

The classification of Na Meo, a Hmong-Mien language of Vietnam

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Abstract

Na Meo is a language spoken in a cluster of villages encompassing the northern Vietnam provinces of Lang Son, Cao Bang, and Bac Kan, as well as a single village in Tuyen Quang province (Nguyen 2007). Its existence as a divergent Hmong-Mien language has been noted by the Vietnamese government since 1975. However, Na Meo has remained very poorly documented, and is currently still listed as an unclassified language in Ethnologue (ISO 639-3 code [neo]) due to the lack of published data. The lengthiest published word list to date is that of Nguyen (2007), which has 67 Na Meo words in non-IPA orthography.

Within Tuyên Quang province, Na Meo is spoken only in the single village of Khuân Hề, Kim Quan commune, Yên Sơn district. In February 2014, I had personally collected nearly 400 lexical items from Na Meo of Khuân Hề. This Na Meo variety was previously undocumented, and the commune location is known only from Nguyen (2007). This variety is very similar to, and likely mutually intelligible with, the Na Meo data in Jerold Edmondson (n.d.). Edmondson (n.d.), a handwritten manuscript of about 500 lexical items of Na Meo, was the result of a field expedition in Cao Bang province during the late 1990's, and the data in there has remained unpublished to date.

Following suggestions from Edmondson (p.c.) and Nguyen (2007) that Na Meo may likely be a Qiangdong Miao (Central Miao) language belonging to the Hmongic branch of Hmong-Mien, I will support these claims by demonstrating lexical isoglosses and phonological features that are shared exclusively among Na Meo and Qiangdong Miao languages, but not in other branches of Hmongic. Since Qiangdong Miao includes diverse lects spoken mainly in Guizhou but also in neighboring Hunan and Guangxi provinces, I will then further compare Tuyen Quang and Cao Bang Na Meo with the Qiangdong Miao dialects covered in Li (2000) and Chen (2013) to determine where in China the Na Meo speakers' ancestors had most likely migrated from. Comparison shows that Na Meo is most similar to Southern Qiangdong Miao dialects spoken in Guangxi province, a result of one of the many migrations that had brought various ethnic groups from southern China to northern Vietnam during the turbulent Qing Dynasty period.

Languages and ISO 639-3 codes

- Ná-Meo [ISO 639-3: neo]
- Southern Qiangdong Miao [ISO 639-3: hms]
- Eastern Qiangdong Miao [ISO 639-3: hmq]
- Northern Qiangdong Miao [ISO 639-3: hea]
- Western Qiangdong Miao [no ISO 639-3]

Names (Na Meo)

- Ethnologue / ISO name: Ná-Meo
- Vietnamese name: Na Miêu

Names (Qiandong Miao)

- Ethnologue / ISO / Chinese name: **Qiandong Miao** 黔东南苗语 (Qiandong 黔东南 = Eastern Guizhou)
- Name (autonym): **Hmu**, or **Mu**
- Alternative Chinese name: **Central Miao** 苗语中部方言
- Name in Ratliff (2010): **East Hmongic**

East Hmongic (following Martha Ratliff's terminology), also known as Hmu or as Qiandong Miao in China, consists of at least 3 or 4 mutually unintelligible languages spoken primarily in southeastern Guizhou, north-central Guangxi, and southwestern Hunan provinces of southern China. The Yanghao dialect of Northern Qiandong Miao is the official standard dialect for the Qiandong Miao macrolanguage (*fangyan* 方言 in Chinese). Southern Qiandong Miao (ISO-639-3: [hms]) is covered in Chen Qiguang (2013), Li Yunbing (2000), and Guangxi (2008).

Languages: Locations and sources

Language	Datapoint	Source	Lat./Long.
Na Meo	Tuyên Quang	Hsiu (2014)	21.8486731,105.4383658
Na Meo	Cao Bằng	Edmondson (n.d.)	22.4820439,106.4824318
Na Meo	Lạng Sơn	Nguyen (2007)	22.3601174,106.2249613
Na Meo	-	Nguyen (1975)	-
Southern Qiandong	Zhenmin 振民	Chen (2013)	25.5894065,109.185151
Southern Qiandong	Guncen 滚岑	Guangxi (2008)	25.5137346,108.929175
Southern Qiandong	Yaogao 尧告	Chen (2013)	25.5176443,108.778496
Southern Qiandong	Yangpai 羊排	Li (2000)	26.1808945,107.862497
Southern Qiandong	Datu 大土	Li (2000)	25.5466686,108.260913
Eastern Qiandong	Caidiwan 菜地湾	Chen (2013)	26.5359365,109.453652
Eastern Qiandong	Xiang'ao 香鳌	Li (2000)	26.6739886,109.196649
Western Qiandong	Heba 河坝	Chen (2013)	26.4342625,107.681984
Western Qiandong	Baixing 白兴	Li (2000)	26.4342625,107.681984
Northern Qiandong	Yanghao 养蒿	Chen (2013)	26.688723,108.401234
Northern Qiandong	Yanghao 养蒿	Li (2000)	26.688723,108.401234

Full location (datapoint) names:

- Khuân Hê, Kim Quan commune, Yên Sơn district, Tuyên Quang province, Vietnam
- Cao Bằng province, Vietnam
- Khuổi Giảo village, Cao Minh Commune, Trảng Định District, Lạng Sơn Province, Vietnam
- Zhenmin 振民, Gongdong Township 拱洞乡, Rongshui County, 融水县, Guangxi, China
- Guncen 滚岑村, Dongtou 洞头乡 Rongshui County 融水县, Guangxi, China
- Yaogao 尧告, Rongshui County 融水县, Guangxi, China

- Yangpai 羊排村, Yangwu Township, Danzhai County 丹寨县, Guizhou, China
- Datu 大土村, Jiuqian Township 九迁乡, Libo County 荔波县, Guizhou, China
- Caidiwan 菜地湾, Jingzhou County 靖州县, Hunan, China
- Xiang'ao 香鳌, Sanjiang County 三江乡, Jinping County 锦屏县, Guizhou, China
- Heba 河坝乡, Majiang County 麻江县, Guizhou, China
- Baixing 白兴村, Heba 河坝乡, Majiang County 麻江县, Guizhou, China
- Yanghao 养蒿寨, Guading Town 挂丁镇, Kaili City 凯里市, Guizhou 贵州省, China
- Yanghao 养蒿寨, Guading Town 挂丁镇, Kaili City 凯里市, Guizhou 贵州省, China

Notes from Chen (2013)

- Northern Qiandong Miao: m̥hu33, or qa33 nəu23 (autonym); Black Miao 黑苗
 - Chen's field notes from 1952-1953
- Eastern Qiandong Miao: mu24 (autonym); Flowery Miao 花苗 or Upright Miao 正苗
 - Informant: Pan Shichun 潘仕椿 (1956), 31 at the time
- Southern Qiandong Miao: to31 m̥u13 (autonym); White Miao 白苗
 - Informant: Wei Guiming 韦桂明 (1985), 41 at the time
- Western Qiandong Miao: ?eu33 zu21 (autonym)
 - Informant Yang Xuniao 杨勋尧 (1983), 64 at the time

Notes on other sources

- Nguyễn Anh Ngọc (1975): 18 words in Vietnamese orthography
- Nguyen (2007): 67 words in non-standard orthography. Data from Khuổi Giảo village, Cao Minh Commune, Trảng Định District, Lạng Sơn Province, Vietnam.
- Guangxi (2008): about 4,000 lexical items. Guangxi (2008:793) lists the informant's name as He Xinlin 贺星林.

