วิเคราะห์โครงสร้างชื่อสถานที่ในภาษาไทลื้อ

A Typological Analysis of the Structure of Place Names in Laos's Tailue Language

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บทคัดย่อ

การวิเคราะห์โครงประกอบสร้างหลักคำชื่อสถานที่ในภาษาไทยลื้อในประเทศลาวเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของโครงการวิจัยชื่อสถานที่ ในลาว ซึ่งผู้วิจัยได้ยกตัวอย่างของในการฉีวิจัยใน 5 จังหวัดภาคเหนือของประเทศลาว เช่น จังหวัดผังสาลี หลวงน้ำทา บ่อแก้ว อุดมไชย หลวงพระบาง และ ไชยะบุรีที่มีกลุ่มชนเผ่าไทลื้ออาศัยอยู่ ในที่นี้ผู้วิจัยได้เลือกเอาชื่อสถานที่ทั้งหมด 1600 กว่าชื่อ นำมาใช้เป็นข้อมูลในการวิเคราะห์โครงประกอบสร้างของคำมูลในส่วนชื่อของสถานที่ในภาษาไทลื้อ การวิเคราะห์ตัวจึงพบว่า คำมูลที่เป็นองค์ประกอบของชื่อสถานที่ในภาษาไทลื้อประกอบมีคำมูลหนึ่งคำ สองคำ สามคำ และ สี่คำ ในด้านความหมายของชื่อสถานที่ในภาษาไทลื้อส่วนมากก็จะเห็นว่ามีความสัมพันธ์กับต้นไม้ พืช สัตว์ อาชีพ เหมืองแร่ ต้นน้ำ เหล่านี้ เป็นต้น ที่นำมาเป็นคำหลักจากนั้นก็จะมีคำอื่นเข้ามาขยายความซึ่งในนั้นก็มีคำที่หนึ่งคำที่ 2 ทำหน้าที่เป็นคำหลักส่วนคำอื่นก็จะพิจารณาเป็นคำขยายทั้งหมด ในส่วนโครงสร้างของประเภทคำใช้สถานที่ในภาษาไทลื้อ ผ่านการวิเคราะห์ พบว่า ชื่อสถานที่ในภาษาไทยลื้อประกอบมีคำนาม คำสรรพนาม คำคุณศัพท์ คำที่เป็นตัวเลข นอกนั้นก็จะเป็นคำที่นำมาผสมกันระหว่างประเภทของคำเช่นคำนามประสมกับคำนามคำสรรพนามผสมกับคำกริยาเป็นต้น

คำสำคัญ: ชนเผ่าไทลื้อ ชื่อสถานที่ คำมูล โครงประกอบสร้าง

Abstract

The research of the structure of place names in Laos's Tailue language is part of the research project studying place names in Laos. This research includes the research of place names in five provinces in northern Laos there are ： Phongsali provinces, Luangnamtha Province, Bokeo Province, Oudomsai Province, Luangprabang Province and Saiyaboury Province in which the Tailue language is used. This paper uses 1600 Tailue place names to conduct analysis on the structural use of morphemes, finding that place names in Tailue are made up of anywhere between one and four morphemes. From a lexical perspective, place names in Tailue usually have a central word item related to things like forests, plants, animals, occupations, minerals, water, rivers, etc. Same place names have the first two morphemes as the central word item with modifying morphemes following it. In this type of structure of Tailue's place names, Which the word structure is mainly composed of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, numerals, verbs, etc., and the other main components are compound words such as noun plus noun, noun plus verb, and adjective plus noun. and many more.

Key Words: Tailue Ethnic Group, Place Names, Morpheme, Structure

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Introduction

1. The Structure of Morphemes in Place Names in Laos's Tailue Language

As Laos's Tailue language is spoken in northern Laos, most of the place names using this language are located in this region. Although the place names for 1800 different locations were chosen, because of duplication where two places have the exact same name, only 1700 distinct place names were used in this paper. Examples of place names used for analysis in this paper include: $xoi^{214}xok^{55}$ (xoi^{214}: small brook,xok^{55}: Moso bamboo), $tSa^{21}kham^{21}pi\eta^{21}$ (tSa^{21}: a title, $kham^{21}pi\eta^{21}$: a person's name), $pu^{21}ve\eta^{21}$ (pu^{21}:mountain, $ve\eta^{21}$: city). Most place names put the core word at the beginning and then follow it with a adjectival element. However, it is certain the place names do not give their lexical constituents any unique lexical meaning.

