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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AFFECT</b>	The Akha Association for Education and Culture in Thailand
<b>ACT</b>	The Akha Church of Thailand
<b>AOF</b>	The Akha Outreach Foundation
<b>MATA</b>	The Myanmar Association for Traditional Akha Culture
<b>MAPS</b>	The Mekong Akha Network for Peace and Sustainability
<b>MPCDE</b>	The Mountain Peoples' Culture and Development Education Foundation
<b>OMF</b>	The Overseas Missionary Fellowship
<b>UNO</b>	The United Nations Organization



### NOTE ON AKHA ORTHOGRAPHY

In this paper, when writing Akha names and terms I use the most recent Romanized writing system developed by an international network of Akha during a meeting in Jinghong, China in late 2008/ early 2009. In this system Roman characters not used to denote initial consonants are used as tonal markers placed at the end of syllables and not pronounced. The consonants used for tonal markers in this system include *q* (long, low tone), *r* (long, high tone), *v* (short, mid-tone), *vq* (short, low-tone), and *vr* (short, high-tone). For example, in the word “Aqkaq” (Akha,) ‘q’ marks that each syllable in the word is pronounced with a long, low tone.



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## Akha Language

## English Translation

*Aqda Kovqdawq*

Catholic priest

*Aqdaq Yesu*

Father Jesus

*Aqbawr Parxeer*

Buddhist monk

*Aqghoe*

Maternal uncle (mother's brother)

*Aqkaqzanr*

Traditional Akha culture

*“Aqkaqzanr tanq nar-a tiqhaq pyaq zaq mar”* “If we carry Aqkaqzanr we are all part of the same family”

*Aqkaq Ghanrtawq Par Dmq*The Book For Carrying *Aqkaqzanr**Aqkaq Tiqkaq Tseirkaq Ma*

“One Akha group is divided into ten”

*Aqkaq Tseirkaq Tiqkaq Ma*

“Ten Akha are united as one”

*Aqpoeq lawr*

Ancestral offerings

*Aqpoeq Miqyear*

The ‘Supreme Creator’

*Arbawr pu*

Tree village

*Bacivq*

Blacksmith

*Boermawq or Pirza*

Ritual Reciter Apprentices

*Caerxeedzaq*

The ‘New Rice Ceremony’

*Daekhanq*

Village meeting ground

*Daevqzanr*

Rites and regulations relating to the living

*Dzanrdanq Lanrkanq*

Lower village gate

*Dzanrhu Lanrkanq*

Upper village gate

*Dzoeqma*

Traditional village leader

*Garjawq Lanrkanq*

The ‘main village gate’

*Geevqlanq*

Blessings

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Continued)

<i>Govqdawqzaq</i>	Catholics
<i>Govqdawqzanr</i>	Catholicism
<i>Guq</i>	Clan
<i>Hawq</i>	Rice
<i>Irxawr lawrkhawvq</i>	Traditional sacred spring
<i>Jadae Mirkhanq</i>	The motherland of the Akha people
<i>Javrliaq</i>	Bible
<i>Jawrla</i>	The time of leisure from fieldwork
<i>Kalizanr</i>	Protestantism
<i>Kalizaq</i>	Protestants
<i>Kartanr Aqpoeq</i>	New Years Ancestral Offering
<i>Karyeav Aqpoeq</i>	The ‘rice flowering’ ancestral rite
<i>Khavma</i>	Individual(s) with detailed knowledge of how to carry out ritual practices
<i>Khmqxeevq Aqpoeq</i>	Red Egg Ancestral Offering
<i>Kovqdawqzanr</i>	Catholicism
<i>Kovqdawqzaq</i>	Catholics
<i>Lanrkanq mr-e</i>	Constructing the village gates
<i>Lavqceq</i>	Ceremonial village swing
<i>Lawrcivzaq</i>	Derogatory term used by Christians to refer to ‘those who carry <i>Aqkaqzanr</i> ’
<i>Miqyaer</i>	God (Christian)
<i>Mirsanr Lawr-e</i>	The ceremony to honor the “Lord of Water and Land”
<i>Mqtav</i>	Heaven
<i>Naqciaq</i>	Traditional herbal medicine practitioner
<i>Ngaq-e YawSanr</i>	“My spirit owner”
<i>Nyirpaq</i>	Shaman
<i>Paerxeerzaq</i>	Buddhists

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Continued)

<i>Parxeerzanr</i>	Buddhism
<i>Pirma</i>	Ritual Reciter
<i>Sanr</i>	‘To have’ or ‘to own’
<i>Saqraq</i>	Christian pastor, minister or reverend
<i>Savlar</i>	Soul
<i>Smr Mir-or</i>	Apical Ancestor of Akha
<i>Tanqpanq</i>	Common ancestor from which all
<i>Akha</i>	Sub-groups descend
<i>Tawvma tei-e</i>	A ceremony held to banish “evil spirits”
<i>Uqduq Tanqnymr Irnei Geevqlanq Xarir ma</i>	“We go to church to ask for blessings”
<i>Uqduqtanq-e nymr</i>	Christian Church
<i>Xaq</i>	Meat
<i>Xiqbeer lanma</i>	‘The blood of hell’
<i>Xirzanr</i>	Rites and regulations related to the dead
<i>Yaerkuq Aqpoeq</i>	Annual Swing Ceremony Ancestral Offering
<i>Yesuzanr</i>	The <i>Zanr</i> of Jesus (i.e. Christianity)

**Thai Language***PhuYaiBan***English Translation**

Elected village head