Chrau Affixes

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0. Introduction

1. ta—
   1. ta — causative
   2. ta — passive
   3. ta — unintentional
   4. Irregular transforms
   5. òp constructions

2. pa— and —N—

3. —an—

4. Others

O. Introduction. Chrau, a Mon-Khmer language spoken in South Vietnam, has only a remnant of the affixation found for Old Khmer and many of the other Mon-Khmer languages in Vietnam. The most common affixes still in use are ta— (with three different uses), pa— and —N—, which have partially fused, and —n— (with four uses). Two things have happened to the old system: 1) many affixes and their functions have been lost, and 2) the functions of several former affixes have been subsumed under the remaining affixes.

The use of affixes is fast dying out in Chrau. In some cases the root form and the affixed form are completely or almost completely interchangeable (cf. 1.6). In other cases some dialects use only the root form, other dialects only the corresponding affixed form, with individuals being aware of the two usages but preferring to use only one. The two informants used for this study varied in the roots they considered affixable. In general, Yol used affixed
forms which Luc did not, though there are a few affixed forms which Luc used and Yöl did not. Yöl is a teenager from Gia Ray, who has spent all his life in Chrau villages. Luc, from Xuân Lộc, a young man of about 25-30, has spent many years living among Vietnamese and has a Vietnamese wife. So Yöl represents common, present day usage. Luc no doubt represents the trend within the language, as there is strong pressure from Vietnamese (about 90% of the Chrau are fairly fluent in Vietnamese) toward non-affixation and monosyllabicity.

Where the usages of the two informants have differed the items are marked with the initial of the user (Y for Yöl, L for Luc).

All examples of clearly affixable words found in our dictionary of about 5-6,000 words are presented below.

The phonological limit for a word in Chrau is two syllables. Prefixes occur with one-syllable words or replacing the first (presyllable) syllable of two-syllable words. There are two clitics, tăm « reciprocal » and n « negative »; these will not be treated in this paper, as they are not true affixes.

1. ta— affix. Although there are three different uses of ta— (causative, passive, and unintentional), there is no ambiguity because usually any one root can take only one of the usages. In addition, there are distinctive transforms for each use of ta—.

In Pacoh and Katu these three usages are also carried by affixes. Bahnar has only the causative and passive. In all three languages, the causative prefix is pa— with various allomorphs, including ta—. The equivalents of the Chrau passive are Bahnar passive lo—, Pacoh « resultant » ti—, and Katu « adjectivizer » ta—. The equivalents of the Chrau unintentional prefix are « involuntary » ta— in both Pacoh and Katu.

1.1 ta— causative. Both intransitive and transitive roots can take the ta— direct causative. ḍp « do, make » plus these roots (cf. § 1. 5) is an indirect causative.

1.11 Intransitive root ta-causative. The subject of the root verb becomes the object of the affixed verb. con-se tao « the child stands », ānh tatao con-se « I stand the child up »,
Not all intransitive roots can occur with ḏp. Those which can are so marked (below). With ḏp, intransitives are always in the root form. *con-se tao* « the child stands », ṣanh ḏp *con-se tao* « I make the child stand » (cf. § 1. 5).

*tao* « stand »

(+ ḏp)

von *tatao* con-se « we stand the child up»

*jurr* « descend »

(+ ḏp)

von *tanjurr* con-se « we lower the child »

*gũq* « sit »

(+ ḏp)

von *tagũq* con-se « we set the child up »

*vũq* « lie, sleep »

(+ ḏp)

von *tamũq* con-se « we lay the child down »

*churt* « die »

(+ ḏp)

von *tachurt* con-se « we kill the child »

*ngât* « extinguish»

(+ ḏp)

von *tangât* ṣanh « we put the fire out »

*chăch* « snap »

(− ḏp)

von *tachăch* chhe « we snap the rope »

*ũm* « bathe »

(+ ḏp)

von *ta-ũm* *tanũm* con-se « we bathe the child »
hao « ascend » con-se hao « the child ascends »
 (+ òp)
von tan’hao « we lift the child up »

1. 11 Transitive root → ta - causative. With a transitive root the ta-causative is bi-transitive⁵ (two nouns in the predicate). There are three types of bi-transitives: benefactive-possessive, referent, and locative. One informant also has an instrumental causative. As with the intransitives, the embedded clause after òp takes the root verb.

