-l	-y		
	-r/			

- Notes:**
- 1) /p t c k/ are tense and unaspirated [C] before tense (1st register) vowels, but lax and slightly aspirated [C'] before lax (2nd register) vowels; the latter are however in contrast with fully aspirated initials (here treated as clusters /Ch-/, as shown in Figure 3a.
 - 2) /c/ and /s/ appear to be in almost free variation in initial position, probably resulting from an earlier coalescence between them, with /s-/ perhaps reintroduced by Thai loans. However, there is a clear contrast between them in final position, where /-c/ is realized as [ⁱc] and /-s/ as [ⁱx] ~ [ⁱh] as opposed to /-h/, which is simply [h], as shown in Figure 3b.

/pɔk/	[pɔk]	'to open'	# /təpɔk/[təp'ɔk]	'to trade'	# /phɔk/ [pʰɔk]	'shirt'
/cas/	[caix]	'ten'	# /càs/[c'ā̚ix]	'fever'	# /chac/ [chā̚ic]	'fruit'
/cuh/	[cuh]	'to insert'	# /cùr/[c'ur]	'female'	# /chur/ [chū̚r]	'dog'

Figure 3a: Nyah Kur initial unaspirated and aspirated stops

/cah/	[cah]	'gt.-grandson'	# /cas/ [caax]	'ten'	# /chac/ [chā̚ic]	'fruit'
/ləʔuh/	[ləʔuh]	'cooked'	# /ləʔus/[ləʔuʃ]	'ripe'	# /quuc/ [qu·ic]	'swallow'

Figure 3b: Nyah Kur final /-h/, /-s/, and /-c/

1.3.1.1. Initial Consonant Clusters

Clusters recorded for Nyah Kur are shown in Figure 4; further data might produce others; the numbers correspond with the examples which follow immediately below.

1)	/phar/	to fly	2)	/prak/	money
3)	/thuas/	knock down	4)	/traw/	six
5)	/chuun/	five	6)	/khal/	bowl
7)	/krɔɔm/	under	8)	/kliiŋ/	long
9)	/kwaan/	wide	10)	/mraaʔ/	wound
11)	/mpɔh/	seven	12)	/mmɔk/	hoe
13)	/mplap/	to fib	14)	/mbran/	door
15)	/ntił/	sand	16)	/nciit/	nine
17)	/nchoon/	ox	18)	/ŋhur/	hearth
19)	/ŋkoo/	rice	20)	/ŋkraaw/	after
21)	/hrac/	harvest	22)	/hlaaʔ/	leaf
23)	/hwaaʔ/	flesh	24)	/hmuac/	ant
25)	/hnap/	good	26)	/phrèy/	rain
27)	/phlùk/	ivory	28)	/phcuuʔ/	elder
29)	/phnɔɔm/	forest	30)	/phsaa/	language
31)	/phchèy/	iron	32)	/thriŋ/	bat
33)	/thwìt/	forget	34)	/thnuu/	bow
35)	/chrih/	to fall	36)	/chluut/	bone
37)	/chwiiʔ/	left	38)	/chmit/	to rub
39)	/chnɔɔk/	itch	40)	/chnày/	far
41)	/ch?uy/	spoiled	42)	/chkhrùŋ/	laugh
43)	/khrèp/	forest	44)	/khlaŋ/	deaf
45)	/khyooʔ/	sell	46)	/khwàal/	guard
47)	/khmèŋ/	hear	48)	/khnií/	rat
49)	/khnàay/	to chew			

	h	r	l	y	w	p	t	c	k	m	n	n̥	ɳ	s	?	pl	kr	br	th	ch	kh	hr
p	1	2																				
t	3	4																				
c	5																					
k	6	7	8																			
m		10																				
n																						
n̥																						
ɳ																						
h																						
ph	18																					
th	21	22	23																			
ch	26	27																				
kh	32																					
hr	35	36	37																			
pl	43	44	45	46																		
kr																						
br																						
th																						
ch																						
ch	38	39	40	41																		
kh	47	48	49																			
hr	42																					

Figure 4: Initial consonant clusters in Nyāh Kur

Notes: 1) Apparently voiceless stops before /l/ or /r/ may be pronounced with or without intervening vocalism, e.g.:
 /klin/[klɪn ~ k^θlin] 'oil' /traw/[trao ~ t^θrao] 'six'

However there is clearly a contrast between /CC-/ and /ChC-/ initials, as in

/klin/ [klɪn ~ k^θlin] 'oil' ≠ /khliic/ [k^hlii:c] 'pig'
 /kras/ [kra:ⁱx ~ k^θra:ⁱx] 'sweep' ≠ /khraat/[k^hra:t] 'to rake'

2) There is also apparently a three-way contrast between /CC-/ ≠ /C^θC-/ ≠ /ChC-/, e.g.:

/kwaan/ 'wide' ≠ /kəwaan/ 'to throw' ≠ /khwàal/ 'to guard'
 /hmuac/ 'ant' ≠ /kəmat/ 'fire' ≠ /khmay/ 'to see'

3) [C^hCV-] and [C'CV-] are phonetically similar as to initial cluster (and perhaps indistinguishable in rapid speech); they are both therefore analyzed as /ChC-/, with register contrast shown only on the following vowel, especially as they are in complementary distribution with regard to following vowel register; e.g.:

/chwii?/ [c^hwi:?] 'left' ≠ /chwàk/ [c'wak] 'to hook'
 /chrim/ [c^hrim] 'bean' ≠ /chrih/ [c'rih] 'to fall'

1.3.2. Vowels

This dialect of Nyah Kur can be analyzed in terms of the following nine segmental vowel phonemes:

/i	ɛ	u
e	ə	o
ɛ	a	ɔ/

Nyah Kur, unlike Mon, has contrastive vowel length; short vowels are written as single vowels /V/, while long vowels and diphthongs are written as sequences of vowels /VV/. Following are some examples of minimal pairs involving only vowel length:

/t^ʃl/ [t'^ʃl] 'thigh' ≠ /t^ʃːl/ [t'^ʃ:l] 'dull'
 /hnam/[hnam] 'hut' ≠ /hnaam/[hna:m] 'skin'
 /chur/[c^hur] 'dog' ≠ /chuur/[c^hu:r] 'to whet'
 /tɔŋ/ [tɔŋ] 'must(T)' ≠ /tɔɔŋ/[tɔ:ŋ] 'time, occasion'

In spite of the fact that vowel length contrast is clearly a basic structural feature of this language, minimal pairs of the above kind are surprisingly hard to find. This may be due to widespread displacement of native vocabulary by Thai loans; almost 25% of the some 1,000 words of basic vocabulary elicited are Thai (or Lao) loans.

Since Nyah Kur, like Mon, is a register language, all short and long vowels and diphthongs occur on both registers, resulting in a total of 42 different vowel nuclei, as follows:

Front	Central	Back
i, ī, ii, īi; ia, īa	ɨ, īɨ, īī; īa, īā	u, u, uu, uu; ua, ua
e, ē, ee, ēe	ə, ēə, ēə, ēē	o, ö, oo, öö
ɛ, ē̄, εε, ē̄ε	a, à, aa, àa	ɔ, ò, ɔɔ, òò

Notes: 1) Following are some minimal pairs which involve only register contrast:

/ciir/ [ci:r] 'to dig'	/ciir/ [<u>c'i:r</u>] 'to hunt for'
/cεεŋ/ [cε:n] 'bright(T)'	/cèεŋ/ [<u>c'ε:n</u>] 'to insult(T)'
/khləŋ/ [khlən] 'deaf'	/khlèŋ/ [<u>k'lə·n</u>] 'much, very'
/cas/ [caɪx] 'ten'	/càs/ [<u>c'aɪx</u>] 'fever'
/kɔɔk/ [kɔ:k] 'white'	/kɔɔk/ [<u>k'ɔ:k</u>] 'fence(T)'

Note that two of the above minimal pairs involve Thai loans.

2) The informant referred to tense (1st register) words as /thmàr khyaal / 'light words', and to lax (2nd register) words as /thmàr khchèŋ/ 'heavy words'. 'Light' words with long vowels are accompanied by a (as yet non-contrastive) high-falling tone, while 'heavy' words with long vowels are characterized by a low level tone, lax quality, and breathiness which carries throughout the word. Short vowels ending in stops, whether light or heavy, have a high level tone. Most Thai loans with long vowels seem to adapt to the high-falling pattern, e.g.:

/kheen/ [k ^h ε:n] 'arm'	/khoɔŋ/ [k ^h ɔ:o:n] 'thing'
(/luan/ [lu·aŋ] 'king' is an exception.)	

Thai loans with short vowels and rising tone seem to retain their rising tone in Nyah Kur, e.g.:

/thay/ [t^hai] 'to plow'

/mun/ [mun] 'to spin'

The informant suggested that Thai loans which keep their original tones are not yet fully assimilated.

- 3) The short vowels /e, è, o, ò/ are severely limited in distribution, and occur primarily in Thai loans; the diphthongs /ia, ìa/ are introduced purely by Thai loans.

1.3.2.1. Allophonic Distribution Chart for Nyah Kur

The phonetic realization of all words in the final Glossary can be reconstructed by reference to the following chart (Figure 5) and to the preceding discussion; the chart also shows the phonological distribution of Nyah Kur vowels vis-à-vis finals.

