

THE VERB IN JEH

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The verb in Jeh¹ 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.

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|--------------|-----------------------|
| kāl 'long | 'to fell a tree' |
| pai pol | 'to cook rice' |
| pīt blì | 'to plant corn' |
| bā mau | 'to back-carry paddy' |
| chou tadrong | '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 jèng tapak.

I split-apart the wood, (so)the wood becomes split.

A Ngot klah mahĕk, mahek jèng taklah.

Ngot separates the stuff, (so) stuff becomes separated.

Y Ria păi ayoh, ayoh jèng tapaĩ.

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 Thũng băt ka kon.

Thung misses (his) child.

Au ku ka mi.

I wait for you.

Au dei kăl ka mi.

I do not need you.

Ĕn sidăk ka dak.

He chokes on water.

Au 'lõ (ka) ĕn.

I know him.

Au wă (ka) se.

I want a car.

Au kanăl (ka) ĕn.

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 srõng.

Yon pierced (himself on a) bamboo-spike.

Ĕn hiet chăng.

He stuck (himself with a) knife.

Au hũm dak.

I bathe (myself in) water.

Jih bĕt dăk.

Boar stabbed (himself on) spear-trap.

Kanei bih manih.

Rat snapped (himself in) snap-trap.

Ĕn taklih talõng.

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 <u>chăk</u> kanām. | The tree <u>possesses</u> a spirit. |
| A Bieng <u>ei</u> lien. | Bien <u>has</u> 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 <u>těk</u> <u>doh</u> mi chăng. | I <u>sell</u> you a knife. |
| Au <u>těk</u> <u>doh</u> chăng mi. | I'll <u>sell</u> your knife for you. |
| Mi <u>chők</u> <u>doh</u> au ayoh. | You <u>get</u> me a shirt. |
| Mi <u>chők</u> <u>doh</u> ayoh au. | You <u>get</u> for (me) my shirt. |
| Ĕn <u>pĩ</u> <u>doh</u> au nhiạh. | He is <u>building</u> me a house. |
| Ĕn <u>pĩ</u> <u>doh</u> nhiạh au. | He is <u>building</u> 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.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ĕn nham. 'He cries.' | Ĕn tatayh. 'He speaks.' |
| Ĕn ka'ap. 'He yawns.' | Chou kual. 'Dog barks.' |
| Ĕn kadau. 'He runs.' | Ĕn kadruh. 'He dives.' |
| Ĕn truh. 'He arrives.' | Ĕn chieu. 'He goes.' |
| Ĕn kăt. 'He sleeps.' | Ĕn tapęng. 'He leaps.' |
| Ĕn dăng. 'He stands.' | Chĩm dop. 'Bird lands.' |
| Wen talang. 'The mirror shattered.' | Chĩm taklih. 'The bird fell.' |

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.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Ĕn mangai <u>padrũng</u> . | He is a <u>rich</u> man. (He man <u>rich</u>) |
| Ĕn mangai <u>hũ</u> . | He is a <u>polite</u> man. (He man <u>polite</u>) |
| Play bloh <u>dũm</u> . | The fruit is already <u>ripe</u> . |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Ngay k ^ì t ^ũ . | Today (it's) <u>sunny</u> . |
| Ngay s ^ã ng r ^{ateh} . | Yesterday (was) <u>cold</u> . |
| T ^{èh} 'n ^ã . | The meat is <u>tasty</u> . |
| 'Long k ^l ãng. | The log is <u>heavy</u> . |
| Nh ⁱ ah t ⁱ h. | The house is <u>big</u> . |
| Ch ^ã ng d ^ũ l. | The knife is <u>dull</u> . |
| S ^è t r ^ẽ ng. | The grass is <u>thick</u> . |

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.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Ĕn <u>alah</u> ka p ^ĩ mah ^{èk} . | p ^ĩ <u>alah</u> |
| He (is) <u>lazy</u> about doing work. | do <u>lazy</u> |
| Ĕn h ^{ãk} ka cha w ^è t. | None. |
| He (is) enthusiastic about eating peppers. | |
| Ĕn <u>dei tawaã</u> ka b ^ã 'long. | b ^ã <u>dei tawaã</u> |
| He (is) not not-strong about back-carrying wood. | back-carry <u>not not-strong</u> |
| Ĕn ploh <u>mahot</u> ka h ^ũ t 'ya. | None. |
| He (is) already <u>habitual</u> in smoking tobacco. | |
| Ĕn <u>phan</u> ka chieu reng mah ^{èk} . | None. |
| He (is) <u>knowledgeably-interested</u> in going searching for things. | |
| Hay <u>dei tra</u> ka ch ⁱ eu. | ch ⁱ eu <u>dei tra</u> |
| We not advantageous as-regards going. (It's not advantageous for us to go.) | |
| Ĕn <u>ragay</u> ka tatayh. | tatayh <u>ragay</u> |
| He (is) fluent in speaking. | speak <u>fluently</u> |

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.

| | |
|--|---|
| Ĕn <u>chăk</u> ka klēm. | Klēm ĩn <u>chăk</u> . |
| He (is) <u>courageous</u> of liver (heart). | Liver his <u>courageous</u> . (His heart is courageous.) |
| Ĕn <u>raă</u> ka tamũn. | Tamũn ĩn <u>raă</u> . |
| He (is) <u>greedy</u> of mouth. | Mouth his <u>greedy</u> . |
| Ĕn <u>dră</u> ka si'nĕk. | Si'nĕk ĩn bloh <u>dră</u> . |
| He (is) <u>old</u> of body. | Body his already <u>old</u> . |
| Jōng <u>chă</u> ka bbah. | Bbah ĩn <u>chă</u> . |
| The basket (is) <u>wide</u> of mouth. | Mouth its <u>wide</u> . |
| Ĕn <u>tală</u> ka kataih. | Kataih ĩn <u>tală</u> . |
| He (is) <u>out-of-joint</u> of hip. | Hip his <u>went-out</u> . |
| Pa imou <u>rada</u> kadang. | Dang imou <u>rada</u> . |
| At here <u>spacious</u> of place. | Place this <u>spacious</u> . |

