THE VERB IN JEH

Dwight Gradin

1. Primary Verbs
1.1. Free Verbs
1.2. Dependent Verbs
1.3. Clusters of Primary Verbs
2. Auxiliary Verbs
3. Verb Modifiers
4. Descriptive Adverbials
5. Clitics

The verb in Jeh\(^1\) can be studied under several categories. It has a distinctive distribution usually occurring after the noun/pronoun subject.

1. Primary Verbs. Primary verbs form the nucleus of the verb phrase and carry the main action-load of the subject. All can be modified, intensified or limited by auxiliary verbs, pre-verbs, and post-verbs.

1.1. Free Verbs. Verbs can occur apart from all other verbs and verb modifiers. They include transitive, intransitive, and stative verbs.

1.1.1. Transitive Verbs. Various types of transitive verbs have been found, primarily the following:

1.1.1.1. Objective Transitive Verbs. Some verbs indicate simple transitive actions, the subject performing an action on the object.

- kāl 'long
- pai pol
- pīt blī
- bā mau
- chou tadrong
  
  'to fell a tree'
  'to cook rice'
  'to plant corn'
  'to back-carry paddy'
  'to heed a matter'
A few objective transitive verbs can be affixed to indicate that the state of the object has been altered.

Au pak 'long, 'long jeng tapak.
I split-apart the wood, (so) the wood becomes split.

A Ngot klah mahēk, mahek jeng taklah.
Ngot separates the stuff, (so) stuff becomes separated.

Y Ria pāi ayoh, ayoh jeng tapai.
Ria rips the shirt, (so) the shirt becomes ripped.

1.1.1.2. Transitive Stative Verbs. Certain verbs are in a sense stative in nature because they do not perform an action on the object but rather indicate that something about the subject is focused on the object. This category of transitive verbs is designated by means of ka (as regards, toward, about), which follows the verb.

A Thùng bāt ka kon. Thung misses (his) child.
Au ku ka mi. I wait for you.
Au deikāl ka mi. I do not need you.
Ēn sidāk ka dak. He chokes on water.
Au 'lō (ka) ēn. I know him.
Au wā (ka) se. I want a car.
Au kanāl (ka) ēn. I recognize him.

1.1.1.3. Reflexive Transitive Verbs. The verbs in the reflexive transitive class indicate that the action is directed back on the subject. The subject rather than the object is the bearer or recipient of the action. The object is in no way altered or acted upon but is more the place at which the action is performed.

A Yon chot srōng. Yon pierced (himself on a) bamboo-spike.
Ēn hiet chāng. He stuck (himself with a) knife.
Au hūm dak. I bathe (myself in) water.
Jih bēt dāk. Boar stabbed (himself on) spear-trap.
Kanei bih manih. Rat snapped (himself in) snap-trap.
Ēn taklih talōng. He fell (into) a hole.
The following verbs of possession are included with reflexive verbs in that the subject is the possessor of the object.

'Long čhák kanām. The tree possesses a spirit.
A Bieng ei lien. Bien has money.

1.1.1.4. Indirective Transitive Verbs. There are two categories of indirect objects in Jeh, divided on the basis of word order. In one the object is general (e.g., Get one for me); in the other the object is specific (e.g., Get mine for me. cf. 1.2.3.).

Au tēk dōh mi chāng. I sell you a knife.
Au tēk dōh chāng mi. I'll sell your knife for you.
Mi čhōk dōh au ayoh. You get me a shirt.
Mi čhōk dōh ayoh au. You get for (me) my shirt.
Ēn pī dōh au nhīàh. He is building me a house.
Ēn pī dōh nhīàh au. He is building for (me) my house.

1.1.2. Intransitive Verbs. Intransitive verbs are not divisible into categories. The majority of intransitive verbs are verbs of vocal utterance, travel, and whole-body actions.

Ēn nham. 'He cries.' Ėn tatayh. 'He speaks.'
Ēn ka'ap. 'He yawns.' Chou kual. 'Dog barks.'
Ēn kadàu. 'He runs.' Ėn kadrūh. 'He dives.'
Ēn trūh. 'He arrives.' Ėn chieu. 'He goes.'
Ēn kāt. 'He sleeps.' Ėn tapēng. 'He leaps.'
Ēn dāng. 'He stands.' Chīm dop. 'Bird lands.'
Wen talang. 'The mirror Chīm taklih. 'The bird fell.' shattered.'

1.1.3. Stative Verbs. Stative verbs can be broken down into three categories.

1.1.3.1. Simple Stative Verbs. The simple stative verbs act grammatically in much the same manner as the intransitive verbs, but differ semantically. They, with the other statives, make up this separate class. Impersonal statives referring to weather are included in this class.

Ēn mangai padrūng. He is a rich man. (He man rich)
Ēn mangai hū. He is a polite man. (He man polite)
Play bloh ēm. The fruit is already ripe.
Ngay kì tū.  Today (it's) sunny.
Ngay sāng rateh.  Yesterday (was) cold.
Tēḥ nā.  The meat is tasty.
'Long klāng.  The log is heavy.
Nhīā tīh.  The house is big.
Chāng dūl.  The knife is dull.
Sēt rēng.  The grass is thick.

1.1.3.2. Stative Verbs with Verb Object.  Distinct from simple stative verbs is a class that has transitive and intransitive verb objects.  A paraphrase is sometimes, but not always, possible, which makes the stative verb a modifier of another verb.  The former, however, is the preferred construction.

Ēn alāh ka pī mahēk.  pī alāh
He (is) lazy about doing work.  do lazy
Ēn hāk ka cha wēt.  None.
He (is) enthusiastic about eating peppers.
Ēn dei tawaā ka bā  bā dei tawaā
'long.
He (is) not not-strong about back-carrying not not-strong back-carrying wood.
Ēn bōḥ mahōt ka hūt  None.
'ya.
He (is) already habitual in smoking tobbacco.
Ēn phān ka chieu reng mahēk.  None.
He (is) knowledgeably-interested in going searching for things.
Hay dei tra ka chье.  chье dei tra
We not advantageous as-regards going.
(It's not advantageous for us to go.)
Ēn ragāy ka tatayah.  tatayah ragāy
He (is) fluent in speaking.  speak fluently

1.1.3.3. Stative Verbs with Noun Object.  Another class of stative verbs is similar to the transitive stative verbs (1.1.1.2.) in that
both classes occur in similar constructions. However, the object of the verb in this stative verb class is an inherent part of the subject. Also, a paraphrase is possible whereby the noun object may become the subject of the verb, though the first is more natural.

En chák ka klem. Klem ēn chák.
He (is) courageous of liver Liver his courageous. (His (heart).
heart is courageous.)
En raă ka tamūn. Tamūn ēn raă.
He (is) greedy of mouth. Mouth his greedy.
En dră ka si'nëk. Si'nëk ēn bloh dră.
He (is) old of body. Body his already old.
Jōng chă ka bbah. Bbah ēn chă.
The basket (is) wide of mouth. Mouth its wide.
En tală ka kataih. Kataih ēn tală.
He (is) out-of-joint of hip. Hip his went-out.
Pa imou rada kadang. Dang imou rada.
At here spacious of place. Place this spacious.

1.2. Dependent Verbs. Some verbs cannot occur independently in the verb position. They are dependent upon the presence of other verbs or verb modifiers.