1.1 The Morphological Structure of Place Names

Place Names in Tailue are made up of anywhere from one to five morphemes. For example "$pe\eta^{21}d\mathfrak{O}k^{35}$ $kham^{31}/^{53}$" in which the "$d\mathfrak{O}k^{35}kham^{31}$ means golden flowers, a reference to vegetation, has three morphemes. The numerical distribution between the first four types of place names, those made up of one, two, three, or four morphemes, is as follow: 520 (32.5%) of the places names are made up of one morpheme, 380 (23.75%) are made up of two morphemes, 400 (25%) are made up of three morphemes, and 300 (18.75%) are made up of four morphemes (see Table 1).

Table 1: The Numerical Distribution of Morphemes in Tailue Place Names [1]

Number of Morphemes	Number of Place Names	Percentage
One Morpheme	520	32.50
Two Morphemes	380	23.75
Three Morphemes	400	25.00
Four Morphemes	300	18.75
Total	1600	100%

1.1.1 Place Names with One Morpheme

Most Tailue place names with only one morpheme are related to lexical items expressing natural vocabulary. For example: $ba\text{ː}n^{214}ta\text{ː}t^{5}$, Waterfall Village ($ta\text{ː}t^{5}$: "waterfall/ cliff"), $ba\text{ː}n^{214}d\mathfrak{O}\text{ː}n^{55}$ Bird Village ($d\mathfrak{O}\text{ː}n^{55}$: "bird"). Referring to human settlements there is the village $ba\text{ː}n^{214}da\text{ː}n^{35}$, Port Village ($da\text{ː}n^{35}$:"port"). Place names which are taken from directional items include $ba\text{ː}n^{214}ka\text{ː}\eta^{33}$, Middle Village,($ka\text{ː}\eta^{33}$: "middle") ; $ba\text{ː}n^{214}n\mathfrak{Ə}^{33}$ North Village($n\mathfrak{Ə}^{33}$: "north"); $ba\text{ː}n^{214}tai^{214}$ South Village (tai^{214}: "south"). Place names taken from the natural world include: $ba\text{ː}n^{214}d\mathfrak{Ə}^{35}$, No Tree or Flower Village ($d\mathfrak{Ə}^{35}$: "No Tree or Flower"); $ba\text{ː}n^{214}du\eta^{55}$, Forrest Village, ($du\eta^{55}$: "Forrest"); $ba\text{ː}n^{214}p\mathfrak{O}^{33}$, Bronze Village, ($p\mathfrak{O}^{33}$: "Bronze Tree"). Place names taken from the animal world include: $m\mathfrak{Ə}\eta^{31}si\eta^{3}$, Lion County, ($si\eta^{33}$: "lion"). Place names taken from other categories include: $ba\text{ː}n^{214}m\mathfrak{O}^{214}$, Wok Village, ($m\mathfrak{O}^{214}$: "wok"); $ba\text{ː}n^{213}k\mathfrak{O}\text{ː}\eta^{33}$, Drum Village

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[1] (National Survey of Laotian Place Names, 2015)

(kɔːŋ^{33}: "drum"); baːn^{21}^{4}khɔːn^{21}, Stick Village (khɔːn^{21}:"wood"). Place names taken from occupational positions include: baːn^{21}^{4}na^{53}, Rice Paddy Village (na^{53}:"rice paddy"); baːn^{21}^{4}xai^{55}, Dry Land Village (xai^{55}: "Dry Land/Planter"); baːn^{21}^{4}phɛːt^{33} Doctor Village (phɛːt^{33}: "doctor"). Place names which are taken from attributive words include baːn^{21}^{4}loːŋ^{33}, Big Village (loːŋ^{33}: "big"); baːn^{21}^{4}nɔi^{21}, Small Village (nɔi^{21}: "small"); baːn^{2}^{4}ʦɛːŋ^{21}^{4}, Light Village (ʦɛːŋ^{21}^{4}: light/clear). Place names taken from the names for mineral deposits or material things include: baːn^{21}^{4}saːi^{53}, Gravel Village (sai^{53}: "gravel")。

1.1.2 Place Names Formed with Two Morphemes

Place names with two morphemes are formed by joining two morphemes together to become a compound word expressing a distinct location. The first morpheme usually becomes the core, or central, lexical item of the place name. The second morpheme usually serves to modify the core lexical item. The follow tree represents the structure of two morpheme place names in Tailue.
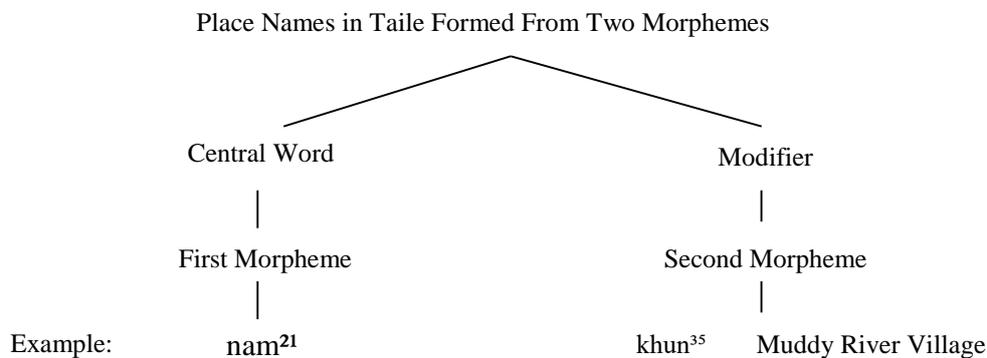
Place Names in Taile Formed From Two Morphemes

