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In an article in a recent issue of <u>Minzu Yuwen</u> ("A brief description of the Zauzou language spoken by the Nu nationality." 1985.4:63-78), Sun Hong-kai provides a brief characterization of Zauzou (autonym <u>zau 55 zou 33</u>; Mandarin <u>rou² ruo⁴</u>), one of the four languages described as being spoken by the Nu (=Nung) people, the other three being Trung, Anung <u>a 31 nung 55</u>, and Nusu <u>nu 35</u> su 35.

Certainly, it is Lolo-Burmese and, quite possibly, as Sun notes in passing (<u>ibid</u>., p. 63), it is Yi. The patterns of initial reflexes alone establish it as Lolo-Burmese. The correspondences between Proto-Lolo-Burmese (=PLB) stop initials and Zauzou stop initials are straightforward and relatively exceptionless: *s- prefixed stops, whether voiceless or voiced, unprefixed proto-voiced stops, and *m- prefixed voiceless stops became voiceless unaspirated stops in Zauzou; unprefixed proto-voiceless stops became voiceless aspirated stops in Zauzou. Given the considerable diversity of initials throughout Tibeto-Burmen, the regularity of these correspondences alone would establish Zauzou as Lolo-Burmese.

р <u>¦</u> в1 ======== *s-pa/ba	Zauzou	Sani =========	Ahi =========	Nasu =========
-s-pa/ba	р- 	р- 	р- 	ρ-
*ba	p-	p-<*1 b-<*2	p-<*1 b-<*2	b-
*m-pa	p-	p-<*1 b-<*2	p-<*1 b-<*2	b'-
*pa ===========	ph-	p'-	p'-	p'-

The tonal correspondences, although posing certain problems of analysis, nonetheless also establish the Lolo-Burmese character of Zauzou. First, Zauzou has a regular, unique reflex of PLB *3---a tone which does not occur outside of Lolo-Burmese:

*nuw ³	-na 35 -V	milk; breast
*pwang ³ *u ³ .	phon 35	open
	vu 35	egg
*s−lum ³	-1E 35 hot	warm
*k-la ³	lau 35	moon
*m-rwe ¹	Gon 35	snake

The correspondences for the other two open tones are not as exceptionless, but still the pattern is clear: PLB *1 overwhelmingly has a Zauzou 33 tonal reflex, while PLB *2 overwhelmingly has a 31 reflex. Other reflexes occur but only sporadically.

¹ The PLB reconstructions are mine, based on my own reworking of Matisoff's The Loloish Tonal Split Revisited (1972), Thurgood's "Lisu and Proto-Lolo-Burmese" (1977), roots from my own files and articles, Burling's (1967) Proto-Lolo-Burmese, and Bradley's (1979) Proto-Loloish.