

MEMBA LANGUAGE GUIDE

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ITANAGAR

MEMBA LANGUAGE GUIDE written by **Tapoli Badu - Language Officer**, Along and published by the **Director of Research**, A.P. Itanagar for and on behalf of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

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FOREWORD

The Memba Language Guide by Shri Tapoli Badu is a welcome addition to the series of language guides being published by the Directorate of Research of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh. The Membas are one of the numerous scheduled tribes living in the state.

The Membas are high altitude people. Being situated at high altitude, their land most part of the year is covered with snow. They are to fight against all the odds of nature for their survival. Unlike majority of the tribal people of the state who originally do not belong to the fold of any of the major religions the Membas are the adherent to the faith of the Great Master Buddha. They are the followers of the Tibetan-Buddhism which is also called Lamaism and belongs to the Mahayana sect of the Buddhism. The Membas are endogamous people and follow their clan identity. They are patrilineal, patrilocal and patriarchial.

Though the book is primarily a language book and is meant for those who want to have a first hand knowledge of the Memba language, they, at the same time are not denied of knowing the people, their customs, religion, way of living etc. This has been done by the author through a well documented introduction which is though brief, I believe, will meet our present requirement.

No book of any kind on the Membas is there till now, which is a desideratum and Sri T. Badu has come forward to do this job by writing this most useful book on the Memba language and for doing this job Shri T. Badu indeed deserves all appreciation.

It is further hoped that this book will be able to attract the attention of the Linguists and Ethnographers as well, for a detail study of the language of the Membas in future, if some interested researcher wants to undertake such a study.

D. K. Bora

Director of Research
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Itanagar.

INTRODUCTION

The Membas are a small tribe living in Mechuka valley in the West Siang district, and Tuting and Gelling Valleys of the Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh. The Membas of Mechuka valley are surrounded by beautiful snow-clad peaks and the altitude is 1989 meters above the mean sea level. According to 1991 census report, the Membas living in the Mechuka valley accounted for 2002 souls. They are scattered over a numerous land-locked beautiful valleys on both the banks of the river called **Yargyup-chu**, a tributary of the mighty Siang river. There are in all, nine villages and these villages are Mechuka, Dorjiling, Dezenthang, Lhalung, Sekhar, Galling, Lupso, Yornyi and Chutling. The land of the Membas is bounded on the North by Mc-Mohan Line, the Bokars a sub-tribes of the Adis on the East, the Tagins on the west and the Romos and the Libos, another sub-tribes of the Adis are on the south.

The Membas belonging to Mongoloid race. They are very simple, gentle in nature, cheerful and friendly people. Originally they belonged to **Dakbo-Kongba** area of south-east Tibet and from where they came to Bhutan and Tawang of Arunachal Pradesh and thence to their present habitat at Mechuka a few hundred year from now. They select their village-site basing on fertility of the area, availability of water, security and other material which they need for day to day life. The village boundaries are earmarked by natural barriers such as hillocks springs, rivers etc.

The Membas construct their houses at their individual plot of land. The houses are made of wooden planks, C.G.I. sheets, and stones. The houses are rectangular in shape and generally have two to three compartments. The main materials used for house construction are woods, stones, leaves which are collected from nearing jungle. A typical Memba house has a front veranda

alongwith a door for entrance and exit. No back door is seen in the houses. The first room is called **Gos**, the second is **Chesung** and the third one is **Ze**. Thap—the fire place is built at the middle of the **Gos**.

Their traditional dresses like **Punum Chupa, Chuba, Khanjar, Dorma, Guch, Jugen-chu** for men, **Phume-Chuba, Togye, Meo, Sringkin, Jopore** (hat) for women are produced by themselves. Their dresses normally cover most of the body hung to the knee. This is due to the harsh nature of the climate in Mechuka which normally remains cold even in summer, and during winter the cold is biting and severe. They rear goats and from whose skin they make caps, hats, blankets and other warm woollen clothes. The Membas are good weavers, both male and female are seen, weaving beautiful woollen garments and carpets. Exquisite textures and designs are interwoven in their traditional methods. They are superb in colour combination which together with designs are much in demand.

The Membas are very good wood carver too. The wooden masks of different Buddhist gods and goddesses are so exquisitely carved that they fetch ready market when brought to the Government emporium. Beautiful masks of birds and animals are also made and used for the purpose of various dances on religious and ceremonial occasions. Apart from these, they carve decorative pieces from wood such as candle stands, flower vases etc. A good deal of wooden utensils like bowls, cups, plates etc. are carved from wood for their daily use. Apart from wood carvings, the Membas are expert artisan. They prepare masks of clay for different uses both religious and secular.

The Memba society is leaning towards the nuclear family system. Father is the head. They are patriarchial, patrilineal and patrilocal. The Membas mainly practise endogamy but in rare cases they are found to keep marital relationship with their neighbouring Ramos, Palibos and Bokars of the Adis. There are numerous Memba clans and some are Naksang, Phillee, Sona, Chukla, Goiba, Sharjo, Ongbu, Ongey, Mane, Dorsom, Kigar, Gyana, Chhina and Nyodung etc. In Memba society avoidance

is strictly followed. For instance, the mother-in-law never sits before the son-in-law. They talk less unless there is any urgency which needs her opinion. They have preferential system of marriage, which they strictly adhere to, even these days. Violator, though is not punished but nevertheless the couple is looked down by the society. When the parents of boy and girl think of marriage for their wards, they directly or indirectly talk to get consent of each other. Generally, negotiation starts from the boys side. In case of adult, both the parents take consent from the boys and girls. Polygamous marriage is practised only when the first wife is unable to bear child. Re-marriage of widows and widower is permissible. Divorce is permissible under certain circumstances. If the wife is found in having extra marital relationship with another man, her husband can seek divorce and she may be asked to pay a fine. Similarly, if a married man indulges in an extra marital relationship with other woman, the wife can divorce him. In case, the couple have a child, the child will remain with the mother. The approval of divorce required is to be given by the Lama, the priest apart from the village elders.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the Membas. Due to extreme cold, climate condition and rough terrains, summer crops alone are possible. The major crops grown are rice, millet, maize, wheat, bajra and jowar etc. They also grow vegetables like brinjal, french-bean and potato in summer and pumpkin, onion, cabbage etc. during winter. The staple food of the Membas, however, are the maize and rice. They are fond of butter and salted tea. The local drink called **Chung** is very popular among them.

The headman of the Memba village is called **Deva**. He controls the villagers and is empowered to punish the guilty person. He is the supreme authority for maintaining law and order within his village and no villagers dare to go against the decisions of the **Deva**. The next to the **Deva** is **Seems** selected from different villages by the **Deva**. **Devas** are given the status of Political Interpreters and the **Seems** are given the status of **Gams** by the Government for administrative expediencies.

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The major festivals of the Membas are Losser, Lha-soeba, Pemasuba, Busipat, Pemajaling etc. Among them, Losser is their main community festival and it is a new year festival celebrated with traditional grandeur and gaiety. Losser is celebrated during the last part of February or first week of March.

The Pantomimes or dance dramas are enacted during the major festivals. It is performed with the beautiful traditional dresses and fine marks. **Bardo** Pantomime is famous for the people of the Membas. It is celebrated during the months of November-December. These Pantomimes, generally tells the mythical stories. The Membas are very much fond of singing, dancing and playing.

