

TWO 'LAWĀ' VOCABULARIES.

BY

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The Lawā of the Baw Lūang Plateau.

In Vol. XVIII of this Journal I gave a few notes on the Lawā of the Baw Lūang Plateau, south-west of Chiengmai, and stated that a vocabulary would be published later. The vocabulary collected at the time of my visit, in July 1922, was a very meagre one, and I had hoped that a fuller one might be obtained. That hope has not been realised, and, as no vocabulary of these people seems to have been previously published, I now give the few words I was able to collect. I have to thank Nai Noe Israngura for very kindly taking down the words in Siamese character, both of these people and of the Kānburī Lawā given in the next note. The words are first given in Siamese character, as they were taken down, then transliterated into Roman character. In the last column are the corresponding words in Wa, as given in the "Gazetteer of Upper Burma and the Shan States." It will be seen that in some cases there is a close approximation between the Lawā and the Wa words, in others there is little or no resemblance. I think, however, that a careful study of the language of the Baw Lūang Lawā would show that it is closely allied to that of the Wa.

VOCABULARY.

English	Lawā of Baw Lūang		Wa
	In Siamese Character	In Roman Character	
One	เต้	Te	Te
Two	ละยั้ง	La-āi	Ra (ā)
Three	ละไย	La-ō	Lai (oi)
Four	ป้าง	Pāng	Pōn

English	Lawā of Baw Lūang		Wa
	In Siamese Character	In Roman Character	
Five	พวน	Puan	Hpawñ (fan)
Six	แหล่	Lê	Laiya (lia)
Seven	แอแหล่	Ê-lê	A-laiya (alia)
Eight	ละเตะ	Satê	S'tê (sn'tê)
Nine	ละไต้ย	Satai	S'ti (sn'ti)
Ten	กำละ	Kūa-la	Kao
Eleven	กำละไต้	Kūa-la-tê	Kao ra te
Twelve	กำละอา	Kūa-la-ā	Kao rā
Twenty	แม่แวล	Ngê-wêl	Ngā
One hundred	ตี๋ยกักกะ	Ti-ā-yū-ka	Rayatê ta-ra-je
Mouth	อ่ำปำ	Am-pām	Tai 'mtut 'njuí, hkwe
Finger	ดี้อย	Doi or Da-oi	?
Wound	ย่ำประ	Yam-pra	?
Stone	ละมัว	Sa-mao	Hsi-mo, Hsi-mao
Water	ละอา	La-ao	Rōm
Rain	ไฮล	Hlai	(Tūm) lè
Sky	มะลวง	Ma-lawng	(Hak) ma
Cultivation clearing	มะอ้ำ	Ma-ā	?

English	Lawá of Baw Lāang		Wa
	In Siamese Character	In Roman Character	
Rice field (permanent)	ฉีก	Chūk	?
Hatchet	มีด	Ma-āo	Mwe
Hat	ฮน้าย	Hnāi	Keng tang luak, sap-na keng
Shoes	ฮักของ	Hak wūang	?
Coat	ฮาเปะ	Ā-pe	Sha (ch) sha-be
Trousers	มั่ว	Wê	Kōn k'la
Cloth	พริ้ว	Prū	?
Banana	ฮาน้อย	A-noi	?
Sugar-cane	ฮามะ	Ā-me	?
Cow-pea (<i>Vigna sesquipedalis</i>)	ละจ้าม	La-chām	?
Mango	แป	Pê	?
Greater yam (<i>Dioscorea alata</i>)	ห้าเปี่ยม	Hāng-pūam	?
<i>Pinus Khasya</i>	เก็ย-โคะเก๊ะ	Kōi or ko-ke	?
Teak	เคะเย็ยโฮ	Kaw-yia-ō	?
Ruak (<i>Thrysostachys siamensis</i>)	ย้อ	Aw	?

English	Lawā of Baw Lūang		Wa
	In Siamese Character	In Roman Character	
Takien (<i>Hopea odorata</i>)	ไพร์	Prai	?
Grass	ไร่	Rai	Yēp
Elephant	ช้าง	Sāng	Hsang
Tiger	อ้ายเยะ	A-wī-yê	?
Pony	มอประอ้ง	Maw-pra-awng	Marōng, brum
To take a wife	ล้มเอือก	Som-ùak	?
To die	ผู้ย้อม	Pui-yūm	Hsiawm, yum
To cremate	ต๋อก	Tawk	?
To bury	อับปางฮ	Ap-pāng-aw	?
To love	รัก or ฮัก	Rak, or hak	Hak pao, re
To love each other	ฮักเกไปเต๊ะ	Hak kē pō te	?