Qiandong Miao classification by Wu Zhengbiao (2009) – 7 dialects

- *Eastern* (Sanjiang, Jinping County)
- *Northern* (Yanghao)
- *Northeastern* (Sansui County; Jianhe County)
- *Western* (aka Raojia)
- *Southern* (Yangpai)
- *Southeastern 1* (Datu)
- *Southeastern 2* (Zhenmin); Guncen and Na Meo are not addressed by Wu (2009) but would fit in here.

Na Meo locations in Vietnam (Nguyen 2007:31): (1) Lạng Sơn / Cao Bằng / Bắc Kạn junction region (over 1,000 speakers); (2) the single village of Khuôn Hẻ in Tuyên Quang (200-300 speakers)

- Cao Minh & Khánh Long communes, Trảng Định District, Lạng Sơn Province
- Thúi Hùng Commune, Thạch An District, Cao Bằng Province
- Vũ Loan Commune, Na Rì District, Bắc Kạn Province
- Khuôn Hẻ, Kim Quan Commune, Yên Sơn District, Tuyên Quang Province



Figure 1: Migration of Na Meo based on linguistic evidence. Na Meo is most similar to the Zhenmin dialect of Southern Qiangdong Miao, which is its easternmost dialect.



Figure 2: Locations of Qiandong Miao datapoints. Red = Southern Qiandong Miao; Green = Western Qiandong Miao (Raojia of Heba Township); Purple = Northern Qiandong Miao (Hmu of Yanghao); Blue = Eastern Qiandong Miao

Na Meo of Tuyen Quang (Hsiu 2014)

- Location: Khuân Hê, Kim Quan commune, Tuyên Quang province, Việt Nam
- 80 households in the village, all Na Meo
- Autonym: na⁵⁵mjau³⁵ɬa⁵³ = na⁵⁵ ‘human being’; mjau ‘Miao’; ɬa⁵³ ‘black’
- Informant: Sầm Thị Niềm (female; born 1972)
- Date of data collection: January 28, 2014
- WAV audio recordings made of approximately 300 lexical items (available upon request)

Kim Quan commune is highly ethnically diverse and has Flowery Hmong, White Hmong, Nung, Dao, and Black Hmong (“Na Meo”) residents. Flowery Hmong and White are mutually intelligible dialects belonging to the Chuanqiandian subgroup of West Hmongic, while Nùng (also called “Tày Nùng”) is Central Tai, corresponding to “Zhuang” in southern Guangxi and southern Yunnan. The local Dao (Yao), also known as the “Dao Kóc Mùn”, speak a Mienic language.

The Na Meo are known locally by other ethnic groups as the “Mông Đen”, or “Black Hmong”. In Tuyên Quang province, it is spoken only in the single village of Khuân Hê, Kim Quan commune, Yên Sơn district, which is nearly 50 kilometers to the east of Tuyên Quang city.

My informant Sầm Thị Niềm, a 41-year-old woman born in Khuân Hê, was multilingual in Na Meo, “Tày Nùng” (Central Tai), and Vietnamese.

The locals are aware of the existence of other Na Meo speakers in Cao Minh commune, Lang Son province, and report that Na Meo of Cao Minh is mutually intelligible with Na Meo of Khuân Hê. Nguyen (2007) does not mention the village name of Khuân Hê; this village was tracked down by me during a visit to Kim Quan commune in January 2014.

The only other Na Meo data that I am aware of are Jerold Edmondson (n.d.), Nguyễn Văn Thắng (2007), and Nguyễn Anh Ngọc (1975). Jerold Edmondson had done some field work on Na Meo in Vietnam, but his work remains unpublished. Nguyen (2007), an ethnography book, includes an appendix of 67 Na Meo words written in a non-IPA orthography.

Interestingly, Dong (Kam), a Kra-Dai language belonging to the Kam-Sui branch, is spoken in Đồng Mộc village in Trung Sơn commune, which is located just to the north of Kim Quan commune. Edmondson & Gregerson (2001) report that Kam is spoken by only several individuals in Đồng Mộc. Small pockets of Sui speakers are also found in Yên Sơn District, Tuyên Quang Province (Edmondson & Gregerson 2001). The Dong, Sui, and Na Meo had all migrated to Yên Sơn from southeastern Guizhou during the 1800's.

Na Meo innovations shared with specific Southern Qiangdong Miao dialects

Na Meo shares many phonological and lexical innovations with the Zhenmin and Guncen Southern Qiangdong Miao dialects of NE Rongshui County, Guangxi rather than with Yaogao (NW Rongshui County, Guangxi), Datu (southern Guizhou), or Yangpai (central Guizhou). Zhenmin and Guncen are the SE-most dialects of Southern Qiangdong Miao.

Gloss	Na Meo (Tuyen Q.)	Na Meo (Cao Bang)	Zhenmin	Guncen	Yaogao	Datu	Yangpai
eye	tɕei ⁵⁵ ma ³³	tsɛi ⁴⁵³ ma ²²	ma ²¹ /4	tsɔi3ma6	ɲju ¹³ mo ²²	mu ²¹ /4	mi ²² /4
tooth	maŋ ³³	mãŋ ⁴⁵³	maŋ ³⁵ /3	tsɔi3ma6	kwe ⁴⁴	mei ³³ /3	mei ⁴⁴ /3
sun	thau ³³ na ³³	la ³³ na ³³	na ³³ /1	la l na l	ŋo ¹³	ŋoŋ ²⁴ /1	ne ³³ /1
star	ta ⁵⁵ qa ³³	ta ³³ qa ³³	qa ³³ /1	ta l qa l	to ³¹ qo ¹³	qeq ²⁴ /1	qe ³³ /1
field	tɕaŋ ³³ ljaŋ ⁵⁵	ljaŋ ⁵⁵	ljaŋ ⁵³ /2	-	ljaŋ ³¹	li ²² /2	lei ⁵⁵ /2
good	vu ³⁵	vu ³⁵	vu ⁴⁴ /5	vu5	yu ⁴⁴	yai ⁴⁴ /5	yu ²¹ /5
full	pa ⁵⁵	pa ³⁵ (ɕia ³¹² u ³³)	pa ³⁵ /3	pa3	po ⁵⁵	peŋ ³³ /3	pi ⁴⁴ /3
short	la ³³	la ³⁵	la ³⁵ /3	la3	lo ⁵³	leŋ ³³ /2	le ⁴⁴ /3

My tentative reconstructions for the common ancestor of Na Meo, Zhenmin, and Guncen are given below. Proto-Hmong-Mien and Proto-Hmongic reconstructions are from Ratliff (2010). Note the sound change Proto-Hmong-Mien *-ɛŋ > Proto-Na Meo-Zhenmin-Guncen *-a, in which the final velar nasal is lost. This is not universal to all Southern Qiangdong Miao dialects, as Datu preserves the final velar nasal.

- ‘eye’: *ma^B ~ *tsei-ma^B (< P-Hmong-Mien *mɤɛjH)
- ‘tooth’: *maŋ^B (< P-Hmong-Mien *hmjinX)
- ‘sun’: *na^A ~ *l-na^A (< P-Hmongic *hneŋ^A)
- ‘star’: *qa^A ~ *t-qa^A (< P-Hmongic *qɛŋ^A)
- ‘field’: *ljaŋ^A (< P-Hmong-Mien *ljɪŋ)
- ‘good’: *vu^C (< P-Hmong-Mien *-ʔrɔŋH)
- ‘full’: *pa^B (< P-Hmong-Mien *pɤŋX)
- ‘short’: *la^B (< P-Hmong-Mien *ʔleŋ^B)

Unique Na Meo innovations

Na Meo has some lexical items that are not found in any Southern Qiandong Miao dialect.