The Membas are Buddhist by religion. They are Mahayana Buddhist, belonging to Nying-ma-pa sect. They follow the teachings of Buddha and practise his teaching to achieve the salvation. They firmly believe in transmigration of soul and the concept of re-birth. The Membas held his Holiness, the Dalai Lama as the reincarnation of Lord Buddha and therefore pay due veneration to Him. They maintain an elaborate monastic set up with Gompas and Lamas. It is said that the first Gompa of the area was constructed under the supervision of Lama Cheeji Lingbo. Incidentally, Lama Cheeji Lingbo led the Memba to the Mechuka area.

The Memba language belongs to the Tibetan group of the Tibeto-Burman language. Their script is Tibetan and all the holy scriptures are written in Tibetan script.

The Book is the first of its kind, published on Memba tribe and consists of six parts viz. Part-I **Phonology**, Part-II **Grammar**, Part-III **Common Vocabulary**, Part-IV **Memba Calendar**. For correct pronunciation of the common vocabulary words, the Devanagari script is used mainly in Part-III.

The book, mainly deals with the language spoken within the Mechuka Sub-Division. There is bound to be some mistakes in reproducing the data, but the mistakes are not intentional and for which, I crave the indulgence of the Membas and also of the readers.

The **Memba Language Guide** book is prepared with a view to serve as an introduction to Membas and to enable those who may be interested to learn their language. It is also intended to help administrators and other people who may have to come into contact with them to carry out their business with comparative ease. The primary materials for the book were collected at village of Mechuka, Dorjiling and Deanthang of West Siang district, Arunachal Pradesh. I am indeed indebted to the people of those areas for all the help and co-operation, I received during my field-study.

The final verification of the manuscript was done with the help of Shri Kesang Goiva, a Senior Teacher, Miss Cherin Sona, Teacher of Govt. H.S. School, Mechuka. I am specially thankful to Shri Lera Sharjo, Teacher, who was of great help to me in preparing the final draft. I am indebted to Shri R. Dondrup, Deputy Director of Research (Philosophy) for his guidance and valuable suggestions. I am thankful to Shri A. Tayeng, the then Director of Research, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, for all the help, encouragement and cooperation. My special thank goes to Dr. D. K. Bora, the Director of Research, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, who not only saw the book published at a time when the Department is faced with fund crunch, but also wrote a foreword for the book.

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PART : ONE

PHONOLOGY

CONSONANTS :

The Memba sound unit possesses the following consonants –

k	kh	g	ng
c	ch	j	ny(n)
t	th	do	dh n
p	ph	b	m
y	r	l	w h s sh z

The above consonants may be shown as below with Devanagari for a comparison and better understanding.

k	kh	g	ng
क	ख	ग	ङ
c	ch	j	ny (n)
च	छ	ज	ञ
t	th	d	dh n
त	थ	द	ध न
p	ph	b	m
प	फ	ब	म
y	r	l	w
य	र	ल	व
h	s	sh	z
ह	स	श	ज़

VOWELS :

In Memba the vowels are i e a o u अि, अे, अा, अ, अु
central vowels are e´- and i´-. These vowels are pronounced with
the lips in position for the corresponding pure sounds but with
the tongue drawn back.

The above central vowels are represented by (अे´) and (अि´).
in Devanagari.

PART : TWO

GRAMMAR

NOUN

NUMBER :

Plural is expressed when specifically required by adding the particle /kede/thumje/and/laga/ etc. for animate and inanimate objects.

Example :

Singular

man-mi
boy-au
dog-khi
horse-tah
cow-balang
dao-papsha

Plural

mi-kede (men)
au-kede (boys)
khi-kede (dogs)
tah-kede (horses)
balang-thumje (cows)
papsha-thumje (daos)

Specific numbers are expressed by numerals without the plural particle.

mi-chik
mi-nyi
mi-sum
khi-chik
balang-shih
tah-sum
tah-chik

a man
two men
three men
a dog
four cows
three horses
one horse

GENDER

There is no grammatical gender in Memba. However, in case of human being, two sexes are distinguished by different words.

Example :

Abo	father
aam	mother
au	boy
bumu	girl
au-pinggya	brother
bum-pinggya	sister

Common

Masculine

Feminine

khi (dog)	pho-khi	moh-khi (bitch)
tah (horse)	pho-do	moh-do (mare)
rah (goat)	rah-pho	rah-moh (she-goat)
phah (pig)	pho-ba	moh-ba (sow)

It may be noted that **pha** and **do** suffixes indicate the male and **moh** denotes the female and **ba** both male and female respectively of animals.

CASE

NOMINATIVE :

The subject generally adds noo suffix and comes first in order of the sentences :

Example :

khi-chik kelo-supn	A dog barks.
dog a bark	
tukto ngun	The child cries.
child cry	
mi-don/doyiba	The man goes.

Accusative :

The object of a transitive verb takes the accusative case. It follows the subject and precedes the verb.

Example :

nga de sagi	I shall eat rice.
I rice eat	
ju dil mitah	Look at the bird.
bird at see	
ngal ja goi	I want tea.
I tea want	

ngal chhu kush Bring me water.
I/me water bring.

INSTRUMENT :

Objects which indicate in action takes **di** as suffix.

Example :

deva da-di khash-chik seba – Deva killed a deer.
arrow – with deer a killed with an arrow.
nga lagyeb-di sagi – I eat with my right hand.
I right hand - with eat
ngun-ju gyam-di **nya** - sungi – We catch fish with net.

ABLATIVE :

Dissociation is expressed by **ne**.

Example :

mi-ne – from the man.
khim-ne – from the house.
di-midh Mechikha-ne leba – This man has come
from Mechukha.
nga-di-mi-ne gorum lemb – I took money from this man.
Along-ne – From Along (down)
Dizinthang-ne – From Dizinthang (same level)
Tibet te-ne – From Tibet (up).

GENETIVE :

The genitive is denoted by **dig/or/ge/as** suffix.

Example :

bum-dig golo yakpu-nu – The dress of the girl is nice.
Papsha-dig yoh – Handle of the dao.
Sing-dig yeng-ge – The branch of the tree.
naksang-ge neja – Naksang's wife.
eli-dig jug – The cat's tail.
mi-dig gota nekpu-nu – The hair of the man is black.

LOCATIVE :

The location is denoted by **de**

nga mechukha-de-dui – I live at Mechukha
nga baze-de-dui – I live in Bazar.
nang in the sense of "inside".

au kede khim-nang-denu – The boys are inside the house.

gang in the sence of "on"

bench-gang-dedi – Sit on the bench.

ohde in the sense of "under"

tebul ohde – Under the table.

Purposive :

The purposive adds no suffix.

Example :

ngal chhu lengkhush – Bring water for me.

me water bring

nga gorum korne leb – I have come for the money.

me money for me

PRONOUN

There are three classes of pronoun ; Personal, Demonstrative and Interrogative.

Personal Pronoun :

The personal pronoun has three persons - First person (speaker), Second person (spoken to) and the Third person (referred to).

Singular

1st person-I-nga

2nd person-you-khyo

3rd person-He, She-kho

me, to me

your

my

Plural

We-ngun-ju

You(pl)-khyun-ju

They-khun-ju

ngal

khyo

ngek

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN :

The demonstrative pronouns are :

Example :

di - This.....di - kede These

fide-udh.....that.....fide-kede.....Those

di khyog khimba.....This ys your house.

udh/fide nyeg Bamin/Tamin.....That is my mithun.

di yakpu-nu..... This is good.

INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN :

The interrogative pronouns are :

Example :

su ?	Who ?	Sul ?	Whom ?
chi ?	What ?	Suk ?	Which ?
gade ?	Where ?	Su-leba ?	Who comes ?
Khyo-chi-goyi ?			What do you want ?
di chiba ?			What is this ?
di/udh chiba ?			What is that ?
khyo-gade-doyi ?			Where do you go ?
khyo-sul-goyl ?			Whom do you want ?

ADJECTIVE

ADJECTIVE OF QUALITY :

Attribute of quality and condition generally follow the noun.

Example :

golo korbu	White cloth
cloth white	
chhu dong-bu	Cold Water
water cold	
chhu tsobu	Hot water
water hot	
mi-nyik-ching	Blind man
man blind	
mi nyum-jung	Poor man
man poor	
Au munipem	Lazy boy
boy lazy	

ADJECTIVE OF QUANTITY :

There are some objects and things which cannot be counter or where the exact number cannot be used.

Example :

tsobo-jik	Some, a little
e-zi-jik	a few
laga	many

The cardinal number upto ten are :

1.	One	chik
2.	Two	nyi
3.	Three	sum
4.	Four	shih
5.	Five	nge
6.	Six	du
7.	Seven	din
8.	Eight	gey
9.	Nine	gu
10.	Ten	chu-thum-ba

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVE :

di suffixes in singular and **kede** in plural expresses demonstrative adjectives.

Example :

This	di	This house	di-khim
That	phide	That tree	phide shing
That	phide (at a distance)		
This book is good		di kitap yakpu-nu	
These books are good		di-kitap-kede yakpu-nu	
That boy is bad		phide au-dh gore-nu	
Those boys are bad		phide-au-kekde gore-nu.	

VERB

The three tenses are present, past and future :

PRESENT TENSE

nga-nyi	I sleep
ngun-ju-nyi	We sleep
khyo-nyi-ba	You sleep
kho-nyi-ba	He sleeps
khum-ju-nyi-ba	They sleep

PAST TENSE

nga-nyib	I slept
ngun-ju-nyi-b	We slept

khyo-nyi-s	You slept
kho-nyi-s	He slept
khum-ju-nyi-s	They slept

Past continuous action indicates by **di** suffix.

Example :

nga sa-di	I was eating.
ju-de phir-sin	The bird was flying.
lera kha dar-di	Lera was speaking.
bum-kede thata-di	The girls were weaving

FUTURE TENSE

A future action is indicated by **gi** or **ba** :

Example :

I shall sleep	nga nyi-gi
We shall sleep	ngun-ju-nyi-gi
You shall sleep	khyo nyig-ba
He shall sleep	kho nyig-ba
They shall sleep	khunju nyig-ba
I shall eat rice	nga dey sa-gi
I shall go to Mechuka	nga mechuka do-gi
I eat rice	nga dey-sai
I ate rice	nga dey sa-b
I was eating rice	nga dey sa-di
Are you eating ?	khyo sa-di be ?
Do you eat rice ?	khyo dey sa-yi-be ?
He has eaten meal	kho to-sa-ba
I have eaten meal	nga to-sa-ba
They eat together	khun-ju nyumu sa-yi-ba
They ate together	khun-ju-nyumu sa-ba
I wish to eat	nga sa-ngin dib-nu
I do not wish to eat now	nga dande sa ngin di-mana
Please eat rice	dey sa-roh
Let me eat	ngal sa-churo

PART : THREE
COMMON VOCABULARY

MAN AND SOCIETY

Man (Body parts)

Man	mi	मि
Body	libu	लिबु
Head	go	ग
Hair	gota	गता
Skull	gotheb	गथेब्
Forehead	tego	तेग
Face	dong-ba	दङ-बा
Check	Khameli	खामेलि
Mouth	Khah	खाह्
Brain	lepa	लेपा
Eye	mi	मि
Ear	namjo	नामज
Nose	nogung	नगुङ्
Nostril	nogung-miga	नगुङ्-मिगा
Lip	kha-chugang	खा-छुगाङ्
(a) Upper	gangmu-chugang	गाङ्मु-छुगाङ्
(b) Lower	omu-chugang	अमु-छुगाङ्
Moustache	asum	आसुम्
Tongue	choli	छलि
Tooth	sow	सव
Jaw	sonyi	सजि
Chin	khameli	खामेलि

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Neck	jing-bu	जिङ्-बु
Shoulder	pung-bang	पुङ्-बाङ्
Chest	dang-go	दाङ्-ग
Heart	ning	निङ्
Lungs	chimbu	छिम्बु
Breast	omo	अम
Nipple	omnum	अम्नुम्
Arm	lak-nya	लाक्-आ
Elbow	tsik-pu	सिक्-पु
Wrist	dinjung-pu	दिनजुङ्-पु
Hand	lakpu	लाक्पु
Palm	lak-perti	लाक्-पेर्ति
Tumb	lak-tho-bong	लाक्-थ-बङ्
Finger	lak-juk-sa	लाक्-जुक्-सा
Nail	lak-samo	लाक्-साम
Belley	dogo	दग
Naval	dogo-to	दग-त
Buttocks	meche	मेछे
Leg	khang-bo	खाङ्-ब
Right (leg)	khang-bo-eb	खाङ्-ब-अेब्
Left (leg)	khang-bo-yakyo	खाङ्-ब-याक्य
Knee	pim	पिम्
Ankle	tingbu	तिङ्बु
Foot	kangbu	काङ्बु
Penis	je	जे
Vagina	tu	तु
Blood	tha	था
Skeleton	rugo	रुग
Skin	pak-pa	पाक्-पा
Bone	rugo	रुग
Fat	tsii	सि
Sweat	miina	मिना

Urine	oju	अजु
Tear	Michu	मिछु
Breadth	bu-lengen	बु-लेडेन्

RELATIONSHIP

Male	phoh	फह
Female	moh	मह
Husband	kyogo	कयग
Wife	Neja	नेजा
Son	au	आअु
Daughter	bumu	बुमु
Father	abu	आबु
Mother	ama	आमा
Brother (younger)	pingya-chung	पिङ्या-छुङ्
Brother (elder)	ojo	अज
Paternal uncle	ugu	अुगु
Maternal uncle	ashang	आशाङ्
Father's sister	ani	आनि
Wife of maternal uncle	ani	आनि
Wife of paternal uncle	aama	आमा
Grandfather	imi	अिमि
Grandmother	ayi	आयि
Son's son	aug-au	आअुग्-आअु
Daughter's son	buming-au	बुमिङ्-आअु
Brother's son	ojong-au	अजङ्-आअु
Father-in-law	ashang	आशाङ्
Mother-in-law	ani	आनि
Brother's daughter	bum	बुम्
Sister's daughter	bum	बुम्
Wife's brother	ashang	आशाङ्

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Sister's husband	makp	माकप्
Sister-in-law	nejag-pingya	नेजाग-पिन्गया
Brother's wife	ojog-neja	अजग्-नेजा
Son-in-law	makp	माकप्
Friend	lou	लअु
Enemy	dha	धा
Ancestor	ij-im	अिज्-अिम्
Orphan	duktu	दुक्तु

STAGES AND CONDITIONS OF LIFE

Baby (child)	tuk-to	तुक्-त
Boy	au	आअु
Girl	bumu	बुमु
Youngman	foser	फसेर्
Male	pho	फ
Young woman	moser	मसेर्
Female	moh	मह
Old man	lm/seng-go	अिम्/सेङ्-ग
Bachelor	fo-domzang	फ-दम्जाङ्
Virgin	mo-domzang	म-दम्जाङ्
Man (married)	khyog-bush	खयग्-बुश्
Woman	neja-bush	नेजा-बुश्
Pregnant	tuktho-thongon	तुक्थ-थडन्
Widow	yuk-chu-am	युक्-छु-आम्
Widower	yuk-chu-ab	युक्-छुक-आब्

