CHAPTER 6
MORPHOLOGY
6.0 Morphology is the study of the internal structure of words. In this chapter, the different aspects of morphology – including, the Primary and Secondary grammatical categories and the Word Formation Processes - are discussed.

6.1 Nouns:

Nouns in Phom can be defined as the member of lexical or open category and may refer to humans, animals, nature, body-parts and inanimate objects. Nouns, in general, can be inflected for person, number and gender. In Phom, nouns are inflected for number and case. This section of the chapter describes inner structure of nouns and the types of nouns.

6.1.1 Structure of the Nouns:

Nouns in Phom consist of a stem or a combination of stems and suffixes. Suffixes could be plural marker; case marker and comparison marker. Nouns in Phom can be monomorphemic and polymorphemic. Nouns may be described on the basis of their stems. Nouns can be classified into the following three groups:

(a) Simple Nouns  
(b) Derived Nouns  
(c) Compound Nouns
6.1.2 Simple Nouns:

These are the nouns which are monomorphemic and cannot be divided further:

paha 'boy'
\nuha 'girl'
\’Si 'dog'
muhu’ 'cow'
yon ‘water’
ma\Si 'cat'
va \eta 'sky'
l\Ak 'hand'
t\he 'face'
wo\Sl\eta 'chair'
a\Šak 'cloth'

6.1.3 Derived Nouns:

Derived nouns are mostly polymorphemic. They have the scope of further sub-division. There are three types of nouns, which are identified as derived nouns.

Type: 1

The first type of nouns consists of one simple stem and one derivative suffix. Nouns of this category can be called Secondary Derived Nouns. The agentive nouns, formed by adding agentive markers to the stems, are the
lexical members of another category or class. /-w/ and /-Am/ are the agentive markers. In forming agentive nouns -w replaces -ə or -Am is added to the verbs (cf. 5.14).

Nouns formed by adding agentive markers /-w/ and /-Am/

ŋapa 'to play' ŋapa-Am or ŋapə 'player'
epə 'to read' epə-Am or epə 'reader'
lokpa 'to sing' lokpa-Am or lokpa 'singer'

Type: 2

The nouns under this category, formed by the derivation process, are the nouns formed by morphophonemic alternations (cf. 5.14).

nouns derived by replacing [-w] by [-ai]

hörə 'to touch' hörpa 'touching'
oŋpa 'to climb' oŋpa 'climbing'
p⁹eppa 'to ask' p⁹eppai 'asking'
paiŋa 'come' paiŋa 'coming'
maupa 'sweep' maupa 'sweeping'
papə 'write' papə 'writing'
epə 'read' epa 'reading'
Šipə 'sleep' Šipai 'sleeping'
Type: 3

Under this category, nouns are formed with the adding of ø morpheme derived to the lexical items of another category or class.

The list given below indicates nouns derived by ø added to the adjective to form abstract nouns:

- ṃaçi 'kind' ṃaçi 'kindness'
- Inpə 'soft' Inpə 'softness'
- cappə 'sweet' cappə 'sweetness'

6.1.4 Compound Nouns:

In Phom, compounds can be formed by adding two morphemes to form another word. The two morphemes can be the members of the same lexical category or different lexical categories. The compound nouns of these types are mostly endocentric. The compounds can be of the following types:

(i) Noun + noun
(ii) noun + verb
(iii) verb + noun
(iv) verb + verb
(v) verb + adjective
(vi) adverb + noun
(i) **noun + noun**: These are the nouns formed by adding two nouns together.

These are endocentric but sometimes, they can also be exocentric.

- **mei** + **Ši** 'hunting dog'
  - animal dog

- **mopəi** + **mu** 'wealth'
  - money property

- **kaɨ** + **raŋ** 'God'
  - earth sky

(ii) **noun + verb**: These are the compounds formed by joining a noun with a verb to form another noun.

- **lɨk** + **tʰuʔ** 'glove'
  - hand wear

- **pʰɬk** + **tʰuʔ** 'shirt'
  - shoulder wear

(iii) **verb + noun**: The nouns formed by adding verbs to the nouns.

- **pʰoppə** + **Šam** 'church'
  - to pray house
kʰimpə + Šam 'temple'

to worship  house

Šampu + mık 'those who never be happy by seeing others happiness'

to burn  eye

(iv) verb + verb: These are the nouns formed by adding two modal verbs.

haʔhan + yuŋhan 'meal'

eat (FUT)  drink (FUT)

taihan + laihân 'coming, going'

go (FUT)  come (FUT)

šuʔhan + yaʔhan 'a person who is good in transactions of money'

give (FUT)  take (FUT)

(v) verb + adjective: The nouns which are formed by adding the verbs and adjectives fall under this category. They are very few in the language.

lʰappə + yəŋpə 'mourning'

to cry  anxious

(vi) adverb + noun: This combination is formed by adding adverbs and nouns.

They refer to the different stages of human life.
6.1.5 Nouns can further be classified into:

(a) **Mass Nouns**

(b) **Count Nouns**

6.1.5.1 **Mass Nouns:**

These are not inflected for number and always occur in singular forms.

- `yoŋ` ‘water’
- `yaŋ` ‘sky’
- `kaŋ` ‘earth’
- `pʰiŋ` ‘sand’
- `yaŋ` ‘rain’
6.1.5.2 Count Nouns:
The nouns which are inflected for numbers could be called count nouns. The inflection for number can be shown by plural suffix /-t\textsuperscript{h}w/ or by quantifiers or numerals. (cf. 6.2.2). The nouns which are modified by numerals can directly be done. The classifiers are not added to the nouns before a numeral as is the case in Mishmi. Pluralization of the nouns by numerals is possible for all types of nouns. There is no distinction of nouns on the basis of animateness, shape and size in forming plurals by adding numerals. Numerals can follow or precede the nouns.