Lawā of Kānburi Province.

The name 'Lawā' is applied also to quite another tribe, whose language has no obvious resemblance to that of the Baw Lūang Lawā. These Lawā have their villages in the valleys of the Kwê Noi and Kwê Yai, in Kānburi Province.

It may be mentioned, incidentally, that these valleys contain a great mixture of tribes. In addition to the Lawā there are Karens, Khamu, Khmer (locally known as Ut), Mawn, Eastern Lao and Tawngsu (Tawngthu), as well as Siamese.

It is said that most of the Siamese-speaking inhabitants of these valleys are really of Lawā descent, but they have now quite given up their own tongue and speak only Siamese. Fortunately there are still some villages, in the upper parts of the valleys, where this Lawā is yet spoken; but practically all those who speak Lawā can also speak Siamese. These people freely intermarry with their neighbours, whose customs and religion they have adopted. In a few generations their language will, in all probability, have disappeared. It seems worth while, therefore, to put on record such words as we were able to collect at the time of our visit in January 1926. Two lists were obtained, one from an inhabitant of the Kwê Yai valley, the other from one in the Kwê Noi. The words are given, as with those of the Baw Lūang Lawā, both in Siamese and Roman character. They were originally taken down in Siamese character. On comparing the list of Lawā words with the vocabularies given in the "Gazetteer of Upper Burma and the Shan States," it was seen that, while there was not complete agreement with any one vocabulary there, yet there was evidently an alliance between these Lawā words and the Tibeto-Burman group of languages. Words from two languages of this group, Lisaw and Akha, are given for comparison. It is true that these two languages are spoken very much further north than the district under consideration, but it is possible that connecting links may yet be found in the Salween valley.

VOCABULARY.

English	Lawā of Kānburi				Lisaw	Akah
	Kwē Yai		Kwē Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
One	ที	Tī	ที	Ti	Hti	Ti
Two	นัง	Nang	นัง	Nang	Nyi	Ngi
Three	โตง	Dōng	โตง	Dōng	Sa	Hsong
Four	ปลี่	Pli	ปลี่	Pli	Li	Ē or Ö
Five	งอ	Ngaw	งอ	Ngaw	Wa, ngwa	Nga
Six	คะ	Kaw	คะ	Kaw	Cho, htaw	Ko
Seven	ดี่	Thī	ดี่	Lī	Shi shō	Hsi
Eight	แฮะ	Hê	แฮะ	Hê	He, hyi	Yé
Nine	กู	Kū	กู	Kū	Ku	Gwe
Ten	แซะ	Sê	แซะ	Sê	Chi	Hsé
Eleven	เซที	Sētī			Chi-ti(ma)	Hsé-ti
Twelve	เซนัง	Sē-nang			Chi-nyi (ma)	
Thirteen	เซโตง	Sē-dōng				
Fourteen	เซปลี่	Sē-plī				
Twenty	นังแซะ	Nang-sê			Nyi-chi	Ngi-hsé
Twenty one	นังแซะกาที	Nang-sê- kātī			Ny-chi-ti (ma)	Ngi- hsé-ti
Thirty	โตงแซะ	Dōng-se			Sa-chi, ma)	Hsong- hsé
Thirty one	โตงแซะกาที	Dōng-sê- kātī				

English	Lawā of Kānburī				Lisaw	Akha
	Kwê Yai		Kwê Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
Forty	ปลี่แะะ	Pli-sé				
One Hund- red	ຈະ	Cha			Ti-hya	Ti ya
One Hund- red & one	ຈະກາທິ	Cha-kāti				
White	ມິນປລາ	Mūng plaw			Hpu-a	Ye pyu
Black	ດິກຈັກ	Tūk chak			Nānā	Ye na
Yellow	ປລງປລັງ	Plong plang			Yi-shi shti	Ye hsu
Hand	ລະພອ	La paw			Lā pā	A-la
Foot	ດິເຄລັອກ	Ki klūak				A-kō
Head	ອູເພັະ	Ū paw			Wu dō	O du
Eye	ຍະເຄລິ່ງ	Ya klōng			Mya-sū	Ne nō
Nose	ນາທັງ	Nā tēng			Nā be	Na-mè
Mouth	ກູຕຸງ	Kū tung			Na-hu mū-lè	Ka mè
Neck	ລັງສິ່ງ	Lang sūng				
Stone	ເລາະກູ້	Law kū	ເລາະຄູ	Law kū	Lu di patha lachi, hōchi	Ka-lo (a rock)
Earth	ມິທັງ	Mi tang	ມິທັງ	Mi tang	Mi na, mi-hō	Mi hsa

