

Early Article Reprint 1

Francis Buchanan published his “A Comparative Vocabulary of Some of the Languages Spoken in the Burma Empire” in 1799, in the fifth volume of *Asiatic Researches*. This piece provides one of the first major Western surveys of the languages of Burma. But the article goes beyond this and provides important data on the ethno-cultural identities and identifications of the various population groups in the first half of Bò-daw-hpayà’s reign (1782-1819). For these reasons, the article is republished here.

The article is reproduced in its entirety, with slight modifications as follows. The letter “j” used for the contemporary “s” in such words as “Chinejē” follows contemporary usage (thus, “Chinese”). At several points in the article, the original publisher did not include all the necessary characters (and sometimes lopped off the ends of sentences). In such cases, the lost letter or likely word has been included within brackets. Split words, using a dash at the end of a sentence have been reunified (hence, “wo-man”, is now “woman”). Finally, the article has been repaginated to fit within the overall scheme of this issue of the SBBR. Beyond these points, no changes have been made and all footnotes are derived from the original article.

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A Comparative Vocabulary of Some of the Languages Spoken in the Burma Empire

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TO judge from external appearance, that is to say, from shape, size, and feature, there is one very extensive nation that inhabits the east of *Asia*. It includes the Eastern and Western *Tartars* of the *Chinese* authors, the *Calmuks* the *Chinese*, the Japponese, the *Malays* and other tribes inhabiting what is called the Peninsula of *India* beyond the *Ganges*: and the islands to the south and east of this, as far at least as *New Guinea*. This, however, is speaking in a very general sense, and many foreign races being intermixed with the nation, and, perhaps, many tribes belonging to it, being featured beyond the limits I have mentioned.

This nation may be distinguished by a short, squat, robust, fleshy stature, and by features highly different from those of an *European*. The face is somewhat in shape of a lozenge, the forehead and chin being sharpened, whilst at the cheek-bones it is very broad : unless this be what is meant by the conical head of the *Chinese*, I confess myself at a loss to understand what that is. The eyebrows, or superciliary ridges, in this nation, project very little ; and the eyes are very narrow, and placed rather obliquely in the head, the external angles being the highest. The nose is very small, but has not, like that of the Negro, the appearance of having flattened, and the apertures of the nostrils, which in the *European* are linear and parallel, in them are nearly circular and divergent ; for the *septum narium* being much thickest towards the face, places them entirely out of the parallel line. The mouths of this nation are in general well shaped ; their hair is harsh, lank, and black. Those of them that live in the warmest climates, do not obtain the deep hue of the negro or *Hindu* ; nor do such of them as live in the coldest countries, acquire the clear bloom of the *European*.

In adventitious circumstances, such as laws, customs, government, political maxims, religion, literature, there is also a strong resemblance among the different states composing this great nation ; no doubt arising from the frequent intercourse that has been among them.

But it is very surprising, that a wonderful difference of language should prevail. Language, of all adventitious circumstances, is the surest guide in tracing the migrations and connections of nations ; and how in a nation, which bears such strong marks of being one, radically the same, languages, totally different should prevail, I cannot, at present, pretend to conjecture ; but, in order to assist, in accounting for the circumstance, having, during my stay in the *Burma* Empire, been at some pains to collect a comparative vocabulary of such of the languages spoken in it as opportunity offered, I have thought it might be curious to publish it. I am sensible of its many imperfections : but it is a beginning, which I hope hereafter to make more complete ; and where I fail, others, without doubt, will be more successful.

In all attempts to trace the migrations and connections of tribes by means of language, it ought to be carefully remembered, that a few coincidences, obtained by searching through the whole extent of two dictionaries, it is by no means the least affinity ; for our organs being only capable of pronouncing a certain, and that very limited, number of sounds, it is to be expected, according to the common course of chance, that two nations, in a few instances, will apply the same sound to express the same idea. It ought also to be observed that, in tracing the radical affinities of languages, terms of art, men's names, religious and law phrases, are, of all words, the most improper ; as they are liable constantly to be communicated by adventitious circumstances from one race of men to another. What connection of blood have we, *Europeans*, with the *Jews*, from whom a very great proportion of our names and religious terms are derived? Or what connection have the natives of *Bengal* with the *Arabs* or *English*, from whom they have derived most of their law and political terms? With the former they have not even had political connection, as the phrases in question were derived to them through the medium of the *Persians* and *Tartars*. Two languages, therefore, ought only to be considered radically the same, when, of a certain number of common chosen by accident, the greater number have a clear and distinct resemblance : a circumstance, to which, if antiquarians had been attentive, they would have been saved from the greater part of that etymological folly, which has so often exposed their pleasing science to the just ridicule of mankind.