6.1.5.2.1 The inflections of the nouns by adding plurals:

- \textit{maŠi-t\textsuperscript{h}w} ‘cats’
- Šl\textit{n}ak-t\textsuperscript{h}w ‘people’
- Ši-t\textsuperscript{h}w ‘dogs’
- Š\textit{Am-t\textsuperscript{h}w} ‘houses’

6.1.5.2.2 The inflections of the nouns by adding numerals: (see 6.2.2)

- \textit{\textalpha{n} ˙maŠi} ‘ten cats’
- Šl\textit{n}ak ˙\texteta ‘five persons’
- Šl\textit{n}ak-t\textsuperscript{h}w ‘persons’
- naL-t\textsuperscript{h}w ‘children / infants’
6.1.5.2.3 The inflections of the nouns by adding quantifiers: (see 6.2.2)

- *mohö' -kʰəŋ* ‘herd of cows’
- *mi-kʰəŋ* ‘flock of sheep’
- *meiŋə-kʰəŋ* ‘herd of elephants’
- *yəm-kʰəŋ* ‘group of animals’
6.2 Number:

Nouns are overtly marked for plurals (see 6.1.1, 6.1.5.2). The demonstratives and adjectives can also be marked for plurals. There are three ways of pluralizing:

1. By suffixing the plural marker ‘tʰw’ to the base forms.
2. By adding numerals and quantifiers to the nouns
3. The Lexical plurals.

6.2.1 (i) Pluralizing by the suffixation:

The plurals of these kinds are formed by adding the plural suffix ‘tʰw’. It is added to all types of nouns - animates, in animates and demonstrative pronouns and also to the adjectives (cf. 6.7.3.1).

- maši + tʰw ‘cats’
- ši + tʰw ‘dogs’
- koyei + tʰw ‘horse’
- ojöw + tʰw ‘mothers’
- opa + tʰw ‘fathers’
- naL + tʰw ‘childern / infants’
- ha + tʰw ‘these’
6.2.2 (ii) **Pluralizing by numerals and quantifiers:**

The plurals are also formed by adding quantifiers to the nouns (cf. 6.1.5.2.2 and 6.1.5.2.3).

6.2.3 (iii) **Lexical plurals:**

The lexical plurals are those plurals which have separate lexical items for the first and second and third persons pronouns for singulars and plurals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(singular)</th>
<th>(plural)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ɳai ‘I’</td>
<td>cInp'^o ɳ ‘we’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nɪŋ ‘you’</td>
<td>amp'^o ɳ ‘you’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pəpə ‘he’</td>
<td>cUmp'^o ɳ ‘they’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pimw ‘she’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ha ‘it’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3 Case:

The case is a grammatical category which is used to identify the syntactic relationships between the words in a sentence. There are seven cases in Phom and the eighth is the locative. But, it has no evident case marker for the location and the post positions are used to show the locations in the sentence. The seven cases are:

(i) Nominative
(ii) Accusative
(iii) Genitive
(iv) Instrumental
(v) Ablative
(vi) Dative
(vii) Sociative

6.3.1 Nominative case:

In this case, the subject is the agent of the action. Nominative case in first person singular is not marked.

(i) ŋai ǝpǝ e-pei

I Nom him Ø see Rm Past

'I saw him.'
(ii) ŋai ɲaikʰəŋ ṣaŋai tom-peiʔ
   I Nom ball up throw Rm Past
   'I threw the ball high.'

(iii) niŋ – i papa epeiʔ
   you-Nom he see Rm Past
   'you saw him.'

(iv) papa-i nîk haʔ
   he Nom rice eat
   'he ate rice.'

6.3.2 Accusative case:

In this case, the relation of the object or receiver or goal of the sentence with the
verb is shown. Accusative case is marked by O.

(i) ŋai papa epeiʔ
   I him O see past
   'I saw him.'

(ii) cUmpʰon-i pə ciʔ
    they Nom snake O kill
    'They killed the snake.'
6.3.3 **Genitive case:**

The genitive case expresses a possessive relationship between the two arguments of the sentence. There are two markers for genitives: -lei and -ai (cf. 5.14).

(i) hayə ŋa-lei pen - hiʔ
   this I- Poss pen EMP
   ‘This is my pen.’

(ii) ŋa-lei pampa
   I Poss love
   ‘My love.’

6.3.4 **Instrumental case:**

This is the grammatical relationship by means of which the source of the action is identified. /ya’ai/ is the morpheme to show the instrumental case.

(i) ŋai loŋkʰoe’ ya’ai ašo ye let - peiʔ
   I knife by(Ins) mango cut Rm Past
   ‘I cut the mango with a knife.’

(ii) ŋai pen – hik ya’ai lai – hik ŋaŋ-peiʔ
   I pen one by (Ins) book / one write Rm Past
   ‘I wrote a letter with a pen.’
6.3.5 Ablative:

This is a grammatical relationship by means of which the source and the verb are related. /leipa/ is the morpheme which shows the ablative case.

(i) papa-i opa leipa lop ya-2

he Nom father from money get - R Past

‘He got the money from his father.’

(ii) pijiiu-i yonjyam leipa yon ya'ai lei-2

she Nom river from water take bring R Past

‘She brought the water from the river.’

6.3.6 Dative case:

This is the grammatical relationship by which the goal is related to the verb of the sentence. The morpheme /kw/ is used to show the dative case.

(i) nai pijuu kw laiayam hik Šu'-pei

I she to pen one give - Rm Past

‘I gave a pen to her.’

(ii) pijuu-i papa kw cu hik Šu'-pei

she Nom he to flower one give - Rm Past

‘She gave a flower to him.’

200
6.3.7 Sociative:

This is the grammatical relationship by which the relation of the object of the sentence to the verb is shown. /mwi/ is the morpheme to show the sociative case.

(i) ŋai opa - mwi tei-pei?
   I father with go Rm Past
   'I went with my father.'

(ii) papa papa lei kapu -mwi peika-pei?
    he he poss. friend With come Rm Past
    'He came with his friend.'

6.3.8 The different Cases with their Case Markers are shown in the table below:

6.3.8.1 Table showing case markers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Markers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nom</td>
<td>Ø -i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accusative</td>
<td>mwi  Ø</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genitive</td>
<td>lei / ai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrumental</td>
<td>ya'ai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dative</td>
<td>mwi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ablative</td>
<td>leipa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociative</td>
<td>mwi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (xxv)
6.3.9 **Locative:**

This indicates the grammatical relationship by which the locative noun phrases of the sentence are related to the verbs of the sentence. The Post Positions are used to show the locations in the sentence. There is no case marker.