Gloss	Na Meo (Tuyen Q.)	Na Meo (Cao Bang)	Zhenmin	Guncen	Yaogao	Datu	Yangpai
nose	toŋ ⁵⁵ ŋui ³³	tɔŋ ⁴⁴ ŋoi ³³	nza ²² /6	q ^h aŋʒnɯəɓ	tjam ³¹ no ²²	nzau ¹² /6	nzu ²³ /6
leg	lo ⁵³	lo ³³	pa ³³ /1	pɛl	pe ¹³ ; njo ²⁴¹	pei ²⁴ /1	pe ³³ /1
high	q ^h aŋ ⁵³	k ^h aŋ ³³	xe ⁴⁴ /5	xie1, xian1	xa ¹³	xe ⁴⁴ /5	xe ²¹ /5
stone	gəi ⁵³	ge ³³	ye ³³ /5	yi1	yei ¹³	ye ²⁴ /1	yi ³³ /1

Note the correspondence of Tuyen Quang falling tone /53/ to Cao Bang level tone /33/.

Proto-Na Meo reconstructions are as follows.

- ‘nose’: *t-ŋui^C
- ‘leg’: *lo^A
- ‘high’: *k^haŋ^C
- ‘stone’: *ge^C

The position of Qiandong Miao within Hmong-Mien

- Preliminary computational phylogenetic results
- Data is from Chen Qiguang (2013); Mo Piu (a Hmongic language of Van Ban district, Lao Cai province, Vietnam) is from my field notes
- About 65 lexical items
- Results suggest that there has been contact with Hmongic languages of western Hunan province, namely Xiangxi Miao (Qo Xiong) and Pa Hng.

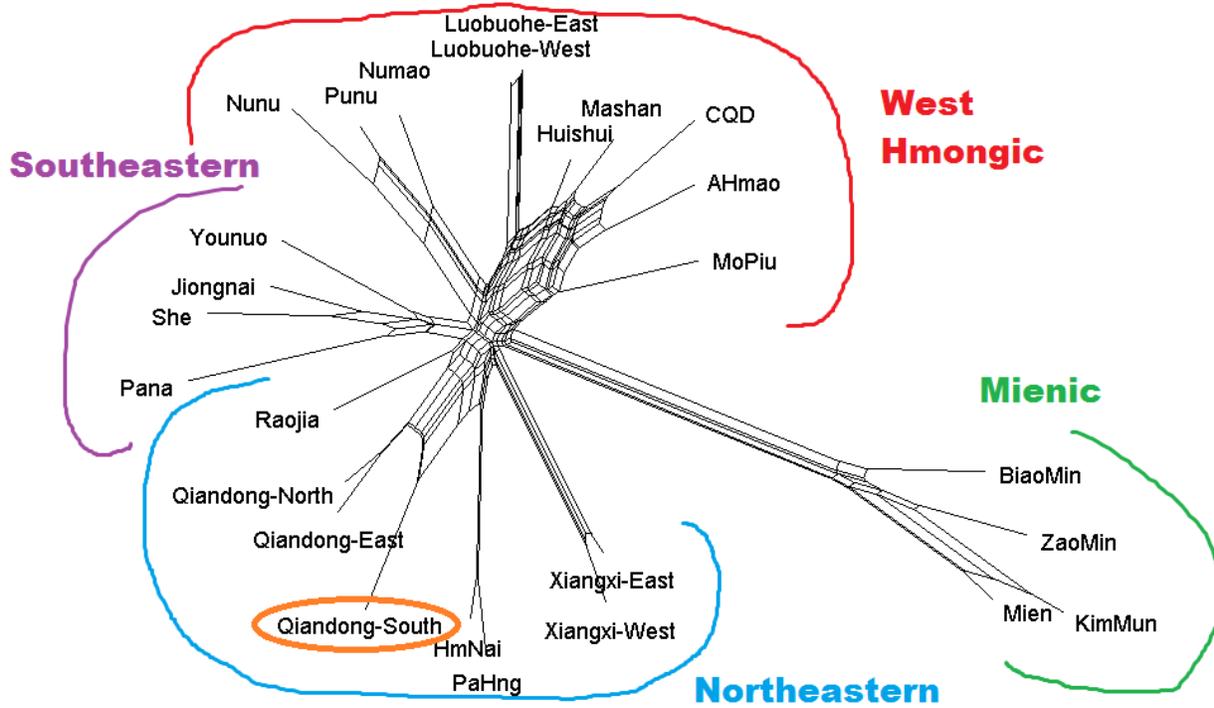


Figure 3: NeighborNet of Hmong-Mien languages using SplitsTree 4.

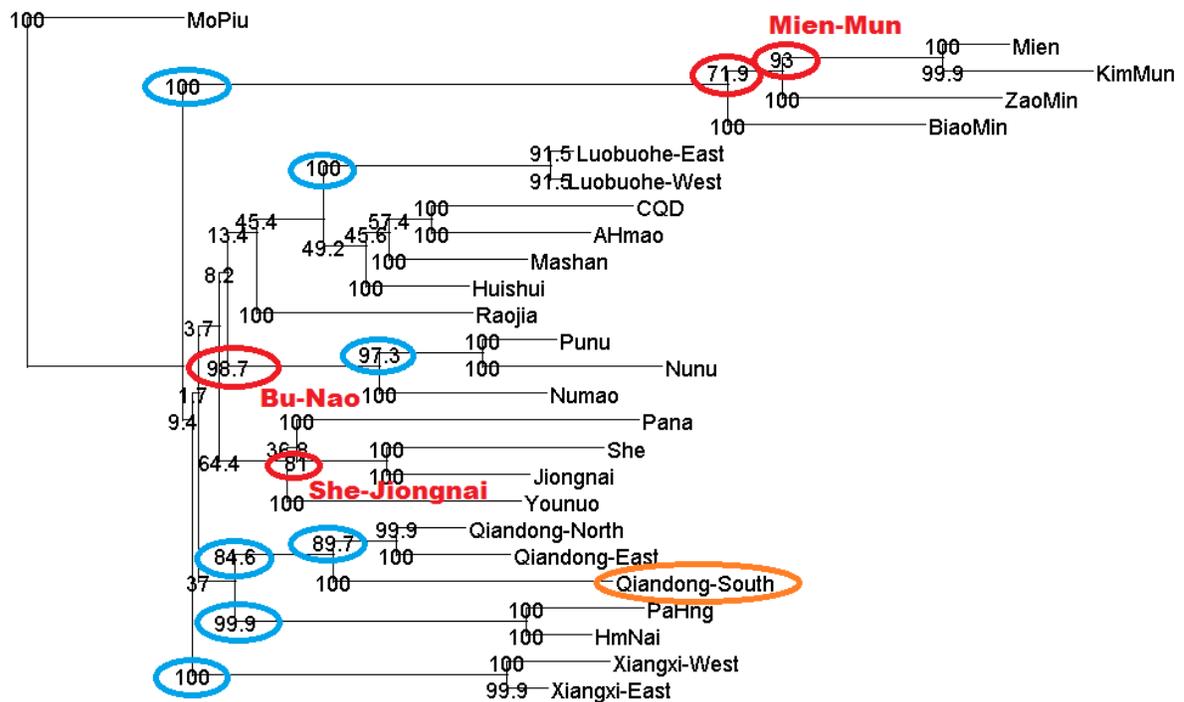


Figure 4. Phylogram of Hmong-Mien languages. Neighbor-joining (NJ) algorithm using SplitsTree 4.