In the orthography I have had much difficulty. Two people seldom write in the same way, any word or language with which they are unacquainted. I have attempted merely to convey to the *English* reader, without any minute attention to accent, or small variations of vowels, a sound similar to that pronounced; nor have I paid any attention to the orthography of the natives. This, in the *Burma* language, I might have done ; but as I am not acquainted with the writing of the other tribes, I thought it the safest method to express the sound merely. The following scheme of vowels, in order to read my vocabulary correctly, must be kept in mind.

A—pronounce as in the *English* words *bad, bat, had, hat*.

Aw—or broad *Scotch* a, as in *bawd*.

Ay—as the *English* a in *babe, bake, bare ; day, pay, hay*.

Ee—in order to avoid confusion, I use for the *English* e, as they have exactly the same sound.

Æ—I use for the *French* and *Scotch* e open.

U—I always sound as in the word *duck* ; using oo for its other sound, as in *book*.

Ou—I sound as in *sound, bound*.

Au—is nearly similar, but broader, a sound scarcely to be met with in the *English* language.

Ei—I use as the vowel in *bind, find, &c*.

Ai—nearly the same, but broader.

} These two sounds, as far as I remember,
are not used by the English.

Oe—I use to express the *French* u.

It is to be observed, that the pronunciation, among all these tribes, to a stranger appears exceedingly inarticulate. In particular they hardly ever pronounce the letter R ; and T, D, Th, S, and Z, are almost used indiscriminately. The same may be said of P and B. Thus the word for water, which the *Burmas* universally pronounce *yoe*, is written *rae* ; and the *Pali* name for their capital city, *Amarapoora*, is commonly pronounced *Amaapooya*. This indistinct pronunciation probably arises from the excessive quantity of betel which they chew. No man of rank ever speaks without his mouth being as full as possible of a mixture of betel and nut, tobacco, quicklime, and spices. In this state he is nearly deprived of the use of his tongue in articulation, which, although not the only organ of speech, is yet of such use in articulation, as to be commonly considered as such. Hence it is, that an indistinct articulation has become fashionable, even when the tongue is at liberty.

I shall begin with the *Burma* language as being at present the most prevalent. There are four dialects of it, that of *Burma* Proper, that of *Arakan*, that of the *Yo*, and that of *Tenasserim*.

The people called by us *Burmas*, *Barmas*, *Vermas*, *Brimmas*, &c. stile themselves *Myammaw*. By people of *Pegu*, they are named *Pummay* ; by *Karaya*, *Yoo* ; by the people of *Cussay*, *Awa*, by the *Cussay Shau*, *Kammau* ; by the *Chinese* of *Yunnan*, *Laumeen* ; and by the *Aykobat*, *Anwa*. They esteem themselves to be descended from the people of *Arakan*, whom they often call *Myanmmaw gyee* ; that is to say, great *Burmas*.

The proper natives of *Arakan* call themselves *Yakain*, which name is also commonly given to them by the *Burmas*. By the people of *Pegu*, they are named *Takain*. By the *Bengal Hindus*, at least by such of them as have been settled in *Arakan*, the country is called *Rossaum*, from whence, I suppose, Mr. Rennell has been induced to make a country named *Roshaum* occupy part of his map, not conceiving that it would be *Arakan*, or the kingdom of the *Mugs*, as we often call it. Whence this name of *Mug*, given by the *Europeans* to the natives of *Arakan*, has been derived, I know not ; but, as far as I could learn, it is totally unknown to the natives and their neighbours, except such of them as, by their intercourse with us, have learned its use. The *Mahommedans* settled at *Arakan*, call the country *Rovingaw*, the *Persians* call it *Rekan*.