SOCIETY

Society	lungjinj	लुङ्जिन्ज्
Family	khemjang	खेम्जाङ्
Clan	tsembe	सेम्बे
Tribe	migii	मिगि

Village	dongba	दङ्बा
Village chief	gembu	गेम्बु
Villager	dongba-mi	दङ्बा-मि

BODY PARTS (ANIMAL)

Body	sukpu	सुकपु
Horn	roju	रजु
Hoof	mik-pu	मिक्-पु
Tail	jugu	जुगु
Paw	derim	देरिम्
Claw	derim	देरिम्
Wing	shok-pu	शक्-पु
Dung	balang-aga	बालाङ्-आगा

HOUSE AND FURNITURE

(a) House

House	khim	खिम्
Room	teje	तेजे
Granary	sergim	सेरगिम्
Floor	dorum	दरुम्
Veranda	bamjang	बाम्जाङ्
Latrine	aasi	आसि
Door	gom	गम्
Hearth	thab	थाब
Trays	tsenda	सेन्दा
(Over the hearth)		
Ceiling	thoga	थगा
Fence	gha	घा
Post	furtum	फुर्तुम्
Central Post	kaa	का

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Plank	pangli	पाङ्लि
Roof	thobang	थबाङ्

(b) Furniture

Bed	thih	थिह्
Bedding	nyigu	जिगु
Mat	den	देन्
Pillow	ngebang	डेबाङ्
Basket	bisum	बिसुम्
Baskete (big)	bisum	बिसुम्
Basket (small)	bisum	बिसुम्
Basket (for fishing)	nyashong	जाशङ्
Match	cekre	चेकरे
Cooking pot	toney	तनेय्
Frying pan	laŋga	लाङा
Plate	dharma	धार्मा
Dish	phur	फुर्
Bamboo	yaas/nyungmu	यास, जुङ्मु
Spoon	ebi	अेबि
Tripod of stone	gyapti	गयाप्ति
Pestle	tsomgyu	सम्गयु
Mortar	tsom	सम्
Wine	chhang/arah	छाङ्, आराह्
Dress	goylom	गयलम्
Coat	chuba	छुबा
Bow	eim	अेअिम्
Quiver	dashu	दाशु
Spear	dung	दुङ्
Dao (large)	padem	पादेम्
Dao (small)	chapsa	छापसा
Dao	papsha	पापशा
Raincoat	chhangru	छाङ्रु

Gun	mend	मेन्द्
Bullet	du	दु
Tibetan coat	chhuba	छुबा
Hair cutting	gota-da-ngin	गता-दा-डिन्

Ornaments

Comb	tseb/jugshe	सेब्/जुग्शे
Comb (made of bamboo)	thuse	थुसे
Ear-ornaments	yu/along	यु, आलङ्
Finger-ring	cindu	चिन्दु
Bead	thanga	थाङा
Bangles for women	landu	लान्दु
Fan	lunggur/yabla	लुङ्गुर/याब्ला
Stick	khorgyu	खर्ग्यु
Umbrella	bumbu	बुम्बु
Umbrella (large)	nyidu	जिदु
Umbrella (small)	nyidu/chung-jung	जिदु, छुङ्-जुङ्

FOOD AND DRINK

Paddy	deyso	देय्स
Rice	dey	देय्
Boiled rice	de-tsoshangen	दे-सशाडेन्
Millet	temi	तेमि
Maize	oshum	अशुम्
Cake	pa-tasin	पा-तातिन्
Soup	khoh	खह्
Mastard leaf	peje	पेजे
Pumpkin	dumsh	दुम्श
Cucumber	agong	आगङ्
Brinjal	bendo	बेनद
Chilli	benje	बेन्जे

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Tomato	ram-bendo	राम्-बेन्द
Arum	solum	सलुम्
Onion	kojang	कजाङ्
Ginger	che-ge	छे-गे
Fruit	sheingdo	शेअिङ्द
Meat	shah	शाह्
Dry meat	shegam	शेगाम्
Orange	cholum	छलुम्
Salt	tsah	साह्
Sugar	kar	कार

LAW AND ORDER

Village	dong-ba	दङ्-बा
Fellow-villager	dongba-lou	दङ्-बा-लअु
Village dormitory	chigang	छिगाङ्
Outsider	chulo-mi	छुल-मि
Elders	gyambo	गयामब
Complaint	shuju	शुजु
Thief	kuma	कुमा
Punishment	thim	थिम्
Arrest	simjang	सिमजाङ्
Culprit	jabchen	जाबछेन्
Murderer	mise	मिसे
Prison	tsengang	सेन्गाङ्

ANIMALS AND BIRDS

Bull	langgo	लाङ्ग
Buffalo	maye	माये
Cow	balang	बालाङ्
Calf (male)	bego-pho	बेग-फ
Calf (female)	bego-moh	बेग-मह्

Pig	pha	फा
Mithun	bamin	बामिन्
Pig (male)	pho-ba	फ-बा
Pig (female)	moh-ba	मह-बा
Pigling	firu	फिरु
Dog	khi	खि
Bitch	moh-khi	मह-खि
Dog (male)	pho-khi	फ-खि
Pup	khichung	खिछुङ्
Cat	éli	अलि
Kitten	étu	अंतु
Horse	tah	ताह
Pony	tah	ताह
Mare	matah	माताह
Goat	rah	रह
Billy-goat	ra-moh	रा-मह
Kid	ra-tu	रा-तु
Cock	jabto	जाब्त
Hen	jomu	जमु
Chicken	jijo	जिज
Egg	gonga	गडा
Drake	chup-che	छुप्-छे
Duckling	jijo	जिज
Tiger	tah	ताह
Bear	dom	दम्
Fox	farr	फार्र
Deer	khash	खाश्
Elephant	lang-jin	लाङ्-जिन्
Monkey	tu	तु
Wild cat	éli-sego	अलि-सेग
Squirrel	ta:ke	ता:के
Rat	jo-jo	ज-ज
Frog	bab	बाब्

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Fish	nya	जा
Bird	ju	जु
Crow	jorah	जराह्
Eagle	tah	ताह्
Nest	jajang	जाजाङ्
Worm	bu	बु
Mosquito	bujang	बुजाङ्
Fly	dang-mo	दाङ्-म
Bee	den-je-am	देन्जे-आम्
Honey	deng-ji	देङ्-जि
Butterfly	phili	फिलि
Leach	ta-be	ता-बे
Earth worm	nya-l	जा-ल्
Ant	domah	दमाह्
Leese	shi	शि
Spider	dom-badha	दम्-बाधा
Cobweb	dom-badha-khim	दम्-बाधा-खिम्

FISHING AND HUNTING

Fishing	nya-se-ngin	जा-से-डिन्
Hunting	rida-se-ngin	रिदा-से-डिन्
Net	gyam	गयाम्
Trap	nya-song/thigu	जा-सङ् थिगु
Rod	nya-sungla	जा-सुङ्ला