(i) ha Ši - ya ṗaŋaŋaįį juųke
the / that dog that tree under Pr Prog
'The dog is under the tree.'

(ii) ha lai - ya hêtî l Šaŋaįį juųke
the / that book that table on Pr Prog
'The book is on the table.'
6.4 Gender:

The gender distinction in Phom is natural. The male beings come under Masculine and the female beings come under Feminine. The animate beings, which are not distinguished for gender, come under Common gender and all the inanimate beings come under the Neuter gender. The gender distinction is represented by the Lexical and compounding in Phom. Thus, the gender distinction in Phom can be described under:

(a) Masculine
(b) Feminine
(c) Neuter
(d) Common

6.4.1 (a) Masculine:

The masculine gender in Phom can be divided into human and non-human masculine. Human masculine can be divided into two groups that are lexical and compounded. The non-human masculine can also be grouped into lexical and compounded.
6.4.1.1 **Human masculine: Lexical:**

This category has lexical words for their representations. They do not have any markers.

- **paha** ‘boy’
- **yeSaŋ** ‘son’
- **opa** ‘father’
- **net’e** ‘bachelor’
- **opwa** ‘grand-father’

6.4.1.2 **Human masculine: Compounded:**

This type of masculine is represented by a marker. The marker for male is /-pa/ for humans. /-pa/ is a bound morpheme.

- **Šampipa** ‘husband’
- **lord** male
6.4.1.3 Non-human masculine:
Non-human masculine can also be divided into two. They are lexical and compounded.

6.4.1.4 Non-human masculine: Lexical:

- kadu ‘donkey’
- koyei ‘horse’
- mi ‘sheep’

6.4.1.5 Non-human masculine: compounded:

The marker for male in Phom is [pəŋ] to represent the masculinity of non-humans. [pəŋ] is added to the nouns in compound form.

- ɣom - pəŋ ‘he-goat’
- goat male

- mōh-o' - pəŋ ‘bull’
- cow male

- ú - pəŋ ‘cock’
- hen male
6.4.2

(b) Feminine:

The feminine gender in Phom can be studied under humans and non-humans. Human feminine can further be divided into lexical feminine and compounded feminine. The non-human feminine can also be divided into lexical and compounded.

![Diagram]

6.4.2.1 Humans feminine: Lexical:

These are the feminine that have lexical items for their representations. They do not have any markers.

- nala ‘girl’
- yikha ‘daughter’
- ogp ‘mother’
- opi ‘grand mother’
6.4.2.2 **Humans feminine: compounded:**

This type of feminine is represented by a marker. The marker for female is /-jiw/ for humans. /-jiw/ is a bound morpheme.

- Šampí-jiw 'wife'
- lord female

- yim-jiw 'widow'
- one who misses important part of ones life - female

In the compound form, one is a free morpheme and the other is a bound morpheme.

6.4.2.3 **Non – humans feminine:**

Non-human feminine can also be divided into two. They are lexical and compounded.

6.4.2.4 **Non – humans feminine: Lexical:**

- muhu' 'cow'
- ú 'hen'
- yUm ‘goat’
6.4.2.5 Non – humans feminine: compounded:

The marker for female in Phom is | -cipi | or | -cijəw | to represent the feminity of non-humans. | -cipi | or | -cijəw | is added to the nouns in the compound form.

koyei – cipi / koyei -cijəw ‘mare’

horse female horse female

donkey female donkey female

6.4.3 Neuter:

In neuter gender, the in-animate objects are grouped.

woʂɿŋ ‘chair’

šɿm ‘house’

yɔŋ ‘water’

ašak ‘cloth’

6.4.4 Common:

The animate nouns that are not distinguishable for males and females are grouped into common gender.

pwi ‘snake’

kʰɿŋha ‘lizard’

ŋaʔ ‘fish’

manha ‘fly’
6.5 Numerals:

Numerals in Phom are described in the following two groups:

(i) cardinal numerals
(ii) ordinal numerals

6.5.1 Cardinal numerals:

hìk ‘one’

jì ‘two’

cam ‘three’

əli ‘four’

ηa ‘five’

wɔk ‘six’

jiAt ‘seven’

ŠAt ‘eight’

Šw ‘nine’

ən ‘ten’

The pattern for numerals from 11-20 is ‘ten on one, ten on two and so on.

[ha] and [kok'b] are allomorphs for the morpheme / kok'b/ ‘twenty’. [kok'b] is used as the independent form for twenty and [ha] is bound form which is used with other numerals.
The pattern for numerals from 21-30 is ‘twenty on one’ and so on.
hapwan ‘thirty’

ha -pw -a

twenty on ten

The pattern for numerals from 31-40 is ‘twenty on ten on one, on two’ and so on.

hapwanpuhik ‘thirty one’

ha -pw -a -pw -hik

twenty on ten on one

hapwanpuši ‘thirty nine’

ha -pw -a -pw -ši

twenty on ten on nine

pišu ‘forty’

The pattern for numerals from 41-49 is ‘forty on one, on two’ and so on.

pišuwpuhik ‘forty one’

pišu-pw-hik

forty on one
The pattern for numerals from 50-59 is ‘fifty on one, on two’ and so on.

The pattern for numerals from 60-70 is ‘sixty on one, on two’ and so on.

