RESUME

Name:

Noel Kya Heh

Date of Birth:

December 24, 1955

Place of Birth: Pang Wai, Kyaing Tong, Eastern Shan State, Myanmar

Institutions attended:

No. 1. State High School, Taunggyi, Myanmar (1972 Matriculation)

Burma Institute of Theology (1977 Bachelor of Theology)

Burma Institute of Theology (1981 Bachelor of Divinity)

Employment:

Principal, Pang Wai Bible School, Kyaing Tong, Shan State, Myanmar (1977-1979)

Akha Bible Translator (1983-1996)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author of this thesis wishes to express a heart-felt thank to the thesis supervisor Assistant Professor Dr. Kirk Roger Person, as well as thesis committee members Ajarn Ken Manson and Ajarn Mark Wannemacher. The input of Dr. Fraser Bennet, a former member of the thesis committee, is also appreciated. This thesis could not have been accomplished without their kind support, guidance as well as encouragement.

The author would like to express a special gratitude to all the staff members of the Linguistics Department of Payap University for equipping him with the linguistic and tools that enabled him to do this research.

The author feels very much indebted to SIL International and Myanmar Baptist Convention for supporting him in linguistic study. A special thank is due to the responsible SIL members in Chiang Mai, who never failed to show care and concern throughout his prolonged study.

The author is grateful to Dr. Paul W. Lewis, who not only invented the most popular Akha orthography but also made great contribution to Akha, Lahu and Hani literature, for his encouragement to analyze the particles that play a major role in Akha grammar.

The last, but not the least, to be thanked is God, the source of all knowledge, whom the author absolutely trusts and to whose course the he is deeply committed, for granting him this special opportunity to acquire such knowledge of invaluable applicability in His ministry.

March 26, 2003