English	Lawā of Kānburi				Lisaw	Akha
	Kwê Yai		Kwê Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
Water	ที	Ti	ที	Ti	Yigya	I-su
Sand	แตง	Dé wēng				
Wind	ลี	Lī			Mī hi	
Fire	ตีง	Nī tong			Ā to	Mi za
Man	มังสี	Mang si			Cho-pā	Ka hse ya
Women	สีสี	Si si			Cho-mā	Ya mi ya
Child	เลาะแปะ	Law pē			La-nyo tha	Lagu la
Father	ยั้ง	Yāng			Bā	A-da
Mother	บัก	Bak			Mā	A-ma
Husband	มอง	Mawng			Za gu	Nya ka hso ya
Wife	แม่	Yê			Za mö	Nya mi ay
Offspring	สี	Si				
Elder						
Sister or Elder Brother	โยะ	Yo				
Maternal Grand- mother	อาสี	Ā sī				
Maternal Grand- father	อาปู	Ā pū				

English	Lawā of Kānburi				Lisaw	Akha
	Kwē Yai		Kwē Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
House	ห้อง	Yūng			Hin	Yung
Village	นังเพอวยั้ง	Nang pōo yūng			Si-szü, cha	Pu
Buffalo	ดำไ้	Dā wō			Ä ngä	Ai nyo
Elephant	ตัง	Thang			Hä mä	Yo ma
Pig	โป	Pō				
Horse	กวาง	Kāng			Ämo	Mawng
Dog	ขี้	Kū			Änā	A-kū
Cat	เมียว	Mio			Änyā tszü	A-mi
Rat	วูก	Wuk				
Duck	บาคี	Bā ti			Ä	
Fowl	ไ้	Wo			Ägä	
Tiger	เกอะตัง	Kua tha				
Monkey (ling)	มุก	Yuk				
Bird	ฮะ	Ha			Nyā	
Big bird	ฮะคัง	Ha dang				
Little bird	ฮะแปะ	Ha pē				
Peacock	คอง	Kong				
Fish	งะตัง	Nga tha			Ngwā	Nga sa
Forest	ปี้ลั้ง	Pi lang	ปี้ลั้ง	Ping lang		Du se yaw
Tree	ลัก	Lak	ลัก	Lak	Shi-gyi	Takaw bai yaw

English	Lawā of Kānburi				Lisaw	Akha
	Kwê Yai		Kwê Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
Root	ค้ำ	Ka	ฮางค้ำ	Hāng ka		
Branch			ฮางคะละ	Hāng kala		
Bark			ฮางเก้อะ	Hāng kò		
Flower	แพยะ	Pia	ฮางแพยะ	Hāng pia		
Leaf	ชะ	Cha	ชะ	Cha	Shi-pya	A-pa
Fruit	ลักแล	Lak lé	แล	Lé		
Grass			ก้ำชะ	Ki la	Shü	Ya ga
Coco-nut	คู้แต่	Kū dé	คู้แต่	Kū lé		
Areca palm	แต่	Dé	แล	Lé		
Banana	ฮะแล	Ha lé		Ha lé		
Ruak (<i>Thyrso- stachys siamen- sis</i>)	เตะพี	Daw pi	เตะพี	Daw pi		
Sugar- cane	ฮะซู	Ha sū	ฮะซู	Ha sū		
Maize	กูมะ	Kū mē	กูมะ	Kū mē		
Mango			โคกแล	Kók lé		
Yang (<i>Dipt. alatus</i>)			ทองหลัก	Tawng lak		

English	Lawā of Kānburi				Lisaw	Akha
	Kwê Yai		Kwê Noi			
	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.	Siamese Ch.	Roman Ch.		
Husked rice	เซ	Sē	เซ	Sē	Za-hpu	Hse-kum
Glutinous rice	ขามางเซ	Yā māngse	ขามาง	Yāng māng		
Field (rice)	นอ	Naw	นอ	Naw		
Cultivation clearing	เยะ	Ye	เยะ	Ye		
Knife	น้ำเมี	Nam mai				
Hatchet	ปุกา	Pu tā			Ā-cho	Ma kye du, or bi ha
Spade	ซินละ	Sin la				
Boat	ลี้	Lī			Tsu-li	Law

Some sentences (from Kwê Noi) :—

Where does this path go? ทิเข้าวัดนี้แก้อ Hi ē wi ti nang kaw

What is this tree called? ทิเข้าลักกะยี่อาคอะเว Hi ē lak ha yī ā kô wē

Where is the house? นานี่ฮานทอะเว Nā yūng ā tô wē