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 jĕng), the dependent verb becomes affixed, indicating what is the state of the object.

dĕk plai buam; buam jĕng taplai

to press mash a potato; a potato becomes mashed

kōng lai 'neh; 'neh jĕng talai

to hammer-break-up dirt; the dirt becomes broken-up.

chĕk haă tamũn; tamũn jĕng tahaă

to pry force-open the mouth; the mouth becomes forced-open.

tĕk plai mahĕk; mahĕk jĕng 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.

pùam cha 'ban

to-put-into-mouth-with-fingers eat bread.

gǎng gǎ lòi truang

to-get-in-the-way block-off the-road.

wai choò mahĕk

to-redeem come-back stuff.

pĩ rangǎp lòi ěn

do be-hard-on detriment him.

ka'nǎl rasǎng ploh

close slam door.

chũ ratat ũng

set slam-down pot.

chiêu luát lòi mǎt

go pass-between detriment face. (pass between two people talking)

chũ nheng mahĕk

set save stuff.

kaĩ ka'wai ěn

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.

Chõl buan klaã pa tùm.

The pig lies mud-clinging-to-it in the mud-hole.

Ĕn ka'on sãl.

He asks persistently.

'Long taklih drãp pa ka'neh.

The wood falls ramming into ground.

Se pãl tapãl huat 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.

doh ěn la bã

let him to back-carry.

hmã doh en la bã

place-stuff-on-back for (allow) him to back-carry.

hmũ doh kon la bã

place-mouth-at-breast for (allow) baby to suckle.

lã doh en chiẽu

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.

rapah doh au lien

tawah doh bal hay mahẽk

bem doh kon pol

pajao doh ěn mahẽk

pay to me money

distribute to us stuff

chew-up-feed to baby rice

entrust to him stuff

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

Ĕn dei rũk.

He is weak.

He not not-strong.

Ĕn dei 'nhoh.

He doesn't want to.

He not not-want.

Ĕn dei 'lām.
He not not-able.

He's not able to.

Stative-Negatives with Noun Object:

Ĕn dei sām ka hay.
He (is) dis-disrespectful toward us.

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

Au dei hiēp ka 'wǎn.
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.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Ĕn pī kōng au. | He <u>hit beat</u> me. |
| Ĕn wayh chōk chāng. | He <u>reach-out-to-get take</u> knife. |
| Ĕn rāk kei kapiēu. | He <u>guard look-after</u> buffalo. |
| Ĕn chōng cha. | He <u>eat-rice eat-meat</u> . |
| Ĕn oih kăt pa yong. | He <u>lie lie-down</u> on bed. |
| 'Long i ei chāk kanām. | Tree that <u>has productive-of</u> spirit. |
| Ĕn jǐ ruā. | He <u>sick hurt</u> . |
| Au sasāl 'yū. | I <u>terrified afraid</u> . |
| Ĕn brayh liēm. | He <u>handsome pretty</u> . |
| Ĕn tih bek. | He <u>big fat</u> . |
| Ĕn padrūng takung. | He <u>rich wealthy</u> . |
| Ĕn tanuh sa. | He <u>poor destitute</u> . |

1.3.2. Quadrupled Verb-Synonyms. Two verb-couplets 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):

- Ĕn patou patoh tanoh He instructs.
 wal.
 He teach Ø relate
 say
- Ĕn rāk ring tring jäng He guards and protects us.
 hay.
 He guard Ø shield block
 us
- Pũ tual tāk lāk beng May he contract sickness.
 ěn.
 May go-across cling Ø
 shoulder-carry he
- Pũ kachiet drom om May his female family
 pãm ěn. members die pregnant.
 May die die-pregnant
 spoil die-pregnant
 of-him

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

- Ĕn mangai hnök hnièn He is happy and well-off.
 nhièn dan.
 He person contented Ø
 peaceful Ø.
- Ĕn mangai pa'ngot rah He is destitute and deserted.
 pachah 'reng.
 He person hungry des-
 titute scattered
 deserted
- Ĕn mangai thök-nhak He is miserable.
 rak pa.
 He person miserable
 rusty difficulty
- Ĕn mangai lük-lěk chěk He is crooked.
chěl.
 He person two-faced Ø

Ĕn mangai tanuh sa pa kahat. He is destitute.

He person poor desti-
tute difficulty bad-
odor

Ĕn mangai ramā ramaih He is sickly and careless.
ra'aih ra'am.

He person dirty ∅
careless ∅.

Ĕn mangai liem lāk He is healthy and well.
chāk dan.

He person good healthy
productive truly.

Pū dei trō dei jou dei May he become weak and sickly
'lou dei liem ĕn. (like I am).

May not right not ∅ 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 required, the conjunction bu (and) may be inserted in the phrase.

Sequence of Transitive Verbs:

Au rūp dēk kanei.

I catch strangle a rat.

Ĕn chōk buh cha ka.

He takes roasts eats a fish.

Ĕn ruat bān iel.

He buys raises chickens.

Ĕn tung chōk mahēk 'wǎn.

He steals takes stuff their.

Ĕn lūng-luǎ cha play.

He swallows eats fruit (i. e. he swallowed it whole).

Ĕn reng klah pīt priet.

He searches divides plants bananas.

Ĕn 'yaǎ òk taweng (loi) dak.

He takes dumps throws (away) water.

Sequence of Intransitive Verbs:

Phi klaih (bu) kadau.

The enemy escapes and runs.

Ĕn loh (bu) hak.
He exits & vomits.

Chĩm tapāl kadau.
The bird flies runs.

Ĕn loh chiêu choồ kal nhiah.
He exits goes returns-home into house.