Central Word		Modifier
First Morpheme		Second Morpheme
Example: nam^{21}		khun^{35} Muddy River Village

Image 1 Place Names in Tailue Which Are Formed with Two Morphemes

Many of these core lexical items are related to water or water resources: nam^{21}thuŋ^{31} Flag River (nam^{21}: "water" here is the core lexial item; thuŋ^{31}: "flag" acts as a modifier); xoi^{21}^{4}xok^{55}, Moso Bamboo Brook (xoi^{21}^{4}: "brook" is the core lexical item here and xok^{55} or "moso bamboo" acts as the modifier. Examples including specifics on locations include: dɔːn^{33}mai^{3}^{5} New Island (dɔːn^{33}: "island" is the core lexical item and mai^{3}^{5} "new" is the modifier. Place names expressing location or construction include: xoŋ^{5}^{3}ləi^{33} Saw Mill (xoŋ^{5}^{3}: "factory" is the core lexical item with ləi^{33} or "saw" serving as the modifier; in the example khok^{33}xiːn^{33} Rock Mortar (khok^{33}: "mortar" is the core lexical item and xiːn^{33}, or rock, is the modifier. Place names using directional vocabulary include: xo^{33}na^{21} Field Head (xo^{33}: "head" is the core lexical item here and na^{21}, or field, is the modifier. Place names which include reference to mineral deposits include: nam^{21}^{4}lek^{55} Iron River (nam^{21}^{4}: "water" is the core lexical item and lek^{55} or iron is the modifier; xoi^{21}^{4}tɔŋ^{5}^{3} Bronze Brook (xoi^{21}^{4}: "brook" is the core lexical item and tɔŋ^{5}^{3} or bronze is the modifier. Place names which include lexical items which refer to borders or gardens include: ʦiaŋ^{21}xuŋ^{33} Developed City (ʦiaŋ^{21} "town" is the core lexical item and xuŋ^{33}, or 'flourishing,' acts as the modifier; ni^{31}khum^{31}nɯŋ^{33}, First Community (ni^{31}khum^{31}: "community" acts as the core lexical item and nɯŋ^{33}, or one, acts as a modifier. Place names which use plant names include: pho^{5}^{3}kham^{31}Bodhi Tree (pho^{5}^{3} "bodhi tree" is the core lexical item and kham^{31}, or gold, acts as the modifier; pa^{3}^{5}saːŋ^{5}^{3} Dragon Bamboo Forrest (pa^{3}^{5} "forrest" is the core lexical item and saːŋ^{5}^{3}, or dragon bamboo, is the modifier. Place names which include the words for material objects include: khɔːn^{33}kɛːu^{21}^{4} Jade Stone Stick (khɔːn^{33} "wooden

stick" serves as the core lexical item and kɛːu²¹⁴, or jade stone, serves as the modifier. Place names which include lexical items related to peoples' occupation include: na⁵³nɔi²¹ Small Field (na⁵³ 'field' serves as the main lexical item and nɔi²¹, or small, is the modifier). Place names which include numerical items include: saːm³³sop⁵⁵ Three Rivers Convergence Spot (saːm³³ "three" is the core lexical item and sop⁵⁵, or convergence spot serves as the modifier. Place names which express auspiciousness include: suk⁵⁵ʦa³³lən⁵³ Developed Happiness (suk⁵⁵: "Happy" is the core lexical item and ʦa³³lən⁵³, or development, is the modifier; muŋ³¹khun³¹sin³³ Buddha's Blessings (muŋ³¹khun³¹ "auspiciousness" is the core lexical item and sin³³, or taboo , serves as the modifier), etc.。

Modifier elements mainly modify the core lexical item. Take for example a place name made up of the word for water and a word used to create greater focus: nam²¹thuŋ³¹ Flag Water (The first morpheme, nam²¹, which can refer a river, is used as the central lexical item and thuŋ³¹, or flag, serves as a modifying element.

1.1.3   Place Names Formed with Three Morphemes

Place names with three morphemes are made from putting those three morphemes all together. Typically the first morpheme typically has the role of the central lexical item, just like in place names made from two morphemes. The last two morphemes typically serve has modifiers which help identify the core lexical item. Three morpheme place names can be divided into three different structures.