The pattern for numerals from 80-90 is ‘eighty on one, on two’ and so on.
pisli ‘eighty’
pislipwan ‘ninety’
pislipwan -pwan

The pattern for numerals from 91-99 is ‘eighty on ten, on one’ and so on.
pislipwan -pwan -wan -puhik ‘ninety one’
pislipwan -pwan -wan -puhik

The pattern for numerals from 100-110 is ‘hundred with one’ and so on.
k’hik ‘one hundred’
k’hik -pwan -wan -puhik ‘one hundred and one’
k’hik -pwan -wan -puhik

The pattern for numerals from 111 onwards is ‘hundred with ten on one’ and so on.
k’hik -pwan -wan -puhik ‘one hundred and eleven’
k’hik -pwan -wan -puhik
6.5.1.1 The higher order numerals are:

kʰohik ‘one hundred’

haca ‘thousand’

6.5.2 Ordinal numerals:

[hik] and [šəŋ] are the two allomorphs for the morpheme [hik] ‘one’. [hik] is used in the cardinal numerals, and [šəŋ], for ordinal numerals. [pa] and [pəpə] are the two allomorphs for the ordinal numeral. [pəpə] is the base form. [pa] is used only for the first one and [pəpə] is used with all the other ordinal numerals.

šəŋpa ‘first’

jiipapa ‘second’

campapa ‘third’

alipapa ‘fourth’

ŋapa ‘fifth’

wəkapa ‘sixth’

ŋətapa ‘seventh’

Šətapa ‘eighth’

Šupapa ‘ninth’

ʌnpapa ‘tenth’
6.6 Pronouns:

Pronouns in Phom belong to open category. They can replace the nouns. Pronouns can be inflected for cases in the language. There are five kinds of pronouns in the language. They are:

1. personal pronouns
2. possessive pronouns
3. reflexive pronouns
4. demonstrative pronouns
5. interrogative pronouns

6.6.1 Personal pronouns:

A personal pronoun is a pronoun that is used to refer to three persons; that is, the person who is speaking; the person addressed to; and the third is the person spoken about. The first person is the speaker, the second person is the hearer or the person spoken to and the third person is the person spoken about. All the pronouns are lexical. There are singular and plural forms for all the three speakers. The gender difference is only in third person singular form.
6.6.1.1 Table showing personal pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>person</th>
<th>singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>ŋai 'I'</td>
<td>clnp' yö 'we'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>nìŋ 'you'</td>
<td>amp'oŋ 'you'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>pəpə w 'he'</td>
<td>cUmp'oŋ 'they'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pìpaw 'she'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hə 'it'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (xxvi)

6.6.2 Possessive pronouns:

These are the pronouns that show the possessive relationship between the two nouns of a sentence. There is also a grammatical relationship by means of inflections. There are two suffixes /-lei/ and /-ai/ to show the possessions (cf. 5.14).
### 6.6.2.1 Table showing possessive pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st singular possessive</td>
<td>ɲalei  ‘my’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st plural possessive</td>
<td>cenai  ‘our’(including the hearer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st plural possessive</td>
<td>hamei  ‘our’(excluding the hearer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd singular possessive</td>
<td>niŋai  ‘yours’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd plural possessive</td>
<td>clnpʰŋai  ‘yours’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd singular masculine</td>
<td>Pəpəlei  ‘his’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd singular feminine</td>
<td>pijimlai  ‘hers’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd plural</td>
<td>cUmpʰŋai  ‘theirs’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (xxvii)

### 6.6.3 Reflexive Pronouns:

These are personal pronouns that are used to reflect the subject of the action. The suffixes for the reflexive are /-nlŋ/ for the singular forms and the polymorphemic suffix /-nlŋtʰw/ is used for the plural form of the reflexives, where /-nlŋ/ is ‘self’ and /-tʰw/ is ‘plural’.

### 6.6.3.1 Table showing reflexive pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>ɲainlŋ  ‘myself’</td>
<td>clnpʰŋnŋtʰw ‘ourselves’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>niŋnlŋ  ‘yourself’</td>
<td>ampréŋnŋtʰw ‘yourselves’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>pəpəŋnlŋ  ‘himself’</td>
<td>cUmpʰŋŋtʰw ‘themselves’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pijimnlŋ  ‘herself’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (xxviii)
6.6.4 Demonstrative Pronouns:

These are the pronouns which point out nouns. There are two demonstrative pronouns identified in the language: /ha/ and /hatʰɯ/. The plural form /hatʰɯ/ is polymorphemic. One is a free morpheme and the other is a bound morpheme: /ha-/ is a free morpheme and /-tʰɯ/ is a bound morpheme.

6.6.4.1 Table showing demonstrative pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hà ‘this’</td>
<td>ḥatʰɯ ‘these’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hà ‘that’</td>
<td>ḥatʰɯ ‘those’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (xxix)

6.6.5 Interrogative Pronouns:

The pronouns of these kinds are used to ask questions. These are the pronouns that can replace the nouns and adverbs. Similar process operates in Mishmi. There are seven interrogative lexical pronouns in the language. These pronouns occur before the verbs.

ipa ‘who’
mikei ‘what’
micam ‘when’
milei ‘where’
mehekei ‘why’
mapa 'which'
ipalei 'whose'

(i) ipa - niŋ ipa lop Šu'-hən
   'who' you who money give - FUT
   'Who will give you money?'

(ii) mikei - niŋ-ai men mikei λŋ
   'what' you poss name what own
   'What is your name?'

(iii) micam - cIn-l micam ha'-hən
   'when' we Nom when eat FUT
   'When shall we eat?'

(iv) milei - ampʰon milei ŋu- ꠦwke
   'where' you(pl) where stay Prog
   'Where do you stay?'

(v) mehekei - niŋ mehekei pʰeipa
   'why' you why late
   'Why are you late?'

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(vi) mapa - niŋ-l mapa ɲa' ya'-hən

'which' you Nom which fish take-FUT

'Which fish do you take?'

(vii) ipalei - ha Šam ipalei ʔŋ

'whose' this house whose own

'Whose house is this?'
6.7 **Adjective:**

Adjectives belong to the lexical category in Phom. Adjectives consist of all those words that modify the nouns. They can either precede or follow the nouns.