WAR

Warrior	malam	मालाम्
War	ma	मा
Porter	u-la	अु-ला
Slave	yoh	यह्
Servant	yoh	यह्

Jungle cutting	singi-dangen	सिङ्गि-दाङेन्
Sowing	songon-torngon	सङ्गन्-तरङ्गन्
Reaping	tongon	तङ्गन्
Manure	lucy	लुयि
Irrigation	yur	युर्
Weeding	dumba-tongin	दुम्बा-तङ्गिन्
Axe	ter	तेर्
Dao	papsha	पाप्शा
Sickle	sor	सर्
Scraper	berey	बेरेय्
Broom	chhama	छामा
Seedling (of paddy)	dey-bam	देय्-बाम्

WEAVING AND DYEING

Weaving	tha-tangen	था-ताङेन्
Loom	thar	थार्
Thread	kube	कुबे
Spinning	yocing/phang	यचिङ्ग, फाङ्
Wheel	song-go	सङ्ग-ग
Cloth	go-lem	ग-लेम्
Woolen	bey	बेय्
Cotton	rey	रेय्
Rug	Sondu	सन्दु
Dyeing	tse-lu-ngen	से-लु-ङेन्
Design	chon-do	छन्-द

DYES

Dyes (black)	nak-pu	नाक्-पु
Dyes (red)	morum	मरुम्
Dyes (yellow)	cir-bu	चिर्-बु
Dyes (blue/green)	ngum-bu	ङुम्-बु

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Dyes (white)	kor-bu	कर्-बु
Swing	cem-ngen	चेम्-डेन्
Needle	khab	खाब्
Hot	tsobu	सबु

OCCUPATION

Agriculture	nyicing/sale	जिचिङ्, साले
Land	sah	साह्
Friend	nyicing	जिचिङ्
Jhum	la-nyicing	ला-जिचिङ्

RELIGION, CEREMONIES, CUSTOMS AND FESTIVALS

Marriage	nam-lengén	नाम्-लेडेन्
Bride	nam	नाम्
Bride-Price	nam-rin	नाम्-रिन्
Negotiator	nyember	जेम्बेर्
Birth	ke-ngen	के-डेन्
Worship	gomde	गम्दे
Propitiation	rimdi/korum	रिम्दि, करुम्
Dance	shobdu	शब्दु
Song	lu	लु

DISEASE AND TREATMENT

Disease	naze	नाजे
Fever	tsao	साअ
Malaria	tseb	सेब्
Dysentry	sherem	शेरेम्
Wound	mag	माग्
Boil	jojen	जजेन्

Scabies	sob-ta-ngen	सब्-ता-डेन्
Pox	dumne	दुम्ने

NATURE

Hill	la	ला
Cave	phuk-pu	फुक्-पु
Water	chhu	छु
Vapour	lang-ba	लाङ्-बा
Waterfall	chhu-thingin	छु-थिङ्गिन्
River	yar-gyap	यार्-गयाप्
Spring	chhumi	छुमि
Rain	nam	नाम
Snow	khah	खाह्
Flood	chhulo	छुल
Stone	doh	दह्
Earth (soil)	sat	सात्
Clay	sagar	सागार
Mud	pa	पा
Fertile	sha-chiyu	शा-छियु
Sky	nam-gulung	नाम्-गुलुङ्
Cloud	tim-nu	तिम्-नु
Foggy	mugah	मुगाह्
Rainbow	jah	जाह्
Lightning	low-lab-ngen	लव्-लाब्-डेन्
Thunder	buru	बुरु
Sun	nyim	जिम्
Sun-rays	nyim-ser	जिम्-सेर्
Light	dang	दाङ्
Heat	drah	दराह्
Cold	dong-bu	दङ्-बु
Sunrise	nyim-shar-ngen	जिम्-शार्-डेन्
Moon	dager	दागेर्

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Moon (full)	tse-cheng	से-छेङ्
Moon (half)	chege	छेगे
Moon (new)	chego-shar	छेग-शार्
Darkness	kha-nak-pu	खा-नाक्-पु
Star	karem	कारेम्
Night	gong-mi	गङ्-मि
Evening	gong-da	गङ्-दा
Mid-day	zar	जार्
Afternoon	zar-ju	जार्-जु
Morning	shogo	शग
Midnight	tsen-gung	सेन-गुङ्
Month	da	दा
Week	din-shah	दिन्-शाह्
Year	lo	ल
Air	lungmu	लुङ्मु
Wind	lungmu	लुङ्मु
Sound	keh	केह्
Fire	meh	मेह्
Smoke	dubah	दुबाह्
Ash	thal	थाल्
Coal	sola	सला
Fuel	meh-tala	मेह्-ताला
Flame	meh-lab	मेह्-लाब्
Spark	meza	मेजा
Tree	shing	शिङ्
Creeper	chadha	छाधा
Bush	nasib	नासिब्
Branch	yang-lak	याङ्-लाक्
Leaves	lemah	लेमाह्
Flower	mendo	मेन्द
Bud	tho	थ
Fragrance	dími	दिमि
Fruit	shingdo	शिङ्द

Ripe	dhar-ngén	धार्-डेन्
Bark	koba	कबा
Seed	so-ngén	स-डेन्
Root	chadha	छाधा
Torn	charma	छार्मा
Grass	chah	छाह्
Bamboo	yas	यास्
Cane	badha	बाधा
Jungle	naam	नाम्
Garden	gorgiyo	गर्गिय

METALS

Iron	chah	छाह्
Gold	ser	सेर
Silver	ngu	ङ्
Copper	saang	साङ्
Aluminium	hayang	हायाङ्

NUMERALS

One	chik	छिक्
Two	nyi	जि
Three	sum	सुम्
Four	ci	चि
Five	nga	ङा
Six	du	दु
Seven	din	दिन
Eight	gey	गेय्
Nine	gu	गु
Ten	chu-tham-bo	छु-थाम्-ब
Eleven	chuk-ci	छुक्-चि
Twelve	chuk-nyi	छुक्-जि

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Thirteen	chuk-sum	छुक्-सुम्
Twenty one	nyi-sacik	जि-साचिक्
Thirty	sumju-thamba	सुम्जु-थाम्बा
Forty	ci-ju-tham-ba	चि-जु-थाम्-बा
Fifty	ngab-chu-tham-ba	डाब्-छु-थाम्बा
Seventy	dinju-tham-ba	दिन्जु-थाम्-बा
Eighty	geb-shu	गेब्-शु
Ninety	gup-chu-thamba	गुप्-छु-थाम्बा
Hundred	gya-tham-ba	गया-थाम्-बा
Two hundred	gya-nyi	गया-जि
Thousand	thong-ra	थङ्-रा

ROAD COMMUNICATION

Footpath	milem	मिलेम्
Road	lombu	लम्बु
Mainroad	shung-lum	शुङ्-लुम्
Link road	dong-lum	दङ्-लुम्
Bridge	samb	साम्ब
Hanging bridge	chaksam	छाक्साम्

DIRECTION

North	jang	जाङ्
South	loh	लह
East	sharr	शार्
West	nub	नुब्
Upside	gong-de	गङ्-दे
Down side	wode	वदे