1.1.3.1   In the first structure, the last two morphemes form a word which modifies the first morpheme.

This type of place name is quite common. Examples include:baːn²¹ ⁴xoi²¹⁴pa³³laːt³⁵ Mudfish Brook Village (xoi²¹⁴: "brook", pa³³laːt³⁵: "mudfish"); tuŋ³³sɛŋ³³ʦɛn³³ Moonlight Plains (tuŋ³³: "plain", sɛŋ³³ʦɛn³³: "moonlight"). The structure of this type of place name is represented in image 2 below:

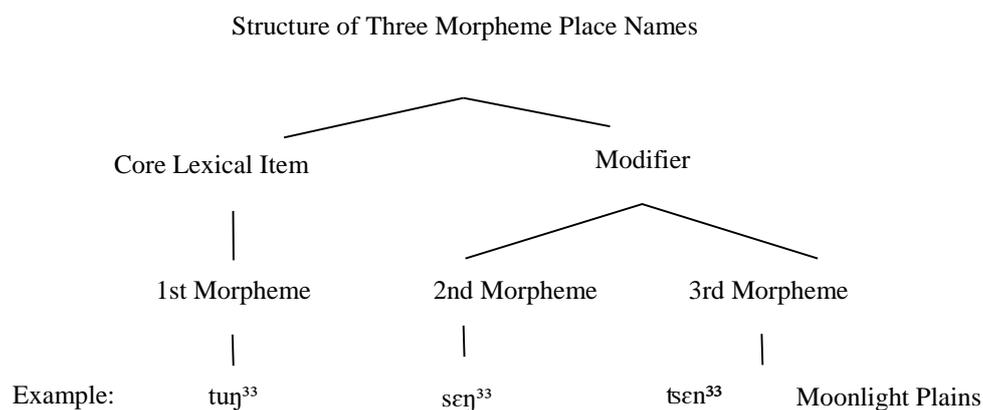Structure of Three Morpheme Place Names

Image 2 In this example the second two morphemes form a word which modifies the first

morpheme.

1.1.3.2 In the second type of structure, the first and second morpheme form a word which the third morpheme modifies.

For example:nam²¹kɛ³¹nɔi²¹ Small Merchant River (nam²¹ kɛ³¹: "commercial river") is the central lexial item and nɔi²¹, or small, modifies the first word; in pa:k³⁵tha⁵³nɘ³³ (The North Convergence of the Southern Ta River) 'pa:k³⁵tha⁵³,' meaning "convergence of the southern ta river," is the core lexical item and nɘ³³, or 'north side,' modifies the first word. This example has the following structure (see Image 3):

Structure of Three Morpheme Place

Core Lexical Item   Modifier

1st   2nd Morpheme   3rd Morpheme

pa:k³⁵   tha⁵³   nɘ³³   The North Convergence of the Southern Ta River

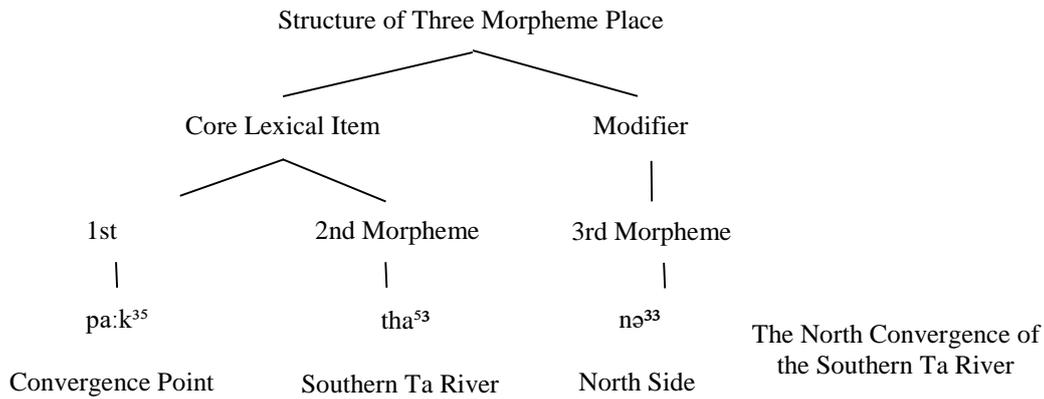Convergence Point   Southern Ta River   North Side

Image 3 The first and second morpheme are put together to form the core lexical item while the third morpheme acts a modifier

1.1.3.3 The third structure is when the second and third morphemes both as act as individual modifiers which modify the core lexical item.

For example: sa:m³³mɘŋ³¹mai³⁵ New Third County (sa:m³³: "three", mɘŋ³¹: "county", mai³⁵: new). This example can be illustrated as such (see Image 4).