The third dialect of the *Burma* language is spoken by a small tribe called *Yo*. There are four governments of this nation, situated on the east side of the *Arakan* mountains, governed by chiefs of their own, but tributary to the *Burmas*.

The fourth dialect is that of what we call the coast of *Tenasserim*, from its city now in ruins, whose proper name was *Tanayntharee*. These people, commonly called by the *Burmas*, *Dawayza* and *Byeitza*, from the two governments of which their country consists, have most frequently been subjected to *Siam* [and] *Pegu* ; but at present they are subjects of the *Burma* [kingdom].

Although the dialects of these people, to one another, appear very distinct, yet the difference consists chiefly in such minute variations of accent as not to be observable by a stranger. In the same manner as an *Englishman*, at first, is seldom able to distinguish even the *Aberdeen* accent from that of the other shires of *Scotland*, which to a *Scotchman* appears to be different ; so, in most cases, I could perceive no difference in the words of these four languages, although among the *Burmas*, any of the provincials, speaking generally, produced laughter, and often appeared to be with difficulty understood. I shall, therefore, only give a list of the *Burma* words ; those of the other dialects are the same, where difference is not mentioned.

[I] English.	Myammaw.	Yakain.	Tanayntharee.	Yo.
1 Sun	Nay	---	---	---
2 Moon	La	---	---	---
3 Star	Kyee	Kyay	---	Kay
4 Earth	Myacgyee	---	---	---
5 Water	Yæ	Ree	---	Rae

6 Fire	Mee	---	---	---
7 Stone	Kiouk	---	---	Kionkay
8 Wind	Læ	Lee	---	---
9 Rain	[missing]	---	---	---
10 Man	Loo	---	---	---
11 Woman	Meemma	---	---	---
12 Child	Loogalay	*Looshee	---	---
13 Head	Kaung	---	---	---
14 Mouth	Parat	---	---	---
15 Arm	Læmmaung	---	---	---
16 Hand	Læk	---	---	Laik
17 Leg	Kæthaloum	---	---	Saloung
18 Foot	Kiæbamo	---	---	---
19 Beast	Taraitram	---	---	---
20 Bird	Hugæk	---	---	Knap
21 Fish	Ngaw	---	---	---
22 Good	Kaung	---	---	---
23 Bad	Makaung	---	---	---
24 Great	Kyee	---	---	---
25 Little	Ngay	---	---	---
26 Long	Shay	---	---	Shæ
27 Short	Ato	---	---	To
28 One	Teet	---	---	---
29 Two	Hueet	---	---	---
30 Three	Thoum	---	---	---

* Literally, a little man.

31	Four	Lay	---	---	---
32	Five	Ngaw	---	---	---
33	Six	Kiouk	---	---	---
34	Seven	Kuhneet	---	---	---
35	Eight	Sheet	---	---	---
36	Nine	Ko	---	---	---
37	Ten	Tazay	---	---	---
38	Eat	Zaw	---	---	---
39	Drink	Thouk	---	---	---
40	Sleep	Eit	---	---	---
41	Walk	Xleen	Hlay	---	Hlay
42	Sit	Tein	---	---	---
43	Stand	Ta	Mateinay	---	Mateenahay
44	Kill	That	Sot	---	Asatu
45	Yes	Houkkay	---	---	---
46	No	Mahouppoo	---	---	---
47	Here	Deemaw	---	---	Thaman
48	There	Houmaw	---	---	---
49	Above	Apomaw	---	---	Apobau
50	Below	Houkmaw	---	---	Auk

The next most prevalent language in *India* beyond the *Ganges*, is what we call the *Siamese*, a word probably corrupted from the *Shan* of the *Burmas*. The Siamese race occupies the whole frontier of *Yunan*, extending on the east to *Tonquin* and *Cochinchina*, and to the south, down to the sea. It contains many states or kingdoms, mostly subject or tributary to the *Burmas*. I have only procured vocables of three of its dialects, which I here give complete, as they differ considerably.