1.2.1. Dependent Transitive Verbs. A few transitive verbs in Jeh are of such a specific nature that they are dependent upon a previous or subsequent action to make the clause grammatical. Two categories of these have been discovered.

The first verb in the following examples is a free verb. The second verb (double underline) is dependent upon it. In resultative constructions (with jeng), the dependent verb becomes affixed, indicating what is the state of the object.

dēk plai buâm; buâm jeng taplai
to press mash a potato; a potato becomes mashed
kông lai 'neh; 'neh jēng talai
to hammer-break-up dirt; the dirt becomes broken-up.
chēk haă tamūn; tamūn jēng tahaă
to pry force-open the mouth; the mouth becomes forced-open.
tēk plai mahēk; mahēk jēng taplai
sell export things; things become exported.

The dependent verb (double underline) in the following examples must be used in conjunction with a free verb. In this category no affixed, state-of-the-object verb form is possible.

ˈpuaːm chaː ˈban
to-put-into-mouth-with-fingers eat bread.

ɡāŋ gā lɔi tru̯ang
to-get-in-the-way block-off the-road.

wai choɔ mahēk
to-redeem come-back stuff.

pī ràngap lɔi ên
do be-hard-on detriment him.

kaˈnâl rasāŋg ploh
close slam door.

chù ratat ūng
set slam-down pot.

chìeu luat ǎi mât
go pass-between detriment face. (pass between two people talking)

chù nheng mahēk
set save stuff.

kā kāwaĩ ên
scratch claw-at him.

1.2.2. Dependent Intransitive Verbs. In the following examples, the first verb is a free verb, and the second (double underline) is dependent upon it.
Chôl buan klaâ pa tùm.
The pig lies mud-clinging-to-it in the mud-hole.

En ka`on sâl.
He asks persistently.

'Long taklih drâp pa ka'neh.
The wood falls ramming into ground.

Se pâl tapâl huât pa rông nhiah.
The airplane is flying close over roof house.

1.2.3. Dependent Verbs Indicating Indirect Object. Some verbs in Jeh are used exclusively in clause with indirect objects, stated or implied. These verbs therefore never occur apart from doh (to, for, allow, give), which indicates the indirect object.

\[ \text{doh ĭn la bá} \]
\[ \text{let him to back-carry.} \]

\[ \text{hmâ doh en la bá} \]
\[ \text{place-stuff-on-back for (allow) him to back-carry.} \]

\[ \text{hmû doh kon la bû} \]
\[ \text{place-mouth-at-breast for (allow) baby to suckle.} \]

\[ \text{lă doh en chieû} \]
\[ \text{let for (allow) him go. (allowed him to go)} \]

Following are verbs which are used primarily in clauses with indirect objects. These verbs are more restricted than the examples in 1.1.1.3. in that they are found in only one order. They are less restricted than those above in that they can occur independent of doh (to, for) though they seldom do.

\[ \text{rapah doh au lien} \]
\[ \text{pay to me money} \]
\[ \text{tawah doh bal hay mahêk} \]
\[ \text{distribute to us stuff} \]
\[ \text{bem doh kon pol} \]
\[ \text{chew-up-feed to baby rice} \]
\[ \text{pajao doh ĭn mahêk} \]
\[ \text{entrust to him stuff} \]

1.2.4. Dependent Negative Verbs. Several verbs in Jeh, though inherently negative, are always found in conjunction with deî (not). Most of these are stative verbs.

\[ \text{En deî rük.} \]
\[ \text{He is weak.} \]

\[ \text{He not not-strong.} \]

\[ \text{En deî 'nhoh.} \]
\[ \text{He doesn't want to.} \]

\[ \text{He not not-want.} \]
En dei 'lām.
He not not-able.

Stative-Negatives with Noun Object:
En dei sām ka hay.
He (is) dis-disrespectful toward us.

En dei yaō ka hay.
He (is) not not-kind (malicious) toward us.

Au dei hiep ka 'wān.
I not not-dare (bashful) toward them.

Stative-Negatives with Verb Object:
Au dei 'nap ka pī mahēk.
I un-unable (prevented) to do things.

Au dei hiel ka 'way.
I not not-dare to stay.

Hay dei trō ka pī tadrong i.
We im-improper to do matter that.

1.3. Clusters of Primary Verbs. Primary verbs are found in various syntactic relationships, including the following:

1.3.1. Paired Verb-Synonyms. Two primary verbs which are nearly identical in meaning may be used together to add emphasis or a certain vividness to the utterance.

En pī kōng au.
He hit beat me.

En wây chōk chāng.
He reach-out-to-get take knife.

En rāk kei kapieu.
He guard look-after buffalo.

En chōng cha.
He eat-rice eat-meat.

En oih kāt pa yong.
He lie lie-down on bed.

'Long i eī chāk kanām. Tree that has productive-of spirit.

En jiī ruā.
He sick hurt.

Au sasāl 'yū.
I terrified afraid.

En brayh liem.
He handsome pretty.

En tih bek.
He big fat.

En padrūng takung. He rich wealthy.

En tanu̍h sa. He poor destitute.

1.3.2. Quadrupled Verb-Synonyms. Two verb-couples occurring together make a four-word stereotyped phrase that is highly expressive and often used in incantations. The second verb of the first
couplet and the first verb of the second couplet rhyme. One member of either couplet may be a coined word (not necessarily a reproduction of a true word), coined to fit the phrase. These idiomatic expressions are composed mainly of intransitive or stative verbs. Examples of transitive and intransitive four-word expressions (coined words are underlined):

En patou patoh tanoh He instructs.
wal.
He teach Ø relate
say
En rāk rīng trīng jäng He guards and protects us.
hay.
He guard Ø shield block
us
Phū tual tāk lāk beng May he contract sickness.
ën.
May go-across cling Ø
shoulder-carry he
Phū kachiet drom om May his female family
pām ħn.
members die pregnant.
May die die-pregnant
spoil die-pregnant
of-him

Examples of stative four-word expressions (coined words are underlined):

En mangai hńok hńienn He is happy and well-off.
nhīenn dan.
He person contented Ø
peaceful Ø.
En mangai pā'ngot rah He is destitute and deserted.
pachah 'rēng.
He person hungry des-
titate scattered
deserted
En mangai thōk-nhak He is miserable.
rak pa.
He person miserable
rusty difficulty
En mangai lūk-lēk chēk He is crooked.
chēl.
He person two-faced Ø
En mangai tanuh sa pa  He is destitute.
    kahat.
He person poor desti-
    tute difficulty bad-
    odor

En mangai ramā ramaih  He is sickly and careless.
    ra'aim ra'am.
He person dirty Ø
careless Ø.

En mangai liem lāk  He is healthy and well.
    chāk dan.
He person good healthy
    productive truly.

Phū dei trō dei jou dei  May he become weak and sickly
    'lou dei liem ēn. (like I am).
May not right not Ø not okay
    not good he.

1.3.3. Primary Verbs in Sequence. Verbs may be clustered in
    sequences of action. All verbs in a clustered coordinate relationship
show a certain progression or sequence in the actions designated.
No phrases have been found with verbs out of sequence. If there is
a change in the natural progression or if an interval of time is re-
quired, the conjunction bu (and) may be inserted in the phrase.