/a/	[	ap	at	a ⁱ c	ak	a?	a ⁱ s	ah	am	an	a ⁱ n	ay	aw	a ⁱ l	ar]	
/à/	[	<u>ap</u>	<u>at</u>	<u>aⁱc</u>	<u>ak</u>	<u>a?</u>	<u>aⁱs</u>	<u>ah</u>	<u>am</u>	<u>an</u>	<u>aⁱn</u>	<u>ay</u>	<u>aw</u>	<u>aⁱl</u>	<u>ar</u>]	
/aa/	[a:	a:p	a:k	a: ⁱ c	a: ⁱ s	a: ⁱ ?	a: ⁱ s	a:m	a:n	a: ⁱ n	a: ⁱ s	a:y	a:w	a:l	a:r]	
/àa/	[a:	<u>a:p</u>	<u>a:t</u>	<u>a:k</u>	<u>a:ⁱs</u>	<u>a:ⁱ?</u>	<u>a:ⁱs</u>	<u>a:m</u>	<u>a:n</u>	<u>a:ⁱn</u>	<u>a:ⁱs</u>	<u>a:y</u>	<u>a:w</u>	<u>a:l</u>	<u>a:r</u>]	
/u/	[				uk	u?	u ⁱ s	uh	um	un	uy	ul	ur			
/ù/	[			dñ	uk	u?	u ⁱ s	uh	um	un	uy	ul	ur]	
/uu/	[u:				u:t	u:k	u: ⁱ s	u ⁱ s	u:n	u: ⁱ n	u:y	u:l	u:ñ]	
/ñu/	[ñu:					u: ⁱ n	u ⁱ s	u ⁱ s	u:n	u: ⁱ n	u:y	u:l	u:ñ]	
/o/	[					ok	o?	o?	o	o	oo	uo	uo			
/ò/	[						ó?	ó?	o	o	oo	uo	uo]	
/oo/	[							ó?	o	o	o:?	o:?	o:?]	
/c/	[								ók	ó	ók	ó	ó]	
/ç/	[									ók	ó	ó	ó]	
/cc/	[									dc	dc	dc	dc]	
/cç/	[										ck	ck	ck	ck]	
m:c	[mc	mc	mc	mc]
ù:c	[uc	uc	uc	uc]
ú:c	[uc	uc	uc	uc]
é:c	[mc	mc	mc	mc]
é:c	[mc	mc	mc	mc]
é:c	[mc	mc	mc	mc]
é:c	[mc	mc	mc	mc]

Figure 5, continued.

/ia/	[i ^a p i ^a p i ^a t i ^a t]	i ^a n i ^a n i ^a m i ^a m	i ^a ŋ i ^a ŋ i ^a m i ^a m	i ^a w i ^a w i ^a w i ^a w	i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r
/̄ia/	[i ^a p i ^a p i ^a t i ^a t]	i ^a n i ^a n i ^a m i ^a m	i ^a ŋ i ^a ŋ i ^a m i ^a m	i ^a w i ^a w i ^a w i ^a w	i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r
/ua/	[u ^a t u ^a t u ^a s u ^a s]	u ^a c u ^a c u ^a k u ^a k	u ^a ŋ u ^a ŋ u ^a n u ^a n	u ^a y u ^a y u ^a y u ^a y	u ^a ŋ u ^a ŋ u ^a n u ^a n
/̄ua/	[u ^a t u ^a t u ^a s u ^a s]	u ^a c u ^a c u ^a k u ^a k	u ^a ŋ u ^a ŋ u ^a n u ^a n	u ^a y u ^a y u ^a y u ^a y	u ^a ŋ u ^a ŋ u ^a n u ^a n
/iə/	[i ^a t i ^a t i ^a s i ^a s]	i ^a t i ^a t i ^a s i ^a s	i ^a ŋ i ^a ŋ i ^a y i ^a y	i ^a y i ^a y i ^a y i ^a y	i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r
/̄iə/	[i ^a t i ^a t i ^a s i ^a s]	i ^a t i ^a t i ^a s i ^a s	i ^a ŋ i ^a ŋ i ^a y i ^a y	i ^a y i ^a y i ^a y i ^a y	i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r i ^a r

Figure 5, continued (diphthongs).

1.3.3. Syllable Structure

The syllable structure of Nyah Kur words is rendered extremely complex by extensive Thai loans, resulting in such word shapes as CCCVCVVC (/phyəyáam/ 'to try') and CVCVCCVC (/sókkəprók/ 'dirty'). If we confine ourselves to native Nyah Kur words, they may be either

- 1) monosyllabic of shape C(C)(C)(C)(C) $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \acute{V}C \\ VV(C) \end{matrix} \right\}$ (as illustrated in 1.3.1.1.), implying that a final /C/ is obligatory after short vowels but optional after long vowels and diphthongs; or
- 2) disyllabic, consisting of an unstressed presyllable of shape /CV-/, where /V/ is always /ə/, plus a stressed syllable having one of the shapes represented in 1) above.

2. Synchronic Comparison

2.1. Burmese Mon and Thai Mon

Although obviously very closely related, it is debatable whether Burmese Mon and Thai Mon should be considered separate languages or dialects of the same language. In 1976 I found that for a 100-word list of very basic Mon-Khmer roots, Burmese Mon and Thai Mon showed a 99% cognation rate, while for an expanded 500-word list they showed 86% cognation (Huffman 1976a:568-9). For the present 900-word list, approximately 750 words, or 83%, appear to be cognate. This is perilously close to the 75% cognation rate sometimes arbitrarily given as the boundary between languages and dialects, and it is quite likely that over the total lexicon of the two languages, the cognation rate would fall below that criterion. Although only 30 words, or 3.3%, of the 900-word Thai Mon vocabulary are Thai loans (vs. none for Burmese Mon), the percentages of Thai and Burmese loans in the two languages respectively would increase significantly (I may in fact have overlooked some Burmese loans in Burmese Mon). In fact, my informants for the two languages were put to the test when they overlapped one day in my office--it required considerable effort for them to realize that they could communicate at all in Mon (the only language they had in common), and then only haltingly.

From the point of view of phonology, the differences between the two are not major. Both languages have identical inventories of consonant and vowel phonemes; Thai Mon, however, has three additional contrasts in the diphthongal nuclei (perhaps as a result of Thai loans), as follows:

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon
/ea/	/ia/
/èa/	/ìa/
	/èa/
/oa/	/ua/
	/oa/
/òa/	/ùa/
	/òa/
	/ìa/

/ìa/ occurs only in Thai loans.

Overall, Thai Mon shows a relative tendency toward monosyllabism and morphological simplification. In the following examples, Burmese Mon disyllables compare with Thai Mon monosyllables:

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon
/pathoŋ/	/thon/
/halòŋ/	/klèŋ/
/ma-halàŋ/	/klàŋ/

Furthermore, Burmese Mon presyllables of shape /Ca-/ tend to be reduced in Thai Mon to presyllables of shape /?a-/; e.g.:

/karao/	/?arao/	'six'
/takah/	/?akah/	'sky'
/hadoa/	/?adoa/	'in'
/kamah/	/?amah/	'clear'
/patch/	/?atch/	'mushroom'
/kasok/	/?asok/	'feather'
/pasəŋ/	/?asəŋ/	'five'
/kato/	/?ato/	'ear'

Finally, there is a tendency in Thai Mon to prefer paraphrastic rather than morphological expressions of such functions as causation, e.g.

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon
/ko/	/ko/
/pako/	/pa? ko/
/hun/	/hum/
/pahun/	/hum ka/

2.2. Mon and Nyah Kur

In comparing the above two dialects of Mon with Nyah Kur, we are obviously dealing with differences of a much greater magnitude. In 1976 I reported a 69% cognation rate between Mon and Nyah Kur for a 100-word list of basic Mon-Khmer vocabulary, but only a 31-33% cognation rate for an expanded 500-word list (Huffman 1976a:567). The present 900-word list shows only 22% cognation between Nyah Kur and Mon. Although this figure can no doubt be attributed partly to displacement of native words by Thai loans (almost 25% of the 900 words are Thai or Lao loans!), these figures clearly indicate that Nyah Kur has had a long period of separation from Mon, as well as isolation from other Mon-Khmer languages. My 1976 figures over the 500-word list show cognate percentages of 24% with Khmer, 13-20% with Katuic-Bahnaric languages, 11-13% with Khmuic or Northern Mon-Khmer, and only 6% with Viet-Muong. Nevertheless, Nyah Kur appears to be more closely related to Mon than to any other branch of Mon-Khmer.