Structure of Three Morpheme Place Names

Core Lexical Item   Modifier   Modifier

1st Morpheme   2nd Morpheme   Third Morpheme
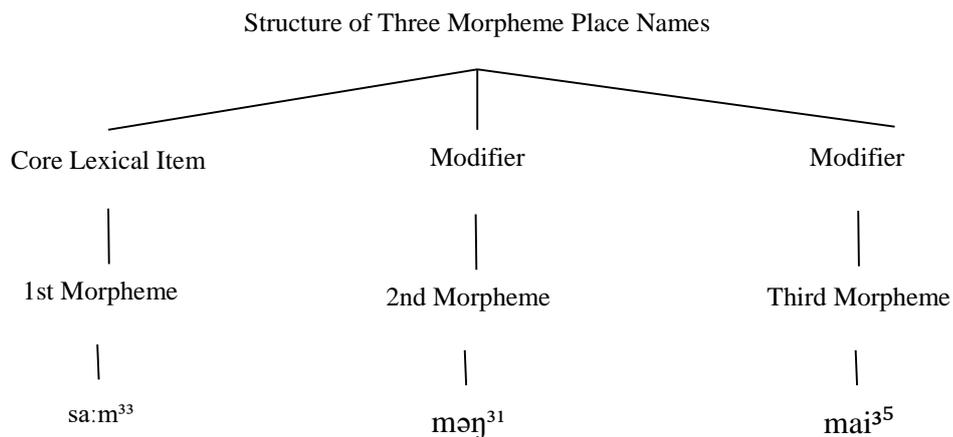
sa:m³³   mɘŋ³¹   mai³⁵

mage 4 The second and third morpheme act as modifiers of the first morpheme, the core lexical item.

1.2 Place Names Formed with Four Morphemes

Place names formed with four morphemes have a very similar structure as those formed with two and three morphemes and specially have two unique structures.

1.2.1 The first structure is when the first two morphemes form the core lexical item

However, the second morpheme of these first two morphemes does act as a modifier for the first morpheme. The last two morphemes form a modifier. The first morpheme of this modifier (the third morpheme of the place name), however, does act as the core lexical item of the modifier. The last morpheme, or the fourth morpheme in the place name, modifies the core lexical item of the modifier. For example: tuŋ^{33}kua^{33}lin^{31}nɔi^{21} 'Melon Waterhole Plains' where the tuŋ^{33} means 'plains,' kua^{33} means 'melon' (together meaning fruit garden), lin^{31} means 'get water,' and nɔi^{21} means 'small' (these last two items means 'small place for getting water'). The structure is as follows:

Structure of Place Names with Four Morphemes

Core Lexical Item | Modifier
Core Lexical Item | Modifier | Core Lexical Item | Modifier
bo:k^{35} | ja^{214} | sai^{53} | mai^{35}
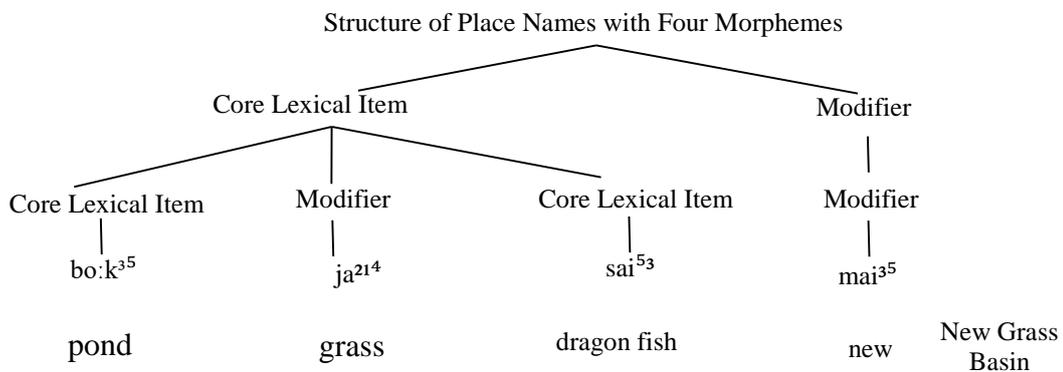pond | grass | dragon fish | new | New Grass Basin

Image 5 The first and second morphemes form the core lexical item and the second and third morphemes form the modifier

1.2.2 In the second structure, the second and third morphemes modify the first morpheme which is the core lexical item and the fourth and last morpheme modifies the whole place name.