1. 121 Benefactive-possessive. The subject of the root verb becomes the second noun in the predicate of the affixed transform. Benefactives have an optional iurn at the end of the clause, possessives do not.

Benefactive:

chuq « dress » con-se chuq ao « the child dresses »
ánh tachuq ao con-se (iurn) « I dress the child »

pu « suckle » con-se pu (daq tōh) « the child suckles (milk) »
Ymè nēh tapu (daq tōh) con-se (iurn)
« his mother suckles the child (with milk) »

huch « drink » con-se huch daq « the child drinks water »
ánh tahuch (daq) con-se (iurn) « I give the child a drink »

le « dodge » nēh le nōm « he moves his body »
ánh tale nōm nēh (iurn) « I move his body »

Possessive:

krūm « close mouth » con-se krūm mīnh « the child closes his mouth »
ánh takūm mīnh con-se « I close the child’s mouth »

haq « open » con-se haq mīnh « the child opens his mouth »
ánh tahaq mīnh con-se « I open the child’s mouth »
1. 122 Referent. In the referent type of causative both predicate nouns in the affixed transform refer to people. The subject of the root verb becomes the first noun in the predicate of the affixed transform.

\textit{cāh} « remember » mē cāh con-se « the mother remembers the child »

\textit{ánh} tācāh mē con-se « I remind the mother about the child »

\textit{conh} « want »

nēh conh ur nōq « he wants that woman »

\textit{ánh} tāconh nēh ur nōq « I make him want that woman »

(\textit{ánh} tāconh ur nōq nēh « I make that woman want him »)

1. 123 Locative. In the locative type of causative, the subject of the root verb becomes the second noun in the predicate of the affixed transform. This noun in the predicate is preceded by \textit{u} « at ». Each of these verbs means « to carry » in some manner.

\textit{cūm} « hold in mouth »

nēh \textit{cūm} viēt-chi « he holds a pencil in his mouth »

Y \textit{ánh} tācūm viēt-chi u nēh « I put a pencil in his mouth »

\textit{dwa} « carry on head »

nēh \textit{dwa} la-i « He carries a basket on his head »

Y \textit{ánh} tādwa la-i u nēh « I put a basket on his head »

\textit{cheng} « carry on shoulder »

nēh \textit{cheng} gisop « he carries a bag from his shoulder »

Y \textit{ánh} tācheng gisop u nēh « I hang a bag from his shoulder »

1. 24 Instrumental. I used two verbs bi-transitively with \textit{bay} « with ». In both cases \textit{Y} preferred a simple transitive.

\textit{cān} « bite » con-se cāp ti « the child bites (his) hand »
L sipām *tacăp* ănh bay nggan « the sorcerer has me bite a bowl »

Y sipām nēh an ănh *tacăp* nggan « the sorcerer lets me bite a bowl »

(*tacăp* is used only in the context of a sorcerer giving a bowl to be bitten.)

*huch* « drink » (see 1. 21)

L ănh *tahuch* con-se bay daq « I give the child a drink with water »

1. 2 *ta*— passive. The *ta*— passive occurs only with transitive roots. The object of the root verb becomes the subject in the affixed transform, and the actor of the root verb is deleted. Double passive verbs have two passive transforms.

The meaning of the passive is that of the subject being acted on unintentionally. (Thus inanimate actors, such as the wind, cannot take the unaffixed forms of these verbs, as that would imply volition.) This contrasts with the unintentional *ta*— (§1.3) in that there the subject is the actor of the action.