Sequence of Transitive Verbs:
    Au rūp dēk kanei.
    I catch strangle a rat.
    En chōk buh cha ka.
    He takes roasts eats a fish.
    En ruat bān iel.
    He buys raises chickens.
    En tung chōk mahēk 'wān.
    He steals takes stuff their.
    En lūng-luā cha play.
    He swallows eats fruit (i.e. he swallowed it whole).
    En reng klah pīt priet.
    He searches divides plants bananas.
    En 'yaā ʾok taweng (loī) dak.
    He takes dumps throws (away) water.

Sequence of Intransitive Verbs:
    Phi klahi (bu) kadau.
    The enemy escapes and runs.
"En loh (bu) hak.
He exits & vomits.

Chôm tapál kādau.
The bird flies runs.

"En loh chieu chôô kal nhìah.
He exits goes returns/home into house.

Sequence of Intransitive plus Transitive Verbs:
Au chie hōk mahēk.
I go get stuff.

"En nguây (bu) plâ jal.
He submerges & releases round-net.

"En hmô tau bâyh.
He dreams sees snake.

Būmîm chieu hào (’lông) kāp cha prok.
The tiger goes climbs a tree bites eats the squirrel.

"En loh chieu reng rûp bûh cha chôl ’wân.
He exits goes searches catches roasts eats pig somebody’s.

Sequence of Transitive plus Intransitive Verbs (cf., 1.3.5.):
"En ’yaā patou chie. 
He leads shows goes.

Chou cha bu hak.
The dog ate & vomitted.

Au pûng (bu) si’năn.
I pick-up & sit-down.

"En chôk (bu) ’nuan.
He takes & plays.

"En hào bu taklih.
He climbs & falls.

"En tung bu kādau.
He steals & runs.

Sequence of Stative Verbs:
Ngay kì tagah liem.
Today (is) clear good (nice day).

Dang mou si’yâ liem.
Place this (is) clean good.

"En mangai bek ’moô.
He (is a) person fat bad.
En mangai ragay liem.
He (is a) person generous good.

Sequence of Transitive plus Stative Verbs:

Mok imou au sap draa.
Blanket this I cover scratchy.

En ba dei tawa.
He back-carry not not-strong. (He is weak when it comes to back-carrying.)

En tan maha am.
He weaves enormous very.

En koh pran.
He chops fast.

En tek lup.
He sells loss.

En cho kadr am.
He take much.

Sequence of Intransitive plus Stative Verbs:

En suang ragay.
She dances skillful (ly).

En kat hlak.
He sleeps well.

En kadau pran.
He runs fast.

Chim tapal liem.
The bird flies good/well.

Au chieu 'wii 'wia.
I go always.

Sequence of Stative plus Transitive Verbs:

En tanu koh phi.
He (is) brave chopping-with-sword (the) enemy.

En dei ruk pf mahok.
He not not-strong (enough to) do things.

En khat muyh jiek.
He (is) ambitious clearing (the) field.

Sequence of Stative plus Intransitive Verbs:

En 'yu bu kadau nham.
He (is) afraid & runs cries.
1.3.4. Reduplicated Verbs. Verbs are reduplicated to produce four different kinds of actions.

1.3.4.1. Some verbs are always reduplicated. Neither member of the pair can stand alone. These are mainly verbs of back-and-forth motion.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{'nhu-'nhi mảt} & \quad \text{'to rub one's eyes'} \\
\text{nhúk-nhēk dràng} & \quad \text{'to shake the post'} \\
\text{chùh-chīh 'bang} & \quad \text{'to scrub the table'} \\
\text{mangai lük-lēk} & \quad \text{'a person crooked (two-faced)'} \\
\text{ngūng-ngēng kàl} & \quad \text{'to shake one's head back & forth'} \\
\text{si'nēng bloh ngū-ngē} & \quad \text{'the tooth is loose'} \\
\end{align*}
\]

1.3.4.2. Verbs are reduplicated to add expression or slight intensification to the utterance (cf., 1.3.1., 1.3.2.). The second word of the pair is the reduplicated member. Its form is altered, but never in a predictable way. The altered form must always be accompanied by the primary form; it is never used alone.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ayaù} & \quad \text{'to pity'} & \text{ayaù aye} & \quad \text{'to pity'} \\
\text{patou} & \quad \text{'to teach'} & \text{patou patoh} & \quad \text{'to teach'} \\
\text{braī} & \quad \text{'tired'} & \text{braī brīh} & \quad \text{'tedious'} \\
\text{ramaā} & \quad \text{'distressed'} & \text{ramaā-ramān} & \quad \text{'distressed'} \\
& & \text{ramaā-ramō} & \quad \text{'distressed'} \\
\text{alah} & \quad \text{'lazy'} & \text{alah a'lōng} & \quad \text{'lazy'} \\
\text{tablōng} & \quad \text{'break'} & \text{tablōng} & \quad \text{'to crash through'} \\
& & \text{tablōng} & \quad \text{through'} \\
\text{llan} & \quad \text{'to play'} & \text{llan llōt} & \quad \text{'to play'} \\
\text{mahaī} & \quad \text{'enormous'} & \text{mahaī mahān} & \quad \text{'enormous'}
\end{align*}
\]

1.3.4.2. Verbs are reduplicated to indicate that an action is performed recklessly or in an indifferent or unambitious manner. The reduplication depicts, for example, (1) a person running, but running helter-skelter or (2) a person bathing but very unambitionally because, for example, the only water to bathe in is dirty. The reduplicated verb in this sense is almost always preceded by hmeo bu "to just go ahead and, for example, bathe (without care)". The first word of the
pair is the reduplicated member. Its form is altered, but always in a precise predictable way. The altered form must always be accompanied by the primary form; it is never used alone. The following paragraphs state the forms of the reduplicated portion of the verb.

1.3.4.3.1. Front and central vowels are changed to u (cf., 4.)

Én hmeo bu küp-kāp. He goes right ahead and bites recklessly (not watching what he's doing).

pūng-pēng shoots (here and there) carelessly.
pūt-pît plants (here and there) carelessly.
kùt-kât sleeps (here or there) indifferently (no bed to sleep on).
chu-cha eats (meat) indifferently (not tasty).

1.3.4.3.2. Back vowels are changed to i (cf., 4.)

Én hmeo bu chǐng-chōng. He just has to go ahead and eats (poor rice, because there is no other).

hūt-hūt drinks indifferently (bad water, no other being available).

ìk-ìk dumps out recklessly.

1.3.4.3.3. Long vowels are shortened, except for -ōō (long vowel plus glottal stop), which becomes -iū.

Én hmeo bu lūp-lep. He goes ahead and eats (bad vegetables, because there are no other).

hūt-hat sings carelessly (off-key).
ìk-ìk laughs carelessly at anything.

drū-draā braces up recklessly.
chiū-chōō goes home alone unafraid.
liū-loō takes off (bark) carelessly.

1.3.4.3.4. Vowel glides are dropped. The deep lax register vowel (v) is optional, but usually retained.

Én hmeo bu chú-chíeu. He goes ahead and goes by himself (without care or worry).

yìng-yüang arises recklessly (from sleep) disturbing others.

wū-wiā scythes (grass) here & there recklessly.
tr̥-tr̥u̞aḥ  puts on (ragged clothes) indifferently.
siḥ-suah  snatches away recklessly.
chūm-chiēm  puts food in a baby's mouth carelessly.