Conclusion

- Na Meo is a Southern Qiandong dialect (ISO 639-3: hms) most closely related to the Zhenmin and Guncen topolects (*Southeastern 2* dialect in Wu (2009)).
- One of the defining sound changes: Proto-Hmong-Mien *-ɛŋ > Proto-Na Meo-Zhenmin-Guncen *-a
- The ancestors of the Na Meo would have migrated from northern Guangxi to northern Vietnam during the 1800's due to widespread civil unrest in China.
- Na Meo is spoken by perhaps over 1,000 people in the area where Lang Son, Cao Bang, and Bac Kan provinces intersect in NE Vietnam, as well as in one isolated village in Tuyen Quang province. The Tuyen Quang dialect is the same language as the Na Meo spoken in the other three provinces.

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Appendix: Comparative data for Na Meo and Qiandong Miao dialects

Gloss	Na Meo							Caidiwan	Xiang'ao	Heba	Baixing	Yanghao
	(Tuyen Quang)	Na Meo (Cao Bang)	Zhenmin	Guncen	Yaogao	Datu	Yangpai					
eye	tɕei ⁵⁵ ma ³³	tsɕi ⁴⁵³ ma ²²	ma ²¹ /4	tsəi3ma6	ŋju ¹³ mo ²²	mu ²¹ /4	mi ²² /4	qa ³³ mi ⁵³	ma ¹² /4	pei ¹³ me ²²	mei ⁴² /4	ŋju ³³ me ¹³
ear	q ^h aŋ ³³ nai ⁵⁵	ŋai ³⁵	nze ⁵³ /2	q ^h aŋ3nai2	nei ³¹	nze ²² /2	nza ⁵⁵ /2	qa ³³ njei ²²	ne ⁴² /2	pei ¹³ me ⁵⁵	mei ⁵⁵ /2	qa ³³ ze ⁵⁵
nose	toŋ ⁵⁵ ŋui ³³	təŋ ⁴⁴ ŋoi ³³	nza ²² /6	q ^h aŋ3nəu6	tjam ³¹ no ²²	nzau ¹² /6	nzu ²³ /6	tjuŋ ²⁴ njy ⁵³	nai ⁵³ /6	po ¹¹ mja ²²	mje ⁴² /2	po ⁵⁵ ze ¹³
tooth	maŋ ³³	māŋ ⁴⁵³	maŋ ³⁵ /3	tsəi3ma6	kwe ⁴⁴	mei ³³ /3	mei ⁴⁴ /3	mi ³³	me ²² /3	me ¹³	me ¹³ /3	mi ³⁵
leg	lɔ ⁵³	lɔ ³³	pa ³³ /1	pe1	pe ¹³ ; njo ²⁴¹	pei ²⁴ /1	pe ³³ /1	qa ³³ pe ²⁴	pai ³³ /1	tju ³³ ŋaŋ ²¹	pe ⁴⁴ /1	qa ³³ pa ³³
heart	tɕei ³³ tɔ ³³	ŋoi ³³	tju ³⁵ /3	tiu8	pam ⁴⁴	tjɔ ³³ /3	tjɣu ⁴⁴ /3	ɕin ²⁴ teu ²²	tjau ²² /3	pjo ¹³	pjo ¹³ /3	tju ³⁵
blood	s ^h iŋ ³³	ɕin ³⁵	ɕeŋ ³⁵ /3	ɕiŋ3	sam ⁵³	s ^h aŋ ³³ /3	ɕe ⁴⁴ /3	ɕan ³³	ɕan ²² /3	ɕ ^h e ¹³	ɕ ^h e ¹³ /3	ɕ ^h aŋ ³⁵
bone	s ^h oŋ ³³	tsəi ³¹ , soŋ ³⁵	soŋ ³⁵ /3	soŋ3	sam ⁵³	soŋ ³³ /3	soŋ ⁴⁴ /3	suŋ ³³	soŋ ²² /3	s ^h uŋ ¹³	s ^h oŋ ¹³ /3	po ³⁵ s ^h oŋ ³⁵
hair (body)	k ^h tu ⁵³	tju ³³	tju ³³ /1		tjɔ ¹³	tja ²⁴ /1	tjeŋ ³³ /1	tjo ²⁴	tju ³³ /1	pjo ⁴⁴	pjo ⁴⁴ /1	qa ³³ tju ³³
three	pai ⁵³	pai ³³	pe ³³ /1	pan1	pai ¹³	pe ²⁴ /1	pa ³³ /1	pe ²⁴	pei ³³ /1	poi ⁴⁴	pue ⁴⁴ /1	pi ³³
four	tɔ ⁵³	tɔ ³³	tɔ ³³ /1	təu1	tɔ ¹³	tə ²⁴ /1	tɔ ³³ /1	so ²⁴	təu ³³ /1	tɔ ⁴⁴	tɔ ⁴⁴ /1	tɔ ³³
five	tɕei ⁵³	tsei ³³	tsi ³³ /1	tsəi1, tɕiu6	tɕi ¹³	tsa ²⁴ /1	tsa ³³ /1	tsa ²⁴	tsi ³³ /1	pja ⁴⁴	pja ⁴⁴ /1	tsa ³³
seven	ts ^h auŋ ³³ , s ^h əŋ ³³	ɕoŋ ¹¹	ɕfoŋ ²² /6	ɕioŋ6	tsam ²²	sfoŋ ¹² /6	ɕfoŋ ²³ /6	ɕuŋ ⁵³	ɕoŋ ⁵³ /6	ɕuŋ ²²	ɕoŋ ⁴² /6	ɕoŋ ¹³
ten	tɕu ³³	tɕu ³¹ ʔ	tɕu ²¹² /8	tɕiu8	tɕu ²⁴	tɕu ³⁵ /8	tɕu ⁵³ /8	tɕeu ¹³	tɕu ¹² /8	tɕu ⁵³	tɕo ⁵³ /8	tɕu ³¹
sun	thau ³³ na ³³	la ³³ na ³³	na ³³ /1	la1na1	no ¹³	noŋ ²⁴ /1	ne ³³ /1	q ^h aŋ ³³ nei ²⁴	neŋ ³³ /1	po ¹¹ nei ⁴⁴	nei ⁴⁴ /1	ne ³³
moon	thau ³³ lai ³⁵	la ²² lei ²⁴	li ⁴⁴ /5	lai5	lei ⁴⁴	tə ⁴⁴ /5	la ²¹ /5	la ⁴⁴ la ⁴⁴	li ³⁵ /5	po ¹¹ la ³³	la ³³ /5	t ^h a ⁴⁴
star	ta ⁵⁵ qa ³³	ta ³³ qa ³³	qa ³³ /1	ta1qa1	to ³¹ qo ¹³	qeŋ ²⁴ /1	qe ³³ /1	qei ²⁴ qei ²⁴	qa ³³ /1	tei ⁴⁴ qei ⁴⁴	qei ⁴⁴ /5	tɕe ³³ qe ³³
fog	tau ³³ ŋu ³⁵		ho ³³ /1			hau ²⁴ /1	xau ³³ /1		hau ³³ /1		ha ⁴⁴ /1	
thunder	pəu ³⁵ hau ³³	u ³³ tai ²⁴	ho ³³ /1	hau1	pu ⁴⁴ fu ¹³	p ^h o ³⁴ /1	fu ³³ /1	hou ²⁴	hau ³³ /1	heu ⁴⁴	hɣu ⁴⁴ /1	ho ³³
evening	maŋ ³⁵	maŋ ³⁵	maŋ ⁴⁴ /5		tɕeu ³⁵	məi ⁴⁴ /5	maŋ ²¹ /5	ɕi ⁴⁴ maŋ ⁴⁴	maŋ ³⁵ /5	zi ³³ maŋ ³³	maŋ ³³ /5	ɕ ^h i ³³ maŋ ⁴⁴
stone	gəi ⁵³	ge ³³	ye ³³ /5	yi1	yei ¹³	ye ²⁴ /1	yi ³³ /1	zei ²⁴	yei ³³ /1	po ¹³ yi ⁴⁴	yi ²⁴ /1	yi ³³
fire	tɔ ⁵³	tɔ ³³	tfo ²¹ /4	tau4	ta ²⁴¹	tou ¹² /4	tfo ²² /4	to ²¹²	tau ¹² /4	to ²¹	to ²⁴ /4	tu ¹¹
ashes	paɿ ⁵³	ɕu ³⁵ tɔ ³³	ɕu ³⁵ /3		ɕo ⁵³	ɕa ³³ /3	ɕeŋ ⁴⁴ /3	ɕo ³³	ɕəu ²² /3	qa ³³ ɕ ^h o ¹³	ɕ ^h o ¹³ /3	qa ³⁵ ɕ ^h u ³⁵