(i) nala maipa

- girl beautiful / good
- ‘beautiful girl’

(ii) kUnko’pa ha’Si

- clever child
- ha’Si kUnko’pa
- child clever

### 6.7.1 The Pattern in Adjectives:

6.7.1.1 Adjectives usually end at /-pa/ but that is not the case in all the adjectives as is evident from the following examples:

- Šampə ‘hot’
- aipe ‘hunger’
- t’hiek ‘sour’
6.7.1.2 Colour terms have -la endings:
The color terms without -la do not have any sense. With -la, color terms qualify to be an adjective.

hakla 'red'
ț'iŋla 'green'
Šula 'white'
woŋla 'yellow'

6.7.2 Classifications of the adjectives:
Adjectives can be classified under two heads. They are:

a) Adjectives of Quality
b) Adjectives of Quantity

6.7.2.1 Adjective of quality:
The Adjectives of Quality show the qualities of a noun that is associated with the nouns.

ț'iŋla 'green'
p'ä'ći 'kind'
pamhiŠi 'lovely'
6.7.2.2 Adjectives of quantity:

The Adjective of Quantity indicates the quantity of a noun. The quantity can be of three types in Phom, as it in Mishmi, which indicates the quantity of the objects, collection of the objects and the number of the objects.

6.7.2.2.1 Quantity of the objects:

mani  ‘few’

pu  ‘all’

6.7.2.2.2 Collection of the objects:

kʰon  ‘collection of the animals’

paŋ  ‘panchayat or assembly’

6.7.2.2.3 Number of the objects:

hik  ‘one’

ali  ‘four’

6.7.3 Inflections of the Adjectives:

6.7.3.1 Inflections of the adjectives of color terms:

Adjectives of color terms can be inflected for plurals. They can follow or precede the noun. The other adjectives also follow the same pattern but they can not be inflected for plurals (see 6.2.1).
6.7.3.2 Inflections of adjectives for negation:

Adjectives can be inflected for the negation (cf. 6.13.1).

na - maipa
not good
‘bad’

na - inpa
not soft
‘not soft’

na - Še
not wet
‘not wet’
6.7.4 Adjectives of Degrees:

The degree of comparison is marked on the adjectives by affixes. For comparative degree, suffix | - pa | is added to the adjectives, and for superlative degree, prefix |pəlma-| is added before the adjectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
<th>Superlative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>maipə ‘good’</td>
<td>maipə-pə ‘better’</td>
<td>pəlma-maipə ‘best’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lupa ‘tall’</td>
<td>lupa-pə ‘taller’</td>
<td>pəlma-lupa ‘tallest’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.7.5 Adjectives can also take classifiers and intensifiers:

Ca - hik
new one
‘new’

Ca - kʰɔ
new very
‘new’

6.7.6 Structure of Adjectives:

The adjectives in Phom may consist of a stem, or a combination of stems and various other affixes.
6.7.6.1 Simple Stems:

These are monomorphemic and they can not be analysed into the morphemes. A large number of adjectives are from this group. The qualifier and quantifier numerals (cardinal and ordinal, quantifiers of objects, collection of objects) belong to this group.

6.7.6.1.1 qualifiers:

mai̱pə 'good'
lupa 'tall'
tʰiŋla 'green'
pʰaçi 'kind'
tʰiɔk 'sour'
cappa 'sweet'

6.7.6.1.2 collection of objects:

kʰɔŋ 'collection of the animals'
pan 'panchayat or assembly'

6.7.6.1.3 cardinal numerals:

hik 'one'
pi 'two'
cam 'three'
əli 'four'
ŋa  ‘five’
wok  ‘six’
ŋɔt  ‘seven’
Șɔt  ‘eight’
Șw  ‘nine’
ən  ‘ten’
kokʰa  ‘twenty’
kʰɔhik  ‘hundred’
haca  ‘thousand’

6.7.6.1.4 **Ordinal numerals:**
Șɔŋpa  ‘first’
ŋipɔŋe  ‘second’
cɔŋpɔŋe  ‘third’
ɔlɔŋpɔŋe  ‘fourth’
ŋapɔŋe  ‘fifth’
wɔkɔŋpɔŋe  ‘sixth’
ŋɔtɔŋpɔŋe  ‘seventh’
Șɔtɔŋpɔŋe  ‘eighth’
Șwɔŋpɔŋe  ‘ninth’
əŋpɔŋe  ‘tenth’
6.7.6.2 Derived Stems:

These are polymorphemic stems consisting of two morphemes, of which one is a bound morpheme and the other is a free morpheme.

6.7.6.2.1 Adjectives derived from nouns and verbs:

The adjectives in Phom can be derived from nouns and verbs. /-hiŠi/ is the derivative suffix, which is added to the verbs and nouns to form an adjective.

Pam-hiŠi  ‘lovely’
love

him-hiŠi  ‘salty’
salt

pežhiŠi  ‘sandy’
sand

Šiž-hiŠi  ‘sleepy’
Sleep

6.7.6.2.2 Adjectives derived with O derivation:

Some of the stems of another category are derived to adjectival category with O derivation. The words of a lexical category can be derived to the other lexical category without any change in the shape of the words as in:
6.7.6.3 Compound Stems:

Adjectives in Phom also consist of compound stems. They are polymorphemic. They may consist of two or more morphemes and all are free. However, these morphemes are analyzeable.

6.7.6.3.1 Nouns and adjectives are compounded to form another adjective:

Ša’hiŋ ‘honesty’
word truth

Ša’-lem ‘lie’
word wrong

6.7.6.3.2 The cardinal numerals after ten are of compound stems:

ʌn 朴实 hik ‘eleven’
ten on one

há -朴实 -šw ‘twenty nine’
twenty on nine

há -朴实 -ʌn -朴实 -hik ‘thirty one’
twenty on ten on one
6.8 **Adverb:**

6.8.1 Adverbs in Phom language are all those words that modify the verbs. There are three kinds of adverbs in the language:

1. **adverb of manner**
2. **adverb of time**
3. **adverb of place**

6.8.1.1 **Adverb of manner:**

These are the adverbs that specify the manner of the action, as it is performed or as the event occurs:

- yɔŋmə ‘slowly’
- InŠi ‘softly’
- lɔmmi ‘quickly’
- pəmhiŠi ‘kindly’
- kUŋkɔši ‘cleverly’

6.8.1.2 **Adverb of Time:**

These are the adverbs which specify the time of the action or the event:

- hepɔk ‘time’
- Šinji ‘today’
- ñi jii ‘tomorrow’
- Šonji ‘yesterday’
6.8.1.3 Adverb of place:

These are the adverbs which specify the place of the action or event:

antolei ‘there’
hatonei ‘here’
litei ‘away’
Šañlam ‘upwards’
Šakkei ‘out’
Šanįei ‘on’
pʰaŋeį ‘under’

6.8.2 Structure of Adverbs:

Adverbs in Phom can also be derived from other classes. An adverb may contain a stem or a bound morpheme and/or adverbialising suffix. The adverbs can be Primary or Secondary derived stems.