1.3.4.3.5. Except for -ou, which becomes -iu, the main vowel of words ending in -u/-o is dropped, and the -u/-o (indicating short & long vowel respectively) are fused to -u.

É̄n hmeo bu su-sau.  He goes ahead and washes his face indifferently (in dirty water because there is no other).
ru-rao  washes his hands indifferently (in dirty water).
ˡu-ˡeọ  sings off hair of animal recklessly.
ˡu-ˡu  twists cotton into thread carelessly.
rŭ-rŭaō  sets in place (floor poles) carelessly.
liu-lou  melts & shapes metal haphazardly (with bare implements).
chîu-chiōu  pays attention indifferently (but remembers what was said).

1.3.4.3.6. Word final -y/-i (indicating short & long main vowel respectively) after front and central vowels become -y. Word-final -y or -i after back vowels become -i, and the main vowel of the word is dropped.

É̄n hmeo bu duy-dey.  He goes right ahead and yanks (on it) recklessly.
chuy-chei  stings here & there recklessly.
puy-pai  cooks indifferently (with meager utensils).
kruy-krieyh  picks at carelessly (with fingernail).
kruy-kraih  rakes up recklessly.
ih-oih  lays down here or there (no proper place).
pi-poi  drives (cattle) recklessly.
chi-chuy  sprinkles (salt) carelessly.
pih-puyh  sweeps here & there recklessly.

1.3.4.3.7. The presyllable of disyllabic verbs is added to the first word of the pair and dropped from the second.

É̄n hmeo bu kad̥-d̥au.  He goes right ahead & runs helter-skelter.
kad̥au  to run
si'nûn-'nân  sits indifferently in the dirt (no other place).
si'nàn  to sit
tabi-buay argues over the most insignificant things.
tabuay to argue
pasù-sìà wastes things carelessly.
pasìà to waste
tahih-huayh whistles with 2 fingers in mouth (without knowing how).
tahuayh to whistle with 2 fingers in mouth

1.3.4.4. Verbs are reduplicated to designate the precise actor or object of the verb. In this reduplicated sense, the verb becomes a noun-modifier, designating 'the specific one that (e.g., fell)'. The first word of the pair is the reduplicated member. Its form is altered only in that the presyllables of dissyllabic words are dropped from it, and the long vowels shortened. If two or more verbs are involved in the construction, only the first verb is doubled.

1.3.4.4.1. Descriptives Created by Reduplication from Transitive Verbs Reduplicated verbs can be made into descriptives in up to four different ways.

Ēn tap mangai. He slapped the person.
Chök mangai tāp-tap 'wān. Get the person who slapped someone.
Chök mangai tāp-tatap bāl ri. Get the two who slapped each other.
Chök mangai 'wān tāp-tap ēn. Get the person who someone slapped.
Chök mangai tāp-patap doh 'wān. Get the person who grabbed his hand and made him slap someone.
Ēn pah 'long. He split wood.
Chök 'long pah-pah. Get the wood that is split.
Chök 'long pah-tapah la pah. Get the wood that is splittable and split it.
Chök mangai pah-pah 'long. Get the person who is splitting wood (or whose job it is to split wood).
Ēn wat manēng. He cocked the crossbow.
Chök manēng wāt-wat. Get the crossbow that is cocked.
Chök manēng wāt-tawat la wat. Get the crossbows that can be cocked and cock them.
Chök mangai wát-wat manèng.
Get the person who cocked (or cocks) crossbows.

ENUM dék kanei.
He catch strangle rat.

Chök kanei 'wän rûp-
rûp dék.
Get the rat that someone caught and strangled.

Chök mangai rûp-rûp
dék kanei.
Get the person who caught and strangled the rat.

ÉN puam cha 'ban.
He finger-eat eat bread. (cf., 1.2. 1.2.)

'Ban 'wän puam-puam cha.
The bread someone with-fingers ate.

Chök mangai puam-puam cha 'ban.
Get the person who with-fingers ate bread.

1.3.4.4.2. Descriptives Created by Reduplication from Intransitive Verbs. Reduplicated intransitive verbs can be made into only one type of noun-descriptive.

ÉN taklii.
He fell.

Chök mangai klih-
taklii.
Get the person who fell (or the fallen person).

ÉN kachiet.
He died.

Tâp gù mangai chièt-
kachiet.
Bury plural person die. (Bury those who are dead.)

ÉN choô.
He returned home.

Kau gù mangai choô-choô.
Call the people who went home.

ÉN kàdàu loh.
He ran went-out.

Chök mangai dâu-kàdàu loh. Get the person who ran out.

1.3.4.4.3. Descriptives Created by Reduplication from Stative Verbs. Reduplicated stative verbs can be made into only one type of descriptive.

Mangai kadrâm jei.
The people are very many.

Kau gù drâm-kadrâm.
Call plural many. (Call those who are many (or) the crowd.)

ÉN 'yu.
He is afraid.

Chök mangai 'yu-'yu.
Get the person who is afraid.

Mahèk ra'ih.
The stuff is old.

Chök mahèk ih-ra'ih.
Get the old stuff (specifically).
1.3.5. Implied Object Inserted in Verb Phrase. Some verb couplets have been found in Jeh in which the second verb is the object of the first. These clauses have an understood nominal object that carries out the second action in conjunction with or relative to the subject.

En patou hat; hay jeng hat.
He teaches (us to) sing; we therefore sing.

En kau chieu hût nnah; hay jeng chieu hût nnah.
He calls (us to) go drink wine; we therefore go drink wine.

En wal chieu kei; hay jeng chieu kei.
He says (to) go watch; we therefore go watch.

En pêng kachèt loi gâl, gâl jeng kachèt.
He shoots dead detriment him; he therefore dies (i.e., He killed him).

En chêk pajiñ loi au; au jeng jiñ.
He pinches makes-hurt me; I therefore hurt.

Hay pî panham loi èn; èn jeng nham.
We make make-cry detriment him; he therefore cries.

2. Auxiliary Verbs. Auxiliary verbs can function as primary verbs but usually do not. When they are used as primary verbs, it is in a very restricted sense, in that the sentences are usually very short and rely heavily on context. The main function of auxiliary verbs is to serve as modifiers of the action of primary verbs. Verbs have been placed in this class if they can support a wide range of primary verbs or if they fulfill no other function. Hence, the class of ragay in the phrase where it modifies 'speak', tatayh ragay 'speak fluent', is not included here, because it also functions in the construction ragay ka tatayh 'fluent in speaking' (cf., 1.1.3.2.). Neither is the class of lup in têk lup 'sell at a loss' included because it also occurs in têk jeng lup 'sell result lose' (cf., 1.3.3.6.).

Auxiliary verbs, when functioning as modifiers, can be divided into (1) those which come before, (2) those which come after, and (3) those which come either before or after primary verbs. Following is a complete list of the auxiliary verbs found thus far.