The first dialect is that of the kingdom of *Siam*, the most polished people of eastern *India*. They called themselves to me simply *Tai* ; but Mr. Loubere says, that, in order to

distinguish themselves from a people to be afterwards mentioned, they add the word *Nay*, which signifies little. By the *Burmas*, from the vulgar name of their former capital city, they are called *Yoodaya* : by the people of *Pegu* they are named *Seem* : and by the *Chinese* of *Yunan*, *Syianlo*, or *Kyænlo*.

The second dialect of the *Siammese* language which I shall mention, is that of a people, who, to me, also called themselves simply *Tai*. I believe, however, they are the *Tai-yay*, or great *Tai*, of Mr. Loubere. They have been long subject to the *Burmas*, who call them *Myelapshan* : by the people of *Pegu* they are named *Sawn* ; *Thay* by the *Karayn* ; *Looktai* by the *Katheeshan* ; *Kabo* by the people of *Kathee*, or *Cussay* ; *Pawyee* by the *Chinese* and to me they were named *Lau* by the *Siammese* proper. Their country towards the north lies between the west side of *Yunan* and the *Erawade*, or great *Burma* river, descending down its eastern bank a considerable way : it then extends along the south side of *Yunan*, till it comes to the *Loukiang* river of *Martaban*, which forms its eastern boundary [,] on the south it extends to no great distance from *Martaban* ; and on the west it is separated from *Burma* Proper by a chain of mountains, that passes about fifteen miles to the east of *Ava*.

The third dialect of the *Siammese* language is that of a people called, by the *Burmas*, *Kathee Shawn* ; to themselves they assume the name of *Tai-loong*, or Great *Tai*. They are called *Moitay Kabo*, by the *Kathee*, people of *Cussay*. They inhabit the upper part of the *Kiaynduayn* river, and from that west to the *Erawade*. They have, in general, been subject to the king of *Munnypura* ; but, at present, are tributary to the *Burma* monarch.

II. English.	Tai-nay.	Tai-yay.	Tai-loong.
1 Sun	Roen	Kawan	Kangoon
2 Moon	Sun	Loen	Noon
3 Stars	Dau	Lau	Nau
4 Earth	Deen	---	Neen
5 Water	Nam	Nawhor Naum	Nam
6 Fire	Fai	Fai	Pui
7 Stone	Hin	---	Heen
8 Wind	Lam	Loum	Loom
9 Rain	Fon	Foon	Poon
10 Man	Kon	Kon	Koon
11 Woman	Poen	Paeyen	Pawneen
12 Child	Daeknooe	Lawen	Lookwoon
13 Head	Seeza	Ho	Hoo

14 Mouth	Pawk	Tsop	Pawk
15 Arm	Kayn	Komooee	Moo
16 Hand	Moo	Mooee	Pawmoo
17 Leg	Naung	Koteen	Hooko
18 Foot	Langteen	Swateen	Lungdin
19 Beast	Sawt	[missing]	Nook
20 Bird	Noup	Naut	Nook
21 Fish	Plaw	Paw	Paw
22 Good	Dee	Lee	Wanoo
23 Bad	Maidee	Malee	Mowan
24 Great	To	Loung	Loong
25 Little	Layt	Laik	Unleek
26 Long	Yan	Yan	Anyou
27 Short	San	Lot	Unlot
28 One	Noong	Noo	Aning
29 Two	So	Sang	Sowng
30 Three	Sam	Sam	Sam
31 Four	See	Shee	Shee
32 Five	Haw	Haw	Haw
33 Six	Hok	Houk	Hook
34 Seven	Kyæt	Sayt	Seet
35 Eight	Payt	Payt	Pæt
36 Nine	Kawo	Kaw	Kau
37 Ten	Seet	Sheet	Ship

38 Eat	*Kyeen Kau	Kyeen Kau	Kyeen Kau
39 Drink	Kyeen Nam	Kyeen Nawm	Kyeen Nam
40 Sleep	Non	Non	Non
41 Walk	Teeo	Hoe	Pei
42 Sit	Nanon	Nawn	Nung
43 Stand	Yoon	Lootfook	Peignung
44 Kill	Kaw	Po	Potai
45 Yes	O	Sai	Munna
46 No	Maishai	Mosai	Motsau
47 Here	Teenee	Teenai	Teenay
48 There	Teenon	Teepoon	Ponaw
49 Above	Bonon	Teenaipoon	Nooa
50 Below	Kang lang	Teetai	---