6.8.2.1 Primary Derived Stems:

These types of adverbs are polymorphemic and may contain one bound morpheme and one free morpheme. These types of adverbs are present to specify the direction of the space of action.

Šan – lam ‘upwards’
up way
mai - lam ‘downwards’
down way

Śañ- and mai- are the morphemes which can also be identified to be a member of adverbs to show the direction of the place of the action.

6.8.2.2 Secondary Derived Stems:
These are the types of adverbs which are polymorphemic. The adverb is formed by adding an adverbialising suffix to the stems. The stems are either an adjective or a verb.

6.8.2.3 Adverb derived from adjectives:
Adverb can be derived from adjectives by adding a marker |-hiŠi | and | Ši | which are the adverbialising suffixes with the replacement of |-pə| by the process of morphophonemic alternations.

pampə ‘kind’ ←→ pamhiŠi or pamŠi ‘kindly’
taupə ‘poor’ ←→ tauŠi ‘poorly’
Inpə ‘soft’ ←→ InŠi ‘softly’
kUnko'pə ‘clever’ ←→ kUko'Ši ‘cleverly’

The use of –Ši is more frequent than the use of – hiŠi.
6.8.2.4 Compound Stems or Reduplication of adverbs:

Some adverbs are reduplicated, but their categories remain the same. The Secondary derived stems are totally reduplicated. But they do not change to any other lexical category. They are class maintaining.

lommi lommi ‘quickly’
quickly quickly

yøŋøø yøŋøø ‘slowly’
slowly slowly

InSì InSì ‘softly’
softly softly
6.9 Verb:

The verb in Phom can be defined as a member of open or lexical category. Verbs are mainly action words. They are inflected for tense and mood in the language. The verbs are not derived, but are free morphemes. The verbs usually end at [pa], which is the infinitive form of verbs as given below:

6.9.1 The infinitive form of verbs:

ipa ‘to speak’
ci ‘pa ‘to kill’
yeppa ‘to catch’
cakpa ‘to burn’
tipa ‘to die’
t^pa ‘to fight’
yUqpa ‘to drink’
epa ‘to see’

6.9.2 Classification of the Verbs:

The verbs can be classified on the basis of transitivity – that is, the number of arguments present in the sentence. There is a three way classification of the verbs: transitive, di-transitive and intransitives.
6.9.2.1 **Intransitive verbs:**

These are the types of verbs that require only one argument – that is, the subject of the sentence.

1

Sleep: NP

(i) pəpə Ši'

he sleep-R Past

‘He slept’

Run: 1

NP

(ii) koyei mok

horse run

‘Horse run’

Go: 1

NP

(iii) tāi – peiʔ

1 go Rm Past

‘I went’
6.9.2.2 **Transitive verbs**: Transitive verbs require two arguments, subject and object of the sentence.

Catch:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>NP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(i)  "njai kiu'pə yep - pei"  

I thief catch Rm Past  

‘I caught the thief.’

(ii)  "cUmpʰən-i pəw cam ci"  

they Nom snake three kill-R Past  

‘They killed three snakes.’

See:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>NP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(iii)  "pəw - I maSi hik e-pej"  

she Nom cat one see Rm Past  

‘She saw a cat.’
6.9.2.3 **Di-transitive verbs:**

Di-transitive verbs require three arguments: (1) the subject, (2) object of the sentence and (3) a dative object.

\[
\text{Put:} \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \\
\text{NP} \quad \text{NP} \quad \text{NP}
\]

(i) \( \pi_i \text{nu} - I \) \( \text{bakot lei} \) \( a\text{Šak hi} \)

\[
\text{she} \quad \text{Nom} \quad \text{box -in} \quad \text{cloth keep-R Past}
\]

'She kept the cloth in the box.'

Persuade:

\[
\text{i} \quad 2 \quad 3 \\
\text{NP} \quad \text{NP} \quad \text{NP}
\]

(ii) \( \text{pepeI} \) \( \pi_i \text{nu} \) \( \text{ki p}^{\text{ba}} \text{i ha}^{\text{to}} \) \( \text{še} \text{I e} \)

\[
\text{he} \quad \text{Nom} \quad \text{her to meat eat soft - speak R Past}
\]

'He persuaded her to eat meat.'

Give:

\[
\text{i} \quad 2 \quad 3 \\
\text{NP} \quad \text{NP} \quad \text{NP}
\]

(iii) \( \text{nai} \) \( \pi_i \text{nu} \) \( \text{kw lai} \) \( hik Šu' - \text{pe} \text{I} \)

\[
\text{I} \quad \text{sh. o book one give Rm Past}
\]

'I gave a book to her.'
The semantic criteria do not support the phenomenon of Argument inclusive verbs, as is the case in Mishmi.

6.9.3 Semantic Classification:
While making the semantic classification of the verbs in Phom, it was observed that Existential verbs, Ambient state verbs, Qualitative state verbs, Sensory state verbs (cf. 3.3.2) are not present in Phom. There are no particular verbs for conveying these types of state of actions. The meaning is conveyed through a sentence or with combination of words. The concept of Cognitive state verbs is present in the language.

6.9.3.1 Cognitive State Verbs:
These are the verbs that represent the cognitive state of the mind to show the emotional action and perceptual ability. These are the same verbs as infinite form of verbs but they have ability to convey the same meaning (cf.3.3.4).