root (tree)	tcoŋ ⁵⁵		tcoŋ ⁵³ /2	tcoŋ2	tcam ³¹	tcoŋ ²² /2	tcoŋ ⁵⁵ /2	tcoŋ ²² teu ⁴⁴	tcoŋ ⁴² /2	qa ³³ tcoŋ ⁵⁵	tcoŋ ⁵⁵ /2	qa ³³ tcoŋ ⁵⁵
leaf	nəu ⁵⁵	nau ⁵³ tau ³⁵	nu ⁵³ /2		neu ³¹	lai ²² /2	nau ⁵⁵ /2	neu ²²	no ⁴² /2	qa ³³ neu ⁵⁵ teu ³³	nɣu ⁵⁵ /2	qa ³³ nə ⁵⁵
fruit	tɕəi ⁵⁵	tɕe ³⁵	tsi ³⁵ /3		tɕei ⁵³	tsei ³³ /3	tɕe ⁴⁴ /3	tsen ³⁵	tsi ²² /3	pei ¹³	pei ¹³ /3	tsen ³⁵
vegetables	ɣɔ ³¹	go ³³	ɣɔ ³³ /1		ɣɔ ¹³	ɣa ²⁴ /1	ɣo ³³ /1	vo ²⁴	ɣau ³³ /1	ɣɔ ⁴⁴	ɣɔ ⁴⁴ /1	ɣo ³³
bean	tau ³³	tɔɹ ³¹	to ²¹² /8	tou8	neu ³⁵	tau ³⁵ /8	tu ⁵³ /8	teu ¹³	tau ¹² /8	pua ¹³ teu ⁵³	tɣu ⁵³ /8	tə ³¹
oil	zu ³³	ju ³¹ ɹ	ɬu ⁵³ /2		ʒu ¹³	ɬai ²² /2	ɬəu ⁵⁵ /2	ʒeu ²²	tɕo ⁴² /2	ɣɔ ⁴⁴	ɕuɣ ⁵⁵ /2	ʒu ⁵⁵
field	tɕaŋ ³³ ljaŋ ⁵⁵	ljaŋ ⁵⁵	ljaŋ ⁵³ /2		ljan ³¹	li ²² /2	lei ⁵⁵ /2	lje ²²	lje ⁴² /2	lje ⁵⁵	lje ⁵⁵ /2	lji ⁵⁵
house	tɕai ³³	tsai ³⁵	tse ³⁵ /3		tɕei ⁵³	tse ³³ /3	tsa ⁴⁴ /3	tsei ³³	tsei ²² /3	pei ¹³	pei ¹³ /3	tse ³⁵
name	pai ³⁵	pai ³⁵	pe ⁴⁴ /5		pai ⁴⁴	pe ⁴⁴ /5	pa ²¹ /5	min ²² tsɿ ⁴⁴	puei ³⁵ /5	njaŋ ⁵⁵ poi ³³	pue ³³ /5	zaŋ ⁵⁵ pi ⁴⁴
rope	moŋ ¹¹	ɬa ³⁵	la ⁴⁴ /5		tɬo ⁴⁴	ɬo ³⁵ /5	le ²¹ /5	ɬe ⁴⁴	ɬai ⁴⁴ /5	læ ³³	le ³³ /5	ɬ ^h a ⁴⁴
ghost	ɬin ⁵³	ɬin ³⁵ ɕia ⁴⁴	ɬa ³³ /1		tɬjan ¹³	ɬeŋ ²⁴ /1	ɬe ³³ /1	ɬjan ²⁴	ɬa ³³ /1	ɬjin ⁴⁴	ɬoŋ ⁴⁴ /1	ɬjaŋ ³³
money	s ^h aŋ ⁵⁵		seŋ ⁵³ /2		sa ³¹ ; saŋ ⁵³	saŋ ²² /2	sei ⁵⁵ /2		san ⁴² /2	pei ³³ se ⁵⁵	sen ⁵⁵ /2	pi ⁵⁵ sei ⁵⁵
iron	ləu ³⁵	ləu ³³	lu ⁴⁴ /5		ɬeu ⁴⁴	ɬau ⁴⁴ /5	lau ²¹ /5	leu ⁴⁴	lo ³⁵ /5	leu ³³	lɣu ³³ /5	ɬ ^h ə ⁴⁴
daughter	ta ⁵³ phai ³⁵		pa ²⁴ /7	talziu5		p ^h a ²⁴ /1			p ^h e ²⁴ /7		p ^h e ²² /7	
we (incl.)	mi ³³ pai ⁵³	mi ³³ pai ³³	pe ³³ /1		pai ¹³	pe ²⁴ /1	pi ³³ /1	pe ²⁴	pei ³³ /1	poi ⁴⁴ seu ³³	pue ⁴⁴ /1	pi ³³
eat, to	nəu ⁵⁵	nəu ⁵⁵	nu ⁵³ /2	nou2	neŋ ³¹	no ²² /2	neŋ ⁵⁵ /2	neŋ ²²	nu ⁴² /2	nuŋ ⁵⁵	noŋ ⁵⁵ /2	naŋ ⁵⁵
drink, to	həu ³³		ho ²⁴ /7	hou7	heu ³⁵	hou ²⁴ /7	hau ³³ /7	heu ³⁵	ho ²⁴ /7	heu ¹¹	hɣu ²² /7	hə ⁵³
see, to	pu ³³	k ^h a ³⁵	pu ²¹² /8		po ²⁴	po ³⁵ /8	peŋ ⁵³ /8	mbu ³¹	pu ¹² /8	pə ⁵⁵	pux ⁵³ /8	vu ³³
hear, to	tɕaŋ ³³ nai ⁵⁵		naŋ ³⁵ /3		ŋaŋ ⁵³ kei ⁵³	ŋai ³³ /3	naŋ ⁴⁴ /3	naŋ ³³	naŋ ²² /3	naŋ ¹³	nā ¹³ /3	ŋaŋ ³⁵
steal, to	a ⁵⁵ nin ³³	a ³³ nɿu ³¹	nəŋ ²² /6		tsau ²²	nɿ ¹² /6	nɿe ²³ /6	njan ⁵³	nən ⁵³ /6	njin ²²	nin ⁴² /6	ɹe ⁴⁴ njaŋ ¹³
sleep, to	pi ³⁵	pi ³⁵	pe ⁴⁴ /5		pi ⁴⁴ ke ²² tɬo ¹³	pau ⁴⁴ /5	pa ²¹ /5	pue ⁴⁴ taŋ ²²	pue ³⁵ /5	puæ ³³ ɬe ⁴⁴	pue ³³ /5	pi ⁴⁴ ta ³³
know, to	pu ⁵³	pu ³³	pu ³³ /1		poŋ ¹³	pa ²⁴ /1	poŋ ³³ /1	po ²⁴	pu ³³ /1	po ⁴⁴	po ⁴⁴ /1	pu ³³
stand, to	s ^h ɔ ³³ va ⁵⁵	ɕɔ ³⁵	ɕɔ ³⁵ /3		ɕa ⁵³	ɕu ³³ /3	ɕɣu ⁴⁴ /3	ɕo ³³	ɕəu ²² /3	ɕ ^h o ¹³	ɕ ^h o ¹³ /3	ɕ ^h u ³⁵
laugh, to	tjəu ³⁵		tə ²⁴ /1		tjeu ³⁵	tə ²⁴ /7	tɬu ³³ /7	tjeu ³⁵	tɕəu ²⁴ /7	tjeu ¹¹	tɣ ²² /7	tjə ⁵³
chopsticks	djɔ ³³	ɬu ¹¹	tɕɔ ²² /6		tja ²²	ɬu ¹² /6	tɣu ²³ /6	tjo ⁵³	ɬau ⁵³ /6	tjo ²²	tɕo ⁴² /6	tju ¹³
sick, ill	tɕin ⁵⁵ tɕəŋ ³³		mu ³³ /1		meŋ ¹³	meŋ ³³ /1	mo ²⁴ /1	tsan ⁵³	mu ³³ /1	muŋ ⁴⁴ ; pjaŋ ²²	moŋ ⁵⁵ /1	moŋ ³³
white	ɬɔ ⁵³	ɬjɔ ³¹	ɬɔ ³³ /1		ɬla ¹³	ɬou ²⁴ /1	ɬɣu ³³ /1	so ²⁴	ɬau ³³ /1	ɬo ⁴⁴	ɬo ⁴⁴ /1	ɬu ³³
black	ɬa ⁵³	ɬja ³¹	ɬa ³³ /1		qɕe ³⁵	ɬeŋ ²⁴ /1	ɬe ³³ /1	sei ²⁴	ɬa ³³ /1	ɬuŋ ²²	ɬoŋ ⁴⁴ /1	ɬe ³³
yellow	quŋ ⁵⁵	kuan ⁵³	feŋ ⁵³ /2		kwen ³¹	faŋ ²² /2	fa ⁵⁵ /2	fan ²²	fau ⁴² /2	kuæ ⁵⁵	kwɿ ⁵⁵ /2	faŋ ⁵⁵