Interestingly, the consonant phoneme inventories of Mon and Nyah Kur are almost identical, Nyah Kur lacking only the /f/ of Mon. A salient difference, however, is the occurrence of /-l/ and /-r/ in Nyah Kur, corresponding with open syllables in Mon, e.g.:

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Nyah Kur
/ba/	/ba/	/baar/ 'two'
/?a/	/?a/	/?ar/ 'to go'
/tao/	/tao/	/tuur/ 'to burn'
/kato/	/?ato/	/kətuar/ 'ear'
/chu/	/chu/	/chuur/ 'to whet'
/tì/	/tì/	/tìl/ 'thigh'
/lè/	/lè/	/lul/ 'gourd'
/kɔ/	/kɔ/	/kal/ 'break(intr.)'
/tae/	/tae/	/tuul/ 'already'
/ka/	/ka/	/kul/ 'to give'

Immediately noticeable also is the absence of an initial /s-/ in native Nyah Kur words; Mon /s-/ corresponds with Nyah Kur /ch-/, e.g.:

/sae/	/sae/	/chaay/ 'bee'
/səŋ/	/səŋ/	/choon/ 'to drink'
/suk/	/sok/	/chook/ 'hair'
/sɔt/	/sɔt/	/chac/ 'fruit'
/sàŋ/	/sàŋ/	/khchəŋ/ 'heavy'
/pasoa/	/pasoa/	/phchəy/ 'iron'

Some /s-/ initial words in Mon correspond with /chr-/ in Nyah Kur; e.g.:

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Nyah Kur	
/sàe/	/sàe/	/chràay/	'slender'
/sa?/	/sa?/	/chroo?/	'unhusked rice'
/sùŋ/	/sùm/	/chròon/	'snake'

Some Mon words with initial /h(a)-/ also correspond with /ch-/ in Nyah Kur; e.g.:

/hləŋ/	/hləŋ/	/chlooŋ/	'high'
/hanok/	/hnok/	/chnooŋk/	'to itch'
/halèa?/	/halèa?/	/chlàa?/	'thorn'

The following fairly regular initial correspondences occur:

/p-/	/pən/	/pən/	/pan/	'four'
	/pəŋ/	/pəŋ/	/piŋ/	'full'
	/pèŋ/	/pèŋ/	/pùŋ/	'stomach'
/t-/	/tɔh/	/tɔh/	/tɔh/	'breast'
	/toa/	/toa/	/təy/	'hand'
	/tae?/	/tae?/	/tii?/	'earth'
/c-/	/cao/	/cao/	/caw/	'grandchild'
	/coŋ/	/cəŋ/	/ciŋ/	'elephant'
	/cea?/	/cia?/	/caa?/	'to eat'
/k-/	/kon/	/kon/	/kuan/	'offspring'
	/kic/	/kic/	/kít/	'to bite'
	/kè?/	/kè?/	/kōo?/	'able'
/?-/	/?a/	/?a/	/?ar/	'to go'
	/?oh/	/?oh/	/?uas/	'firewood'
	/?oc/		/?ic/	'feces'
/b-/	/ba/	/ba/	/baar/	'two'
	/bao/	/bao/	/baw/	'sugarcane'
	/boŋ/	/boŋ/	/biŋ/	'to swim'
/d-/	/dac/	/dac/	/daak/	'water'
	/dap/	/dap/	/kədəp/	'head'
	/hada?/	/hada?/	/sədak/	'to cough'
/h-/	/huŋ/	/hum/	/hum/	'to bathe'
	/hae?/	/hae?/	/hii?/	'house'

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Nyah Kur	
/m-/ /mòt/	/mòt/	/màt/	'eye'
/muh/	/muh/	/mòh/	'nose'
/n-/ /nùm/	/nùm/	/nòom/	'have, exist'
/nih/	/nih/	/mèníh/	'human'
/ŋ-/ /ŋèak/	/ŋìak/	/ŋìak/	'tooth'
/ŋit/	/ŋìt/	/ŋùuc/	'to swallow'
/w-/ /wèt/	/wèt/	/thwìt/	'to forget'
/y-/ /yèak/	/yìak/	/yàk/	'smoke(n)'
/l-/ /lùp/	/lùp/	/lòop/	'to enter'
/r-/ /rùy/	/rùy/	/rùuy/	'fly(n)'

Although all three languages have initial /n-/, no such set of correspondences is attested. Initial /ph- th- ch-/ sets occur; no initial /kh-/ set is attested; e.g.:

/ph-/ /phac/	/phac/	/phiic/	'to fear'
/phoa/	/phoa/	/phay/	'full'
/th-/ /thoa/	/thoa/	/thay/	'to plow(T?)'
/ch-/ /chəŋ/	/chəŋ/	/chooŋ/	'to kiss'
/chu?/	/chu?/	/chuu?/	'wood'
/chim/	/chim/	/chim/	'blood'

Among finals, while final dental sets occur, e.g.:

/chat/	/chat/	/kəcst/	'to die'
/kamot/	/kamot/	/kəmat/	'fire'
/pɔn/	/pɔn/	/pan/	'four'
/kon/	/kon/	/kuan/	'offspring'

some Mon dental finals correspond with Nyah Kur palatal finals, e.g.:

/hamot/	/hamot/	/hmuac/	'ant'
/dət/	/dat/	/tədaac/	'sweet'
/pɔn/	/pɔn/	/pan/	'to shoot'

Conversely, Mon palatal finals correspond sometimes with Nyah Kur dentals, e.g.:

/katac/	/?atac/	/ntaak/	'tongue'
/hacic/	/hacic/	/nciit/	'nine'
/pasqñ/	/?asqñ/	/chuun/	'five'

sometimes with palatal finals, e.g.:

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Nyah Kur	
/phac/	/phac/	/phiic/	'to fear'
/kloc/	/kləc/	/khliic/	'pig'
/klaqñ/	/klaqñ/	/klip/	'oil'
/boñ/	/bəñ/	/biip/	'to swim'

and sometimes (in fact most commonly) with velar finals, e.g.:

/dac/	/dac/	/daak/	'water'
/cañ/	/cañ/	/chaan/	'chicken'
/cɔñ/	/cəñ/	/chiñ/	'to sew'
/pañ/	/pañ/	/paañ/	'mouth'

Mon final /-h/ corresponds sometimes with Nyah Kur /-h/, as in

/tɔh/	/tɔh/	/tɔh/	'breast'
/hapɔh/	/hapɔh/	/mpɔh/	'seven'
/pèh/	/pèh/	/pèh/	'you'

and sometimes with Nyah Kur final /-s/ [iːx ~ iːh], which doesn't occur finally in Mon, e.g.:

/?oh/	/?oh/	/?uas/	'firewood'
/kùh/	/kùh/	/kùus/	'swell up'
/takah/	/?akah/	/ŋkaas/	'sky'

As for vowel systems, while all three languages are register languages, only Nyah Kur has contrastive vowel length, accounting for 42 vowel nuclei as opposed to 24 and 27 respectively for Burmese Mon and Thai Mon. Vowel correspondences between Mon and Nyah Kur are very irregular, and we will make no attempt to work them out in a synchronic study such as this. However, the correspondence between Mon diphthongs /oa ua ae / and Nyah Kur words ending in /-v(v)y/ is immediately obvious; e.g.:

/toa/	/toa/	/təy/	'hand'
/coa/	/coa/	/cay/	'louse'
/?oa/	/?ua/	/wəy/	'I'
/pasoa/	/pasoa/	/phchəy/	'iron'
/mòa/	/múa/	/mùay/	'one'
/prøa/	/prøa/	/phrəy/	'rain'

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Kyah Kur	
/phoa/	/phoa/	/phay/	'full (sated)'
/hapoa/	/hapua/	/mpuuy/	'nest'
/plae/	/plae/	/phluuy/	'wax'
/nae/	/nae/	/khnuuy/	'monkey'

There is furthermore a significant set of words in which Mon /-ae?/ corresponds with Nyah Kur /-ii?/, e.g.:

/pae?/	/pae?/	/pii?/	'three'
/tae?/	/tae?/	/tii?/	'earth'
/hae?/	/hae?/	/hii?/	'house'
/nae?/	/nae?/	/khnii?/	'rat'
/kamae?/	/kamae?/	/təmii?/	'new'

Finally, from the standpoint of comparative syllable structure, Nyah Kur words tend to have much more complex initial sequences. The following Mon monosyllables correspond with Nyah Kur words having phonological prefixes of shape /Ch-/ or CV-/:

/dap/	/dap/	/kədəp/	'head'
/níh/	/níh/	/məníh/	'human'
/dat/	/dat/	/tədaac/	'sweet'
/təm/	/təm/	/sədɪm/	'to know'
/tam/	/tam/	/sətəm/	'thick'
/səh/	/səh/	/ləcùh/	'deep'
/chah/	/kyah/	/kəcah/	'charcoal'
/kəh/	/kəh/	/cəkas/	'dry'
/nae/	/nae/	/khnuuy/	'monkey'
/mən/	/mən/	/khmuun/	'nephew/niece'
/nae?/	/nae?/	/khnii?/	'rat'
/wət/	/wət/	/thwìt/	'to forget'
/mən/	/mən/	/khmìŋ/	'to hear'
/səŋ/	/səŋ/	/khchəŋ/	'heavy'

The following Mon words having initial clusters /Cr- C1-/ correspond with Nyah Kur words having /Chr- Ch1-/ initial clusters; this is in some cases an artifact of the decision to analyze Nyah Kur C'C- clusters in 2nd register words as /ChC-/, but the pattern otherwise exists in 1st register words.