2.1. Auxiliary Verbs which May Function as Pre-Verb Modifiers,
The auxiliary in the pre-verb modifier position has the connotation of immediacy or momentary action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Khmer Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wä</td>
<td>'to want'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(dei)</td>
<td>'(not) dare'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khên</td>
<td>'need, require'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chon</td>
<td>'return (i.e. to a healthy state)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wiel</td>
<td>'thirst, crave'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tahung</td>
<td>'beguile'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hiem</td>
<td>'to know, be able'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dei</td>
<td>'to not want'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jilib</td>
<td>'to feel like, have to'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tapha</td>
<td>'to happen'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

'wà chieu'  'want to go'
'(dei)'  '(not) dare to go'
'khèn chieu'
'chon wà chieu'
'wiel pèn wiel hon'
'tahung wà chieu'
'hiem wà rûp'
'lô pî'
'dei 'nhoh chieu'
'jîl kât'
'tapha tom'

'to crave want go' (i.e., have a hankering for going)
'on the sly want to capture'
'can do'
'don't want to go'
'feel sleepy'
'to happen to meet'

2.2. Auxiliary Verbs which May Function as Post-Verb Modifiers.
The auxiliary in post-verb modifier position has the connotation of permanency or a continual state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Khmer Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kei</td>
<td>'to watch, check'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'lû</td>
<td>'to mix together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>'to put to the test'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'mû</td>
<td>'to gather together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yet</td>
<td>'to lose'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pî kei</td>
<td>'do see (try &amp; see)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tatayh kei</td>
<td>'talk see (try to say it)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cha 'lû</td>
<td>'eat mixed together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ôk 'lû</td>
<td>'pour mix together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pî long</td>
<td>'to test out'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ka'ôn long</td>
<td>'ask test (ask what one knows)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pî 'mû</td>
<td>'to do gathered-together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chieu 'mû'</td>
<td>'to go meet-together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chieu yêt</td>
<td>'go away (out of sight)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>om yêt</td>
<td>'spoil (&amp; be) lost (to usability)'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
taprong  'to do along with'  hat taprong  'sing along with (of poor singer)'
tieū taprong  'follow along with (one who really knows how)'
chù  'to set, keep'  tatayh chù  'to speak keep (entrust secret to)'
bāt chù  'remember keep (keep in mind)'
choô  'to return, back'  dōh choô  'give back'
chieu choô  'go home'
bbô  'to do haphazardly'  chieu bbô  'go feeling one's way'
pī bbô  'do from little knowledge'
kadok  'to hide'  cha kadok  'to eat in secret'
tatayh kadok  'talk hide (talk behind one's back)'
pachong  'to compete'  cha pachong kadau pachong  'run compete (to race)'
bong  'to replace'  pī bong  'do back at (retaliate)'
dōh bong  'give back in replacement'
pa'nhē  'to do to 3rd party'  pī pa'nhē  'to take it out on 3rd person'
tatayh pa'nhē  'blame another when you are responsible'
tang  'to substitute'  pī tang kachiet tang  'to do on behalf of' 'to die for'
llāp  'to disrupt'  tatayh llāp chōk llāp  'speak disrupt (interrupt)'
 'take disrupt (grab more than one's share)'
katoi  'to string along'  pī katoi  'do one thing after another'
jīj katoi  'have one sickness after another'
rol  'to be first'  chieu rol  'go first'
pī rol  'do first'
juay  'to be next'  chieu juay  'go next'
pī juay  'do next'
yōk  'to get up on'  tapēng yōk  'to jump up on'
tapāl yōk  'to fly up on'
bāk  'to cross'  tapēng bāk  'jump across'
chieu bāk  'to go across'
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>leh</th>
<th>'lose, less'</th>
<th>cha leh</th>
<th>'eat less (than another)'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>luan</td>
<td>'to win, more'</td>
<td>cha luan</td>
<td>'eat more (than another)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>proih luan</td>
<td>'tall more (taller)'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.3. Auxiliary Verbs which May Function as Both Pre-Verb and Post-Verb Modifiers. As pre-verb modifiers these auxiliaries refer to a one-time action, as post-verb modifiers they refer to a habit or state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tàp</th>
<th>'to practice'</th>
<th>tàp chieu</th>
<th>'practice walking'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu tàp</td>
<td>'go practice'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ma'am</td>
<td>'determined'</td>
<td>ma'am chieu</td>
<td>'determined to go'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu ma'am</td>
<td>'go with determination'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'mån'</td>
<td>'taboo'</td>
<td>'mån pî'</td>
<td>'taboo to do (that)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pî 'mån'</td>
<td>'make (things connected with) taboo'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palàng</td>
<td>'cautious'</td>
<td>palàng chieu</td>
<td>'unhurriedly go'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu palàng</td>
<td>'go with caution'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khoi</td>
<td>'careful, slow'</td>
<td>khoi chieu</td>
<td>'slowly go'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu khoi</td>
<td>'go slowly'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bbral</td>
<td>'premature'</td>
<td>bbral pî\</td>
<td>'prematurely do'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pî bbral</td>
<td>'do prematurely (often)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wäl</td>
<td>'return'</td>
<td>wäl tatayh</td>
<td>'return to speaking'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>tatayh wäl</td>
<td>'speak return (skip back &amp; forth in speaking)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hwai</td>
<td>'distracted'</td>
<td>hwai pî</td>
<td>'distracted (start) do new thing'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lay</td>
<td>'come after'</td>
<td>pî hwai</td>
<td>'do (or be) distracted'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lay tieû</td>
<td>'go ahead and follow'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'way'</td>
<td>'continue, stay'</td>
<td>tieû lay</td>
<td>'follow after (pursue)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>llau</td>
<td>'passed'</td>
<td>'way chieu'</td>
<td>'continue going'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu 'way</td>
<td>'go stay'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sang</td>
<td>'finished'</td>
<td>bloh sang chieu</td>
<td>'already finished go (i.e., left already)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu bloh sang</td>
<td>'go already finished (i.e., no more going)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jeng</td>
<td>'completed, result'</td>
<td>jeng tan</td>
<td>'result weave (i.e., complete something else, then weave)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>tan jeng</td>
<td>'weave completed (article finished)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dĕng</td>
<td>'near'</td>
<td>(wă) dĕng chieu</td>
<td>'(want)near go (about to go)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chieu dĕng</td>
<td>'go near'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ka'nuh 'make effort' ka'nuh chièu 'make effort to go'
   chièu ka'nuh 'go with effort'
dōng 'help, participate' dōng chièu 'participate in going
   chièu (da) dōng (go with)'
tieū 'follow' tieū chièu 'follow (follow along)'
   chièu tieū 'go follow'
`doh 'give, allow' doh chièu 'give to go'
   chièu doh 'go give (something to
   someone)'
jah 'acquire, be able' jah chièu 'able to go'
   chièu (dei) jah 'go (not) able (i.e., to
   not have the ability)'
khōm 'compel' khōm chièu 'compel to go'
   chièu khōm 'go forcibly'
pajōm 'together' pajōm pi 'together work (on a
   project)'
dei rūk 'weak' dei rūk chièu 'not strong enough to go'
   chièu dei rūk 'go in weak (condition)'
loi 'leave, abandon' loi bāng 'leave throw (i.e., dis-
   pose of)'
ayoō 'imitate' ayoō tatayh 'imitate speaking'
   tatayh ayoō 'speak imitatingly'
suay 'long (time)' suay chièu 'go (take) long time (to
   get there)'

3. Verb Modifiers. Verb modifiers are words which are bound syntactically to verbs but are not auxiliary verbs. A clause is not grammatical if members of this class occur without verbs. Verb modifiers can be divided into (1) those which come before, (2) those which come after, and (3) those which either precede or follow verbs. Following is a complete list of common verb modifiers that modify a wide range of verbs.