insect	kin ³³ dzu ⁵⁵	kin ³³ nau ³⁵⁴	keŋ ^{33/1}	kiŋ1	kan ¹³	kaŋ ^{24/1}	ke ^{33/1}	kan ²⁴	kan ^{33/1}	kæ ⁴⁴	kẽ ^{44/1}	kaŋ ³³
fish	nai ⁵³	ŋai ³¹	nze ^{21/4}	nai4	nei ²⁴¹	nze ^{21/4}	nza ^{22/2}	njei ²¹²	nei ^{12/2}	mei ²¹	mei ^{24/2}	ze ¹¹
bird	nau ³³	no ³¹ , nau ³¹	nu ^{22/6}	nou6	neu ²²	nai ^{12/6}	nau ^{23/6}	neu ⁵³	no ^{53/6}	neu ²²	nɯ ^{42/6}	nə ¹³
chicken	qai ⁵³	ta ²¹ qe ³³	qa ^{33/1}	qe1	qa ¹³	qa ^{24/1}	qei ^{33/1}	qa ²⁴	qe ^{33/1}	qæ ⁴⁴	qe ^{44/1}	qei ³³
egg	qei ³⁵	la ³³ qe ³³	ke ^{44/5}		kei ⁴⁴	ke ^{44/5}	ki ^{21/5}	kei ⁴⁴	kei ^{35/5}	ki ³³	ki ^{33/5}	ki ⁴⁴
monkey	təu ³³ lai ³³	ta ²¹ le ²⁴	la ^{33/1}	tal1e3	tjeu ¹³ la ¹³	laŋ ^{24/1}	lei ^{33/1}	le ²⁴	le ^{33/1}	læ ⁴⁴	le ^{44/1}	lei ³³
frog	qaŋ ⁵⁵	qan ²⁴	qeŋ ^{35/3}		qan ⁵³ qa ⁴⁴	qaŋ ^{33/3}	qe3	qan ³³	qan ^{22/3}	qæ ¹³	qẽ ^{13/3}	qaŋ ³⁵
tail	tui ⁵⁵	tōi ³⁵⁴	ta ^{35/3}		tō ⁵³	tau ^{33/3}	ta ^{44/3}	qa ³³ tue ³³	tai ^{22/3}	qa ³³ tua ¹³	tue ^{13/3}	qa ³³ te ³⁵
deaf	foŋ ⁵⁵		foŋ ^{53/2}	foŋ2	flam ³¹	foŋ ^{22/2}	foŋ ^{55/2}	leŋ ²⁴	foŋ ^{42/2}	fuŋ ⁵⁵	foŋ ^{55/2}	foŋ ⁵⁵
good	vu ³⁵	vu ³⁵	vu ^{44/5}	vu5	yu ⁴⁴	yai ^{44/5}	yu ^{21/5}	zeu ⁴⁴	wo ^{35/5}	yu ⁴⁴	yux ^{33/5}	yu ⁴⁴
full	pa ⁵⁵	pa ³⁵ (cia ³¹² u ³³)	pa ^{35/3}	pa3	po ⁵⁵	peŋ ^{33/3}	pi ^{44/3}	paŋ ⁵⁵	paŋ ^{22/3}	pō ¹³	pei ^{13/3}	tə ⁰² paŋ ⁵⁵
thick	tai ⁵³		ta ^{33/1}	tɛ1	te ¹³	tei ^{24/1}	te ^{33/1}	te ²⁴	tai ^{33/1}	tæ ⁴⁴	te ^{44/1}	ta ³³
thin	nɪŋ ⁵³		nzeŋ ^{21/4}	nɪŋ4	nan ²⁴¹	naŋ ^{21/4}	ne ^{22/4}	njan ²¹²	nan ^{21/4}	nje ²¹	ne ^{24/4}	njan ¹¹
wide	qun ³³	kuan ³⁵	feŋ ^{35/3}	q ^h oŋ5loŋ6	kwen ⁵³	faŋ ^{33/1}	fa ^{44/3}	fan ³³	fan ^{22/3}	kuæ ¹³	kwẽ ^{13/3}	faŋ ³⁵
narrow	ŋe ³³	ŋe ³¹ ʔ	ŋa ^{212/8}	ŋe8	ŋa ²⁴	ŋa ^{35/8}	ŋei ^{53/8}	ŋe ¹³	ŋa ^{212/8}	ŋe ⁵³	ŋe ^{53/8}	ŋi ³¹
short	la ³³	la ³⁵	la ^{35/3}	la3	lo ⁵³	leŋ ^{33/2}	le ^{44/3}	lei ³³	la ^{22/3}	lei ¹³	lei ^{13/3}	le ³⁵
heavy	noŋ ⁵⁵	noŋ ³⁵	nzan ^{35/3}	noŋ3	nam ⁵³	noŋ ^{33/3}	noŋ ^{44/3}	njuŋ ³³	naŋ ^{22/3}	njuŋ ¹³	noŋ ^{13/3}	noŋ ³⁵
light												
(weight)	phai ⁵³	fe ³³ , p ^h e ³⁵	fa ^{33/1}	fɛ1	fe ¹³	fei ^{24/1}	fe ^{33/1}	fue ²⁴	fai ^{33/1}	f ^h æ ⁴⁴	f ^h ɛ ^{44/1}	f ^h a ³³
high	q ^h aŋ ⁵³	k ^h aŋ ³³	xe ^{44/5}	xie1, xian1	xa ¹³	xe ^{44/5}	xe ^{21/5}	k ^h i ²⁴	xa ^{35/5}	xe ⁴⁴	x ^h e ^{33/2}	x ^h i ³³
hide, to	ye ³⁵	tɛ ³³	ye ^{24/7}		ya ³⁵	ya ^{24/7}	yei ^{33/7}	za ³⁵	ye ^{24/7}	ye ¹¹	ye ^{22/7}	yi ⁵³
near	gəi ³⁵	gei ³⁵	ye ^{44/5}	yi5	yei ⁴⁴	ye ^{44/5}	yi ^{21/5}	zei ⁴⁴	yei ^{35/5}	yi ³³	yi ^{33/5}	yi ⁴⁴
sour	s ^h u ⁵³	ɕu ³³	ɕu ^{33/1}		ɕu ¹³	ɕu ^{33/1}	ɕu ^{33/1}	ɕeu ²⁴	ɕo ^{33/1}	ɕ ^h u ⁴⁴	ɕ ^h ux ^{44/1}	ɕ ^h u ³³
this	nəŋ ⁵⁵	no ⁵³	na ^{35/3}		na ⁵³	nau ^{33/3}	naŋ ^{44/3}	neŋ ³³	neŋ ^{22/2}	naŋ ¹³	naŋ ^{13/3}	noŋ ³⁵
copper	tau ⁵⁵		tu ^{53/2}			tai ^{22/2}	tau ^{55/2}		to ^{42/2}		toŋ ^{55/2}	