- pampa 'to love'
- te’pa 'to think'
- cihepa 'to hate'
- nijtaipa 'to know'

The processes refer the state of change and action without external force or agency. There are no particular words to show these types of actions.
6.9.4 Serial verbs:

Presence and availability of serial verbs in Phom indicate a predominant feature of Tibeto-Burman languages. There are sentences where many verbs occur together to convey a meaning. These verbs are called Serial verbs. In Phom, more than one verb occurs adjacent to each other to convey a meaning.

(i) ɳai tau tik -ha' Še - tike
    I work do eat be Pr Perf.
    ‘I should have done the work.’

(ii) piטע τau τik ok ha' Še - tike
    she work do triumph eat be Pr Perf.
    ‘She should have done the work.’

6.9.5 Causative verbs:

In Phom, there is morphological causative. The causation is brought by the infixation. The infixation instigates the event by the external stimulus. The external stimulus is either the agent or someone who is the actual performer. The double causative is not present in the language.

6.9.5.1 Formation of causative verbs:

6.9.5.1.1 The causative verbs can be formed by infix [-h].

Šepə 'to wet' Šepə 'to make wet'
Šu'pə 'to give' Šu'hipə 'to make some one to give'
The adjectives can also be changed to causative verbs by infixing [-hi]. These adjectives are very few which can be changed to verbs to show causation.

- *pampõ* ‘love’  *pamhĩpõ* ‘to make someone to love’
- *meipõ* ‘to heal’  *meihĩpõ* ‘to make someone to heal’
6.10 Tense:

In Phom verbs are inflected for tense. Only past and future tense are clearly marked and present tense is indicated by progressive and perfective aspect markers. There are distinctions in recent and remote past. The concept of immediacy and non-immediacy can also be traced in Phom. The immediacy refers to the action that has been completed in the past but very recently, the non-immediacy refers to the action that has been completed in past. There is a remote gap of the action performed from the time of reference.

![Diagram of Tense]

Figure (xv)

6.10.1 Past Tense:

The past tense markers are | -pei' | and | -² |. The remote past is indicated by the marker | -pei' | and recent past is indicated by the marker | -² |.

(1) e-pei'

see Rm Past

'saw'
6.10.2 **Future Tense:**

The future tense is indicated by the marker /-hAn/. There is no distinction for the immediate and non-immediate future.

(i) tai –hAn

   go FUT

   ‘will go’

(ii) t’epθ –hAn

   fight FUT

   ‘will fight’
(iii)  ci\textsuperscript{2}–han
kill FUT
‘will kill’

(iv)  Šu’–han
give FUT
‘will give’
6.11 Aspect:
Aspect refers primarily the way a grammar marks the temporal activities, their types and duration, as denoted by the verb. The aspects in Phom can be represented in two ways for the present. The present progressive is shown by the morpheme |jiike| and the present perfect is shown by the morpheme |tike|. These two suffixes show the time of action, whether it is complete or is in progress or continuous.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Present Progressive</th>
<th>Present Perfect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure (xvi)

6.11.1 As indicated, in Phom present progressive is marked by |jiike|:

(i) nit' e - t'u - i p'h@i ha'jiike

boat pl Nom meal eat Pr Prog.

‘Boys are eating the food.’

(ii) ha' Si - ya pu p'anjai jiike

the / that dog that(sp.det.) tree under Pr Prog

‘The dog is under the tree.’
6.11.2 The present perfective marker is |dike| or |tike|:

(i) ragini - i nyakke i-tike

ragini Nom laughingly speak Pr Perf.

‘Ragini spoke laughingly.’

(ii) ha ha`Ši - i maŠi e – tike

the boy Nom cat see Pr Perf.

‘The boy has seen the cat.’
6.12 Mood:
Moods refer to attitudes of the speakers towards the actual content of the utterance. There is no tense distinction shown by the mood. In Phom language moods can be shown only in the imperative form of verbs.

6.12.1 Imperative verbs:
In the expression of commands, the verb forms remain the same and a suffix [-tu'] is added to the verb.

[i-tu'] ‘Speak’
[tai-tu'] ‘Go’
[e-tu'] ‘See’
[haʔ- tu'] ‘Eat’

Only exception is the verb ‘come’, in which [heikei] is the command for come.

6.12.2 The negative form of expression of command is shown by prefix [-te], which is added to the verbs.

te-tai ‘Do not go’
te-i ‘Do not speak’
te-ci ‘Do not kill’
te-Šu ‘Do not give’
6.13 Negative:

In Phom, there are two negative markers i.e. |na-| and |ne-|. It also has one free morpheme |neŜai| 'not', and the negative marker in imperative is |te-|. The negatives in Phom can be treated in all the different roles.

Figure (xvii)

6.13.1 |na-| as the negative marker:

The prefix |na-| is added to the adjectives to negate the sentence (see 6.7.3.2).

na-maipa

neg good

‘bad’

na-Še

neg wet

‘not wet’
na - taupə
neg poor
‘not poor’

na-lnpə
neg soft
‘not soft’

6.13.2 |ne-| as the negative marker:

The prefix |ne-| is added to the verbs and adverbs to negate the sentence.

ne- taipə
neg go

ne - ci³
neg kill

ne- antolei
neg there

ne- Šaŋei
neg on
6.13.3 |ne Yai| as the negative:

The morpheme |ne Yai| is used after the nouns to negate the sentence.

pi,ŋəŋ a-lei ŋə neYai
she I Poss sister not
'she is not my sister.'

hapaye Ši hik neYai
that dog one not
'That is not a dog.'

6.13.4 Imperative prefix |te-| as negative marker:

te tai
not go
'Do not go.'

te - e
not read
'Do not read.'
6.14 Word Formation Processes:

There are four major processes of word formation in Phom language. They are:

1. Derivation
2. Compounding
3. Re-duplication
4. Blending

6.14.1 Derivation:

Derivation refers to change in the form of words. The new words are derived from the existing word. The class of words is changed into another class or grammatical category by the change in the forms. The words formed by this process are always class changing in Phom.

6.14.1.1 Nouns from verbs:

Nouns are formed from verbs by replacing /a/ with /ai/.