Sequence of Intransitive plus Transitive Verbs:

Au chieu chők mahěk.
I go get stuff.

Ĕn nguyã (bu) plã jal.
He submerges & releases round-net.

Ĕn hmồ tau bãyh.
He dreams sees snake.

Bũmòm chiêu hao ('long) kãp cha prok.
The tiger goes climbs a tree bites eats the squirrel.

Ĕn loh chiêu reng rũp bũh cha chồl 'wãn.
He exits goes searches catches roasts eats pig somebody's.

Sequence of Transitive plus Intransitive Verbs (cf. , 1.3.5.):

Ĕn 'yaã patou chiêu.
He leads shows goes.

Chou cha bu hak.
The dog ate & vomitted.

Au pũng (bu) si'nãn.
I pick-up & sit-down.

Ĕn chők (bu) 'nuan.
He takes & plays.

Ĕn hao bu taklih.
He climbs & falls.

Ĕn tung bu kadau.
He steals & runs.

Sequence of Stative Verbs:

Ngay kì tagah liem.
Today (is) clear good (nice day).

Dang mou si'yã liem.
Place this (is) clean good.

Ĕn mangai bek 'moồ.
He (is a) person fat bad.

Ĕn mangai ragày liem.
He (is a) person generous good.

Sequence of Transitive plus Stative Verbs:

Mok imou au sàp draă.
Blanket this I cover scratchy.

Ĕn bă dei tawaă.
He back-carry not not-strong. (He is weak when it comes to back-carrying.)

Ĕn tan mahaĩ ăm.
He weaves enormous very.

Ĕn koh pran.
He chops fast.

Ĕn tĕk lŭp.
He sells loss.

Ĕn chŏk kadrăm.
He take much.

Sequence of Intransitive plus Stative Verbs:

Ĕn suang ragày.
She dances skillful (ly).

Ĕn kăt hlăk.
He sleeps well.

Ĕn kadau pran.
He runs fast.

Chĩm tapăl liem.
The bird flies good/well.

Au chieu 'wĩ 'wiă.
I go always.

Sequence of Stative plus Transitive Verbs:

Ĕn tanũ koh phĩ.
He (is) brave chopping-with-sword (the) enemy.

Ĕn dei rŭk pĩ mahĕk.
He not not-strong (enough to) do things.

Ĕn khăt muyh jiĕk.
He (is) ambitious clearing (the) field.

Sequence of Stative plus Intransitive Verbs:

Ĕn 'yũ bu kadau nham.
He (is) afraid & runs cries.

Ĕn ma'am chiêu.
He (is) determined (to) go.

Ĕn khoi chiêu.
He slow (ly) goes.

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.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <u>'nhu-'nhi măt</u> | 'to rub one's eyes' |
| <u>nhũk-nhẽk drăng</u> | 'to shake the post' |
| <u>chũh-chiंह</u> 'bang | 'to scrub the table' |
| mangai <u>lũk-lẽk</u> | 'a person crooked (two-faced)' |
| <u>ngũng-ngẽng kăl</u> | 'to shake one's head back & forth' |
| si'nẽng <u>bloh ngũ-ngẽ</u> | 'the tooth is loose' |

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.

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ayaũ | 'to pity' | ayaũ a'yeh | 'to pity' |
| patou | 'to teach' | patou patoh | 'to teach' |
| braĩ | 'tired' | braĩ brih | 'tedious' |
| ramaã | 'distressed' | ramaã-ramãn | 'distressed' |
| | | ramaã-ramo | 'distressed' |
| alah | 'lazy' | alah a'long | 'lazy' |
| tablông | 'break' 'through' | tablông tablông | 'to crash' 'through' |
| llan | 'to play' | llan llot | 'to play' |
| mahaĩ | 'enormous' | mahaĩ mahãn | 'enormous' |

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 unambitiously 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.)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>kŭp-kăp</u> . | He goes right ahead and bites recklessly (not watching what he's doing). |
| pŭng-pěng | shoots (here and there) carelessly. |
| pŭt-pĭt | plants (here and there) carelessly. |
| kŭt-kăt | 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.)

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>chĭng-chōng</u> . | He just has to go ahead and eats (poor rice, because there is no other). |
| hĭt-hŭt | drinks indifferently (bad water, no other being available). |
| ĭk-òk | dumps out recklessly. |

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>lŭp-lep</u> . | He goes ahead and eats (bad vegetables, because there are no other). |
| hŭt-hat | sings carelessly (off-key). |
| ĭk-òk | laughs carelessly at anything. |
| drŭ-draă | braces up recklessly. |
| chiŭ-choō | goes home alone unafraid. |
| liŭ-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.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>chu-chieu</u> . | He goes ahead and goes by himself (without care or worry). |
| yĭng-yuang | arises recklessly (from sleep) disturbing others. |
| wŭ-wiă | scythes (grass) here & there recklessly. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| trĩ-truã | puts on (ragged clothes) indifferently. |
| sih-suah | snatches away recklessly. |
| chũm-chiem | 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.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>su-sau</u> . | 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). |
| lù-lèo | singes off hair of animal recklessly. |
| ù-iù | twists cotton into thread carelessly. |
| rũ-raõ | sets in place (floor poles) carelessly. |
| liu-lou | melts & shapes metal haphazardly (with bare implements). |
| chiu-chòu | pays attention indifferently (but remembers what was said). |