Na Meo (Tuyen Quang) word list
[Preliminary transcription]

English gloss	Na Meo				
one	tɛu ⁵⁵	bed	la ³³ zuəŋ ⁵³	chair	la ³³ puŋ ¹¹
two	ɔ ⁵³	bee	kin ³³ tɕa ³³	charcoal	ŋe ³³ tɔ ⁵³
three	pai ⁵³	belly	təu ⁵³	cheek	maŋ ⁵³ ma ³³
four	tɬɔ ⁵³	below	kue ³⁵ tai ⁵³	chew	tɕa ³⁵
five	tɕei ⁵³	big	ljəu ³²	chicken	qai ⁵³
six	tu ³⁵	bird	nəu ³³	child	ta ³²
seven	ts ^h auŋ ³³ , s ^h ɔŋ ³³	bite	kui ³⁵	chili pepper	xɔŋ ¹¹
eight	zi ³³	bitter	aŋ ³³	chopstick	djɔ ³³
nine	tɕau ⁵⁵	black	ɬa ⁵³	citrus fruit	nu ³² tɕei ⁵⁵ kam ⁵⁵
ten	tɕu ³³	Black Hmong		clean	tɕu ³³
above	ke ³³ pai ⁵³	[autonym]	na ⁵⁵ mjau ³⁵ ɬa ⁵³	close, to	s ^h ɔ ³⁵
afternoon	tioŋ ⁵³ tɕai ³³	blind	ɬauŋ ³³	cloud	təu ³³ ŋu ³⁵
you (sg.)	təi ³³	blood	s ^h iŋ ³³	coin	laŋ ⁵³ s ^h aŋ ⁵⁵
he	va ⁵³ təi ³³	blunt	ləu ⁵⁵	cold (adj.)	saŋ ⁵³
ant	kin ³³ phi ⁵⁵	boat	la ³³ pai ¹¹	copper	tau ⁵⁵
ash	paɿ ⁵³	bone	s ^h oŋ ³³	corn	na ³³ tjəu ⁵³
autonym	[na ⁵⁵]mjau ³⁵ ɬa ⁵³	bowl	la ³³ sa ¹¹	cough, to	khai ³³ kho ³⁵
back	kuə ³³ tu ⁵³	brain	lui ³³	cover, to	tau ³⁵
bamboo	təu ³⁵ tan ³³	breast	qaŋ ⁵³	crossbow	nei ³³ tai ³⁵
banana	tɕei ⁵⁵ tɕɔ ⁵³	breathe	təu ³³ pɔŋ ³⁵	crow (bird)	ta ⁵³ ɬaŋ ³³
basket	la ³³ luoŋ ⁵³	buffalo, water	tai ³³ ŋi ⁵⁵	cry, to	qi ⁵⁵
bat	ta ³³ kɔ ¹¹	burn	tɕei ³³	cut, to	qai ³⁵
bean	tau ³³	bury	pau ³³	dark	ɬa ³³ khai ⁵⁵
bear	ta ³³ ɬe ³⁵	butterfly	kin ³³ ku ⁵⁵ lu ³³	daughter	ta ⁵³ phai ³⁵
		buy	mi ³³	day	na ⁵³
		cat	ta ³³ mjau ³⁵	deaf	ɬoŋ ⁵⁵
		cattle; cow	ljɔ ³³	deer	ta ³³ sau ⁵³
		cave	khaŋ ³³	dew	tau ³³ ŋu ³⁵
		centipede	kin ³³ khu ³⁵	die	ta ³³

dig	qoŋ ³⁵	flower	paŋ ⁵⁵	horse	ta ³³ mi ⁵³
dirty	u ³³ tɕhui ⁵³	fly (insect)	kin ³³ lai ³⁵	hot	qha ⁵³
dog	ɬai ³³	fog	tau ³³ ɣu ³⁵	house	tɕai ³³
door	pu ³³ tu ⁵⁵	forest	giŋ ⁵⁵ ku ³³	human, person	na ⁵⁵
dove	nəu ³³ kau ⁵⁵	fox	ta ³³ ɬaŋ ³⁵	hunt, to	moŋ ⁵⁵
dream	ɬin ³³ pu ³⁵	fragrant	ta ⁵³ moŋ ³³	husband	zɔ ³³
drink water	həu ³³ ɣu ⁵³	frog	qaŋ ⁵⁵	I	va ⁵³
dry	qaŋ ³⁵	fruit	tɕəi ⁵⁵	insect	kin ³³ dzu ⁵⁵
duck	ta ³³ ɣau ³⁵	full	pa ⁵⁵	intestines	qe ³³ vi ⁵³
dust	phuŋ ³⁵	ghost	ɬin ⁵³	iron	ləu ³⁵
ear	qhaŋ ³³ nai ⁵⁵	gold	tɕəm ³⁵	jaw	qaŋ ⁵³ qaŋ ³³
eat	nəu ⁵⁵	good	vu ³⁵	kill	ta ³⁵
eat rice	nəu ⁵⁵ na ¹¹	grass	naŋ ⁵⁵	knee	gəu ⁵³ tɕu ³³
egg	qei ³⁵	grave	pu ⁵⁵ liaŋ ⁵⁵	knife	ɣdjo ³⁵
elbow	ɣəu ⁵³ pai ⁵³	green	nəu ⁵⁵	know	pu ⁵³
embers	[ŋe ¹¹]tɔ ⁵³ tɕhin ³⁵	grow	ljəu ³³ tɕai ³⁵	laugh	tjəu ³⁵
evening	tjoŋ ³³ maŋ ³⁵	gums	maŋ ³³ ni ⁵⁵	leaf	nəu ⁵⁵
eye	tɕei ⁵⁵ ma ³³	hair, body	khɬu ⁵³	left	tɕei ⁵³ tɕi ³³
face	tɕei ⁵⁵ ma ¹¹	hair, head	khɬu ³³ həu ⁵⁵	leg	lo ⁵³
fall	pa ⁵⁵	happy	vu ⁵⁵ va ³³	lie down	pi ³⁵
family	tɕəi ³³ tɕai ⁵⁵	hat	la ⁵³ khəu ³⁵	light	s ^h ei ³³
far	qui ⁵⁵	hay	naŋ ³³ qaŋ ³⁵	lightning	le ³³ hau ⁵⁵
fat	maŋ ⁵³	head	həu ⁵⁵	light (not heavy)	phai ⁵³
fear	qhai ⁵³	hear	tɕaŋ ³³ nai ⁵⁵	lip	lu ³⁵ nəu ⁵⁵
field	tɕaŋ ³³ ljaŋ ⁵⁵	heart	tɕei ³³ tɔ ³³	live, to	gəu ³³
fire	tɔ ⁵³	heavy	nəu ⁵⁵	liver	ŋui ⁵⁵
firewood	tɔ ⁵³	hen	maŋ ³³ qai ⁵³	long	tai ³³
fish	nai ⁵³	hide	ɣe ³⁵	look, to	qha ³³
floor	ku ³³ tm ⁵³	hit	tam ⁵³	louse, body	than ⁵⁵