(i) horj̪e  horj̪ai
    'touch'  'touching'

(ii) oqp̪e  oqp̪ai
    'climb'  'climbing'

(iii) jiarj̪e  jiarj̪ai
    'write'  'writing'
6.14.1.2 **Adverbs from adjectives:**

Adverbs are formed from adjectives by replacing /pa/ with /si/.

(i) kUnko'pə kUnko' Si

‘clever’ ‘cleverly’

(ii) taupa tauSi

‘poor’ ‘poorly’

(iii) Inpə InSi

‘soft’ ‘softly’

6.14.1.3 **Agentive nouns from verbs:**

Nouns are formed by replacing /pa/ with /Am/or /ə/ with /w/.

(i) bkpə → bkp8Am / lokpm

‘sing’ ‘singer’

(ii) jiarjpa → jiap8Am / jiapw

‘to write’ ‘writer’

orjpa → orp8Am / orpaw

‘to climb’ ‘climber’
6.14.2 Compounding:

In Phom compounds can be formed by adding two morphemes to form another word. The compounds are mostly endocentric. The compounds formed by this process are mostly nouns, except a few where adjectives are formed. The compounds can be of following types:

a) Noun + noun = noun
b) noun + verb = noun
c) noun + adjective = adjective
d) noun + adverb = noun
e) verb + noun = noun
f) verb + verb = noun
g) verb + adjective = noun

6.14.2.1 noun + noun:

Under this category, two nouns are joined to form another word and the word formed is a noun.

lai + Šam ‘school’
book house

cu + Šoŋ ‘nose ring’
flower nose
6.14.2.2 noun + verb:

These are the compounds formed by joining a noun with a verb to form another noun.

\( \text{lāk} + t^{h}u' \) ‘glove’

hand wear

\( \text{p}^{h}\text{āk} + t^{h}u' \) ‘shirt’

shoulder wear

6.14.2.3 noun + adjective:

These are the compounds formed by joining a noun with an adjective to form another adjective.

\( \text{ša}^{h}\text{iŋ} \) ‘honesty’

word truth

\( \text{ša}^{h}\text{-lem} \) ‘lie’

word wrong

\( \text{ka}^{h} + \text{maipō} \) ‘fertile’

earth good
6.14.2.4 noun + adverb:

These are the compounds formed by joining a noun with an adverb to form another noun.

- ha'Ši + hepAk 'childhood'
  child time

- t'ehila + hepAk 'adulthood'
  youth time

- naL + hepAk 'infancy'
  baby time

- pehe + hepAk 'old age'
  old time

6.14.2.5 verb + noun:

These compounds are formed with the help of a verb and a noun. The resulting form is always noun.

- pʰoppə + ŠAm 'church'
  to pray house

- kʰimpə + ŠAm 'temple'
  to worship house
6.14.2.6 verb + verb:

Some compounds are formed when two modal verbs join together to form another word and the word formed is a noun.

ha\textsuperscript{\textdagger}han + y\textsuperscript{\textdagger}ph\textsuperscript{\textdagger}han "meal"

eat (FUT) drink (FUT)

tai\textsuperscript{\textdagger}han + lai\textsuperscript{\textdagger}han "coming, going"

go (FUT) come (FUT)

6.14.2.7 verb + adjective:

These are the compound formed by joining a verb and an adjective to form another word and the word formed is a noun. These types of words are very few in the language.

\textsuperscript{\textdagger}Vpp\textsuperscript{\textdagger}a + ya\textsuperscript{\textdagger}ops "mourning"

to cry anxious

6.14.3 Re - duplication:

Reduplication is a process of repeating whole or part of the word. In Phom, there is total lexical reduplication and it is class maintaining. The reduplicated words maintain their lexical categories after reduplication.
6.14.3.1 The action verbs which can be used as adverbs can totally be reduplicated:

lomi lomi $\rightarrow$ 'quickly'

quickly - quickly

n ita n ita $\rightarrow$ 'laughingly'

laughingly laughingly

yηηmw yηηmw $\rightarrow$ 'slowly'

slowly slowly

tʰapta tʰapta $\rightarrow$ 'weeping'

weeping weeping

Šitə Šitə $\rightarrow$ 'sleeping'

sleeping sleeping

etə etə $\rightarrow$ 'seeing'

seeing seeing

yita yita $\rightarrow$ 'drinking'

drinking drinking
6.14.3.2 Echo – formation:

Echo – formation is one of the processes of re-duplication. It is a sub-category of morphological expressive reduplication. In echo-formation, the initial phoneme /k-/ is replaced by /y-/. 

ki\(^3\)pə yi\(^3\)pə ——— ‘theft / thief and the alike’

wom yom ——— ‘stomach and the alike’

Su\(^3\)pə yu\(^3\)pə ——— ‘give and the alike’

mok yok ——— ‘run and the alike’

6.14.3.3 Imitative reduplication:

Imitative reduplication is one of the processes of re-duplication. It is a sub-category of morphological expressive reduplication. This process is frequent in Phom. In this process, the natural sounds are re-duplicated.

\(t^hU\) k \(t^hU\) k ——— ‘beating of heart’

ha ha ——— ‘laughing sound’

\(t^h\)ŋ \(t^h\)ŋ ——— ‘beating of drum’
6.14.4 Blending:

Blending is a process by which words are formed. In this process the meanings and sounds are combined to form a new word. It is one of the frequently used processes of word-formation in Phom language.
(i) Șaŋc iŋ + ašak

‘head’ ‘cloth’ ‘scarf’

(ii) lenjim + apʰək

‘moon’ ‘half’ ‘half moon’

(iii) ka’tok + yanšu

‘earth’ ‘sky’ ‘God’

(iv) montology + laițIn

‘heart’ ‘disease’ ‘heart disease’

(v) Șaŋc iŋ + yan

‘head’ ‘bone’ ‘skull’

(vi) maŋ + yan

‘corpse’ ‘bone’ ‘skeleton’

The last syllable of the first word and the first syllable of the second word are deleted in the process of forming another word. But, if the second syllables of the words end in vowels then, those syllables are deleted. The words which are formed by Blending always end in consonants.