3.1. Verb Modifiers in the Pre-Verb Position. Pre-verb modifiers indicate a specific or one-time action.

bloh 'already' bloh chièu 'already gone'
duh 'also' duh chièu 'also go'
'nao 'recently' 'nao chièu 'just went'
lū 'right away' lū chièu 'go right away'
bāt 'on & on' bāt 'way bāt' 'way 'stay on & on'
maă 'don't, had not' maă chieü 'don't go'
Tâu mi maă chieü... 'If you had not gone...'
deı 'not' dei chieü 'not go'
deı gân 'not very' dei gân liem 'not very good'
döm 'uncertain' döm chieü döm dei 'not sure whether (they) went or not'
wā gâm 'almost, barely' wā gâm taklih 'almost fell'
'muh sǐ 'just enough to' 'muh sǐ cha 'just enough to eat'
kôt 'keep on determinedly' kôt chieü 'keep going (against advice)'
söl 'keep on determinedly' söl chieü 'keep going (against advice)'
dĩ dĩ 'go ahead (against advice)(by oneself)' dĩ dĩ chieü 'went ahead & went'
dĩ lay 'go ahead(command) dĩ lay chieü 'go ahead & go'
hmeo bu 'go ahead indifferently' hmeo bu chieü 'go ahead & go indifferently'
dĩ 'if you would' ēn wāl dĩ ruat dōh 'ban 'he asked if you would buy for him candy'
pën 'come to be able' sa ai pën jah pĩ 'how does he come to be able to do (that)'
tā/taĩ 'happen, suffer' tā koh tī 'to happen to chop hand'
tāng 'happen, just come on' tāng jīr 'happen to get sick'
klom 'sense' klom jīr 'feel sore'
ki 'sense, feel' kl jīr 'feel sore (or sick)'
ku 'sense intuitively' ku 'lō 'to just know'
hot 'move altogether' hot chieü 'to go moving together (as a group)'
prō 'as a group' prō pĩ 'as a group work'

3.2. Verb Modifiers in the Post-Verb Position. Post-verb modifiers indicate a general or intensified state. A separate category for time is given because of its close relation to verbs. Location (here, up there, etc.), however, is not included as it can be preceded by a location word; that is, it is not always tied to the verb.
### 3.2.1. Time Post-Verb Modifiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dũng-duăng/duäng-dong</td>
<td>'for all time'</td>
<td>'way dũng-duăng'</td>
<td>'stay all the time'</td>
<td>wengkap</td>
<td>'all the time'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laloyh</td>
<td>'constantly'</td>
<td>ka'ok laloyh</td>
<td>'cough constantly'</td>
<td>kabau</td>
<td>'right there all the time'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'nhik</td>
<td>'on &amp; on all the time'</td>
<td>'way chieu 'nhik</td>
<td>'keep going (not rest)'</td>
<td>luk lik</td>
<td>'for good'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kakoih</td>
<td>'off &amp; on slowly'</td>
<td>maā pǐ kakoih</td>
<td>'don't do it off and on (i.e., don't do it lazily)'</td>
<td>ay</td>
<td>'just now'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ka'lay</td>
<td>'awhile ago'</td>
<td>'nāo chieu ka'lay</td>
<td>'just went awhile ago'</td>
<td>doh</td>
<td>'later'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| oǐ | 'already' | bloh sang oǐ | 'already finished already' |}

### 3.2.2. Miscellaneous Post-Verb Modifiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jei</td>
<td>'very'</td>
<td>tih jei</td>
<td>'very large'</td>
<td>ji'ao</td>
<td>'terrifically'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>payom</td>
<td>'way too'</td>
<td>tih payom</td>
<td>'way too big'</td>
<td>dék-dék</td>
<td>'for sure'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dék-dan</td>
<td>'very many for sure'</td>
<td>kachiet dék-dan</td>
<td>'dead very many people'</td>
<td>nao</td>
<td>'another one'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>toō</td>
<td>'another, again'</td>
<td>pǐ toō</td>
<td>'make another'</td>
<td>tom</td>
<td>'more'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'oō</td>
<td>'tide one over'</td>
<td>cha pa'oō</td>
<td>'eat a little to tide (us) over'</td>
<td>ttuū</td>
<td>'meager'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drai</td>
<td>'gradually'</td>
<td>katoh drai</td>
<td>'drip gradually'</td>
<td>tai</td>
<td>'methodically'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ngën-ngen</td>
<td>'slowly'</td>
<td>chieu ngën-ngen</td>
<td>'go slowly'</td>
<td>puh-pah</td>
<td>'hurriedly'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brât</td>
<td>'fast &amp; care-lessly'</td>
<td>pî brât</td>
<td>'do work fast &amp; care-lessly'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lalaï</td>
<td>'carelessly'</td>
<td>chû lalaï</td>
<td>'to set down carelessly'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saî</td>
<td>'rapidly &amp; sloppily'</td>
<td>teh saî</td>
<td>'scythe rapidly'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dai</td>
<td>'simultaneously'</td>
<td>bā dai</td>
<td>'back- &amp; front-carry simultaneously'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tòyh</td>
<td>'what others throw away'</td>
<td>'meè tòyh</td>
<td>'fix up (&amp; use) what others throw away'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ssôn</td>
<td>'what others don't want'</td>
<td>chôk ssôn</td>
<td>'take what others don't want'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taboi</td>
<td>'along with (giving little assistance)'</td>
<td>hat taboi</td>
<td>'to sing along with'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dî-dî</td>
<td>'by oneself'</td>
<td>chieu dî-dî</td>
<td>'go by oneself'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lôt</td>
<td>'go ahead in one's absence'</td>
<td>cha lôt</td>
<td>'(go ahead &amp;) eat without (you)'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mmoh</td>
<td>'without reason'</td>
<td>kông mmoh</td>
<td>'beat without reason only (beat without cause)'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3. Verb Modifiers Functioning in Either Pre-Verb or Post-Verb Position. A separate category for position verb modifiers is given. Though connected very specifically to only a few verbs, they occur either before or after the verb and illustrate clearly the one-time activity suggested by pre-verb modifiers and the permanent state suggested by post-verb modifiers.