/pràt/	/pràt/	/phràat/	'banana'
/krèp/	/krèp/	/khrèp/	'forest'
/plae/	/plae/	/phluuy/	'wax'
/klè?/	/klè?/	/khléε?/	'short'
/klòŋ/	/klòŋ/	/khliŋ/	'long'
/prèa/	/prèa/	/phràw/	'wife'

Burmese Mon	Thai Mon	Nyah Kur	
/klean/	/klian/	/khlian/	'carry (on a shoulder pole)'
/kr̄ean/	/kr̄eŋ/	/thr̄əŋ/	'horn (animal)'
/kr̄əŋ/	/kr̄əŋ/	/chkhruŋ/	'to laugh'
	/kr̄əh/	/khrih/	'liver'

A smaller number of sets is nevertheless attested in which words in all three languages have initial /CC-/ clusters; e.g.:

/preŋ/	/priŋ/	/priŋ/	'buffalo'
/klŋ/	/klŋ/	/klŋ/	'oil'
/kr̄ək/	/kr̄ək/	/trook/	'mango'

3. English--Burmese Mon--Thai Mon--Nyah Kur Glossary

The following glossary represents all the lexical data collected in 1970 for the three languages, or every gloss for which a lexical item was elicited in at least two of the languages. Forms are in phonemic transcription; their phonetic realizations can be reconstructed by reference to the respective phonological descriptions in Part 1 of this paper. (T) following a form means that it is assumed to be a loan from either a Thai or a Lao source; slant lines (/) indicating phonological transcription are omitted in the interest of saving space. English, Burmese Mon, Thai Mon, and Nyah Kur at the head of each column are abbreviated Eng., BM, TM, and NK respectively.

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
abandon	klo-tha?	tha?	bɔh
able	kè?/man	kè?/kwè?	kòo?
accept	tèŋ-toa	tèŋ-ket	rap(T)
accompany	peak-?a-hako?	pha(T)	paa(T)
accustomed	kean	kean	kèəy(T)
admire (respect)	than-sah	yàk-tàk	-
after	rèa-sah	rèh-seh	phiic (fear)
afternoon (late)	tae-ma?	tò-rao	ŋkraaw
agree	taŋoa	?akhèŋ-bae	baay(T)
air	səŋoa	-	-
alcohol	kase	kase	tok-loŋ(T)
alive (people)	ca	?akah(T)	khyaal
(plants)	?arèak	?arèak	prɛε?
all gone (used)	nùm-manam	nùm-lèm-	noom-ciwit-?əl
allow	càn	yèm-mòn	-
already	?at/còt	-	tàng-?ət
always	ha?at	?at	?ət
and	tɔp-cat	sam-pa?at	yòom(T)
angry	tae-ya?	tɔp-cat	tùul
ant	kaw	tae-ra?	təphit
anus	ka	riay(T)	-
appropriate	cat-thèa	ka	kroot(T)
argue	hamot	mèa?-nèw	hmuac
arm	saŋ?-oc	hamot	chruŋ-?ic
arrange	tèah-rèah	?aket	sɔm(T)
arrive	kayan	tèah-rèah	cuu/thiaŋ(T)
arrow	toa	?ayan	kheen(T)
ashes	prao?-preaŋ	toa	kriam
ask for	tu-cap	pru?-priŋ	lac/con(T)
astrologer	lè	cap/cɔŋ/tè?	kam haa?
at	patqñ	na?	pətin
aunt (Pa01Si)	hman-hmək/?at	patqñ	tòon
(PaYrSi)	?aca-ha?uy	hman-hmək/?at	mɔɔ-mày(T)
awaken	hadoa	piŋ-tèw	tìi(T)
ax	?amù	?adoa/thì(T)	cəwaay
back (person)		?amù-tè?	
bad	?ici	?ici-tè?	maam
bamboo	panuh	kok-kata	kətəər-tun
banana	mùy	mùy	chuaŋ(T)
(clf. one)	tù-cah	cah	kəchij
(clf. hand)	pare?-ce?/lèm	pare?-ce?	khle?
	tun	tùn	tùun-cəlāa?
	pràt	pràt	phràat
	mèa?	mèa?	luuk(T)
	hareah	hareah	ŋraas

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
bark(n)	hanok	hanok	ŋkuar
bark(v)	kì	kì	pèw
basket	chen	?achu?	krəcaa?
(round)	nèa?	nèak	thanj
(square)	rèa	rèa	khlin(back-basket)
bat	kawa?	kawa?	thrin
bathe(iv)	huŋ-dac	hum-dac	hum
(tv)	pahuŋ	hum-ka	-
be	kòh	tòh	tèh
bean	pe	sot-cèk	chrim
beard	suk-haməp	sok-hamanj	chook-meh
because	màn-kòh	hat-ham	phro?-tii
bed	còŋ	coŋ-təc	tiaŋ-puŋ
bee	sae	sae	cùr-chaay
before	kla	kla	cəmch
believe	pateh	pateh	cia(T)
bend	paŋo?	wèah	khoonj(T)
bend over	hacaŋ-dap	hacan	khoonj(T)
betel	haplù?	haplù?	?aphluu
(leaf)			
bird	hacem	hacem	nciam
bite(v)	kic	kic	kít
bitter	kataŋ	kataŋ	kətaŋ
black	kacok	pacok	phliat
blade	bak-tu	habak	mmok
blanket	yàt	yàt-keak	nèec-tak
blind	mòt-klak	mòt-klak	təbɔct(T)
blink	haret-mòt	harip-mòt	khphrip(T)
blood	chim	chim	chim
blow	hakəh	hakəh	pəkùh
boar	kloc-krèp	kləc-krèp	khliic-khrèp
boat	klèŋ	klèŋ	rìa(T)
boil(v)	tom(T?)	bah	luuk
bone	cùt	cùc	chlùut
book	lòc	lèc	nīŋsii(T)
born	baŋ	kata-tòh	kəət(T)
borrow	halə?	halè?	yìim(T)
bottle	palaj	?alaŋ	khuat(T)
bow(n)	panoh	na?	-
bowl	paŋan	paŋan	khal
(small)	khok	khok	thuuy(T)
box	kala	hip(T)	hiip(T)
(lacquer)	hadə?	hadə?	kap
branch	nqñ-chu?	nqñ-chu?	khaap
break(iv)	hakah	hakah	paak
(string)	hapət	-	put
(stick)	kɔ	kɔ	kal

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
(tv)	-	pa? hakah	paa? paak
(tv)	pako	pa? ko	-
breast	töh	töh	töh
breathe(in)	yèm-plup	yèm-lùp	jùm
(out)	yèm-patet	yèm-tac	-
bridge	hatòn	hàton	təpaan(T)
bright	kamah	?amah	cεεŋ(T)
broadcast	kràt	kràt	kəchaac
(sow)			
broom	kamoh	tō-mamoh	chuu?-kraas
brother	kao	kao	pɔɔŋ-tus-truus
(older)			
(younger)	tè?-kraoh/ tè?-plae	tè?-plae	ncii?-tus-truus
br.-in-law	kao-yèa	kao-yia	yaw
(older)			
(younger)	boa-pae	boa-pae	khmaan
buffalo	preaŋ	priaŋ	priaŋ
burn	tao	tao	tuur/kih
bury	tap	tap	chruŋ
buttock	taket	tōm-ti?	thpòok(T)
button	kamon	mèa?-paŋon	khian
buy	ràn	ràn	raaŋ
cabbage	hane-ke	hane-ke	-
call	kok	kok	hook(T)
candle	naj	naj	tian(T)
carry	yàk	yàk	ŋkìn
(on back)			
(on pole)	kleaŋ	kliaŋ	khliaŋ
(general)	palau	palau	khon-son(T)
cart	kwi	kwi	kian(T)
cat	hakoa	hakoa	miaw(T)
catch	ròp	ròp	cap(T)
charcoal	chah	hyah	kəcah
chase	hadeaŋ	hadiəŋ/kuat	lày(T)
cheap	tɔn	tɔn/téak	thuuk(T)
cheek	noŋ	nəŋ	təbal
chest	kala	tù(T)	tuu(T)
(wood)			
(body)	sah	sah	crih
chew	hae	hae	khnaay
chicken	caŋ	caŋ	chaan
chief	khaŋ	hanok-hae?	phuu-yay(T)
child	kon	kon-ŋac	kuan-kuan
(youth)			
(offspr)	kon	kon	kuan
chisel(v)	pac	pac	cəkhleɛ?

