

## GLOSSARY OF TAI WORDS AND PHRASES

## (DEHONG TAI AND SHAN TAI)

## A

Ae see Moto      Young motor bikers

Am mi la      Losing face

## H

Hed Taiko Kan      To make a fellow-group

## K

Kad Tangkin      Food market

Kad Khoaw      Clothing and garment market

Kantin      A religious ceremony which yellow robes are presented to the priests, in Buddhism. It is held annually during one month after the Outdoor-Lent ceremony (after the rainy season which is usually November-December). *Kantin* is called *Katin* in Thailand.

Khea      Han Chinese

Khon mee so      A rich person

Khun Hoakham      The Thai King

Kon si      Pants

Khong River      The Salween-Nujiang River

## L

Look Sao Khun      The Thai King's daughter

Hoakham

Lung      Uncle

## M

Mao River	The Shewli River
Maekha	<i>Maeka</i> refers to female traders. However the term <i>Maeka</i> today can possibly be both sexes - male and female - since the Tai usually trade with families, relatives, and couples.
Maekha Khai Leu Kad	Traders in the market or market traders
Maekha Khai Leu Poi	Traders who sell their products at festivals
Maekha Khai Wan Kad	Traders or peddlers who sell their goods and circulating on market days
Mi la ya la long	Having a proud face
Moalai	Teacher or lecturer
Muang	Petty state
Muang Khon	Luxi or Mangshi, the capital of Dehong Prefecture
Muang La	Yinjiang in Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan
Muang Mao	Ruili, a border town in Chinese border, along the Yunnan-Burma border
Muang Mao Loang	Mao Kingdom of the Tai people during the 13th century
Muang Tai Leu Muang khea	Tai soil ruled under the Chinese state
Muang Taitae	The Tai land below Dehong. For the Dehong Tai, it means the Tai land in the south where there are many other Tai live along.
Muang Thai	Thailand
Muang Ti	Lianghe
Muang Wan	Loungchuan
Muang Wan Tieng	Wanding

## P

Pa	Aunt
Panso	Pay cash or money to someone
Pii-nong	Sibling
Poi	Festivals. It usually refers to the Buddhism-related festivals held after <i>Wan Aokwa</i> (the end of the Buddhist Lent day) or after the rainy season when there is no the busy agricultural work in the paddy fields. <i>Poi</i> also refers to other family or community-related festivals and ceremonies, for example weddings, housewarmings or new temple openings.
Pongwan	Monosodium glutamate (MSG)

## S

Sao pha	The ruler of the Tai state (Lord of Heaven)
Sin	A traditional tube long skirt in Tai styles
Sin fa	A traditional tube skirt with a figured pattern around the edge
Sin fa sam tin	A tube long skirt with a three-figured pattern around the edge
Sin fa si tin	A tube long skirt with a four-figured pattern around the edge
Sin fa song tin	A tube long skirt with a two-figured pattern around the edge
Sin maed	A traditional tube skirt with a pitched pattern in the middle
Soe khoaw Khea	Wearing Chinese clothes or in Chinese style
Soe khoaw Thai	Wearing Thai clothes or in Thai style
Soe tong taek	An open- front blouse
Soe wea la	An open-side blouse
Soe wea la pu jai	An open-side shirt for Tai male.

## T

Tai Khea	Chinese Tai, here it means the Tai in China
Tai Loi	Mountainous Tai. It refers particularly to Bulang, an ethnic minority who live in mountainous area. This ethnic group has long been connected to the Tai culture and Buddhist religion, as in the process of “Tai-ization”.
Tai Long	The great Tai, it means the Shan Tai and Dehong Tai in particular.
Tai Man	Burmese Tai, or the Shan Tai in Burma
Tam Jai Kan	A special level of trust

## W

Wan Aokwa	It is the day that marks the end of the Buddhist lent day lasting for three months. It falls on the full moon of the eleventh lunar month.
Wan kad	Market day
Wan kad Je	Market day in city

## X

Xiaoho	Turbans decorating with hairstyles
Xiaoho pu mea	Hair knotted in a bun with bright colored turban decorating for married woman
Xiaoho pu sao	Hair knotted in a bun with bright colored turban and flowers decoration designing for single woman
Xiaoho pu tao	Hair knotted in a bun with black or grey colored turban designing for elder woman

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### Profession

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#### Research Monograph and Publication

- 2007 Dress and Cultural Strategy: Tai Peddlers in Transnational Trade along the Burma - Yunnan Frontier. *Asian Ethnicity* 8(3): 219 - 234
- 2006 Local knowledge, Dynamism and the Politics of Struggle: A Case Study of the Hmong in Northern Thailand. *Journal of Southeast Asia Studies (JSEAS)* 1(1): 65-81
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- 2003 *Fiin Kab KonHmong: Phonlawat KhoamLarkLear Lea KhoamSabbSaon Khong Attalak KhonChaiiKhobb*, (Opium and The Hmong: Dynamism, Diversity and Complexity of Identities of A Marginal People) in Pinkeaw Leangaramsri (ed.) *Identities, Ethnicity and Marginality*. Bangkok: The Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Center.
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