3.3.1. Position Verb Modifiers

| dô    | 'in line' | dô chû | 'line up' |
|       |           | chû dô | 'place in line' |
| padàng | 'standing up' | padàng chû | 'stand (them) up' |
|        |           | chû padàng | 'place standing up' |
| jom   | 'parallel' | jom chû | 'parallel them up' |
|       |           | chû jom | 'set them parallel to' |
| kong  | 'perpendicular' | kong chû | 'set down in perpendicular fashion' |
|       |           | chû kong | 'set them perpendicular' |
| tû    | 'to stack' | tû chû | 'stack up' |
|       |           | chû tû | 'place stacked up' |
| bon   | 'to stack' | bon chû | 'stack up' |
|       |           | chû bon | 'place stacked up' |
3.3.2. **Miscellaneous Pre- & Post-Verb Modifiers.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dei 'lām 'not not-able'</td>
<td>dei 'lām bā 'not able to back-carry'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bā dei 'lām</td>
<td>'back-carry not able'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tam</td>
<td>'not in time'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de tam kadàu</td>
<td>de tam kadàu 'not time enough to run'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kadàu de tam</td>
<td>'run (but) not get out of the way in time'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dei yao</td>
<td>'no longer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dei yao chieuyao</td>
<td>'no longer go anymore'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dei wa</td>
<td>'not yet'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dei wa chìewa</td>
<td>'not yet go yet'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pasèm</td>
<td>'start'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pì pasèm</td>
<td>'start to work'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rasong</td>
<td>'right on'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rasong chieu</td>
<td>'keep right on going'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chieu rasong</td>
<td>'go right on by'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sidai</td>
<td>'together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sidai chieu</td>
<td>'together go'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chieu sidai</td>
<td>'go together'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ràp-ràp</td>
<td>'gang up on'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ràp-ràp suah</td>
<td>'gang up on and snatch'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suah ràp-ràp</td>
<td>'snatch as a gang'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rapeng</td>
<td>'awfully lot'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rapeng bà</td>
<td>'very much back-carry'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bà rapeng</td>
<td>'back-carry very much'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ddal/ddol</td>
<td>'severely'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ddol kông</td>
<td>'severely beat'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kông ddol</td>
<td>'beat severely'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ìm</td>
<td>'really, hard'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maà ìm chieu</td>
<td>'don't lots-of (people) go'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maà chieu ìm</td>
<td>'don't go really (fast)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kachàt</td>
<td>'diligently'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pì kachàt</td>
<td>'work diligently'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4. **Clusters of Verb Modifiers.** Following are examples of main verbs with pre-verb modifiers and post-verb modifiers. The main verb is underlined.

"En sòl lay chieu toò nao.
he keep-on go-ahead go again again (He went ahead and went again).

"En 'náo 'muh sî bā dai, jìng bông.
she recently just started to-back-carry simultaneously-with-front,
result fall (She had just started to carry her load when she fell.)

"En kòt ma'am kông ddol ìm dèk-dèk.
he determined determined beat severely really for-sure (He was determined to go ahead and beat him very severely.)
Én duh 'way pai patỳh âm tôò.
she also remain cook make-lot really again (She did it again, cooked
too much food.)

Sa-ai ên pèn 'nao jah pǐ 'tôm tôò?
how he come-to just-now be-able do more again (How did he happen to
be able to do more so soon?)

4. Descriptive Adverbials. As in most Mon-Khmer languages, Jeh has
a large class of descriptive adverbials, words that are very specifically
tied to a certain type of action or state. Their specific quality is em-
phasized by the fact that their form is altered when modifying a plural
clause as over against a singular one.

Mangâi kachìet pǐ jìgra-jìgrìh.
person die manner desolately-absent-from-village (He died away from
the village.)

'Wân kachìet âm pǐ grù-grà-grà.
they die really manner desolately-absent-from-village (They died away
from the village.)

Adverbials modify more stative verbs than they do transitive and
intransitive verbs. The general form which adverbials take with stat-
ives follows: when the modified item is singular, the reduplicated word
ends with -ih; when the modified item is plural, the primary word is
preceded by nhìng (numerous); when the item is inherently plural,
nhìng does not occur.

Padòk ên het pǐ tangêl-tangiì.
stomach he empty manner description-of-a-person-with-empty-
stomach

Padòk gu ên het pǐ nhìng tangêl.
stomach pl. he empty manner description-of-many-with-empty-stomach

Mât ên drù êm pǐ wùl-rawìl.
eye his deep really manner description-of-2-deep-set-eyes

In most of the descriptive adverbials found so far, deep or lax
vowel ( V) accompanies those modifying greatness and tragedy, and
clear or tense vowel (unmarked) accompanies those modifying small-
ness and slimness. A few minimal pairs occur.

Kon ròk liem pǐ tapùp-tapìh.
baby cow pretty manner description-of-beauty-&-daintiness-of-baby-
animal
Plural -- nhìng tapùp

Kon ròk liem pǐ tapùp-tapìh.
baby cow pretty manner description-of-beauty-&-plumpness-of-
baby-animal
Plural -- nhìng tapùp
When adverbials modify transitive verbs, singularity and pluralization are also in focus. With singular transitive subjects the vowel of the reduplicated adverbial remains the same; with plural transitive subjects it changes.

Au kông `âm ēn pî dâp-radâp (dih-radîh).
I beat really him manner sound-of-beating-over-and-over-in-one-place.

Gù ēn kông `âm ēn pî dùp-dadâp.
Pl. he beat really him manner sound-of-many-beating

Au prât `âm ēn pî hêt-rahêt (hîh-râhîh).
I whip really him manner sound-of-whipping-over-and-over-in-one-place

Gù ēn prât `âm ēn pî hût-rahêt.
Pl. he beat really him manner sound-of-many-whipping

Ēn kakâf `âm lâloô pî grît-ragît (grîh-râgrîh).
he scratch really itch manner sound-of-one-scratching-over-&-over

Plural -- grît-ragît (or) grît-ragît

The above examples show that similar phonological rules that applied to the vowel of a reduplicated form of the verbs, illustrated in Section 1.3.4.2., also apply to the vowel of the pluralized form of the descriptive adverbials modifying transitive verbs. The first word of the pair is the reduplicated member. Front and central vowels become ū; back vowels become i. Long vowels become short. No descriptive adverbial with a vowel glide (ia, ua) has been found.

With singular transitive subjects the presyllable ra- (repetitive action) is affixed to the second word of the pair; with plural transitive subjects the initial consonant is usually doubled, though it can be replaced by ra-. The addition of a reduplicated word with -ih is possible with singular but not plural subjects. Adverbials describing sound are considered onomatopoeic by Jeh.

A further mark which distinguishes descriptive adverbials is that the word pî (do, make), with the restricted connotation of 'in a... manner', can be inserted just before the adverbial when the clause is singular, though it is often not acceptable when the clause is plural.

4.1. Descriptive Adverbials Accompanying Transitive Verbs

Ēn bêt `âm kapièu pî chàp-rachâp (chîh-râchîh).
He spears really the buffalo manner sound-of-one-spearing-tied-animal-over-and-over

Plural -- chûp-chachâp (or) chûp-rachâp
'Wăn tūn koh ām phi pä dôk-radôk (dìh-radîh).
One assaults chops really the enemy manner sound-of-one-chopping-
or-beating-person-repeatedly

Plural -- đîk-dâdôk (or) đîk-radôk

Ēn gô kalêng ām ēn pä klâk-raklàk (klîh-rakîh).
He raps with-knuckle hard him manner sound-of-one-rapping-on-the-
head-repeatedly

Plural -- klûk-raklàk (only)

Ēn rarien ām si'nêng eih pä gî-ggî (gîh-ggîh).
He grinds hard teeth his manner sound-of-teeth-grinding

Plural -- gû-gagî

Ēn suay ām ēn pä blêk-blêk blôk-blôk (or) blôk-blôk blîh-blîh.
He curse really him manner sound-of-one-calling-out-many-curses

No Plural (people only curse as individuals)

Sêt jiâ ām loi mau pä si'lông si'lông (or) si'lông si'lîh.
Weeds smother really out rice manner descrip. -of-many-weeds-
smothering out rice

No Plural (already plural)

4.2. Descriptive Adverbials Accompanying Intransitive Verbs.

Mangai ka'nân pä ka'aâ ka'îh.
Person sit manner descrip. -of-fat-person-sitting-with-legs-spread-
improperly