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
chop	bak	pac	sap(T)
cicada	hatot	-	-
cigarette (clf.)	bak kanaŋ	bak hamao	brii(T) mùan(T)
citrus	panao	panao	pəcah
city	dəŋ	dəŋ	-
clean(adj) (tv)	?ah	?ah	sə?aat(T)
clear(air) (water)	krat(wash)	krat/ka?ah	-
cleared away	kamah	?amah	cat(T?)
climb	ke	ke	-
close(v)	klah	-	-
close together	kwà̄n	kwà̄n/tan	tun
cloth	mat	?atè?	traj
clothing	krop-?a	krop	biat
cloud	yàt	yàt	nèec
coconut	klè-yàt-palo?	yàt-?ala?	nèec-saw
coffee	mòt-pròa	mòt-pròa	mòk(T)
coffee	saprèa	sop-prèa	chac-duuŋ
cold(adj)	kɔ?-phoa	kaofee	kaafee(T)
color	bah	bah	təkat
come	?aranj	si(T)	sii(T)
consider	kləŋ	kləŋ	lòoŋ
cook(v)	chɔp	hyɔp/khic(T)	kit(T)
copper	tom	dun	tɔɔm/luuk
corn	hlæe	hlæe	thɔŋ-phleen
corner	sakòn	hla?-kòn	hlii(T)
corpse	kanəŋ	kanəŋ/hakao	mùm(T)
corral	-	fèa?	-
cotton (wool)	haranj	haranj	kòk(T)
cotton (thread)	tò-cha	?acao	tual
cough(v)	cèk-tò	cèk-?acao/to	-
count	hada?	hada?	sədak
country	rèh	rèh	nàp(T)
cover(v)	dəŋ	dəŋ	mìaŋ(T)
crocodile	kèp-tha?	kèp/?at	chkhròp
cross(v)	cam	kyam	khyaam
crossbow	kla?-?a	kla?	təphaan
crow(n)	ŋa?/panoh-lèa?	ŋa?/san(T)	thnuu(T)
cry(v)	hadac	hadac	kal-?aak
cup/glass	karè?	?arè?	yàam
cured/well	khok	khok	kεew(T)
curse(V)	khah	khah	chip
curved	chao/rànŋ-càŋ	sɔŋ/hyam	cèŋ(T)
custom	ŋak	ŋak/wàŋ	ŋòč(T)
cut(slice)	?akhak	?akhak/?alàk	-
	rac	rac	kac

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
(hack)	bak	pàc	sap(T)
(scissors)	khep	khep	-
dance(v)	lèh	lèh-hayìh	ràm(T)
dark	klù?	klù?	kètìn
daughter	kon-prèa	kon-prèa	kuan-phràw-phràw
daughter-in-law	ha?oh	ha?oh	kuan-?uay
dawn(v)	tan	tan	təhay-tun
day	ŋoa	ŋua	hay
deaf	daŋ	daŋ	kətuar-khləŋ
deep	sèh	sèh	ləcùh
deer	kràe	kràe	təbuŋ
defeated	ca?	ca?	khyaa?
depress	də-pyih	də	kot-ciḥ
descend	cih	cih	ciḥ
destroy	palèm	palam	-
devil	kalok	kalok	ntòk
die	chat	chat	kəcət
different	?uŋ-tɔp-pu	hu?-tɔp- níah-ko?	lùuc-cəkoo?
difficult	wàt	wàt	mmaak
dig(chop)	bak	bak	ciir
(spade)	khae	khae	-
dirty	pɔp-pi/ŋet-pet	pɔp-pi	sokkəprok(T)
disease	yòa	yòa	ròok(T)
disgusting	duh	duh	càŋ
distant	hoa	hua	chŋay
diviner	?aca-ha?uy	pɪŋ-təw	-
divorce(v)	prah/tət	prah	bōh
do, make	klon	klon	paa?
dog	klə	kla	chur
done	khah-khah	cɪŋ	lə?uh
(cooked)			
don't	pa?	pa?	yaa(T)
door	karaŋ	?aranj	mbranj
dove	hacèak	hacèak	puur
drag	-	pao	làak(T)
drink(v)	səŋ	səŋ	choonj
drum	hapèn	hapèn	-
dry	kōh	kōh	cəkas
(season)	kajnaŋ	kōh	kətaw(hot)
dry up	dah	dah	rə?ac
duck	?atea	?atea	tàa
dull(edge)	-	khèk	tìil
(point)	bam	bam	-
dust	palàk	hapàk	lə?coŋ(T)
dwarf	nìh sɔ-sɔ	sɔ	chər
ear	kato	?ato	kətuar

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
earth	tae?	tae?	tii?
east	haləŋ-ca	hamok-kyā	-
easy	lòa	lùa	naay(T)
eat	cea?	cia?	caa?
egg	hamac	hamae	pccŋ
eight	hacam	hacam	ncaam
elephant	cɔŋ	cəŋ	ciŋ
eleven	cɔh-mòa	cɔh-mùa	cas-mùay
empty	-	mah-mah	-
end(point)	kanəŋ	kanəŋ	priŋ
enough	rùm-ra?	rùm-ra?	pòo(T)
enter	lùp	lùp	lòcp
evening	sənja	sənja	mluu?
every	?arə?-?arə?	rəh	duk(T)
exact	mòa-pəm	təah-ra?	kəwəh-dəh
exit	tət-?a	tac	tít
expensive	daŋ	daŋ	pèŋ(T)
extinguish	haplat	palat	kəphlet
eye	mòt	mòt	màt
eyebrow	hnean-mòt	hərəm-mòt	khìiw(T)
face	mèk	mèk	nàa(T)
fall(v)	hatəm-cih	hatəm-cih	chrih
fall over	-	tòm	-
fast	prəh-man	prəh	wày(T)
(quickly)	prəh-prəh	prəh	-
fat(adj)	kra?	kra?	?uan(T)
father	?apa/mea?	?apa/mea?	pàa?
father-in-law	kham-sae	kam-sae	pàa?-nciir
fear(v)	phac	phac	phiic
feather	kasok	?asok	chɔk-choo̯k
feces	?oc	-	?ic
female sex	chi?	-	kəpəən
organs			
fence	tòp	tòp/haban	kòk(T)
fever	fɔh	tòh-fòh	càs
few/little	?on	jì?	neet
finger	kanəŋ-toa	?apoh-toa	mpuus
finished	tae-?a-ya?	tae-ra?	tùul
(complete)	patae/?at	?at	cɔp(T)
fire	kamot	kamot	kəmat
firewood	?oh	?oh	?uas
fish(n)	ka?	ka?	kaa?
fish(v)	dɔn-ka?	dɔn-ka?	bɔh nan(cast net)
fishtrap	kanem	parɔc	sum
five	pasɔŋ	?assɔŋ	chuun
flat	hapəh	riap	ràap(T)
flesh	phyun	chuj	hwaa?

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
flint	mɔʔ-harak kamot	hyah-kamot	khmay-say-mat
float(iv) (tv)	hi pahi-tha?	loa ka-loa	lòy(T) -
flour	còŋ	pèan	champròt
flow	fò	fò	hiiw
flower	kao	kao	kaaw
fly(v)	pò	pò	phar
fly(n)	rùy	rùy	rùuy
fog	katap	-	phyàp
follow	pèak-?a	pèak-?a	pàk
food	kana?-cea?	?ana?-pəŋ	khriāŋ-caa?
foot	càŋ	càŋ	cùŋ
forehead	nean̄	nian̄	-
forest	krèp-chu?	krèp	krèp/phnɔcm
forget	wèt-?a	wèt	thwìt
four	pɔn	pɔn	pan
free of	plèah	plèah	liik(T)
from	nèan̄	nèan̄/nù	caak(T)
frozen, congealed	kala?	dac-?anjəh	kriin̄
fruit	sɔt-chu?	sɔt-chu?	chac-chuu?
full(sated)	phoa	phoa	phay
full(cup)	pqñ	pqñ	pinq
further	nem	plɔn	?iik(T)
game	poa-waq	kan-wàn	-
gentle	yèn-sanaj	khah-?aku?	suphaap(T)
get	kè?/man	kè?/kwè?	kòo?
ghost	kalok	kalok	-
gibbon	wùt-?ə	wùc-?ə	-
gift	lɔk-chaŋ	kròp-ka	khɔɔŋ-kul
give	ka	ka	kul
give birth (animals)	baŋ-kamot chan̄	baŋ-kon -	kæt kuan
go	?a	?a	?ar
goat	habε?	habε?	pε?
god	cac	kyac	lùuŋ-phrà?
gold	thò	thò	tòŋ(T)
good	khah	khah	hnap
good at	le-mòŋ	kòŋ	du?
goose	?ahan	han	haan
gourd	lè	lè	lul
granary	rèŋ-sa?	haŋ-sa?	yùŋ-chroo?
grandchild	kon-cao	cao	caw
grand-daughter	cao-prèa	cao-prèa	caw-phrè?-phràw
grandfather	panok	?anok/?itɔh	pəəŋ
grandmother	mi?nak	?anok/?itɔh	yɔɔŋ

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
grandson	cao-kraoh	cao-kraoh	caw-tus-truus
grass	choa	chua	mpàt
grave	hanae-tap-nih	katan-tap- fèa?	mruñ
great-gd- daughter	kon-cae?	cac-prèa	caw-cah
great-gd- father	paneak	?anèak	peen-tùat
great-gd- mother	paneak	?ineak	yɔɔŋ-tùat
great- grandson	kon-cae?	cac-kraoh	caw-cah
gt-gt-gd- daughter	kon-ceak	ciak	caw-cah-ràh
gt-gt-gd- father	panak	?anàk	-
gt-gt-gd- mother	panak	?inàk	-
gt-gt-gd-son	kon-ceak	ciak	caw-cah-ràh
green	sac-ŋeak	khiaw(T)	sii-ŋcoh
guard(v)	mèaŋ	mèaŋ	khwàal
gun	sanat	sanat	kèmat
hair	suk	sok	chɔɔk
half	kawak	?awak	kèŋ(T)
hall	rèŋ	ron(T?)	ròon(T)
hand	toa	toa	tèy
handle(n)	to	to	tar
hang	takòa	kwak	khyual
happy	mip ~ mìp	mòŋ-mìp	-
hard	paŋəh	?aŋəh	kriiŋ
hare	hatae	hatae	tənsaay
harvest(v)	ròt-sa?	ròt-sa?	hràc
hat	hamok	hamok	mùak(T)
hate(v)	duh	duh	càŋ(T)
have, exist	nùm-mòŋ	nùm	nɔɔm
he	dəh/ŋéah	dəh/ŋiah	jìn
head	dap	dap	kèdəp
hear	moŋ	məŋ	khmèŋ
heart, mind	cat	cat	nùm
hearth	phao	phao	ŋhur kèmat
heat(v)	hatao	katao	-
heavy	sàŋ	sàŋ	khchèŋ
help	phàn	chùa	cùay(T)
here	?ano?	thì-no?	bɔɔn ?ɔɔ?
high	hlèŋ	hlèŋ	chlooŋ
hit(fist) (rap)	tak-cuk hadak	tak	khnam tùp