1.3.4.3.6. Word final -y/-i (indicating short and 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.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>duy-dey</u> . | He goes right ahead and yanks (on it) recklessly. |
| chuy-chei | stings here & there recklessly. |
| puy-pai | cooks indifferently (with meager utensils). |
| kruyh-krieyh | picks at carelessly (with fingernail). |
| kruyh-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 dissyllabic verbs is added to the first word of the pair and dropped from the second.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Ĕn hmeo bu <u>kadù-dàu</u> . | He goes right ahead & runs helter-skelter. |
| kadàu | to run |
| si'nùn-'năn | sits indifferently in the dirt (no other place). |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| si'nǎn | to sit |
| tabi-buay | argues over the most insignificant things. |
| tabuay | to argue |
| pasu-sia | wastes things carelessly. |
| pasia | 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 <u>tap</u> mangai. | He slapped the person. |
| Chōk mangai <u>tāp-tap</u> 'wǎn. | Get the person who slapped someone. |
| Chōk mangai <u>tāp-tatap</u> bǎi ri. | Get the two who slapped each other. |
| Chōk mangai 'wǎn <u>tāp-tap</u> ēn. | Get the person who someone slapped. |
| Chōk mangai <u>tāp-patap</u> doh 'wǎn. | Get the person who grabbed his hand and made him slap someone. |
| Ēn <u>pah</u> 'long. | He split wood. |
| Chōk 'long <u>pah-pah</u> . | Get the wood that is split. |
| Chōk 'long <u>pah-tapah</u> la pah. | Get the wood that is splittable and split it. |
| Chōk mangai <u>pah-pah</u> 'long. | Get the person who is splitting wood (or whose job it is to split wood). |
| Ēn <u>wat</u> manēng. | He cocked the crossbow. |
| Chōk manēng <u>wāt-wat</u> . | Get the crossbow that is cocked. |
| Chōk manēng <u>wāt-tawat</u> la wat. | Get the crossbows that can be cocked and cock them. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Chōk mangai <u>wăt-wat</u> manēng. | Get the person who cocked (or cocks) crossbows. |
| Ĕn <u>rŭp dĕk</u> kanei. | He catch strangle rat. |
| Chōk kanei 'wăn <u>rŭp-</u> <u>rŭp dek</u> . | Get the rat that someone caught and strangled. |
| Chōk mangai <u>rŭp-rŭp</u> <u>dĕk</u> kanei. | Get the person who caught and strangled the rat. |
| Ĕn <u>pŭam cha</u> 'ban. | He finger-eat eat bread. (cf. ,1.2. 1.2.) |
| 'Ban 'wăn <u>pŭam-pŭam</u> cha. | The bread someone with-fingers ate. |
| Chōk mangai <u>pŭam-pŭam</u> <u>cha</u> '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.

| | |
|---|---|
| Ĕn <u>taklih</u> . | He fell. |
| Chōk mangai <u>klih-</u> <u>taklih</u> . | Get the person who fell (or the fallen person). |
| Ĕn <u>kachiet</u> . | He died. |
| Tăp gù mangai <u>chiet-</u> <u>kachiet</u> . | Bury plural person die. (Bury those who are dead.) |
| Ĕn <u>choǒ</u> . | He returned home. |
| Kau gù mangai <u>choǒ-choǒ</u> . | Call the people who went home. |
| Ĕn <u>kadau loh</u> . | He ran went-out. |
| Chōk mangai <u>dău-kadau loh</u> . | 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 <u>kadrăm</u> jei. | The people are very many. |
| Kau gù <u>drăm-kadrăm</u> . | Call plural many. (Call those who are many (or) the crowd.) |
| Ĕn 'yŭ. | He is afraid. |
| Chōk mangai 'yŭ-'yŭ. | Get the person who is afraid. |
| Mahĕk <u>ra'ih</u> . | The stuff is old. |
| Chōk mahĕk <u>ih-ra'ih</u> . | Get the old stuff (specifically). |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Ĕn <u>dei rŭk</u> . | He not not-strong.(i. e. , He is weak). |
| Chŏk mangai <u>dei-dei rŭk</u> . | Get the person who is weak (or the weak person). |
| Ĕn 'way <u>dăm</u> . | He is still young. |
| Chŏk gu <u>dăm-dăm</u> . | Get plural young. (Get the young men.) |

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.

Ĕn patou hat; hay jèng hat.

He teaches (us to) sing; we therefore sing.

Ĕn kau chièu hŭt nnah; hay jèng chièu hŭt nnah.

He calls (us to) go drink wine; we therefore go drink wine.

Ĕn wal chièu kei; hay jèng chièu kei.

He says (to) go watch; we therefore go watch.

Ĕn pěng kachiet lòi gǎl, gǎl jèng kachiet.

He shoots dead detriment him; he therefore dies (i. e. , He killed him).

Ĕn chěk pajjì lői au; au jèng jiì.

He pinches makes-hurt me; I therefore hurt.

Hay pī panham lòi ěn; ěn jèng 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 lŭp in těk lŭp 'sell at a loss' included because it also occurs in těk jèng lŭp '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.

| | | | |
|--------------|--|----------------------|---|
| wă | 'to want' | wă chieu | 'want to go' |
| (dei) | '(not) dare' | (dei) | '(not) dare to go' |
| khèn | | khèn chieu | |
| chon | 'need, re- quire' | chôn, wă chieu | 'require want go' (i. e. , must of necessity go)' |
| wièl | 'return (i. e. to a healthy state) | wièl pèn wièl hon | 'return to life' 'sprout up again' |
| tahung | 'thirst, crave' | tahung wă chieu | 'to crave want go' (i. e. , have a hanker- ing for going) |
| hiem | 'beguile' | hiem wă rŭp | 'on the sly want to capture' |
| 'lõ | 'to know, be able' | 'lõ pĩ | 'can do' |
| dei 'nhoh | 'to not not- want' | dei 'nhoh chieu | 'don't want to go' |
| jiĩ | 'to feel like, have to' | jiĩ kăt | 'feel sleepy' |
| taphă | 'to happen' | taphă tom | '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.

| | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| kei | 'to watch, check' | pĩ kei tatayh kei | 'do see (try & see)' 'talk see (try to say it)' |
| 'lũ | 'to mix together' | cha 'lũ õk 'lũ | 'eat mixed together' 'pour mix together' |
| long | 'to put to the test' | pĩ long ka'on long | 'to test out' 'ask test (ask what one knows)' |
| 'mũ | 'to gather together' | pĩ 'mũ chieu 'mũ | 'to do gathered- together' 'to go meet-together' |
| yèt | 'to lose' | chieu yèt om yèt | 'go away (out of sight)' 'spoil (& be) lost (to usability)' |

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------------|--|
| tapròng | 'to do along with' | hat tapròng | 'sing along with (of poor singer)' |
| | | tieũ tapròng | 'follow along with (one who really knows how)' |
| chũ | 'to set, keep' | tatayh chũ | 'to speak keep (entrust secret to)' |
| | | băt chũ | 'remember keep (keep in mind)' |
| choồ | 'to return, back' | dòh choồ | 'give back' |
| | | chiều choồ | 'go home' |
| bbồ | 'to do haphazardly' | chiều bbồ | 'go feeling one's way' |
| | | pĩ bbồ | '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 | 'to eat compete' |
| | | kadau pachong | 'run compete (to race)' |
| bong | 'to replace' | pĩ bong | 'do back at (retaliate)' |
| | | dòh bong | 'give back in replacement' |
| pa'nhẽ | 'to do to 3rd party' | pĩ pa'nhẽ | 'to take it out on 3rd person' |
| | | tatayh pa'nhẽ | 'blame another when you are responsible' |
| tang | 'to substitute' | pĩ tang | 'to do on behalf of' |
| | | kachiet tang | 'to die for' |
| llấp | 'to disrupt' | tatayh llấp | 'speak disrupt (interrupt)' |
| | | chòk llấp | 'take disrupt (grab more than one's share)' |
| katoi | 'to string along' | pĩ katoi | 'do one thing after another' |
| | | jiĩ katoi | 'have one sickness after another' |
| rol | 'to be first' | chiều rol | 'go first' |
| | | pĩ rol | 'do first' |
| juày | 'to be next' | chiều juày | 'go next' |
| | | pĩ juày | 'do next' |
| yòk | 'to get up on' | tapēng yòk | 'to jump up on' |
| | | tapāl yòk | 'to fly up on' |
| bāk | 'to cross' | tapēng bāk | 'jump across' |
| | | chiều bāk | 'to go across' |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------|--------------------------|---|
| leh | 'lose, less' | cha leh 'lē leh | 'eat less (than another)' 'short less (shorter)' |
| l̀uan | 'to win, more' | cha l̀uan pròih l̀uan | 'eat more (than another)' 'tall more (taller)' |

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.

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| t̃ap | 'to practice' | t̃ap chièu chieu t̃ap | 'practice walking' 'go practice' |
| ma'am | 'determined' | ma'am chièu chieu ma'am | 'determined to go' 'go with determination' |
| 'm̃an | 'taboo' | 'm̃an p̃i p̃i 'm̃an | 'taboo to do (that)' 'make (things connected with) taboo' |
| pal̃ng | 'cautious' | pal̃ng chièu chièu pal̃ng | 'unhurriedly go' 'go with caution' |
| khoi | 'careful, slow' | khòi chieu chieu khoi | 'slowly go' 'go slowly' |
| bbral | 'premature' | p̃i bbral p̃i bbral | 'prematurely do' 'do prematurely (often)' |
| w̃al | 'return' | w̃al tatayh tatayh w̃al | 'return to speaking (about that)' 'speak return (skip back & forth in speaking)' |
| hwai | 'distracted' | hwai p̃i p̃i hwai | 'distracted (start) do new thing' 'do (or be) distracted' |
| lay | 'come after' | lay tieũ tieũ lay | 'go ahead and follow' 'follow after (pursue)' |
| 'way | 'continue, stay' | 'way chièu chièu 'way | 'continue going' 'go stay' |
| llau | 'passed' | llaũ chieu chieu llau | 'to keep right on going' 'to go right past (the place)' |
| sang | 'finished' | bloh sang chièu chièu bloh sang | 'already finished go (i. e. , left already)' 'go already finished (i. e. , no more going)' |
| j̀eng | 'completed, result' | j̀eng tan tan j̀eng | 'result weave (i. e. , complete something else, then weave)' 'weave completed (article finished)' |
| d̃eng | 'near' | (w̃a) d̃eng chièu chièu d̃eng | '(want)near go (about to go)' 'go near' |

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------|---|--|
| ka'nuh | 'make effort' | ka'nuh chiêu chiêu ka'nuh | 'make effort to go' 'go with effort' |
| dống | 'help, participate' | dống chiêu | 'participate in going (go with)' |
| tiểu | 'follow' | chiêu (đá) dống tiểu chiêu | 'go help' 'follow go (follow along)' |
| doh | 'give, allow' | chiêu tiểu doh chiêu | 'go follow' 'allow to go' |
| jah | 'acquire, be able' | chiêu doh jah chiêu chiêu (đei) jah | 'go give (something to someone)' 'able to go' 'go (not) able (i. e., to not have the ability)' |
| khôm | 'compel' | khôm chiêu | 'compel to go' |
| pajôm | 'together' | chiêu khôm pajôm pĩ | 'go forcibly' 'together work (on a project)' |
| dei rük | 'weak' | pĩ pajôm dei rük chiêu | 'work together' 'not strong enough to go' |
| loi | 'leave, abandon' | chiêu dei rük loi bãng | 'go in weak (condition)' 'leave throw (i. e., dis- pose of)' |
| ayoõ | 'imitate' | bãng loi ayoõ tatayh | 'throw away' 'imitate speaking' |
| suây | 'long (time)' | tatayh ayoõ suây chiêu | 'speak imitatingly' 'long time (getting started) to go' |
| | | chiêu suây | '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 chiêu | 'already gone' |
| duh | 'also' | duh chiêu | 'also go' |
| 'nao | 'recently' | 'nao chiêu | 'just went' |
| lu | 'right away' | lu chiêu | 'go right away' |
| băt | 'on & on' | băt 'way băt 'way | 'stay on & on' |