PART : FOUR

COMMON SENTENCES

GREETINGS

How are you ?	khyo gande yu ?
I am well	nga yakp you
Are you from Mechuka ?	e:e: khyo mechuka-ne imbe ?
Yes, I am from Mechuka	e:e: nga mechuka-ne in
What is your name ?	khyog-ming-chi-mei ?
My name is Lera	nggeg-ming lera mei-ba
I am a Memba	nga Memba in
What is the name of village ?	khyog-gongba-ming-chi-mei ?
My village is Dorjiling	nggeg-dongba-Dorjiling-ba
Where is your village ?	khyog-dongba-gade-yu ?
My village is up in the hills	nggeg-dongba-lacho-de-yu
My village is down in the valley	nggeg-dongba-dem-choma-yu
Do you understand me ?	khyo-ngal-hagoi-be ?
Yes	e:e: hagoi
Can you speak Hindi ?	khyo Hindi sheshim yu-be ?
I want to learn Memba language	nga Meba khazang-sum
Yes, you can learn Memba language	e:e: khyo Memba khazang chhoba
It is difficult to learn Memba language	Memba khazang thak-pu yuba

IN THE VILLAGE

I live in Dorjiling	nga Dorjiling de-di
I am a Dorjiling man	nga Dorjiling mi-im
Dorjiling is not very far away from Mechuka	Dorjiling Mechuka-ne tharingbi rang-meba
The village is very nice	di-dongba yakpu-nu

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There are one hundred
houses in the village
They all know agriculture
They all know agriculture
There is a school in the
village
We worship the Buddha
We offer our prayer in
the gompa
The festivals of the village
are

wudh dongba-de khimgya
thamba-yuba
khun-thamje lek-jigu chheyi-ba
khun-thamje lek-jigu chheyi-ba
wudh dongba-de gompa
chik-yuba
ngunju Buddhal gomje-ji

ngunju gompa-de sowa tebi
Lossar, temring, lambe, bumji
etc.

ON THE ROAD

Show me the way
Go straight ahead please
Go to the left
Go to the right
Is there any bridge on
the way ?
I have lost my way

No, it is not much difficult
Can you teach me your
language ?
Why not, I can teach you
How many days are you
staying here
Only five days
When will you go back to
Along
Thank you for your kind
meeting
Good-bye
I come from Along
I very glad to see you
I wish to write a book
on the Memba people
I want your help

ngale lombu ten-roh
themu-gong-de-doh
yagyo cho-de-doh
ebh cho-de-doh

lombu-de-sambu yuba-yi ?
nggeg lombu lashung
(nga go thams)
udh-kob-thak-pu rang meba

khyog-kah-ngal labsuyibe ?
nga khyol labsu-meb sijiba

khyo-de-nyime goju-digi ?
nyimi-ngapo-nga

khyo Along gazang lo-rogi ?

khyal-tebe-yasin-padha
yakpu-dila
nga Along-ne-lab
khyol-then-nga-gob-nu
nga meba kedik kor-ne
kitap chik-dik-sam
nga khyog-rorm-gon

Will you help me ?	khyo-ngal rorom jig-be ?
I wish to stay at your village	nga khyog dongba de-digsam
I shall show you the way	nga khyo lombu tonggo
How far is the gaon bura's house ?	Gam ig-khim dene thamring jung-gozu-yiba ?
It is not very far	thamring burang-meba
Road	lombu
Tract	lombu
Steep	serbu
River	yargeb
Bridge (wooden)	shing-sambe
Bridge (cane)	beda-sambe
Stream	shokong
To go up hill	ya-zala

Buying and Selling

How much is this ?	Dig gong gozu ba ?
What is the price of that ?	I dig rim gozu ba ?
What is the price of this basket ?	Di bishim dig gozu ba ?
It is expensive	Di gyongb
Give me ten eggs	Ngal gonga chuthamba tero
I shall give you one bag of salt	Nge khyol tsa doub chik-teg
I shall give you two rupees	Nge khyol gorum nyi-teg
11	Chukchi
12	Chungnyi
13	Chuksun
14	Chibshi
15	Cheng
17	Chuptin
18	Chapke
19	Churgu
22	Isa-nyi
33	Sumju-Sosum
44	Shibju sheb
55	Ngobju-ngeng
77	Dinju-dindin

88
99
1000

Gebju Gyabke
Gubju-gorgu
Tongra-chik

Asking the time

When ?	Gazang ?
When will you go ?	Khyo gazang dogi ?
When will the vehicle come ?	Modo gazang leong ?
After	Jude
After food	To jude
Afterwards	Udug jude
Before	Nyende
Before food	Tole-nyende
Earlier today	Dijing Nyende
Today	Diring
Tomorrow	Nangba
Yesterday	Khazang
Day after	Nyim Jude
Day before	Nyim-nyedde
Month	Dawa
Year	Loh
Sun	Nyim
Moon	Dagar
The sun shine	Nyim-yei
The moon is bright	Dagar dang

EDUCATION

Do you read in a School ?	khyo labre-jang-yibe ?
What class do you read ?	kho class gozu-de jang-yi ?
I read in class V	nga class nga-de jang-yi
How many students are there in your class ?	khyun-zug-class-de tukto goju yuba ?
There are fifteen students	nge-g class-de tuk-to cheng-yuba
How many teachers are there in your school ?	khyun-zug labe-r-de gargin gozu-yuba ?

There are two (2) teachers in our school	ngun-juk labe-r-de gar gin nyi yuba
How many subjects are taught in your school ?	khyun-sug-labe-r-de subjects gozu labiba ?
Arithmetic, Hindi, English and Tibetan	tzi (chi), hindi, inji, land chee
Which do you like best ?	khyo gadil-ya-dama-nu ?
I prefer Hindi	nga hindi yan
Do you not like English ?	khyo inji yakpu-mana-ge ?
No, I find it difficult	mamba, nga udul kob-nu
If you work hard it will be easy	khyo yakpu jang-gyo cin-deb yuba
Does your younger brother go to school ?	khyo pingya chhung-de labe-r doyi-ba ei ?
No he does not like to study	mamba-kho-yib-jang-ngin dib jime-ba
All children should go to school	tukto thumje labe-r dog-ba
Do you play at school ?	khyo labe-r-de chem-cheibe ?
Yes, we play football etc.	e:e: ngun-ju pol-gyai

AGRICULTURE

Where are the cultivation field of your village ?	khun-jug dongba nyi cing-gade- yuba ?
Some are near the village and some are at a distance	khasi dongba surde yuba wone
Are your fields in the same place ?	kastha ri-ngbu-deyuba
No they are scattered	khun-juk-nyicing nyumbu yubayi ?
How many varieties of paddy are there ?	mamba, khang-khag yuba
Did you get seed from the Government ?	de-nag goju-yuba ?
This year, I got a little	khun-ju shung-ne songun thob-nega ?
When do you cut your Jhum ?	dilo-de nga chebe-jig thob-jung
I cut my Jhum in the winter season	khun-ju tendo gazang dui ? ngo tendo gung-ge dui

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When do the crops ripen ? It ripen in the month of October and November Do you reap the crops along ? The other villagers help me What will you give them ? I give them some maize and a feast What will you sow later ? I shall sow millet, paddy, cillies and maize Do you do wet cultivation ? We do not know how to do it What insects eat up the crops ? Do you use any chemicals ? Formerly we did not use any chemicals, but now we use it	tendo gazang dariba ? dagub-chub nang-de-dariba khyo-rong cikpo tendo duyiba ? dongba-yemb rorom jiiba khyo khun-juh chited ? nga osum dang gong-mi to-jang-tei khyo jude chi-tabgi ? nga asum, temi benze wone- de tab-gi khun-ju-de-nyicing choyi-ba ? ngun-ju hago-me ganda jin-jina khyog-nyicing-de bu-gadik neckciba khun-ju wodel men-luyi-be ? ngomo-de men-mabain-nayang diring kazang men luyiba
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MEDICAL