Plural -- nhîng ka'aâ (cf. â 'flower, seed) to open')

Ēn kapep nham pä ji'bem-jîbîh.
He contort-face cry manner descrip. -of-contorted-face-&-protruding
-lips-when-starting-to-cry

Plural -- nhîng ji'bem (cf. bem 'side of mouth')

Buam tapuat lôi pä tahal-tahîh.
Tuber snapped off manner descrip. -of-tuber-that-snapped-while-
digging

Plural -- nhîng tahal
'Neh pō Ḃám pī jìhà jîhè.  
Ground cracked really manner descrip. -of-wide-open-crack  
Plural -- hù-raha many cracks all over

Ēn ̀ok Ḃám pī gě̀k-ragēk (gih-ragih).  
He laugh really manner sound-of-one-laughing-in-this-manner  
Plural -- gàk-ragàk gě̀k-ragēk

Iel ēn tak Ḃám pī ssi mmai (or) sasi mamai.  
Chicken his multiply really manner descrip. -of-animals-multiplying  
No Plural

Ēn nham Ḃám pī ngàl-ngak ngàl-ngak (or) ngàl-ngak ngàl-ngih.  
He cry hard manner descrip. -of-baby-crying-constantly  
No Plural

Ēn chàl Ḃám pī kəbāp-kəbih.  
He wounded really manner descrip. -of-large-wound-on-one-person  
Plural -- bùp-bùp bāp-bāp many wounds on one person (or) several people wounded  
Plural -- nhĩng kəbāp many people wounded

4.3. Descriptive Adverbials Accompanying Stative Verbs.

4.3.1. Descriptive Adverbials with Clear (Tense) Vowels.

Mangai 'lě pī təplī̀ (taplih).  
Person short manner descrip. -of-very-short-person-standing -or-sitting  
Plural -- nhĩng təplī̀

Mangai 'lě pī təkłōl (taklih).  
Person short manner descrip. -of-short-industrious-person  
Plural -- nhĩng təkłōl

'Long 'lě pī takhēl (takhih).  
Wood short manner descrip. -of-short-log-too-short-to-be-of-use  
Plural -- nhĩng takhēl

Mangai 'lě pī təplōt (taplih).  
Person short manner descrip. -of-short-person/tree/string-lying
Plural -- nhǐng taplōt

Rajèl/sêt ring pǐ sikēl sikih.
Bamboo grass narrow-leafed manner descrip. -of-mass-of-narrow-leafed-vegetation-growing
No Plural

Ēn bā mahēk dān pǐ a'lıl u a'lıh.
She back-carry stuff high-on-back manner descrip. -of-load-carried-high-on-back
Plural -- nhǐng a'lıl

4.3.2. Descriptive Adverbials with Deep (Lax) Vowels

Mangai proih ām pǐ jigrōu (jigrīh).
Person tall really manner descrip. -of-very-tall person-lying-down
Plural -- nhǐng jigrōu

Mangai proih ām pǐ ra'ngaũ-(ra'ngĩh).
Person tall really manner descrip. -of-very-tall-person-standing-or-sitting
Plural -- nhǐng ra'ngaũ

'Long proih ām pǐ jikhōng (jikhīh).
Wood long really manner descrip. -of-board-that-is-too-long-to-use
Plural -- nhǐng jikhōng

Kanievh būmôm proih ām pǐ gawâm-(gawīh).
Claw tigerlong really manner descrip. -of-claw-or-fingernail-very-long (of big animal or person only)
Plural -- nhǐng gawâm

Tamūn ēn hoh pǐ ka'wà (ka'wīh).
Mouth his wide manner descrip. -of-widely-spread-lips
Plural -- nhǐng ka'wà (of many people)

'Long pen bàl ām pǐ siẅau (siẅīh).
Board planed thick very manner descrip. -of-very-thick-board-good-for-bridge-use
Plural -- nhǐng siẅau
Si'nêk ên poyh âm pê hâl-hâl (hîh-hîh).
Body his feverish very manner descrip.-of-heat-radiating-from-
fevered-body
No Plural

En bâ mahêk tai âm pê ajûk (ajîh).
He back-carry stuff droopy very manner descrip.-of-load-drooping-
very-low-on-back
Plural -- nhîng ajûk

5. Clitics. A clitic is a highly intensified word that modifies the
whole clause but primarily the verb. In most cases intonation is the
best means of translating clitics into English. Clitics are used pri-
marily to add emphasis and intensify commands. Most are sentence-
final. A few less-intensifying clitics occur sentence-initial.

5.1. Sentence Final Clitics.

bê  'imperative, emphasis'
    Hay chieu bê ! 'Let's go!'

bê ke  'informing one of intention'
    Au chieu bê ke. 'I guess I'll be on my way.'

bê hîi  'imperative urging someone reluctant'
    Chieu bê hîi. 'Come on, let's get going.'

bê na  'I did too! (contrary to what you think)'
    Au bloh chieu bê na. 'I did too go !'

'läi  'imperative "so nothing will happen"
    Sût mäng mät 'läi. 'Close your eyes so nothing will get in.'

'môm  'It is too! (insisting)'
    Taî 'môm. 'It is too right!'

wieyh  'as well, too (con-
    Au ðûh 'lô contrary to what you might think)'
    wieyh. 'I know how to do that too.'

'e  'emphasizes some-
    Au bloh wäl thing previously said'
    doh mi e! 'I already told you that!'

mao  'ah, come on'
    Mi doh au 'nah mao. 'Ah, come on, give me some!'

'nâng  'for sure (con-
    Ėn trûh trary to expect-
    dêk-dêk 'nâng. tation)'

räl  'if you don't watch out'
    Chou kâp mi räl. 'The dog will bite, if you don't look out.'
wål 'Enough!; better not (do it anymore)'
Ma hô kông yao wål.
'Don't beat (him) anymore (enough)!

döm 'don't have a clue'
Au dei 'lô dom.
'I don't have a clue.'

ih 'lăn 'maybe (guessing)'
Ěn wă cha 'banih' lăn.
'He wants to eat candy, maybe.'

lih 'probably (because notice determination)'
Ěn wă cha 'ban lih.
'He probably wants to eat candy, (by the way he acts).' 

ih lok 'anyway, in spite of it'
Ěn 'way 'moô ih lok.
'He remains sick in spite of it all (medicines).'

lök lok 'contrary to what it should be, after all'
Ngék lök-lok.
'It's light after all (not heavy but should be).' 

lîay 'polite, request, if you would'
Wa hô au 'nah lîay.
'Give me some, okay?'

5.2. Sentence Initial Clitics.

nau 'perhaps'
Ńau ěn chiêu yet ih 'lăn.
'Perhaps he's gone out maybe.'

hâk 'actually (contrary to his claim)'
Hâk ěn ei.
'Actually, he does have (some).'

kamây 'no matter if, whether or not'
Khâmây ka mi doh 'ban, au duh bloh ei.
'Whether or not you give me candy, I also already have (some).'

FOOTNOTES

1. Jeh is a North Bahnaric, Mon-Khmer language of Kontum Province, South Vietnam. The author's research on Jeh was begun under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. The present study was produced at the University of Hawaii under a grant from the National Science Foundation (GS-2685).