| | | | |
|---------|--|----------------------------|---|
| maã | 'don't, had not' | maã chiêu | 'don't go' |
| | | Tau mi maã chiêu... | 'If you had not gone...' |
| dei | 'not' | dei chiêu | 'not go' |
| dei gãn | 'not very' | dei gãn liem | 'not very good' |
| dòm | 'uncertain' | dòm chiêu | 'not sure whether |
| | | dòm dei | (they) went or not' |
| wã gãm | 'almost, barely' | wã gãm taklih | 'almost fell' |
| 'muh sĩ | 'just enough to' | 'muh sĩ cha | 'just enough to eat' |
| kõt | 'keep on deter- minedly' | kõt chiêu | 'keep going (against advice)' |
| sõl | 'keep on deter- minedly' | sõl chiêu | 'keep going (against advice)' |
| dĩ dì | 'go ahead (against advice)(by oneself)' | dĩ dì chiêu | 'went ahead & went' |
| dĩ lay | 'go ahead(command) | dĩ lay chiêu | 'go ahead & go' |
| hmeo bu | 'go ahead indif- ferently' | hmeo bu chu- chiêu | 'go ahead & go indif- ferently' |
| dĩ | 'if you would' | ẽn wal dĩ ruat doh 'ban | 'he asked if you would buy for him candy' |
| pẽn | 'come to be able' | sa ai pẽn jah pĩ | 'how does he come to be able to do (that)' |
| tã/taĩ | 'happen, suffer' | tã koh ò | 'to happen to chop hand' |
| tãng | 'happen, just come on' | tãng jĩ | 'happen to get sick' |
| klom | 'sense' | klom jĩ | 'feel sore' |
| kì | 'sense, feel' | kì jĩ | 'feel sore (or sick)' |
| kũ | 'sense intuitively' | kũ 'lõ | 'to just know' |
| hot | 'move altogether' | hot chiêu | 'to go moving together (as a group)' |
| prõ | 'as a group' | prõ 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.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| dũng- duang/ duang-dong | 'for all time' | 'way dưỡn̄g-duang | 'stay all the time' |
| wēng | 'all the time' | pĩ wēng | 'doing (that thing) all the time' |
| laloŷh | 'constantly' | ka'õk laloŷh | 'cough constantly' |
| kabau | 'right there all the time' | 'way 'mã kabau | 'stuck right there all the time' |
| 'nhik | 'on & on all the time' | 'way chiêu 'nhik | 'keep going (not rest)' |
| lũk lik | 'for good' | 'way lũk lik | 'stay for good' |
| kakoih | 'off & on slowly' | maã pĩ kakoih | 'don't do it off and on (i. e. , don't do it lazily)' |
| ay | 'just now' | bloh pĩ ay | 'already did it just now' |
| ka'lay | 'awhile ago' | 'nao chieu ka'lay | 'just went awhile ago' |
| doh | 'later' | trũh doh | 'arrive later' |
| oĩ | 'already' | bloh sang oĩ | 'already finished already' |

3.2.2. Miscellaneous Post-Verb Modifiers.

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| jei | 'very' | tĩh jei | 'very large' |
| ji'ao | 'terrifically' | tĩh ji'ao | 'terrifically large' |
| payom | 'way too' | tĩh payom | 'way too big' |
| dèk-dèk | 'for sure' | kachièk dèk-dèk | 'dead for sure' |
| dèk-dan | 'very many for sure' | kachièk dèk-dan | 'dead very many people' |
| nao | 'another one' | pĩ nao | 'make another one' |
| toõ | 'another, again' | pĩ toõ | 'make another' |
| tòm | 'more' | pĩ tòm | 'make more' |
| pa'oõ | 'tide one over' | cha pa'oõ | 'eat a little to tide (us) over' |
| ttuũ | 'meager' | cha ttuũ | 'eat meagerly' |
| drai | 'gradually' | katoŷh drai | 'drip gradually' |
| tai | 'methodically' | tatayh tai | 'speak methodically' |
| ngẽn- ngen | 'slowly' | chiêu ngẽn- ngen | 'go slowly' |
| puh-pah | 'hurriedly' | pĩ puh-pah | 'do hurriedly' |

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------------|---|
| brăt | 'fast & care- lessly' | pĩ brăt | 'do work fast & care- lessly' |
| lalaĩ | 'carelessly' | chũ lalaĩ | 'to set down carelessly' |
| saĩ | 'rapidly & sloppily' | teh saĩ | 'scythe rapidly' |
| dai | 'simultaneously' | bã dai | 'back- & front-carry simultaneously' |
| ttoyh | 'what others throw away' | 'meẽ ttoyh | 'fix up (& use) what others throw away' |
| ssõn | 'what others don't want' | chõk ssõn | 'take what others don't want' |
| taboi | 'along with (giving little assistance' | hat taboi | 'to sing along with' |
| dĩ-dĩ | 'by oneself' | chieu dĩ-dĩ | 'go by oneself' |
| lõt | 'go ahead in one's absence' | cha lõt | '(go ahead &) eat with- out (you)' |
| mmoh | 'without reason' | kõng mmoh | 'beat without reason only (beat without cause)' |

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

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------|------------|--|
| dõ | 'in line' | dõ chũ | 'line up' |
| | | chũ dõ | 'place in line' |
| padãng | 'standing up' | padãng chũ | 'stand (them) up' |
| | | chũ padãng | 'place standing up' |
| jom | 'parallel' | jom chũ | 'parallel them up' |
| | | chũ jom | 'set them parallel to' |
| kong | 'perpendicular' | kong chũ | 'set down in perpendi- cular fashion' |
| | | chũ kong | 'set them perpendicular' |
| tù | 'to stack' | tù chũ | 'stack up' |
| | | chũ tu | 'place stacked up' |
| bon | 'to stack' | bon chũ | 'stack up' |
| | | chũ bon | 'place stacked up' |