The affixed form occurs with *ôp* « cause » (§1.5). With *ôp* the object of the verb can occur either before or after the verb with no apparent change in meaning. ănh *run*g *daq* « I pour water », ănh *ôp* *daq* *tarung* / ănh *ôp* *tarung* *daq* « I make the water spill ». A number of these verbs usually take *chhal* « wind » as the actor in the *ôp* construction; then *ôp* can be optionally replaced by *khlóm* « blow ». *chhal khlóm* *ta*p*q* nhi / *chhal khlóm* *nhi* *ta*p*q* « the wind blows the house open ». (The *chhal* verbs are marked below.) It is at this point that the distinction between a single causative clause and two interrelated clauses begins to blur. *ôp* is both an agentive action indicator similar to the affix *ta*— and also a generic pro-verb for which can be substituted other specific verbs, at which point we
begin to enter the realm of a two-clause sentence. It is doubtful whether any clear case can be made for distinguishing these two uses of óp in Chrau.⁶

1. 21 Single passive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yaih</td>
<td>« damage »</td>
<td>ánh yaih nhi « I damage the house »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(chhal)</td>
<td>Y nhi tayaih « the house got damaged »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poq</td>
<td>« open »</td>
<td>ánh poq nhi « I open the house »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(chhal)</td>
<td>nhi tapo « the house got opened »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roq</td>
<td>« pull up »</td>
<td>ánh roq canji « I pull weeds »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(chhal)</td>
<td>canji taroq « the weeds got pulled up »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hwât</td>
<td>« throw »</td>
<td>ánh hwât tamô « I throw a stone »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ánh tahwât « I was thrown (out of a hammock) »</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(* tamô tahwât does not occur, as tahwât is used only in the context of a hammock. L uses hwât and tahwât interchangeably.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pâh</td>
<td>« slash »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ánh pâh nêh « I slash him »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y var tong ndêh mprâng tapâh ding « two cars run together slashing their sides »</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(tapâh has only marginal existence, being unfamiliar to L and used by Y only in complex sentences, never simply.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rung</td>
<td>« pour »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ánh rung daq « I pour water »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>daq tarung « the water got spilled »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pîq</td>
<td>« pick »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ánh pîq la « I pick a leaf »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>la tapîq « the leaf got broken off »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rih</td>
<td>« tear »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ánh rih khân-vai « I tear the cloth »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>khân-vai tarih « the cloth got ripped »</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
täq « pull out »  ānh täq đính « I pull out a nail »
   đính tatäq « the nail got pulled out »
hec « ruin »  ānh hec ao « I ruin the clothes »
   Y ao tahec « the clothes got ruined »
   (L uses hec and tahec interchangeably.)
plöng « dunk »  ānh plöng bánh (u daq) « I dunk the bread (in water) »
   Y bánh taplöng (u daq) « the bread got dunked (in water) »
roq « lift »  ānh ioq păch canjöq « I lift a heavy thing »
   Y păch canjöq ta-ioq « the heavy thing got lifted »
pïet « shove »  ānh pïet nēh « I shoved him »
   Y nēh tapïet « he got shoved »

1. 22 Double passive. With these verbs, the root form has both an instrument and a locative in the predicate. Either one can be the subject of the passive transform.

jâp « pierce »  ānh jäp loq u ti ānh « I stick a thorn in my hand »
   ti ānh ta jäp (bay) loq « my hand got stuck with a thorn »
   loq ta jäp (u) ti ānh « a thorn got stuck in my hand »

juh « stab »  ānh juh pïh u nom nēh « I stab a knife in his body »
   nom nēh ta juh (bap) pïh « his body got stabbed with a knife »
   pïh ta juh (u) nom nēh « a knife got stabbed into his body »

With ḥp either the instrument or the locative can occur in the embedded clause. They can occur either before or after the affixed verb.
1.3 ta—unintentional. Some transitive roots can take the ta—unintentional affix. The affixed form is also transitive. (For one exception, see §1.43.) The only formal difference between clauses with the root form and clauses with the affixed form is in the verb itself. The unintentional aspect does not include actions against the will, as in Katu and Pacoh, but rather accidental happenings only.