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
hold	ròp	ròp	təŋ
hole	pathoŋ	phrəŋ	chrūŋ
(cavity)			
(perfor- ation)	pathoŋ	thoŋ	chrūŋ
honey	dac-sae	dac-sae	daak-saay
hook(v)	hmac	hamac	chwàk
horn(animal)	krèaŋ	krèaŋ	thràŋ
horse	chəh	hyəh	chəh
hot	katao	katao	kətaw
(spicy)	ròn	ròn	ŋəm(water)
hour	nadi	mòn(T)	chmoon(T)
house	hae?	hae?	hi?
(clf.)	mèa?	cəŋ	laŋ(T)
how	pèŋ-la-ra	hala	yaŋ-haan
how, why	mo?-la	pa?-hala	pənaan
how many	maci?	maci?	ci?
how much	mòa-ci?-la	mòa-ci?	tàw-mò?
human	nìh	nìh	məníh
hunch-backed	non-kun	kun	kəchin-ko?
hundred	klɔm	klɔm	cook
hungry	pyè	kyè	heew(T)
hunt	klàe/pɔn	klàe/pɔn	lòom
husband	hayaŋ-kraoh	kraoh	màaŋ
hut	hae?-tae	hae?-cao-thì	hnam
I	?oa	?ua	wèy
if	yò-ra?	yò	tàa(T)
in	padoa/hadoa	?adoa	nèe
in order to	?akhwak-ke?	paməc	phia(T)
in process of	-	khèw	kəmlaŋ(T)
inhale	yèm	yèm	jùm
insert	chɔ?-cuk	cuc	cuh-cuh
insult	ràn-càŋ	hyam	cèεŋ(T)
intend to	ŋèa	khìc-ca?(T)	kit-na?(T)
iron	pasoa	pasoa	phchèy
island	kɔ?	kɔ?	kɔ?(T?)
it	dəh	dəh	-
itch(n)	hanok	hnok	chnɔɔk
ivory	krèaŋ-coŋ	krèaŋ-cəŋ	phlùk
jackfruit	panɔh	panɔh	-
just now	nù-klaŋ-nɔ?	nù-klaŋ-nɔ?	-
kapok	hana-kroc	hlon	mur
keep	ca?	ca?-lò	pas-?əl
Khmer	khamu?	hamen	khmeer
kill	hacat	hacat	kəcət
king	?ekarat	?ekarat	luan(T)
kiss	chəŋ	chəŋ	chooŋ

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
knee	tù	baŋ	kəbɔŋ
knife	bun	bun	buun
(small)			
(large)	parèa?	parèa?	-
knock down	patòm-phyih	pa? tòm	thuas
knot	teak-pakhak- la-cèk	pom	còok tàk
know	təm	təm	chriŋ
(famil.with)	təm	təm	sədəm
lack	pət	pət	khaat(T)
lake	kama	kama	sa?(T)
language	?arè	?arè/phèasa(T)	phsaa(T)
Lao	lao	lèa	-
large	hnok	hnok	atoo
laugh	kràn	kràn	chkhrùŋ
lazy	kanup	panuh	ncìil
lead(v)	habah/kanon	pha-na(T?)	pàa(T)
leaf	kanah	kanah	hlaa?
leech	klɔn	?anao?-ŋèa?	-
(land)			
(water)	pakot	?akot	chlèəŋ
left(side)	pae	pae	chwii?
leg	càŋ	càŋ	yɔk
length	halòn	klèŋ/klin	-
level	kato	?ato	-
lie down	halae	təc	puŋ
life	ròp-cɔp	lèm-yèm	-
lift	habap-patan	pak	chlèk/yùk(T)
light(v)	càŋ	càŋ	cɔŋ
light(wt)	sa	sa	khyaal
light(n)	kamah	kamot-kamah	-
lightning	chep-pale	che-pale	màt-chlèw
listen	kalaŋ	kalaŋ	təmò?
liver	-	krèh	khrih
located	nùm-mòŋ	mòŋ	tòŋ
long(time)	ma-kalò?	lò?	lò?
(space)	klɔŋ	klèŋ/klin	khliiŋ
look at	ròŋ	ròŋ	mòŋ(T)
lose, disappear	kle?	kle?	chip
louse	coa	coa	cay
love(v)	dəh-cat	təh-cat/chan	trih
male	ma?/pò?	ma?	hmak
(animal)			
(human)	kraoh	kraoh	truus
mango	krèk	krèk	trook
market	phya	hya	təlaat(T)
mat	hakò	hakò	ŋhaar

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
medicine	ha?uy	kèa?-?uy	ŋuuuy
meet	chè	chè/hapèa?	-
middle	?atò	?atò	pəcit
midnight	hatɔm-klù?	?atò-hatɔm	pətam
milk	dac-tɔh	dac-tɔh	daak-tɔh
miserly	ha?et/sa?et	ha?et/hapi?	tam?iat
mold(v)	klon-pèm	pàn-rùp(T)	-
money	sɔn	sɔn	-
monkey	nae	nae	khnuuy
moon	hatao	hatao	ntuu?
more than	nèaŋ	nù	kwaa(T)
morning	yèah	nù-kayìah	naŋ-reh
mosquito	hamic	hamic	muus
mosquito net	kanao	mèŋ(T)	-
mother	yae/mi?	mè/mi?	mèε?
mother-in-law	kham-sae	kam-sae	?uŋ-nciir
mountain	tè	tè	kur
mouth	pañ	pañ	paan
move(fidget)	hapat	-	-
move over	pachuy	hayae	tiin
much	ma-halàŋ	ma-halàŋ/klàŋ	khlèŋ
mushroom	patch	?atoh	pətih
must	təh	tèah	tɔŋ(T)
name	camò?	cèamù?	cìi(T)
narrow	dɔn	khèp(T)	kèep(T)
near	krop	krop	jnen
neck	kɔ?	kɔ?	kɔɔ?
needle	kanɔŋ	?anəŋ	ŋcùl
nephew/niece	mèn	maj	khmuun
nephew	mèn-kraoh	maj-nìh-kraoh	khmuun-tus-truus
nest	hapoa	hapua	mpuuy
new	kamæ?	kamæ?	təmii?
niece	mèn-prèa	maj-nìh-prèa	khmuun-phrè?-phraw
night	hatɔm	hatɔm	pətam
nine	hacic	hacic	ŋciit
no	ha?eh	mah-mah(empty)	hìn?
noon	taŋoa	?atò-nua	pəcit-təhay
north	hamok	saləŋ-kyä	-
nose	muh	muh	moh
not	?uŋ	hu?	ku?
now	hamuh	hamuh-no?	?ɛɛ-no?
occurrence	wèa	wèa	tɔŋ
ocean	bi-maha-mep	bi-ban-hamac	-
odor	hamao	hamao	klin(T)
oil	klɔŋ	klɔŋ	kəlij
old(thing)	karem	karem	dəəm(T)

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
(person)	pyù?	kyù?	phcuu?
old lady	maki?-pyù?	maki?-kyù?	-
older sibling	kao/boa	?akò?	pɔɔŋ
on	?atao	?atao	bon(T)
on top of	?atao	?anot	ntuul
one	mòa	mùa	mùay
oneself	hma?-?oa	?əŋ	?een(T)
only	neañ-kwεh	cha?-kòh	tàw-?ɔɔ?
open	pak	pak	pɔk
opposed	?uŋ-tèah	thèañ-kanèañ	kiit-kan
other	panoh	panɔh	chtèer
outside	paŋeah	maŋeah	nɔɔk(T)
owl	hacem-tì?-tò?	hacem-kalok	kəw
ox	klèa	klèa	jnchooŋ
packet	cak	kwi	khiiw
page	kanah	-	nàa-nsii(T)
paint(v)	lòk	lòk	tàa(T)
pair	macum	khù(T)	kùu(T)
papaya	kɔ?-ci	kuci	pəkɔɔ
parrot	makhe	nok-kèaw	phchaan
pay(bill)	lèa-sɔn	lèa	cày(T)
(debt)	kalah-tha?	som-ma?-na-kùŋ	-
peace	bah-sah	hu?-mua-nan	-
peacock	parac	?arac-thɔ	kaw-nook
peck(v)	bak	bak	cəbɔk
pen(write)	hneh	neh	pəkaa(T)
pencil	khε-dan	tan-hakoh	jnchɔɔ(T)
penis	-	-	pədəy
pepper(chili)	parac	?arac	pəkeew
(black)	parac-hamah	?arac-hamaeh	phrik-thay(T)
person	nìh	nìh/nìah	məníh
(clf.)	ra	nìah	jnah
pick, dig	khae-patet	hadae	cəkhle?
out			
piece	kala?	kariak	mual
pig	kloc	klæc	khliic
pigeon	harap	harap	philaap(T)
pillar	tan-hae?	kayan	jnčùŋ
pineapple	?ahnat	hanat	champròt(T)
pipe(tobacco)	buk-tò	dqñ-bak	kloɔŋ(T)
place	hanae	hanae	bɔɔn(T)
plain(n)	wèa	wèa	tìi-ràap(T)
plane(v)	hapak-halic	kak	say(T)
plant(v)	ta	ta	təl
play(v)	waq	wàn	wìŋ
plow(v)	thoa	thoa	thay(T?)