3.3.2. Miscellaneous Pre- & Post-Verb Modifiers.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|
| dei 'lăm 'not not-able' | dei 'lăm bǎ | 'not able to back-carry' |
| | bǎ dei 'lăm | 'back-carry not able' |
| tam 'not in time' | dei tam kadau | 'not time enough to run' |
| | kadau dei tam | 'run (but) not get out of the way in time' |
| dei yao 'no longer' | dei yao chieu yao | 'no longer go anymore' |
| dei wa 'not yet' | dei wa chieu wa | 'not yet go yet' |
| pasəm 'start' | pasəm pī | 'start to work' |
| | pī pasəm | 'do in the beginning (i. e. , when I first did it)' |
| rasong 'right on' | rasong chieu | 'keep right on going' |
| | chieu rasong | 'go right on by' |
| sidai 'together' | sidai chieu | 'together go' |
| | chieu sidai | 'go together' |
| rǎp-rǎp 'gang up on' | rǎp-rǎp suah | 'gang up on and snatch' |
| | suah rǎp-rǎp | 'snatch as a gang' |
| rapeng 'awfully lot' | rapeng bǎ | 'very much back-carry' |
| | bǎ rapeng | 'back-carry very much' |
| ddal/ddol 'severely' | ddol kǒng | 'severely beat' |
| | kǒng ddol | 'beat severely' |
| ăm 'really, hard' | maă ăm chieu | 'don't lots-of (people) go' |
| | maă chieu ăm | 'don't go really (fast)' |
| kachăt 'diligently' | kachăt pī | 'diligently work' |
| | pī kachăt | 'work diligently' |

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.

Ĕn sǒl lay chieu toồ nao.

he keep-on go-ahead go again again (He went ahead and went again).

Ĕn 'nao 'muh sǐ bǎ dai, jeng bǒng.

she recently just started to-back-carry simultaneously-with-front, result fall (She had just started to carry her load when she fell.)

Ĕn kòt ma'am kǒng ddol ăm dèk-dèk.

he determined determined beat severely really for-sure (He was determined to go ahead and beat him very severely.)

Ĕn duh 'way pai patìh àm toò.

she also remain cook make-lot really again (She did it again, cooked too much food.)

Sa-ai ěn pěn 'nao jah pĩ tò m toò?

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 emphasized by the fact that their form is altered when modifying a plural clause as over against a singular one.

Mangai kachièt pĩ jigrà-jigrìh.

person die manner desolately-absent-from-village (He died away from the village.)

'Wǎn kachièt àm pĩ 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 statives 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 nhĩng (numerous); when the item is inherently plural, nhĩng does not occur.

Padòk ěn het pĩ tangèl-tangìh.

stomach he empty manner description-of-a-person-with-empty-stomach

Padòk gù ěn het pĩ nhĩng tangèl.

stomach pl. he empty manner descrip. -of-many-with-empty-stomach

Mǎt ěn drù àm pĩ wùl-rawàl.

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 smallness and slimness. A few minimal pairs occur.

Kon ròk liem pĩ tapũp-tapìh.

baby cow pretty manner description-of-beauty-&-daintiness-of-baby-animal

Plural -- nhĩng tapũp

Kon ròk liem pĩ tapũp-tapìh.

baby cow pretty manner description-of-beauty-&-plumpness-of-baby-animal

Plural -- nhĩng tapũp

When adverbials modify transitive verbs, singularization 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 k^òng ăm ẻn p^ĩ d^ắp-rad^ắp (d^ìh-rad^ìh).

I beat really him manner sound-of-beating-over-and-over-in-one-place.

G^ù ẻn k^òng ăm ẻn p^ĩ d^ựp-dad^ựp.

Pl. he beat really him manner sound-of-many-beating

Au p^rắt ăm ẻn p^ĩ h^{ết}-rah^{ết} (h^ìh-rah^ìh).

I whip really him manner sound-of-whipping-over-and-over-in-one-place

G^ù ẻn p^rắt ăm ẻn p^ĩ h^ựt-rah^ựt.

Pl. he beat really him manner sound-of-many-whipping

ẻn kaka^ĩ ăm lalo^ỏ p^ĩ g^rựt-ragr^ựt (g^rìh-ragr^ìh).

he scratch really itch manner sound-of-one-scratching-over-&-over

Plural -- gr^ựt-gragr^ựt (or) gr^ựt-ragr^ựt

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 u; 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 p^ĩ (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

ẻn b^ẻt ăm kapi^{ẻu} p^ĩ ch^ắp-rach^ắp (ch^ìh-rach^ìh).

He spears really the buffalo manner sound-of-one-spearing-tied-animal-over-and-over

Plural -- ch^ựp-chach^ựp (or) ch^ựp-rach^ựp

'Wǎn tǔh koh ǎm pǐ pǐ dōk-radōk (dìh-radìh).

One assaults chops really the enemy manner sound-of-one-chopping-or-beating-person-repeatedly

Plural -- dìk-dadōk (or) dìk-radōk

Ĕn gǒ kalēng ǎm ěn pǐ klǎk-raklǎk (klih-raklìh).

He raps with-knuckle hard him manner sound-of-one-rapping-on-the-head-repeatedly

Plural -- klùk-raklǎk (only)

Ĕn rarien ǎm si'nēng ẽih pǐ gǐ-ggǐ (gìh-ggìh).

He grinds hard teeth his manner sound-of-teeth-grinding

Plural -- gǔ-gagǐ

Ĕn suay ǎm ěn pǐ blēk-blēk blōk-blōk (or) blōk-blōk blìh-blìh.

He curse really him manner sound-of-one-calling-out-many-curses

No Plural (people only curse as individuals)

Sēt jiǎ ǎm lòi mau pǐ si'lǒng si'lǒng (or) si'lǒng si'lìh.