louse, head	kin ³³ həu ⁵⁵ , həu ⁵⁵ than ⁵⁵	old (gia)	lo ⁵³	salty	han ³⁵
male	tɕi ³³ kəu ³⁵	open, to	pɔ ³⁵	sand	ɣei ³³ s ^h ai ³⁵ , qai ³⁵
market	xi ³⁵	oven	tɕa ³³ tɔ ⁵³	second (#2)	tɕu ³³ ɔ ⁵³
meat	ŋi ³⁵	pig	pai ³⁵	see	pu ³³
midday	tjoŋ ⁵³ na ⁵³	plant, to	tɕi ⁵³	sell	ma ⁵³
millet	na ³³ nəi ⁵⁵	plate	la ³³ hi ⁵⁵	sew	mai ³⁵
money	shan ⁵⁵	plow	li ³³	sharp	ɣa ³³
monkey	tɕəu ³³ lai ³³	poor	sa ³⁵	sheep	ta ⁵³ le ³³
month	ləi ³⁵	potato	vɔ ³³	shirt	ɔ ³³ tai ³³
moon	thau ³³ ləi ³⁵	pound	tam ⁵³	show	hai ⁵³
morning	ʔdjoŋ ³³ ʔdai ³⁵	rain	ta ⁵⁵ nɔŋ ³³	shoot	mu ⁵³ paŋ ³³
mortar	ma ³³ tɕau ³⁵	rainbow	ta ³³ goŋ ⁵⁵	short	la ³³
mosquito	kin ³³ dzu ⁵⁵	rat	naŋ ⁵³	shoulder	ku ³³ tɕəi ⁵³
mountain	ɣin ⁵⁵	red	tɕhin ³⁵	shrimp	kin ³³ qhɔŋ ⁵³
mouth	lau ³⁵	rice, cooked	na ⁵³	sick	tɕin ⁵⁵ tɕəŋ ³³
mud	ʔɔŋ ³³	rice, grain	sa ³³	silver	saŋ ⁵⁵ khɔ ³³
mushroom	tɕəi ³³	rice, plant	nai ⁵⁵	sit	naŋ ³³ tai ⁵³
name	pai ³⁵	rich	ʔa ³³	skin	lu ³⁵
narrow	ŋe ³³	right	tjo ³³	skirt	tau ⁵³ thəu ³³
navel	təu ⁵³ tɔ ³⁵	right side	tɕei ⁵³ ɣəu ³³	sky	va ⁵⁵
near	gəi ³⁵	ripe	pai ⁵³ ɕin ³³	sleep	pi ³⁵
neck	qɔŋ ³³	road	qəi ⁵⁵	small	la ³³ zu ³⁵
needle	tɕu ⁵³	roof	toŋ ³⁵ tɕai ³³	smoke	nou ³³ nəu ³⁵
new	qhan ⁵³	rooster	pi ⁵⁵ qai ³³ lo ⁵³	snake	naŋ ⁵³
night	maŋ ³⁵	root	tcoŋ ⁵⁵	sniff, smell	maŋ ³⁵
nose	toŋ ⁵⁵ ŋui ³³	rope	moŋ ¹¹	snow	khai ³³ u ¹¹ pa ³⁵
oil	zu ³³	rotten	lui ⁵⁵	son	ta ⁵³ tɕin ³³
old (cu)	qau ³⁵	sad	tɕan ³⁵	sour	s ^h u ⁵³
		salt	tɕei ³³ qa ⁵³	spider	kin ³³ qe ³³

stand up	sho ³³ va ⁵⁵	thunder	pəu ³⁵ hau ³³	where	qa ³³ te ⁵⁵
star	ta ⁵⁵ qa ³³	tick	lui ³³	which	no ⁵³
steal	a ⁵⁵ nin ³³	tongue	ne ¹¹	white	fo ⁵³
stone	gəi ⁵³	tooth	maŋ ³³	who	qu ³³ təi ⁵⁵
storm	khə ³³ təi ³⁵	tree	təu ³⁵	wide	quŋ ³³
strong	aŋ ³³ qəu ²²	trousers	tau ⁵³	wife	vai ³³
stupid	va ³³	turtle	ta ⁵³ tau ³³	wind	qhə ³³ təi ³⁵
suck	u ³⁵	unripe	pai ⁵³ çin ³³ ?	window	tin ⁵³ tan ³³
sugarcane	təu ³⁵ taŋ ³³	vegetable	ɣo ³¹	wing	təi ³⁵
summer (wet season)	mua ³³ qha ³³	village name (Khuan He)	khwəŋ ³³ he ⁵⁵	winter (dry season)	mua ³³ s ^h aŋ ⁵³
sun	thau ³³ na ³³	wall	soŋ ⁵⁵ tja ⁵⁵	woman	təi ³³ və ³⁵
sweet	qan ⁵³	warm	s ^h ou ³³	wood	paŋ ³³
table	la ³³ baŋ ⁵³	water	u ⁵³	work	a ³³ qəu ³¹
tail	tui ⁵⁵	we (excl.)	pa ³³ va ⁵³ ni ³⁵	worm	kin ³³ təŋ ³¹
tall	qhaŋ ⁵³	we (incl.)	mi ³³ pai ⁵³	yam	na ³³ taŋ ¹¹
termite	kin ³³ qui ³⁵	weak	ma ³³ raŋ ²²	yawn	pai ³³ lau ³⁵
that	ka ³³ mə ⁵³	wet	s ^h ou ¹¹	year	nu ³⁵
they	tja ⁵³	what	nu ⁵³	yellow	quŋ ⁵⁵
thick	tai ⁵³	wheat	nai ³³	young	ni ⁵³
thin	nin ⁵³	when	sai ⁵⁵ te ³³	you (plural)	təi ³³ təi ⁵⁵
this	nəŋ ⁵⁵				