As with the ta—passive, after ḍo the noun can come either before or after the affixed verb. The two forms are completely interchangeable: ḍanh ḍo p nēh tacār | ḍanh ḍo tacār nēh "I make it brushed."

cār - brush away ḍanh cān nēh "I brush it"

ilihan - brush away ḍanh tacār nēh "I brush it accidentally"

gīq - snap ḍanh gīq nco nēh "I snap its neck"

ilihan - snap ḍanh tagīq nco nēh "I accidentally snap its neck"

pām - hit ḍanh pām nēh "I hit him"

ilihan - hit ḍanh tapām nēh "I accidentally hit him"

pāq - reset joint ḍanh pāq nēh "I reset it"

ilihan - reset ḍanh tapāq nēh "I accidentally reset it"

vāng - smear on ḍanh vāng jrou (u jāng) "I smear medicine (on my leg)"

ilihan - smear ḍanh tavāng jrou (u jāng) "I accidentally smear medicine on my leg"

lōq - poke ḍanh lōq māt "I poke an eye"

ilihan - poke ḍanh talōq māt "I accidentally poke an eye"

khwēh - push ḍanh khwēh nēh "I push him"

ilihan - push ḍanh takhwēh nēh "I accidentally push him"

uāq - rub against ḍanh uāq nēh "I rub against him"

ilihan - rub ḍanh ta-uāq nēh "I accidentally rub against him"
waq 'spread apart' ᣀנח waq nēh 'I spread it apart'

�נח tawaq nēh 'I accidentally spread it apart'

jwāch 'crumple' ᣀנח jwāch pa-ar 'I crumole paper'

�נח tajwāch pa-ar 'I accidentally crumple paper'

There are two verbs which can take either the root form or the affixed form with ḏp, with no change in meaning:

goq 'bump' ᣀנח goq nēh 'I bump him'

�נח tagoq nēh 'I accidentally bump him'

�נח ḏp goq / tagoq nēh 'I accidentally bump him'

dih 'squash' ᣀנח dih nēh 'I squash it'

�נח tadih nēh 'I accidentally squash it'

�נח ḏp dih / tadih 'I accidentally squash it'

1.4 Irregular intransitive roots. There are a few intransitive roots which take the ta—affixes normally restricted to transitive roots.

1.41 Intransitive root→ta—causative and passive

rōh 'go down, alight' is the only verb found so far which can take two affixes simultaneously: tatrōh 'jump down'.

root—sūm rōh 'the bird alights'

causative—�נח trōh pīh 'I drop the knife'

passive—pīh tarōh 'the knife fell'

combined—�נח tatrōh 'I jump down'

That tatrōh is genuinely a combination of two affixes is supported by Y's saying tatarōh as a slip of the tongue, even though two syllables is the phonological limit for a word in Chrau.
khlâyh «escape» can take either the causative or the passive ta—, but not simultaneously. õp with the root is simple causative, with the affixed form it is unintentional causative. Use of the simple khlâyh is marginal, accepted by only one of the informants, and with different cooccurrence restrictions from takhlâyh.