The next language of which I shall give a specimen, is that of the people who call themselves *Moitay*. Their country is situated between *Sylhet*, in *Benga*[l] and that of the Tailoong above-mentioned : to the north of it is *Assam* ; on the south *Arakan*, and the rude tribes bordering on that kingdom. Their capital city they name *Munnypura*. By the people of *Bengal* they are called *Muggaloos*, an appellation with which those we saw at *Amarapura* were totally unacquainted. This name, however, *Europeans* have applied to the country, turning it at the same time into *Meckley*. *Kathee* is the name given to this people by the *Burmas*, which we also have taken for the name of the country, and corrupted into *Cussay*. Mr. RENNEL having from *Bengal* obtained information of *Meckley*, and from *Ava* having heard of *Cussay*, never conceived that they were the same, and, accordingly, in his map of *Hindustan*, has laid down two kingdoms, *Cussay* and *Meckley*; for which, indeed, he had sufficient room, as by Captain Baker's account he had been induced to place *Ava* much too far to the east.

* *Kau* is *rice*, and *Nam* is *water*. Here, therefore, we have a nation with no word to express the difference between eating and drinking. The pleasures of the table must be in little request with them.

III. English.	Moitay.	English.	Moitay.
1 Sun	Noomeet	26 Long	Asamba
2 Moon	Taw	27 Short	Ataymba
3 Stars	Towang Meezat	28 One	Amaw
4 Earth	Leipauk	29 Two	Anee
5 Water	Eesheen	30 Three	Ahoom
6 Fire	Mee	31 Four	Maree
7 Stone	Noong Loong	32 Five	Mangaw
8 Wind	Noosheet	33 Six	Torok
9 Rain	No	34 Seven	Tarayt
10 Man	Mee	35 Eight	Neepaw
11 Woman	Noopee	36 Nine	Mapil
12 Child	Peeka	37 Ten	Tarrow
13 Head	Kop Kok	38 Eat	Sat
14 Mouth	Seembaw	39 Drink	Tawee
15 Arm	Pambom	40 Sleep	Keepee
16 Hand	Khoit	41 Walk	K[a]wnee
17 Leg	---	42 Si[t]	Pummee
18 Foot with ankle	Kho	43 Stand	Lapee
19 Beast	---	44 Kill	Hallo
20 Bird	Oosaik	45 Yes	Manee
21 Fish	Ngaw	46 No	Nattay
22 Good	Pawee or Pai	47 Here	Mashee
23 Bad	Pattay	48 there	Ada
24 Great	Sauwee	49 Above	Mataka
25 Little	Apeekauk	50 Below	Maka

In the intermediate space between *Bengal*, *Arakan*, the proper *Burma*, and the kingdom of *Munnaypura*, is a large mountainous and woody tract. It is occupied by many rude tribes. Among these, the most distinguished is that by the *Burmas* called *Kiayn*, from whom is derived the name of the great western branch of the *Erawade* ; for the *Kiaynduayn* signifies the fountain of the *Kiayn*. This people calls itself *Koloun*, and it seems to be a numerous race, universally spoken of, by its neighbours, as remarkable for simple honesty, industry, and an inoffensive disposition.

IV. English.	Koloun.	English.	Koloun.
1 Sun	Konee	20 Bird	Pakyoo
2 Moon	Klow	21 Fish	Ngoo
3 Stars	Assay	22 Good	Poælahoe
4 Earth	Day	23 Bad	Sælahoe
5 Water	Tooee	24 Great	Ahlayn
6 Fire	May	25 Little	Amee
7 Stone	Aloong	26 Long	Asaw
8 Wind	Klee	27 Short	Sooæhay
9 Rain	Yoo	28 One	Moo
10 Man	Kloun	29 Two	Palmee
11 Woman	Patoo	30 Three	Patoon
12 Child	Saemee	31 Four	Poonhee
13 Head	Mulloo	32 Five	Poonho
14 Mouth	Mawkoo	33 Six	Poosouk
15 Arm	Maboam	34 Seven	Pooæsæ
16 Hand	Mukoo	35 Eight	Pooæsay
17 Leg	Manwam	36 Nine	Poongo
18 Foot	Kopaung	37 Ten	Poohaw
19 Beast	Pakyoo	38 Eat	Kayawæ