For example: bo:k^{35}ja^{214}sai^{53}mai^{35} New Grass Basin,"bo:k^{35} pond, ja^{214}sai^{53} grass, (bo:k^{35}ja^{214}sai^{53} a grassy basin), mai^{35} new". This can be represented by the following image:

Structure of Place Names with Four Morphemes

Core Lexical Item | Modifier
Core Lexical Item | Modifier | Core Lexical Item | Modifier
tuŋ^{33} | kua^{33} | lin^{31} | nɔi^{21} | Melon Waterhole Plains
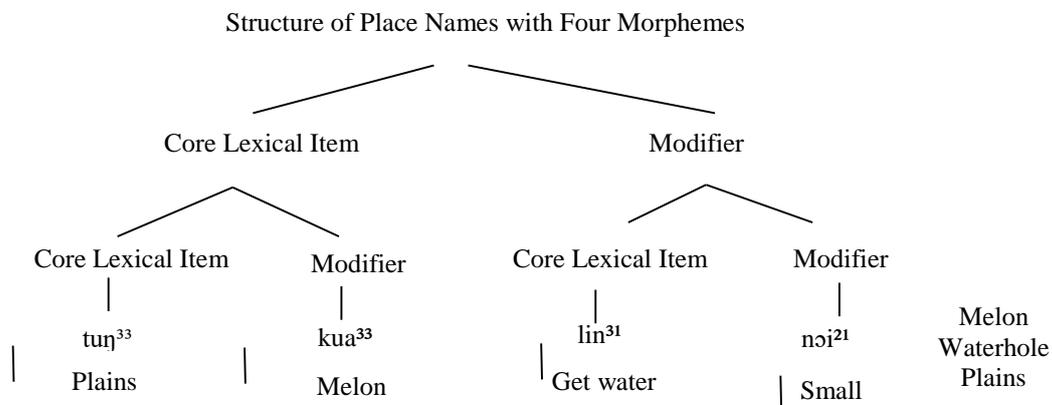Plains | Melon | Get water | Small

Image 6 The second and third morphemes both modify the first morpheme and the fourth morpheme acts as a modifier of the whole place name

2. The Part of Speech Structure for Tailue Place Names

The giving of place names is a societal activity. Place names themselves are made up of either a word or phrase. The structure of these place names reflects the overall structure of the language in question. The specific situation is as follows:

2.1 Nouns:

ba:n²¹na⁵₃ (Rice Paddy Village), ba:n²¹viaŋ⁵₃ (Town Village), ba:n²¹ tha:t³³ (Buddhist Tower Village), kiu³⁵lum⁵₃ Mountain Waist Wind, ba:n²¹sɔ²¹ (Earthen Pot Woden Flower Village), ba:n²¹tsiaŋ⁵₃tsai³¹ (City Town Village), kɔŋ³¹kɔ³³ket⁵⁵ (Unicorn Village) etc.

2.2 Noun + Noun:

ba:n²¹na⁵₃kham³¹ (Gold Village), ba:n²¹pa³⁵lau⁵₃ (Reed Forrest Village),ba:n²¹ xoi²¹ xok⁵⁵ (Moso Bamboo Brook Village), ba:n²¹xo³³na²¹ (Head of Rice Paddy Village), ba:n²¹ta³³ɔ²¹ (Bamboo Reed River Bank Land Village), xoi²¹lɔŋ²¹tau³¹(Green Algae Village), lɔŋ²¹kɔ³³ ma:k³⁵ kha:m⁵⁵ (Sour Horn Tree Dyke), ba:n²¹tin³³tha:t³³ (Buddhist Tower Foot Village).

2.3 Adjective:

ba:n²¹mai⁵ (New Village)nam²¹dɛŋ³³(Red Water)、 ba:n²¹si³⁵li⁵mun³¹(Circle Bitter Lift Tree Village), ba:n²¹xoi²¹lɔŋ⁵⁵ (Big River Village), ba:n²¹ dɔ:n³³ŋa:m³¹ (Pretty Island Village), ba:n²¹lɔŋ⁵⁵ (Big Village), etc.

2.4 Noun + Verb:

ba:n²¹dɔ:n³³jɛ:ŋ³¹ Shine Island Village (dɔ:n³³:"island", jɛ:ŋ³¹"shine"), na³¹lɛ³¹ Look Field Village (na³¹: "field", lɛ³¹: "look"), ba:n²¹nam²¹pɔ:k³³ Return River Flow Village (nam²¹: "河流", pɔ:k³³ "return"), ba:n²¹xoi²¹ta:p³⁵ Subsidize Brook Village (xoi²¹ "brook", ta:p³⁵ "subsidize"), etc.

2.5 Noun + Adjective:

ba:n²¹dɔ:n³³mai³⁵ New Island village (dɔ:n³³: "island", mai³⁵ "new"), ba:n²¹pu³¹khe:u³³ Green Mountain Village (pu³¹: "mountain", khe:u³³: "green"), ba:n²¹nam²¹ja:u³¹ Long River Village (nam²¹: "River", ja:u³¹: "long"), ba:n²¹xoi²¹sa:p³⁵ Rancid Brook Village (xoi²¹: "brook", sa:p³⁵: "rancid").