(Y) root — kraih khlâyh «the squirrel escapes»
causative — ânh takhlâyh dàq «I spring the trap»
passive — dàq takhlâyh en «the trap was sprung»
õp root — ânh õp dàq khlâyh «I make the trap spring»
õp aff. — ânh õp dàq takhlâyh «I accidentally make the trap spring»

1. 42 Intransitive root → ta— passive. Two intransitive roots can take the passive ta—.

pâr «fly»
sûm pâr «the bird flies»
duôn tapâr en «the hat was flown»
chhal khłôm duôn tapâr/chhal khłôm tapâr duôn «the wind blows and flies the hat»

Both pâr and tapâr occur with õp. With pâr it is simple causative, and is used with birds. With tapâr it is unintentional causative, and is used with non-flying objects. (cf. §1. 2)

ânh õp sûm pâr «I make the bird fly»
ânh õp tapâr duôn «I accidentally make the hat fly»
pauh «fall off»
play pruh «fruit falls off»

Yânh ranggu chho play tapruh / ânh ranggu chho tapruh play «I shake the tree and make fruit fall off»

1. 43 Intransitive root — ta— unintentional. Uses phât «flip» intransitively, taphât transilitively.

khân-vai phât «the cloth flips»
chhal taphät khăn-vai «the wind flips the cloth»

talūh «accidentally go out» is the only intransitive example found thus far with the ta— un intentional.

sur lūh «the pig goes out»
sur talūh «the pig accidentally gets out»

1. 5 ḍp constructions. In construction with the particle ḍp «make, cause, » some verbs appear in root form, others in affixed form. This division of the verbs into classes matches the division formed by cooccurrence with the three types of ta— (see chart below).

When ḍp occurs with a simple verb root, the construction is an indirect causative, and the word order is N— ḍp— N— root. This is the same class of roots that take the ta— causative. (cf. § 1.1)

When ḍp occurs with an affixed form, the construction is always unintentional. The word order may be either N— ḍp— ta— V— N or N— ḍp— N— ta— V. (For details see the previous §§.) These are the classes of verbs that take the ta— passive and unintentional.

There are two intransitive roots, khlāgh «escape» and pār «fly» (§ 1.41–42), which can take the passive ta—. These two verbs can also have either the root or the affixed form with ḍp. With the root, the construction is indirect causative, with the affixed form the construction is unintentional causative.

The following chart shows the correlation of verb types with ta— and with ḍp. (I is Intransitive, T is Transitive, Caus. is Causative, Unin. is Unintentional, Ind. is Indirect.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root</th>
<th>ta—</th>
<th>ḍp</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/T</td>
<td>Caus.</td>
<td>(root) Ind. Caus.</td>
<td>ānh ḍp con-se tao «I make the child stand»</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Pass.</td>
<td>(affixed) Unin.</td>
<td>ānh ḍp tayaigh nhi «I accidentally damage the house»</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Unin.</td>
<td>(affixed) Unin.</td>
<td>ānh ḍp tacār nēh «I accidentally brush it»</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.6 Interchangeable forms. A number of roots and affixed forms are now used interchangeably. Only the last two of these are used with ḍp.

prap/taprap ‘put away’ (L)

nchāp/tanchāp ‘tie up’

ntāq/tantāq ‘roll up in (as blanket)

prup/taprup ‘compare’

chhat raq/tachhat tarao ‘purify (after contact with corpse)’

khwār/takhwār ‘scald’ (L)

chūch/tachūch ‘scorch, as with cigarette’

The last two of these are not yet completely interchangeable. L would not allow khwār in the sentence jāng ānh takhwār daq dūh ‘my feet were scalded with hot water’, though he would allow either form in ānh khwār/takhwār daq dūh ‘I scald with hot water’. Y would allow all the combinations. With chūch and tachūch Y would use only tachūch after ḍp.

1.7 Changed meanings. There are a few examples where there is a possible relation between forms, but not according to any established patterns. None of these can occur with ḍp.

dāp ‘dam up’ ānh dāp daq ‘I dam up water’

ānh tadāp ao ‘I fold (or hem) a shirt’

lāq ‘spread’

ānh lāq vēl ‘I spread out a mat’

ānh talāq tamun ‘I knock a person down,

chēq ‘put, set’

ānh chēq nēh ‘I put it down’

ānh tachēq nēh ‘I put it down forcefully’

Note also rōh ‘alight,’ trōh ‘drop, return,’ tarōh ‘fall, tatrōh ‘jump down’ (§1.41)

2 Pa — and — N — affixes. The two affixes pa — and N — frequently
occur together. N is a nasal at the point of articulation of the following consonant. There are too few examples to determine the meanings of these two affixes.