39 Drink	Koyawee	45 Yes	Ashæba
40 Sleep	Eitsha	46 No	Seehay
41 Walk	Hlayæshoe	47 Here	Næa
42 Sit	Own	48 there	Tsooa
43 Stand	Undoon	49 Above	Akloengung
44 Kill	Say, oe	50 Below	Akoa

Another rude nation, which shelters itself in the recesses of hills and woods, from the violence of its insolent neighbours, is named, by the *Burmas*, *Karayn* ; and *Kadoon* by the people of *Pegu*. They are most numerous in the *Pegu* kingdom, and, like the *Kiayn*, are distinguished for their innocence and industry. By the *Burmas* they are said to be of two kinds ; *Burma* and *Talain Karayn*. Some of them, with whom I conversed, seemed to understand this distinction, calling the former *Passooko*, and the latter *Maploo*. This, however, probably arose from these individuals being better acquainted with the *Burma* ideas than the generality of their countrymen ; for the greater part of those with whom I conversed, said, that all *Karayn* were the same, and called them *Play*. I am, however, not certain if I understood them rightly ; nor do I know that I have obtained the proper name of this tribe. I have given a vocabulary of each of these, who seemed to understand the distinction of *Burma* and *Talain Karayn*, and two different villages who did not understand the difference ; for in this nation I found the villages differing very much in dialect ; even where not distant, probably owing to their having little communication one with another. It must be observed, that, in using an interpreter, one is very liable to mistakes, and those I had were often very ignorant.

V. English.	Passooko.	Maploo.	Play, No. 1	Play, No. 2
1 Sun	Moomay	Moo	Mooi	Moomay
2 Moon	Law	Law	Law	Poolaw
3 Stars	Tsaw	Sheeaw	Shaw	Shaw
4 Earth	Katchaykoo	Kolangkoo	Kako	Laukoo
5 Water	Tee	Tee	Tee	Tee
6 Fire	Mee	Meeung	Meea	Mee
7 Stone	Loe	Loong, Noong Lung	---	Loung
8 Wind	Kallee	Lee	Lee	Lee
9 Rain	Tachoo	Tchatchang	Moko	Moko

10 Man	Paganyo	Pashaw	Pasha	Paploom, or Pasha
11 Woman	Pomoo	Pomoo	Pummee	Pammoe
12 Child	Pozaho	Possaw	Napootha	Apoza
13 Head	Kozohui	Kohui	Kohui	Pokoohui
14 Mouth	Patako	Pano	Ganoo	Pano
15 Arm	Tchoobawlee	Tchoobawlee	Atsyoodoo	Tchoobawlee
16 Hand	Patchoo	Poitchoo	Kutshoo	Tchooasee
17 Leg	Kadoe	Pokaw	Kandoo	Kandoo
18 Foot	Konyawko	Kanyakoo	Kanyako	Kanyasaw
19 Beast	T'hoo	Too	---	---
20 Bird	T'hoo	Too	Kalo	To
21 Fish	Nyaw	Zyaw	Ya	Ya
22 Good	Ngeetchawmaw	Ngee	Gyee	Gyee
23 Bad	Taw ngee baw	Nguay	Gyeeay	Gyeeay
24 Great	Pawdoo	Hhoo	Uddo	Doo
25 Little	Tchecka	Tchei	Atsei	Atsee
26 Long	To atcho maw	T'ho	Loeya	Ato
27 Short	P'hecko	P'hoe	Apoe	Apoe
28 One	Taydoe	Nadoe	Laydoe	Laydoe
29 Two	Kee-doe	Nee-doe	Nee-doe	Nee-doe
30 Three	So-doe	Song-doe	Soung-doe	Soung-doe
31 Four	Loeee-doe	Lee-du	Lee-doe	Lee-doe
32 Five	Yay-doe	Yay-doe	Yay-doe	Ya-doe
33 Six	Hoo-doe	Hoo doe	Koo-doe	Koo-doe
34 Seven	Noeee-doe	Noay-doe	Noæ-doe	Noæo-do