What is wrong with you ? I have cut my hand How do you cut your hand ? I cut it with the dao while cutting jungle Let me see your hand There is much bleeding What medicine will you apply on it ? Have you no other medicine ? We can prepare medicine from Junle leaves Do you know how to make this ?	khyol chi jiba ? nge-g lak de mak-cho-gung khyog lag gande-gin mak- cho-jung nga papsha-de shing sab-digi de mak cho-jung khyog lag-ngal-mi ta-chush tha-laga-den khyo-wode men-chi jugi ? khyol men yemb mebe ? ngarang tshu namek-ge shing loma-ne men-cho-chooba wudh ganjin chok-ba khyo hogoibe
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No, only one or two villagers know	Memba, mi chik-nyi-jig
Do you suffer before ?	mendo shocin-meba
No, I did not suffer before	khyo nyem majung-ge ?
Take medicine and drink water when you have fever	memba, nga nyem nanyong me
I shall give you medicine	lib-tshao gujo mendang chhu
Have you ever suffered from dysentery ?	thung-ba
Yes	nye khyol menteg
Did you suffer from any other disease ?	khyo eching na nyong-be ?
Yes, I took medicine from the Govt doctor	e-e:
Soon the government will give you a doctor in your village	khyo naze yemb-rah nyonyi-be ?
Wash your body	e-e: nga shhung emji lak-ne
You should keep your village clean	men sab
Call a doctor	khyun-juk dongba-de gyokpo
Breadth deeply	rang shung emji chikteng-giba
I feel better	khyo-rong-lib-thu
The medicine did me good	khyo-rong chuk dongba dil
Take medicine in time	tshang-me-shag-ba
If you take this medicine there will be no disease	emji-chik-be
Do you feel better ?	bu-ringbi-tang
Do you feel thirsty ?	nga ezi dashi-nu
	mendi-nga-dajung
	men-dil chhuji doji de-sa
	khyo-di men-dil sajo neik-memba
	khyo eji daci-nuge ?
	khyo kha-kom-ge ?

CRAFT

You have a beautiful coat on	khyo coat yak-pi-chik-gong-din
Where did you get it from ?	khyo-wudh-gene-thob-jung
My wife made it for me	ngeh shejang-di ngal sonote-jung
Do you know weaving ?	khyo tha-ta shin-yibe ?
Yes, all Memba women know weaving ?	e-e: memba-am-thumji-ta shini-ba

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Have you loom ?	khyo-g thar-yube ?
Yes, all Memba women have their own loom	e-e: memba am thumj thar yuba
Where did you get yarn from ?	khyun-ju kube ganeh thobi-ba ?
Our women spin yarn from cotton	ngun-juk am-kede bench kube shoiba
How did you get the cotton ?	khyunju began-jin thobu ?
We get it from Mechuka	ngun-ju Mechuka-ne thobu
What other articles do the villagers make ?	dongba mi shala yembe chichi choiba
They make bag, blanket, carpet and wooden mask	khun-ju kob, shondu, khaden dongba choiba
Do women also make articles of bamboo ?	neja bushang nyuk-le jibai ?
No, it is man's job	memba, de khyog bushang leg-ba

PART : FIVE
COMMON WORDS

SOME IMPORTANT PRONOUNS

I	nga
We	ngurz
You (Sing)	khyo
You (Plu)	khunz
He	kho
They	wus khunz
Who	su
Where	gede
This	di
Here	dhe
That	id/phid
These	this
Those	wus
All	thumje
Any	ged-ina
Some	kheshi jig
Some (quantity)	tsebe jig
Some one	mijig
Many	laga
A few	tsebe/khesi
None	su-ang
Something	chig
Nothing	chiang
Cheap	khei-b
Clean	changm
Clear	dhang-yakp
Cold	dhounb
Costly	gong-chel-b
Coward	tonying-mengin
Cruel	di-ng-na

Dark	khan-nakp
Dear	rungji-rungpi
Dumb	kha-ku-dhingin
Deep	dhonggo-ringb
Difficult	kobu
Dear (costly)	gong-cheel-b
Dear (beloved)	gombu
Dirty	choga
Domestic	khimge
Dry	kombu
Dwarfish	logte

SOME IMPORTANT ADJECTIVES

Able	yongin
Absent	me-ngin
Accused	lem-chhingin

Of manner :

How	grand
Quickly	gyokp
Slowly	gole-gole
Thus	insand/want-insang
Well (carefully)	yakp
Very	shibjig
Gently	jombu-yag
In vain	ehiang-nadap
Suddenly	thokya-khal
Hard	kobu/thakp
Diligently	ru-ngob
Easily	dheib
Why	chi-jin
So	wond-insang
As	peh
Surely	gandh-jin
Exactly	thix-khal nosh-ngomb
Not	mana
Yes	ie

Of number and quantity :

How much	gokyu-jig
How many	gozu
Only (this)	rung
This much	dhoxu-jin
Careful	ru-ngobu
Charming	sem-shorngun

Of place :

Here	dhe
There	phede
Where	gede

Above :

Above (on top of)	tsede
(in a higher place)	gangdo

Below :

(under)	shamde
(in lower place)	wode
Within	wudig-nangde
Without (outside)	meb/wud-meb
Before (in front)	nyende
Behind	jude/gyabde
Around (to go)	wud-ya-ma-jig
Every where	gede-rambe

Of time :

Now	dhande
When	gazang
At any time	gazang-nyem
Before	nyende
After	jude
Long ago	nyem-nyem
Sometimes	tsam-tsam
Always	karjang
Never	gazang-ang
Today	diring
Tomorrow	nangba

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The day after tomorrow	nya-nyim
The third day after today	diring-ne-nyime-sum-jude
Yesterday	khazang
The day before yesterday	khey-nyem
Before day before	nye-nyem
Tonight	do-gong
Last night	na-ngu
This morning	desang
Tomorrow morning	nangba-shoge
This year	dheri
Last year	nining
Next year	sangne
Many years ago	lo-lange-nyendhe
Yet	dhand-ang
Up to the present moment	dhand-sumb
Then	woodhe-sumb
In a moment	thux-jigde
Afterwards	wudh-jude
Once	thangm-jig
Angry	tzipk-sangin
Afraid	shhib
Alive	nyii-dingin
Awake	tsor-dingin
Bad	gore
Beautiful	nying-cheb
Big	bumbu
Black	nakp
Blind	nyigching
Blue	ngumb
Boastful yongra	

SOME IMPORTANT VERBS

Abandon	yu-shangin
Abhor	nam-modongin
Abuse	thaam-gyabla
Accept	khe-lenla
Accompany	lou-jila
Accuse	lemb-chhi

Ache	nala
of head	go-nala
Acquire	lenla-thobla
Add	dhomla/kheme/gyabla
Adhere	nyenla
Admire	pe-tari-jingin
Adorn	cha-ngin
Advance	yergi-dongin
Advance	yergi-dongin
Advise	labs-tang
Advocate	khomju-bom-lengin
Agree	nyenla
Aid	rorom
Aim	si-gung
Allow	ka/gongb
Allure	reo
Amuse	gha-chungin
Annoy	chikp-sala
Appear	dhong-tenis
Appease	lebs-gyab
Appoint	koye-ngin
Approve	ka-dhengin
Arise	long-la
Arouse	nying-long-chula
Arrange	dhepti-jila
Arrest	sim-jang
Arrive	le-la
Absent	ya-zala
Ask	dhila
Assemble	dhomjo-gyala-zomh
Assault	chom-ngin
Assure	khelen
Astonish	thhe-rung-yasla
Attack	chomla
Attain	thobla
Attempt	jin-ta
Attract	tsu-thenla
Avenge	dhasi-lenla
Avoid	yu-shala