$d\,\partial$ *to hand, give*  
$p\,\partial d\,\partial$ *reach up, grab*

$w\,l\,l$ *mistake road*  
$p\,a ng\,w\,i l$ *lead astray*

$j\,\partial n\,g$ *become*  
$\,p\,i n\,j\,\partial n\,g$ *beget, create*

In a few cases $N$ — occurs with $t\,a$ — instead of $p\,a$ —: $n\,'\partial a o / t a n\,'\partial a o$ *raise*, $n\,j\,\partial r / t a n\,j\,\partial r$ *lower*; $t a m\,\partial \partial q$ *lay (someone) down* (cf. § 1.11). All three of these examples involve a change of position. $t a - \,\partial n\,m$ *to bathe someone* also varies to $t a n\,\partial m$, but, in this case the $t a$ cannot be dropped.

$p\,a$ — occurs without $N$ — in several cases:

$g\,\partial n$ *go across*  
$p\,a g\,\partial n$ *crosswise*

$l\,e$ *dodge*  
$p\,a l e$ *roll over (as in bed)*

$l\,\partial m$ *lure*  
$p\,l\,\partial m$ *mislead*

$l\,\partial n\,m$ *set, point*  
$p\,a l\,\partial n\,m$ *roll* here the meaning is considerably changed when affixed. Cf. § 1.7).

There is one example of $p\,a$ — and $p\,a N$ — in contrast:

$jw\,\partial c h / p a jw\,\partial c h$ *crumple something light (one hand)*

$panjw\,\partial c h$ *crumple something stiff (two hands)*.

3. $a n$ — affix. The — $a n$ — infix usually occurs on verbs, and the resultant form can be either a quantifier, a noun, or an adjective. In a few cases the two forms are synonymous.

$\,a n$ — occurs with one-syllable words only. It follows the initial consonant, making a presyllable before the main syllable.

3.1 Resultant quantifier.

$p\,\partial t$ *squeeze*  
$\,\partial n h p\,\partial t$ du $p a n\,\partial t$ pieng *I squeeze one handful of rice*
poq « roll »  ṛanh poq du panoq iuq « I roll one roll of tobacco (one cigarette) »
chūm « wrap »  ṛanh chūm du chaokhūm piềng « I wrap one package of rice »
tung « carry on shoulder »  ṛanh tung du tanung long « I carry one load of firewood »
puq « a rice »  du panoq piềng puq « one piece of puq rice »

3. 2 Resultant noun.

Instrument noun:
goch « to lasso »  ṛanh goch bay ganoch « I lasso with a lasso »
col « to pillow »  ṛanh col vôq bay ganol « I pillow (my) head with a pillow »

It is not clear why the consonant became voiced in ganol. L would usually use the Vietnamese word for pillow, but this is a normal sentence for Y.

khlēq « to hook »  ṛanh khlēq bay can’hlēq « I hook with a hook »

Non-instrument noun:
pōq « say »  pōq panoq « say words » « archaic »
pāng « wall in »  ṛanh pāng prām lâm pānāng « I wall five rooms »
pār « fly »  sūm gēh pānār nēh pār « birds have wings so they fly »
trong « language »  du tanrong trong « one line of words »
sau « son-in-law »  sinau « grandchild »

gon « a blind »  ṛanh gon sùng ganon « I hunt in a blind » (Y)

(With L ganon is an instrument, used with bay.)
ranggāp « rapids »  ganāp « dam »

