CONCLUSION
CONCLUSIONS

In particular, this research is able to build a comprehensive theory of the expression side of language, mainly phonology, morphology. This descriptive study is conveniently divided into three parts: phonology, morphology, and grammar, which form the core of descriptive linguistic research. It has rightly been pointed out by one of the leading descriptive linguists, H.A. Gleason (1995):

Using the phoneme and the morpheme as their basic units, linguists have been able to build a comprehensive theory of the expression side of the language, and to make detailed and comprehensive statements about the expression systems of specific languages. This is what is ordinarily called descriptive linguistics.

The thesis begins with the ethnographic description of Phom language. This chapter emphasizes that languages must be frequently investigated as immediate expression of the interaction between humans and their environment. The first chapter provides the ethnographic information of the people, their land, living habitat, culture, population etc.

The second chapter deals with the classification of the language. This chapter is divided into three parts: (1) Genetic Classification, (2) Typological Classification and (3) Morphological Classification.

Genetic Classification deals with the geneological classification of the Phom language. Phom belongs to Tibeto-Burman family of languages. The different
classifications proposed by linguists for Tibeto-Burman languages are given. The language has been mentioned in some of the classifications and in some classifications the language is not mentioned. The possibility of the placement of the language in particular family is also discussed where the language has not been mentioned under any branch.

The second section of this chapter discusses the typological classification of the language. The typological characteristics of the Phom language are carried out by comparing the features with other languages of the family. This classification is based on the model of Subbarao, 1997 (cf. typological characteristics of Tibeto-Burman languages). The common features of the Tibeto-Burman languages are also discussed. Phom exhibits the SOV word order pattern, i.e. it is a verb final language as other Tibeto-Burman languages. Phom has post-positions like other verb final languages. Genitive precedes the governing noun in Phom. The marker of comparison follows the standard of comparison in Phom like other Tibeto-Burman languages. Time adverbials (TA) precede Place Adverbials (PA) in Tibeto-Burman and also in Phom. Time Adverbials and Place Adverbials occur in descending order in Phom. Adjectives can follow or precede the head noun i.e. modified in Tibeto-Burman languages and also in Phom. In Phom, numerals follow the head noun and it can also precede the head noun. Determiners follow the head noun in the unmarked word order. It may also precede the head noun. Phom also has split determiners. The negative particles occur pre-verbally in some Tibeto-Burman languages and this characteristic is also found in Phom.
The question particles or wh- constituents occur pre-verbally in Phom. Phom has relative clause but relative pronoun is absent and the determiners sometime serve the purpose of relative pronouns. In Phom, adverbs can be re-duplicated as other South-Asian and Tibeto-Burman languages.

The third section of this chapter discusses the morphological classification of Phom language. Phom is partly isolating and partly agglutinating. In particular, it also deals with the morphological typology of Tibeto-Burman languages.

The third chapter discusses the different methodologies that were employed for the (1) collection of data, (2) field work (3) information (4) methods of observation (5) analysis of data.

The fourth chapter deals with the Literature Review. It is divided into three parts: (1) Earlier works, (2) Available sources and (3) Model Selected: (a) (i) Review of Literature on Phonology (ii) Model selected for Phonology and; (b) (i) Review of Literature on Morphology and (ii) Model selected for Morphology.

The Earlier works deals with the earlier works done on the language by different linguists. The earlier works are again sub-divided into linguistic and non-linguistic works. In the section for earlier works, the works of different linguists have been summarized and a short discussion has been made wherever possible. The non-linguistic information has also been dealt with in the same way. Available Sources contain the list of the series of materials of previous works.
done on Tibeto-Burman languages. Model Selected is divided into two parts; i.e. review of the literature and the selection of the model.

The fifth chapter deals with the phonological analysis of the language. The discussions are made on vowels, phonemic and allophonic vowels, phonetic description of vowels and diphthongs, the consonants, allophonic consonant, phonetic description of consonants, consonant clusters, and geminates. The distinctive features for vowels and consonants are discussed in another section. The canonical structure of words and syllabic structure are also discussed. This chapter also deals with tones and the types of tones. In particular, it also deals with morphophonemics, rules and phonological processes in Phom.

The sixth chapter deals with the morphological analysis of the language. In this chapter, the morphological categories- the primary and the secondary grammatical categories- are dealt with, in detail. This chapter discusses the structure and use of the Nouns, Number, Case, Gender, Numeral, Pronouns, Adjective, Adverbs, Verbs, Tense, Aspect, Mood, Negation and Word Formation Processes.

The study of nouns includes the structure of nouns, types of nouns, classification of nouns. The number has been discussed for its inflection for plurals. The different cases, and the gender, the numerals - cardinal and ordinal and also the patterns of numerals - are discussed. Pronoun and different types of pronouns, adjective, their patterns, classifications, inflections, degrees of adjectives, structures are discussed. The discussion on adverbs includes their classification.
and structure. The study on verbs includes the infinitive pattern of verbs, classification of the verbs and other types of verbs. Tense, aspect and mood have also been discussed. This chapter also includes the discussion on negation.

At the end the spectrographic study of the sounds has been given which is followed by the text and the appendix and bibliography.

This work is an attempt to describe the language. This descriptive study does not claim to be the complete analysis of Phom language. A detailed and proper analysis on Syntax and Semantics is also required. Serious efforts are needed on morphology and syntax. However, we can hope that this thesis will provide a base for future research. This can point some future steps which will be helpful in the further research on Phom.