2.6 Noun+ Place Word:

ba:n²¹mɔ:n⁵₃nə³³ North Mulberry Village (mɔ:n⁵₃: "mulberry", nə³³: "north"), ba:n²¹ xoi²¹ka:ŋ³³ Middle Brook Village (xoi²¹: "brook", ka:ŋ³³: "middle", ba:n²¹pa:k³⁵xa:u⁵₃tai²¹ Great River South Convergence Village (pa:k³⁵xa:u⁵₃: "great river convergence points, tai²¹: "south"), meŋ³¹khua³³ Right County (meŋ³¹: "county", khua³³: "right hand side").

2.7 Noun + Noun + Adjective:

xoi²¹pɛ⁵₃jai³⁵ Big Raft Brook (xoi²¹: "brook", pɛ⁵₃: "raft", jai³⁵: "big"), puŋ³⁵tsɔm³³ tsɛ:ŋ²¹Salt Land Crown Top Clear (puŋ³⁵: "salt land", tsɔm³³: "crown", tsɛ:ŋ²¹: "clear"), nam²¹ kɛ:u²¹lɔŋ⁵⁵ Big Jade River (nam²¹: "river", kɛ:u²¹: "glass", lɔŋ⁵⁵: "big"), bo:k³⁵ja²¹sai⁵₃kau³⁵ Old Swimming Grass Lake (bo:k³⁵: "lake", ja²¹ sai⁵₃: "swimming grass", kau³⁵: "old").

2.8 Noun + Noun + Noun:

bɔ³⁵ta³³kai³⁵Chicken Eye Well (bɔ³⁵: "well",ta³³: "eye", kai³⁵: "chicken"), xa:t³⁵dɔ:n³³kɛ:u²¹ Jade Shoal Land Village (xa:t³⁵: "shoal",dɔ:n³³: "island", kɛ:u²¹: "jade"),nam²¹so:n³³ja³³ Medicine Garden River (nam²¹: "river", so:n³³: "garden", ja³³: "medicine").

2.9   Noun + Numeral:

baːn²¹^{4}lak⁵⁵saːu⁵₃   Twelve   Kilometer   Village   (lak⁵⁵: "kilometer",   saːu⁵₃: "twelve"), nam²¹^{4}mɯŋ³¹nɯŋ³³Meng River One (nam²¹^{4}mɯŋ³¹: "meng river", nɯŋ³³: "one"), pa³⁵kha⁵₃ʦet⁵⁵ sip⁵⁵pɛːt⁵ Cagon Grass Garden Number 78 (pa³⁵kha⁵₃: "cagon grass garden", ʦet⁵⁵sip⁵⁵pɛːt³: "number 78").

2.10   Noun + Numeral + Noun:

meŋ³¹sɔŋ³³kɔn³¹ Two Perch County (meŋ³¹: "county", sɔŋ³³: "two", kɔn³¹: "perch"), na³¹sɔŋ³³mɘŋ³³ Two Drainage Ditch Rice Paddy (na³¹: "paddy", sɔŋ³³: "two", mɘŋ³³: "drainage ditch"), pu³¹sam³³ jɔt³³ Three Peak Mountain (pu³¹: "mountain", sam³³: "three", jɔt³³ "peak").

2.11   Adjective:

baːn²¹^{4}mai³⁵ New Village (mai³⁵: "new"), baːn²¹^{4}nɔːi²¹ Small Village (nɔːi²¹: "small"), baːn²¹^{4}phoːn⁵₃ Protruding Village (phoːn⁵₃: "protruding").

2.12   Adjective + Noun:

peːŋ³¹dɔːk³⁵kham⁵₃ Golden Flower Plain (peːŋ³¹: "plain", dɔːk³⁵kham⁵₃: "golden flower"), mai³⁵pu³¹kha³¹ New Cogon Grass Mountain (mai³⁵: "new", pu³¹: "mountain", kha³¹: "cogon grass").

2.13   Adjective + Numeral:

koŋ²¹thi³¹nɯŋ³³ First Curve (koŋ²¹: "curve", thi³¹nɯŋ³³ "first"), baːn²¹^4 si³³vi³¹lai³¹nɯŋ³³ Civilized First Village (si³³vi³¹lai³¹: "civilized", nɯŋ³³: "first").

2.14   Adjective + Adjective:

baːn²¹^{4}mai³⁵ʦa³⁵lɘn⁵₃ New Development Village (mai³⁵: "new", ʦa³⁵ lɘn⁵₃ : "development"), baːn²¹^{4}peːŋ²¹sa³⁵vaːŋ³⁵ Clear Plains Village (peːŋ²¹: "plain", sa³⁵vaːŋ³⁵: "clear"), baːn²¹^{4}peːŋ³¹ŋaːm³¹ Good Plains Village (peːŋ³¹: "plain", ŋaːm³¹: "beautiful/good"), baːn²¹^{4}xum³³jin³³ Cool Shady Tree Village (xum³³: "tree shade", jin³³: "cool").