35 Eight	Ho-doe	Ho-doe	Ko-doe	Ko-doe
36 Nine	Kooee-doe	Kooee-doe	Kooee-doe	Kooee-doe
37 Ten	Tatchee	Leitchee	Tassee	Laytsee
38 Eat	Po,c	Aw	Ang	Ang
39 Drink	Oo	O	O	O
40 Sleep	Prammee	Mee	Mee	Mee
41 Walk	Latcholia	Leetalay	Rakuæ	Lakuæ
42 Sit	Tcheenaw	Tseingaw	Tysana	Tsayna
43 Stand	Tchocto	Tchonto	Tsaynagay	la-Gnaythoe
44 Kill	Klo	P'hee	Pætegul	Paythee
45 Yes	Maylee	Moayyoo	Moiyoo	Moithay
46 No	Tamaybaw	Moæ	Moi	Moi
47 Here	Loee	Layee	Leyoo	Layee
48 There	Lubanee	Loo	Læyo	Læyo
49 Above	Mokoo	Mokoo	Læpanko	Læpanko
50 Below	Hokoo	Lankoo	Læpaula	Læpaula

To this kingdom, the natives of which call themselves *Moan*, we have given the name of *Pegu*, a corruption of the vulgar appellation of its capital city, *Bagoo* ; the polite name of the city among its natives having been *Dam Hanga*, as among the *Burmas*, *Hanzawade*. This people are named *Talain* by the *Burmas* and *Chinese* of *Yunan* ; *Lawoo* by the *Karayn* ; and *Tarain* by the *Tai-loong* : their kingdom extends along the mouths of the two great rivers *Erawade* and *Thauluayn*, or of *Ava* and *Martaban*, from the frontiers of *Arakan* to those of *Siam*.

VI. English.	Moan.	English.	Moan.
1 Sun	Knooay Tangooy	4 Earth	Toe
2 Moon	Katoo	5 Water	Nawt
3 Stars	Shawnaw	6 Fire	Komot
		7 Stone	---

8 Wind	Kyeaw	33 Six	Teraw
9 Rain	Proay	34 Seven	Kapo
10 Man	Puee	35 Eight	Tatsam
11 Woman	Preau	36 Nine	Kaffee
12 Child	Koon	37 Ten	Tlo
13 Head	Kadap	38 Eat	Tsapoung. Poung, I believe, is rice.
14 Mouth	Paun	39 Drink	Saung nawt. Nawt is water.
15 Arm	Toay	40 Sleep	Steik
16 Hand	Kanna Toay	41 Walk	Au
17 Leg	Kadot-prawt	42 Sit	Katcho
18 Foot	Kanat zein	43 Stand	Katau
19 Beast	---	44 Kill	Taw
20 Bird	Seen ngat	45 Yes	Taukua
21 Fish	Kaw	46 No	Auto
22 Good	Kah	47 Here	Noomano
23 Bad	Hookah	48 There	Taoko
24 Great	Mor	49 Above	Tattoo commooee
25 Little	Bok	50 Below	Tauamo
26 Long	Kloein		
27 Short	Klee		
28 One	Mooi		
29 Two	Bau		
30 Three	Pooi		
31 Four	Pou		
32 Five	Soon		

These six are all the languages of this great *eastern* nation, of which, during my stay in the *Burma* Empire, I was able to procure vocables sufficient for my purpose. Although they appear very different at first sight, and the language of one race is totally unintelligible to the others, yet I can perceive in them all some coincidences ; and a knowledge of the languages, with their obsolete words, their phrases, their inflections of words, and elisions, *cuphoniæ causa*, would, perhaps, shew many more. Those that have the greatest affinity are in Tab. I. IV. And V. Mr. GILCHRIST, whose knowledge of the common dialects in use on the banks of the *Ganges* is, I believe, exceeded by that of no *European*, was so obliging as to look over these vocabularies ; but he could not trace the smallest relation between the languages.

I shall now add three dialects, spoken in the *Burma* Empire, but evidently derived from the language of the *Hindu* nation.