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
(n)	lè?-thoa	thoa	khoɔŋ-thay(T)
pod, ear	hakom	hakɔŋ	?uuk
poison	cì?	cì?	pìt(T)
poor	wàt-tàk	tàk	cɔn(T)
porcupine	kama?-halèak	keak-keak	lam-nian
port, dock	hneh-baŋ	hneh-baŋ-tè?	tàa(T)
potato	man-?alu	wùn-halèa	faay-chuu?
powdered, fine	dat	dat/hlac	lə?iat(T)
prepare	prao?-preaŋ	pru?-prian-lò	triam(T)
pretty, good	khah	khah	hnap
prevaricate	lèm-cea?	lèm-cea?/pali	mplap
pull(lead)	hacèak	hacèak	dīŋ(T)
(drag)	-	pao	làak(T)
pure	cèt-cèt	cèt-cèt/ kwεh-kwεh	bɔrisut(T)
push	harəh	harəh	phlak(T)
put away	ca?	ca?	pas
put in	cuk	cuc	?ɔɔk
put on	pàk	pàk	-
(pants)			
(shirt)	katak	katak/cuc	?ɔɔk
question	ha	ha	kəlaw
particle			
raft	phaŋ	phaŋ	rìa-pɛ̄e(T)
rain(n,v)	prøa	prøa	phrøy
rainbow	kamean-səŋ-dac	mèan-da	mɔŋ-kəyaak
raise(pigs)	kawì-la	lian(T)	cim
rake(v)	haboa	krèah	khraat
(n)	?ahɛ	harèah	khraat
rat	næ?	næ?	khnii?
red	haket/dae	taket	phleej
redeem	nèk	ràn-?amde?	-
remember	kè?-hatae?	hatɛm-kè?	cam(T?)
repair	pale	kè	teen
resin	hnam	yaŋ(T)	càr
return	kaleaŋ	kalian	cəw
revolve	hadic	?akèt	mun-rɔɔp(T)
rib	cùt	cuc-khrøŋ	chlùut-ŋkəy
rice	pəŋ	pəŋ	poon
(cooked)			
(husked)	hao?	hao?	ŋkɔɔ
(unhusked)	sa?	sa?	chroo?
(glutinous)	palqŋ	palqŋ	poɔŋ-hæep
ricefarm(v)	klon-ŋèa?	klon-ŋèa?	paa?-chrəe
ricefield	ŋèa?/wèa	ŋèa?	chrəe
(wet)	-	klo?	khmaa?
(dry)			

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
ride(v)	dak	dak	ŋcih
right(side)	pəŋ	pəŋ	sətoom
ring(n)	kɔ?-cɪŋ	?aciŋ	chac-phnian
ripe	duh	duh	lə?uus
rise	kata-tan	kata	təər
river	krəŋ	-	-
(small)			
(large)	bi	bi	mənam(T)
road	kləŋ	kləŋ	trəw
roast(v)	parəŋ	karəŋ	praan/sətùur
roof(v)	kamde	kamde	kəmur
room	hanae-mòŋ	hòŋ	həɔŋ(T)
root	rèh	rèh	rìh
rotten	?ut/?ɔh	?oc/pasa?	ch?uut
(stale)			
(putrid)	?uy/lèm-?a	?uy	ch?uy
round	hadɔm	hadɔm	klɔm(T)
row(v)	tùn	tùn	pàay(T)
rub	klot	taoh/cèt	chmít
run	krip	krip	kəthriap
run into	cèŋ	cè-niāh-kɔ?	cèl
salt	dəŋ	dəŋ	pə?ur
salted	hakɔh	dəŋ	khəm(T)
salty	dəŋ	dəŋ	khəm(T)
salute(v)	ka-salam	?aŋù	rəŋuar
same	tɔp	tɔp-niāh-kɔ?	kì-i-cəkɔ?
sand	hatæ	hatæ	ntìl
sapodilla	sot-lamut	?amuc	ləmut(T?)
sarong	klòc	klèc	trooŋ
saw(wood)	hatac	hatac	lìay(T)
say	ham	ham	tii
scold	kahèk	?ahèk	cèŋ(T)
scratch	khwat	hmàt	cɔk-cɔk
(itch)			
(animal)	chac	chac	cɔk-cɔk
season	?akhon	?akhəŋ/mèk	rìduu(T)
section	?arèan/kachan	?arèan	suan(T)
see(watch)	pè	pè	khmay
(look at)	ròn	ròn	-
(meet)	chè	chè	-
seed	mèa?	mèa?	khràp
sell	sa?	sa?	khyoo?
send	paləŋ	paləŋ	ntɔŋ
servant	kon-ròa	nìh-cia?-ka	mənih-?uar
set(eggs)	katop	?atop	mpuk-chaan
set up	patoh	tàŋ(T)	tan(T)
seven	hapɔh	hapɔh	mpɔh

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
sew	còŋ	cèŋ	chiŋ
shade	hanoŋ	hanəŋ	ròm(T)
shallow	da	dam	kədaal
sharp	keak	kiak	lòɔp
sheep	sə	kaləŋ	keh
shirt	pala?-hyat	pala?	phɔk-təy
shoot(v)	pɔn-cuk	pɔn	pap
short	klè?	klè?	khlɛε?
should	təh-pa?	təh	khuan(T)
shoulder	tèaŋ-kanah	tèaŋ-nah	phnah
shout(v)	hakut-cuk	?ajəŋ	hɔɔk(T)
show(v)	habah	waj-ka-pè	?uat(T)
shrimp-paste	hardk	hardk	muy
sibling (older)	kao/boa	kao/?akò?	pɔɔŋ
(younger)	tè?	tè?	ncii?
sick	mòŋ	mèŋ	cèy
sickle	nòt	nòt	kewian
side	hapəŋ	kapac	khaŋ(T)
silent	het-sèa?	hac	ŋìap(T)
silk	sac	sɔc	phrɛε/may(T)
silver	sɔn	sɔn	prak
similar	haməŋ	tɔp	kìč(T)
sing	hayèh-mòŋ	kayih	-
sink	plak-ciḥ	?anəm-ciḥ	cɔm(T)
sip	cep	cep	cip
sister (older)	boa-hnok	boa-wùc	lùu?-phrè?-phràw
(younger)	tè?-prèa/ tè?-wùt	tè?-wùc	ncii?-phrè?- phràw
sit	hacò?	kacò?	tòŋ
six	karao	?arao	traw
skillet	hamae-tè	?athèa?	kətà?(T?)
skin	hnam	hnam	hnaam
sky	takah	?akah	ŋkaas
slap	hapèah	hapèah	tɔp
slave	doc	dəc	kədah
sleep	toc-mòŋ	təc-hləŋ	puŋ-ŋkuy
slender	sàe	sàe	chràay
slow, late	sèŋ	chèa	càa(T)
small	dot	dot/duat	niic
smell	chəŋ/yèm	chəŋ/yèm	nat/dɔm(T)
smoke(v) (n)	habet/səŋ	habet/dəŋ	duut(T)
snail	yèak	yìak	yak
snake	khayù?	-	-
sneak	sùŋ	sùm	chròom
	klèm-?a	kwac-hac-hac	?ar-ntàm

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
some	nì?-nì?	kam/ban-nìh	cèən
somewhat	nì?-nì?	kam/nì?	kəna?-kəniit
son	kon-kraoh	kon-kraoh	kuan-tus-truus
son-in-law	haman	haman	khmaan
song	kwéak	kwéak	phlèen(T)
soon	?uŋ-lò?-ti?	hu?-chèa	?ii-ku?-lò?
sound	pasaj	?asaj	càs/pəchaan
sour	phyah	hyah	pəcah
south	palat	hamo-kyä	-
sow(v)	krät	krät	kəchaac
speak	ham	ham	pùut(T)
spear	nùh	nùh	hɔɔk(T)
spider	cì-phaj	pì-phaj	nùun-nàaŋ
spirit	kalok	kalok	ntɔɔk
spit(v)	chɔh	chɔh	kəcɔh
split	pac-tho?	pac-tho?	pah/təpaak
spring(water)	dac-takò	dac-làk	daak-puh
squeeze	pòt-cuk	pɔt-cuk	cəkiam
stab	hapak-cuk	hapak	ŋkàm
stag, hart	kræe	kræe	təbuŋ
stage, era	thɔp	chàn(T)	càn(T)
stand(v)	hatao	hatao	yiin(T)
star	hnaj	hnaj	pəkaay
start	ca?	ca?	-
steal	klot	klot	lɔɔs
steam(v)	sèŋ	-	-
step(v)	kèm	kèm	wàas
stew(v)	tom-fa?	dun	buh-hniar
stick, club	lè?	lè?	may-riaw(T)
stir	haku	haku	khɔn(T)
stir up	cò?/hadɔh	cho?	?ɔɔk
stomach	pèŋ	pèŋ	pùŋ
stone	mɔ?	mɔ?	hmɔɔ
stone jar	hari	hari	khnɔn
stop(iv) (tv)	tè?	tè?	yùt(T)
storm	patè?	-	-
story	kapàt-ca	?apèt-ca	khyaal
straight	pɔm	rìan(T)	rìan(T)
strap, belt	thò	thò	tiaw
straw	cèk-hnam	cèk-hnam	khem-khat(T)
strength	chak	chak	chɔk-chroo?
string	thòt/sahòt	thòt	kəmlaj(T)
strong	cèk	cèk	còok
stuck	thòt	?anjàh-thòt	kheŋ-reεŋ(T)
student	pàn/nèak	pàn/nèak	dian
study	kaphèa	kwah-phèa	nak-riān(T)
	pòh-lòc	haton	rìan(T)