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'nǎn pǐ ka'aǎ ka'ìh.

Person sit manner descrip. -of-fat-person-sitting-with-legs-spread-improperly

Plural -- nhǐng ka'aǎ (cf. aǎ '(flower, seed) to open')

Ĕn kapèp nham pǐ jibèm-jibìh.

He contort-face cry manner descrip. -of-contorted-face-&-protruding-lips-when-starting-to-cry

Plural -- nhǐng jibèm (cf. bem 'side of mouth')

Buam tapuat lòi pǐ tahàl-tahìh.

Tuber snapped off manner descrip. -of-tuber-that-snapped-while-digging

Plural -- nhǐng tahàl

'Neh phõ ăm pĩ jìhà jìhìh.

Ground cracked really manner descrip. -of-wide-open-crack

Plural -- hù-rahà many cracks all over

Ĕn òk ăm pĩ gĕk-ragĕk (gìh-ragìh).

He laugh really manner sound-of-one-laughing-in-this-manner

Plural -- gāk-ragāk gĕk-ragĕk

Iel ĕn tak ăm pĩ ssi mmai (or) sasi mamai.

Chicken his multiply really manner descrip. -of-animals-multiplying

No Plural

Ĕn nham ăm pĩ ngāl-ngak ngāl-ngak (or) ngāl-ngak ngāl-ngìh.

He cry hard manner descrip. -of-baby-crying-constantly

No Plural

Ĕn chāl ăm pĩ kabăp-kabìh.

He wounded really manner descrip. -of-large-wound-on-one-person

Plural -- bŭp-bŭp băp-băp many wounds on one person (or) several people wounded

Plural -- nhĩng kabăp many people wounded

4.3. Descriptive Adverbials Accompanying Stative Verbs.

4.3.1. Descriptive Adverbials with Clear (Tense) Vowels.

Mangai 'lĕ pĩ tapliĩ (taplih).

Person short manner descrip. -of-very-short-person-standing -or-sitting

Plural -- nhĩng tapliĩ

Mangai 'lĕ pĩ taklōl (taklih).

Person short manner descrip. -of-short-industrious-person

Plural -- nhĩng taklōl

'Long 'lĕ pĩ takhĕl (takhih).

Wood short manner descrip. -of-short-log-too-short-to-be-of-use

Plural -- nhĩng takhĕl

Mangai 'lĕ pĩ taplōt (taplih).

Person short manner descrip. -of-short-person/tree/string-lying

Si'něk ẽn pòyh ẳm pĩ hẳl-hẳl (hỉh-hỉh).

Body his feverish very manner descrip. -of-heat-radiating-from-fevered-body

No Plural

Ẽn bả mahěk tai ẳm pĩ ajuk (ajỉh).

He back-carry stuff droopy very manner descrip. -of-load-drooping-very-low-on-back

Plural -- nhỉng ajuk

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 primarily to add emphasis and intensify commands. Most are sentence-final. A few less-intensifying clitics occur sentence-initial.

5.1. Sentence Final Clitics .

| | | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|---|
| bẻ | 'imperative, emphasis' | Hay chieux bẻ ! | 'Let's go!' |
| bẻ ke | 'informing one of intention' | Au chieux bẻ ke. | 'I guess I'll be on my way.' |
| bẻ hỉ | 'imperative urging someone reluctant' | Chieux bẻ hỉ. | 'Come on, let's get going.' |
| bẻ na | 'I did too! (contrary to what you think)' | Au bloh chieux bẻ na. | 'I did too go!' |
| 'lai | 'imperative "so nothing will happen"' | Sủt mẳng mẳt 'lai. | 'Close your eyes so nothing will get in.' |
| 'mỏm | 'It is too ! (insisting)' | Taỉ 'mỏm. | 'It is too right!' |
| wieyh | 'as well, too (contrary to what you might think)' | Au quh 'lỏ wieyh. | 'I know how to do that too.' |
| ẻ | 'emphasizes something previously said' | Au bloh ủal doh mi ẻ! | 'I already told you that!' |
| mao | 'ah, come on' | Mi doh au 'nah mao. | 'Ah, come on, give me some!' |
| 'nẳng | 'for sure (contrary to expectation)' | Ẽn trủh đẻk-đẻk 'nẳng. | 'He really did come for sure.' |
| rẳl | 'if you don't watch out' | Chou kẳp mi rẳl. | 'The dog will bite, if you don't look out.' |

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----------------------|---|
| wǎl | 'Enough!, better not (do it anymore)' | Mǎ kǝng yao wǎl. | 'Don't beat (him) anymore (enough)!'. |
| dòm | 'don't have a clue' | Au dei 'lǝ dòm. | 'I don't have a clue.' |
| ih 'lǎn | 'maybe (guessing)' | Ĕn wǎ ɕa 'banih' lǎn. | 'He wants to eat candy, maybe.' |
| lih | 'probably (because notice determination)' | Ĕn wǎ cha 'ban lih. | 'He probably wants to eat candy, (by the way he acts).' |
| ih lok | 'anyway, in spite of it' | Ĕn 'way 'mǒ ih lok. | 'He remains sick in spite of it all (medicines).' |
| lǝk lok | 'contrary to what it should be, after all' | Ngek lǝk-lok. | 'It's light after all (not heavy but should be)!'. |
| llay | 'polite, request, if you would' | Wah au 'nah llay. | 'Give me some, okay?' |

5.2. Sentence Initial Clitics.

| | | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| nau | 'perhaps' | Nau ĕn ɕhiu yet ih 'lǎn. | 'Perhaps he's gone out maybe.' |
| hǎk | 'actually (contrary to his claim)' | Hǎk ĕn ei. | 'Actually, he does have (some).' |
| kamày | 'no matter if, whether or not' | Kamày 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).