It is not clear whether rang—here is a presyllable, which was
dropped to permit infixation of the main syllable, or whether it was an old affix, with the root being simply gàp. The relationship of the verb dâp «to dam up» is also not clear.

kiép «pot» caniép «family» (those who eat from the same pot) swan «strength, ability» sinwan «muscle, tendon»

3.3 Resultant adjective.

câh «remember» piêng canâh «remaining, leftover rice»
vôh «know» nêh vanôh «he is wise»
pânh «shoot» l yang pânânh «spirit of shooting»
Y tamun pânânh «good hunter»
côih «whittle» ánh côih bay pîh canôih «I whittle with a canôih knife»

34 Synonymous forms.

chhâc/ chin’haç «fierce»
khurn/ can’hurn «steal»
krâq/ canrâq «weedy»

4. Other less common affixes.

4.1 sa—. A large number of animal names begin with the presyllable sa—, though it is not currently recognized as an affix by native speakers. For the most part the first syllable is never dropped, except in direct address. sapai «rabbit», sacau «bear», saquây «mouse deer», saleng «swallow», sama «porcupine», sama (r) bar «flying squirrel», sapiq «civet».

Jacob gives no examples for such an «animal» affix in either Old Khmer or Old Mon. It may possibly have come from an old classifier for animals.

Two other words with a sa— presyllable, sa—ur «wife» and raklô «husband», are almost certainly contractions from sai ur «marry woman» and sai klô «marry man». The uncontracted forms are still current in neighboring Koho.
4.2 ta—verbalizer. ta—added to the name for a sound, usually onomatopoeic, gives the meaning to make that sound.

pou «call of deer», tapou «to call «pou»
ou «call to a dog», ta—ou «to call «ou»
te «call of elephant or pig», tateh «to call ‘teh’
pâc «a bilabial implosive», tapâc «to make a bilabial implosive»
klôc «click», taklôc «to click (for a dog)
piu «bang!», tapiu «to go ‘piu’
toch toch «drip, drip», tatoch «to drip»
chuc «to peck (chicken)», tachuc «to call a chicken»

chuc «peck» is a verb; all the other roots with this affix are exclamations.

4.3 —ap— nominalizer. Two examples of this infix have been found sêt «to plug», sapêt «a plug, cork», sun «create», sapun «fate». From an historical point of view it may be significant that both examples which have preserved this infix begin with lsl.

4.4 ta—time affix: ta-au «tomorrow» and ta-ih «later (soon)», are the only examples of this ta—«later time» affix. Both au and ih occur alone in other environments: au klaq «later on (ten days to a year)», mau ih «this afternoon».

4.5 kha—pluralizer. There is a free word khây «plural», which is tending toward becoming an affix; with pronouns it is frequently contracted to kha—;

ánh 1s, khananh, khây ānh «we (excl.)»
mai «you (m)», khamai, khây mai «you pl: (m)»
ai «you (f)» kha-ai, khây ai «you pl: (f)»
nêh 3rd.sg.» khanêh, khây nêh «they»

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änh usually takes the contracted plural: mai and ai vary between the contracted and uncontracted plurals. nēh usually takes the uncontracted plural. Aspiration is not normally permitted in the presyllable of a word, so it is likely that kha — may eventually reduce to ca —:

Footnotes

1. I am indebted to Milton Barker and David Thomas, both of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, for helpful suggestion in the writing of this paper:


The consonant phonemes of Chrau are: voiceless stops p, t, ch; c/k, q (glottal); lenis voiced stops v, d, j, g; preglottalized stops b, ð, nasals m, n, nh, ng; other r, l, w, y, s, h. Thẻ vowel phonemes are; front i, ï, ê, e, ē; central ū, ť, ã, a, ā; back u, ū, ŏ, o, ŕ.


4. tanūm, tan hao, tanjur and tamvįq all have the N — prefix (cf. §2. 2-5. See David Thomas, Chrau Grammar, chap. 5.