The first is that spoken by the *Mohammedans*, who have long settled in *Arakan*, and who call themselves *Rooinga*, or natives of *Arakan*.

The second dialect is that spoken by the *Hindus* of *Arakan*. I procured it from a *Brahmen* and his attendants, who had been brought to *Amarapura* by the king's edlest son, on his return from the conquest of *Arakan*. They call themselves *Rossawn*, and, for what reason I do not know, wanted to persuade me that theirs was the common language of *Arakan*. Both these tribes, by the real natives of *Arakan*, are called *Kulaw Yakain*, or stranger *Arakan*.

The last dialect of the *Hindustanee* which I shall mention, is that of a people called, by the *Burmas*, *Aykobat*, many of them are slaves at *Amarapura*. By one of them I was informed, that they had called themselves *Banga* ; that formerly they had kings of their own ; but that, in his father's time, their kingdom had been overturned by the king of *Munnypura*, who carried away a great part of the inhabitants to his residence.

When that was taken last by the *Burmas*, which was about fifteen years ago, this man was one of the many captives who were brought to *Ava*. He said also, that *Banga* was seven days' journey south-west from *Munnypura* : it must, therefore, be on the frontiers of *Bengal*, and may, perhaps, be the country called in our maps *Cashar*.

Mr. GILCHRIST has been so good as to examine particularly these two dialects, and to mark thus (*) those words which come nearest the *Hindustanee* spoken on the *Ganges* ; and thus (†) those not so evidently in connection with the same, but which shew resemblance by analogy.

English.	Rooinga.	Rossawn.	Banga.
1 Sun	Bel	*Sooja	Bayllee
2 Moon	Sawn	Sundsa	Satkan
3 Stars	Tara	*Nokyoto	*Tara
4 Earth	Kool	Murtika	*Matee
5 Water	Pannæ	*Dsol	*Pannæ
6 Fire	Auin	*Aaganee	Zee
7 Stone	Sheel	*Sheel	*Heel

8 Wind	Bau	*Pawun	*Bo
9 Rain	Jorail	†Bistee	*Booun
10 Man	Manush	†Moanusa	*Manoo
11 Woman	Meealaw	Stree	Zaylan
12 Child	Gourapa	*Balouk	Sogwo
13 Head	Mata	Mustok	Teekgo
14 Mouth	Gall	Bodon	Totohan
15 Arm	Bahara	*Baho	Paepoung
16 Hand	Hat	Osto	Hatkan
17 Leg	Ban	†Podo	Torooa
18 Foot	Pau	Pata	Zankan
19 Beast	---	Zoomtroo	Sasee sangee
20 Bird	Paik	†Pookyee	†Pakya
21 Fish	Maws	Mootsæ	†Mas
22 Good	Goom	Gam	Hoba
23 Bad	Goom nay	Gumnay	Hoba nay
24 Great	Boddau	Dangor	Domorgo
25 Little	Thuddee	*Tsooto	Hooroogo
26 Long	Botdean	Deengol	Deengul
27 Short	Banick	*Batee	*Batee
28 One	Awg	*Aik	*Ak
29 Two	Doo	*Doo	De
30 Three	Teen	*Teen	†Teen
31 Four	Tchair	*Tsar	*Saree
32 Five	Pansoee	*Paus	*Pas
33 Six	Saw	*Tso	*Tsæ
34 Seven	Sat	*Sat	*Hat

35 Eight	Awtoa	†Asto	*Awt
36 Nine	Nonaw	*No	*No
37 Ten	Dussoa	*Dos	*Dos
38 Eat	Kau	*Kawai	†Kæk
39 Drink	Karin	Kawo	†Peek
40 Sleep	Layrow	†Needsara	Hooleek
41 Walk	Pawkay	Bayra	†O-teea-ootea
42 Sir	Boihow	†Boesho	†Bo
43 Stand	Tcheilayto	*Karao	†Oot
44 Kill	Marim	*Maro	*Mar
45 Yes	Hoi	Oir	Oo
46 No	Etibar	*Noay	*Naway
47 Here	Hayray	Etay	Erang
48 There	Horay	Horay	Orung
49 Above	Ouchalo	*Ooper	Goa
50 Below	Ayray	Hayray	†Tol