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
suck, smoke	habet/sòt	habet/söt	duut(T)
sugar	hakrèa	hakrèa	daak-taan(T)
sugarcane	bao	bao	tam-baw
sugarpalm	nɔm-ta	nɔm-ta	taan(T)
sun	ŋoa	ŋua	təhay
swallow(v)	ŋít	ŋít	ŋùuc
sweep	kwoh	kwoh	kraas
sweet	dat	dat	tədaac
swell(v)	kùh	kùh	kùus
swim	boŋ	bəŋ	biŋ
sword	séaŋ	séaŋ	buun-taaw
table	khəŋ	khəŋ	to?(T)
tail	hata?	hata?	pətaa?
take	ket	ket	ciat
take leave	cao-ra?	?a-kla-ra?	laa-?əey(T)
take off	patet-tha?	hatac-tha?	thoöt-tit
tame	yèn-mòŋ	hatih	chial
tasty	ròh	ròh	mɔp
tear(v)	hacac	hacac/sac	cheec(T)
tell	ham-habah	ham	kəchəo
ten	cöh	cöh	cas
ten-thousand	lak	lak	mìin(T)
tender, soft	dan	dan-dot	lə?un
Thailand	dəŋ-sem	dəŋ-sem	-
thank	taŋ-kùn	wàŋ	dii(T)
that(adj) (pron)	kòh	kòh	te?
there(loc) (yonder)	?ikòh	?ikòh	kòh
they	?ate?	thì-kòh	bacon-te?
thick	tə?	te?	te?
thief	dəh-to?/nèah	dəh/nìah	jìn
thigh	tam	tam	sətəm
thin	palot	klot	khmòoy(T)
thing	tì	tì	tìl
think	krae	krae	triiw
thirsty	kròp/kapot	kròp	khɔŋ(T)
thirty	chòp/theaŋ	hyɔp/khic(T)	kit(T)
this(adj) (pron)	thaŋ	thaŋ	heew-daak
thorn	pae?-coh	pae?-coh	pii?-suas
thread	no?	no?	?ɔɔ?
three	?inɔ?/?inɔ?	?inɔ?	?ɔɔ?
thresh	haléa?	haléa?	chlàa?
throat	cèk	cèk	sen(T)
throw	pae?	pae?	pii?
throw away	pùt	pùc	sii(T)
	kɔ?	hadon-kɔ?	chrung-khwii
	klɔh-tha?	klɔh	kəwaan(T)
	klɔh-tha?	klɔh/tha?	bɔh

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
thunder	hakrè-haròn	hakè-harèn	kèr-kèər
tie(v)	tèak-ha?	tèak	tàk
tiger	-	-	mpeeñ
tile	krop	krop	krəbiəñ(T)
time	?akhon	?akhèn	wèlàa(T)
tired	doŋ	doŋ	lèkèh
together	mòa-ca?	mùa-ca?	pàk-sèkcc?
tomorrow	?ayèah	?ayìah	ŋùur
tongue	katèc	?atac	ntaak
too	kam	kam	cèər
too much	klàŋ-?a	klàŋ-?a-ji?	kèən-?ar
tooth	ŋèak	ŋìak	ŋìak
torch	kamot-that	kaban-phlèŋ	fay-faa(T)
trade	ku-san-cea?	hlε-ŋìah-ko?	tèpòk
(exchange)			
(sell)	ku-san-cea?	sa?-ràŋ	khyoo?-ràŋ
transplant	ta	ta	təl
trap(v)	pam	pam	tan
(n)	hapam	hanèak	-
tree	nɔm-chu?	nɔm-chu?	tam-chuu?
(clf.)	nɔm	nɔm	tam
trousers	paŋ-mae	kaŋ-kən(T)	kaŋ-keen(T)
true	dam	dam/dəh	?uar-?əey
(correct)			
(truthful)	tèah/kwəh	tèah/kwəh	kewəh-dəh
(really)	cèt	tèah-ra?	-
try hard	kla?-cat	mìc-kè?	phyəyaam(T)
tube	kardk-tùn	thò-dac	tòo(T)
turn	hatah-?a	liaw(T)	liaw(T)
twenty	ba-cöh	ba-cöh	baa-suas
two	ba	ba	baar
uncle	?anae	?anae	cəwaay
(Pa01Br)			
(PaYrBr)	?inae	?inae	maam
under	?ahmo	hamɔ	krɔɔm
understand	klah	cih-cat	sədím
until	tù	tè/cən(T)	con(T)
uproot	hacèak-patet	bot	puk
urinate	nɔm-tha?	nɔm/pɔt-sao	?aa-cruh
use	səŋ-coa/	cia?-ka	?uar
	plup-?asèŋ		
usually	?ulò-?ulò(often)	mòa-hne?	baan-tìi(T)
vegetable	hane-ke	hane-halàŋ	hlaa?-chuu?
very	ka-kwəh	klàŋ	khlèŋ/?oh
Vietnam	beat-nam	yuan(T)	yùan(T)
village	kwan	kwan	mùu-dooŋ(T)
voice	pasaj	?asaj	càs

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
vomit(v)	ha?ɔ?-tət	ha?ɔ?	taa?
walk	kwac	kwac	?ar(go)
wall	hateāŋ	hateāŋ	pəmāŋ
wane(moon)	feak	kiak	rɛ̌em(T)
war	nan	nan	kaan-rɔ̌p(T)
wash	krat	krat	lāŋ(T)
water	dac	dac	daak
wax	plae	plae	phluuy
way, kind	hakao	klāŋ	yaan(T)
we	poy	poy	wey
weave	tac	tac-tac	taaŋ
wedge(n)	chu?	halèm	səniit
weight	kayàŋ	lèm-yàŋ	khchèŋ
well	khah/mìp-mìp	mòŋ-mìp-ra?	pəlah
(healthy)			
well(water)	dac-palaŋ	dac-kalaŋ	nuuŋ-daak
west	?ahmo-ca	palat-kya	-
wet	dèk	dèk/diak	phrèm
what(pron)	mo?	?imu	chmò?
(interr)	mo?-la	?amù-rao	chmò?
when(conj)	la?	la?	mìa(T)
(interr)	calò?	chi-lò?	tàŋ-nèw
where, which	?ala-ra	thì-la	phnèw
(interr)	?ala-ra	mu-la	bɔ̌on-nèw
whet	chu	chu/pale?	chuur
which one	?i-ya-la	nìah-to?	?an-nèw
white	pù?	pù?	koǒk
who	yea?-ka-la	nìh-kòy	?aqah
why	mòa-tòh	pa?-hala	paa?-naan
wicked	pare?	pare?	khle?
wide	hloa	hloa	kwaan(T)
width	pyèt	hat-hloa	-
wife	hayan-prèa	prèa	phràw
will(mv)	ma?	ca?(T?)	na?
win	màn	hnèah	chnà?(T?)
wind(n)	ca	kya	khyaal
window	paj-hataŋ	hataŋ	nàa-taan(T)
wing	hneāŋ	hniaŋ	-
winnow	sèt	fat(T)	koom
wire	cèk-lòt	cèk-luat	sen-luat(T)
wish to	(mèah-) ñèah	mìc-kè?	bok
without	?aq	?aq	?et
woman	maki	nìh-prèa/ maki(old)	phràw-phràw
wood	chu?	chu?	chuu?
work(n)	kalon	kalon	ñàan(T)
(v)	klon-kalon	klon-kalon	paa?-ñàan(T)

<u>Eng.</u>	<u>BM</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>NK</u>
worm (maggot)	kayao?	kayao?	ŋcuu?
(earth)	pakot-tae?	krac-tae?	-
(intest)	parùn	krac	-
wound(n)	hara?	hara?	mraa?
wrap	kwì	kwì	khìiw
write	chu	chu	khian(T)
year	hnam	hnam	hnaam
yellow	sac-mic	si-liaŋ(T)	pəcuun
yes	yè?	yè?	mò?
yesterday	naŋŋane?	kanε?	?ahəy
yoke(n) (v)	lè?-tɔ-kamah	?ɛk	?ɛɛk(T)
you(polite)	cuk-na-mòa-co?	cùc-mùa-co?	tìam
(familiar)	nèah	niah	-
(insult)	pèh	pèh	pèh
younger sibling	bèa?	bèa?	-
	tè?	tè?	ŋcii?

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