2.15   Adjective + verb:

baːn²¹^{4}mai³⁵pat³³tha³¹na³¹ New Development Village (mai³⁵: "new", pat³³ tha³¹na³¹ "development"), baːn²¹^{4}mai³⁵ni³¹jom³¹ New Welcome Village (mai³⁵: "new", ni³¹jom³¹: "welcome").

2.16   Verb + Adjective:

baːn²¹^{4}kɔːŋ³³khuaŋ³³ Pile Horizontal Village (kɔːŋ³³: "pile", khuaŋ³³: "horizontal"), baːn²¹^{4}lai³³mai³⁵ Pursue New Village (lai³³: "pursue", mai³⁵: "new"). baːn²¹^{4}lai³³kau³⁵ Purse Old Village (lai³³: "pursue", kau³⁵: "old").

2.17   Noun + Adjective:

baːn²¹^{4}kɔːn³³sɔːt³³ Rafter Penetrate Village (kɔːn³³: "rafter", sɔːt³³: "osmosis"), baːn²¹^4 nam²¹khun³⁵ Water Yellow River (nam²¹: "water/river", khun³⁵: "muddy").

2.18   Directional Word:

baːn²¹^{4}kaːŋ³³ Middle Village (kaːŋ³³: "middle"), baːn²¹^{4}nɘ³³ North Village (nɘ³³ "north") baːn²¹^{4}lum³³ Below Village (lum³³: below), baːn²¹^{4}tɯŋ⁵₃ Above Village (tɯŋ⁵₃: "above").

2.19   Directional Word + Noun:

baːn²¹^{4}xo³³na³¹ Head of Field Village (xo³³: "head", na³¹: "field"), bːn²¹^{4}kaːŋ³³paːŋ³³tɔŋ³¹ Middle Copper Residence Village (kaːŋ³³: "middle", paːŋ³³: "small residence", tɔŋ³¹: "copper").

2.20 Directional Word + Adjective:

ba:n²¹**⁴**ka:ŋ³³mai³**⁵** New Middle Village (ka:ŋ³³: "middle", mai³**⁵**: "new"), laŋ³³pha³³kau³**⁵** Old Back of the Precipice ("laŋ³³: "back", pha³³: "precipice", kau³**⁵**: "old").

2.21 Pronoun:

tsa³¹in³³taʔ³³ (tsa³¹: "official rank", in³³taʔ³³: "person name"), sɛ:n³³khan³³kham³¹(sɛ:n³³: "middle level official", khan³³kham³¹: "person name").

2.22 Numeral:

ba:n²¹**⁴**sa:m**⁵⁵** Three Village (sa:m**⁵⁵**: "three"), a:n²¹**⁴**nɯɯŋ**⁵⁵** One Village (nɯɯŋ**⁵⁵**: "one"), ba:n²¹**⁴**sa:m³³mɯɯn³**⁵** Thirty-thousand Village (sa:m³³mɯɯn³**⁵**: "Thirty- thousand").

2.23 Numeral + Directional Word:

ba:n²¹**⁴**sa:m³³ka:ŋ³³ Middle Three Village (sa:m³³: "three", ka:ŋ³³: "middle"), ba:n²¹**⁴** diau³³nɘ³³ North One Village (diau³³: "one", nɘ³³: "north").

2.24 Numeral + Noun:

kau²¹**⁴**sɛn**⁵⁵** Nine Back (kau²¹**⁴**: "nine", sɛn**⁵⁵**: back), ba:m²¹**⁴**sa:m³³mɘŋ³¹ Three County Village (sa:m³³: "three", mɘŋ³¹: "county").

2.25 Numeral + Noun + Adjective:

sa:m³³mɘŋ³¹kau³**⁵** Three Old County (sa:m³³: "three", mɘŋ³¹: "county", kau³**⁵**: "old"), sa:m³³mɘŋ³¹ mai³**⁵** Three New Counties (sa:m³³: "three", mɘŋ³¹: "county", kau³**⁵**: "new").

Conclusion

Place names in Laos's Tailue Language reflect the naming wisdom of the local people and the situation of the natural environment. Structurally, place names in Tailue are made up of a central word item and a modifier. Place names can be formed with anywhere between one and four morphemes. Attributes of Tailue place names include references to rivers, water, geography, animals, and auspicious events. Place names in Laos's Tailue language are a phenomenon of social activity. These place names include lexical items and phrases which maintain the same grammatical structure as normal Tailue speech. As such, the study of place names will reveal not only some of the typological features of the Tailue grammar, but it will also reveal some of the social activity of the Tailue people, including religion. This is because place names contain rich cultural content and record the cultural experiences of people.

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