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Awake	tsorla
Behave	jidang
Behead	jingb-chela
Believe	dhemb-rela
Bind	dhamla
Bite	khanga-gyabla
Blame	yolo-chu-ngin
Blend	dhom-chongin
Blow	phula
Boil (water)	chhu-korang-chola
(egg etc)	gomga-chola
(rice)	de-chola
Borrow	kila
Break	chaala
Break into	chan-dola
Breathe	bu-lenla
Bring	khula
Contribute	dhungun
Convince	nyemb-chola
Copy	shula
Correct	yakp-chojur-gyala
Cough	lobke
Cover	kabla, tumla
Crawl	gundi-gyabla
Creep	gole-gole-dhola
Cross	gela
Crush	cry
Cultivate	leg-jila
Cure	dhala
Cut	chela
Damage	mafeb-chola
Dance	shorbu-gyabla
Dazzle	dhang-gyabla
Deceive	gogyur-tangla
Decorate	dhingla
Decrease	nyungshi, chhungshi
Deduct	chela
Defend	ma-kangin
Deify	menyenla

Delight	goubh
Demand	langin
Depart	dhola
Depend upon	jarn-dingin
Descend	ma-babla
Destroy	me-feb-chola
Die	shila
Dig	dhongo-kola
Digest	to-jungun
Disappear	la-dhila
Disappoint	nala-modo
Discover	thongun
Discuss	dhe-jingin
Dislike	dhongdhi-mengin
Dismiss	thhen-shala
Disobey	nyen-mela
Dispute	dhenda
Dissolve	zam-chhela
Distinguish	ye-chhela
Distrust	le-metala
Divide	nyomla
Divorce	yuri-jila
Doubt	le-mehke, dbukp-sa
Dream	nyilim-thongla
Dress	golo-gongla
Drink	thungla
Dry	kamla
Dye	tse-lula
Eat	sale
Elect	kula
Employ	leg-kula
Encourage	logo-basla
Enjoy	kib-gyabla
Enter	nangde-jila
Err	nor. chhole
Escape	beren-dhola
Exchange	jib-gyabla
Exclude	pha-then-shala
Exhibit	tenla

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Expand	cye-chheshi-chola
Expect	sam-la
Explain	shen-tela
Extinguish (fire)	meh-sela
Fail	jen-mela
Fall	jen-mela
Fan	lungm-gabla
Fear	ship-jila
Fence	gaa-gyala
Fetch	khun-tela
Fill	lula
Finish	thongla
Flow	dha-rola
Fly	phirla
Forbid	yu-shala
Forget	pheh-chela
Gain	mongshi-thobla
Gather	jhomla-kula
Get	thobla
Give	tela
Go	dhola
Go uphill	ya-dhola
Go downhill	ma-dhola
Greet	chhambi-shula
Grow	dhohla
Guide	thingin
Halt	saa-dhila
Hang	taa-shala, hug-shala
Harvest (reap)	tendo-tola
Hatch	joum-bubngin
Help	thhela
Hide	gab-dhila
Hold	sungla
Hope	reo
Hunt	rida-sela
Hurry	tsabla
Hurt	phola
Husk	phum
Imagine	tse-korngin

Inform	shela
Inquire	dida-jila
Instruct	kob-gyabla
Insult	nyeme-tangla
Interfere	chobla-tangla
Introduce	nyo-pengin
Invite	bela
Join	dhomla
Joke	chem-shela
Jump	chhongla
Keep	shala
Kick	dhasha-torla
Kill	sela
Kneel	nela
Know	ha-gola
Laugh at	mitan-yem-kha
Learn	jangla
Lend	ki-tangla
Lie	ri-dila
Like	dheb
Live	dhila
Look	mi-ta-la
Lose	meb-rhela
Love	jombu-jila
Make	chola
Measure	tsela
Melt	shula
Milk	om-jola
Mistake	norla
Mix	ta-la
Mourn	nye-ngen-jila
Move	gukkhu-jila
Narrate	shela
Need	gola
Neglect	pomyor-tangla
Obey	nyenla
Obstruct	kaala
Offer	phile
Open	phela

Memba Language Guide

Order	kasho
Over eat	mangra-theh-sala
Overflow	gangra-thela
Overtake	gen-dhen-rola
Pluck	tole
Postpone	ejhijig-themla
Pray	gomde-jila
Prepare	chola
Prevent	kaala
Purchase	nyola
Push	phila
Plough	me-gyabla
Pot	ui
Pay	gorum
Peep	sigung-chula
Perform	jila
Play	chem-chela
Qurrel	thaam-shorla
Rain	nom-babla
Reach	yorla
Read	to-la
Reap	tola
Refuse	nyen-mengin
Receive	tobla
Recognise	ha-gola
Remember	dengi-tangla
Remind	dengi-longla
Remove	thenla
Repair	chojur-gyabla
Repay	lokyur
Repeat	shejur, jirjur-gyapla
Reply	tamlen
Report	shula
Request	shula
Rescue	so-lula
Rest	nyes-gyala
Return	pha-rung-dhala
Revenge	dhash-lenla, kime-chola
Save (from drawing)	so-lula

Save (money)	gorum-saala
Saw	thongla
Say	shela
Scatter	torla-dhola
Search	tsela
See	mi-tala
Sell	chongla
Send	tangla
Separate	khag-chola
Shout	phere-ghabla
Show	tenla
Shut	chela
Sing	lu-tangla
Sink	thimla
Sit	dhila
Skin	pakpa-shula
Sleep	nyila
Smile	gem-khala
Sneeze	echhi-gyabla
Sneer	horb-tang-ngin
Snow	kha-babla
Speak	kha-shelta
Spin	kela
Spit	chima-yula
Spread	torta
Stand	longla
Steal	kuma-gyabla
Stick	jar-dila
Stop speaking	kha-meshep-dila
Strangle	baachir-tang
Study	yig-jangla
Surround	tha-korla
Swallow	nyima-tangla
Sweet	mina-denla
Talk	kha-shela
Taste	dho-tala
Tear	reh-ia
Tell	shela
Think	sem-tangla

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Throw	yu-tang-shala
Thunder	buru-dhirla
Tie	dhamla
Tire	nyegla
Try	jin-tala
Understand	he-gela
Undress	golo-pila
Unite	dhamda-pila
Urinate	oju-thangla
Visit	koryang-dola
Vomit	kyula
Wait	ghula
Warm (water)	chh-jam-jam
Warm (rice)	de-jam-jam
Warm (body)	lib-dhumba
Wash	thula
Watch	mi-tala
Water	chu-lula
Weave	thaa-lala
Weed	dhumba-tola
Weight	sher-kyala
Win	ghela
Wood	shing
Wool	bey
Work	leg-jila
Worship	gomde-jila
Write	dhila
Yarn	hube-keshangin

PART : SIX

MEMBA CALENDAR AND COUNTING OF MONTHS

Memba	English
Dewa-Dangbu	January
Dawa-nyibu	February
Dawa-sumbu	March
Dawa-shibu	April
Dawa-ngabu	May
Dawa-dukpu	June
Dawa-dinbu	July
Dawa-gebu	August
Dawa-gubu	September
Dawa-chuba	October
Dawa-chuk-chib	November
Dawa-chung-nyib	December.

THE END