

## CHAPTER 2

### NOUN PHRASE

#### 2.0 Introduction

Every language has grammatical categories, known as “parts of speech”. In every language, there are at least two major grammatical categories, namely noun and verb. Some languages may have two other major categories: adjective and adverb. There may also be minor grammatical categories in languages, such as conjunctions, particles, and adpositions (Payne 1997). This chapter presents the noun category in Lahu Shi focusing on the noun phrase. A noun phrase is a phrase in which is made out of a head noun plus some modifiers of various communicative functions (Givón 1990), sometimes called noun adjuncts. Schachter (1992) cites four general classes of noun adjuncts as follows:

- (1) Role markers, including case markers, discourse markers, and other adpositions (prepositions or postpositions). Case markers are words indicating syntactic and/or semantic role (subject or object). Discourse markers are words that indicate the discourse role of the associated noun phrase. There are two types of adposition; preposition and postposition. A preposition is a role marker which precedes the noun, whereas a postposition is a role marker which follows the noun. Some languages use affixes to indicate the role of a noun or noun phrase. Others use word order to distinguish subject from object.
- (2) Quantifiers include numerals, and words meaning ‘many’, ‘much’, ‘few’, ‘some’, ‘all’ each, etc. indicating quantity or scope.

- (3) Classifiers are required by the syntax of certain languages. In some languages when a noun is modified by a numeral, a classifier is also needed. (i.e. Thai, Mandarin Chinese)
- (4) Articles include demonstrative adjectives or modifiers.

Healey (1992) summarizes four common types of noun phrases.

- (1) Modified phrases consist of one head element plus various modifiers.
- (2) Co-ordinate phrases consist of two or more head elements referring to different entities, and perhaps one or more linked elements.
- (3) Postpositional phrases consist of one relator element plus a head element. The element is related to the rest of the clause by the preposition. In some languages the relator elements come last in the phrase; such words are called postpositions, and the phrase is called a postpositional phrase.
- (4) Appositional phrases consist of multiple head elements, referring to the same entity.

The following is an analysis of noun phrase structures based on the characteristics given by Givon (1990).

## **2.1 Structure of the Lahu Shi noun phrase**

According to Matisoff (1982:47), “the structure of the Lahu Na noun phrase may consist of a nominal nucleus, optionally followed by one or two noun particles and/or up to six unrestricted particles”. The nominal nucleus may follow the possessor nucleus plus the particle “ve” in the genitive construction. The nominal nucleus or the head noun may be morphologically simple (consisting of only a single morpheme) or complex (as in the processes of compounding, reduplication, or elaboration).

The Lahu Shi noun phrase structure is quite similar to that of the Lahu Na, consisting of a nominal nucleus, optionally followed by one or more particles and/or unrestricted particles. The head noun of the Lahu Shi noun phrase may be morphologically simple or complex. The simple head noun consists of only a single morpheme. Complex head nouns may come from the processes of compounding, or elaboration.

The basic structure of the Lahu Shi noun phrase involves a head noun either preceded or followed by modifiers. The modifiers may be possessives, adjectives, verbs, nouns, numbers plus classifiers, determiners, and noun particles. Given here is a table of noun phrase structure in Lahu Shi.

poss	Head	mod	num + clf	det	Pn
n +	pro	adj	num + n	det	par
gen	n	v			
pro +		n			
gen					

Figure 10. Lahu Shi noun phrase structure

The Lahu Shi noun phrase structure rule:

NP :  $\pm$  poss, + head,  $\pm$  mod,  $\pm$  num + clf,  $\pm$  det,  $\pm$  Pn

The head is obligatory whereas the other elements are optional. Every element may co-occur. The following sections show Lahu Shi noun phrases which are found in the texts.

### 2.1.1 Personal pronouns

Pronouns are a small class of words in most languages. They function as subject or object in a clause. They do not convey much information and often depend on other words for their full interpretation. Pronouns may convey different kinds of information, including person, number of people, gender or class.

This section focuses on personal pronouns. Schachter (1992) defines personal pronouns as words that are used to refer to the speaker, listener, other people, and things whose referents are presumed to be clear from the context. The speaker is first person, the listener is the second person. Both of them are collectively referred to as speech act participants. Other persons or things are the third person that usually refers to any non-speech act participant (Payne 1997).

As mentioned previously personal pronouns involve person, plural or possessive as well as participant deixis, therefore they may be grouped as follows:

Singular	Plural
First person	first person
Second person	second person
Third person	third person

Figure 11: Personal pronouns

Some languages have different forms of personal pronouns when they function in the clause, or phrase, for example, in English the subject, object, and possessive have different forms.

Matisoff (1982:49) cites four simple pronouns in Lahu Na. They are /ŋà/ “I”, /nɔ̃/ “you”, /yɔ̃/ “he” or “she” or “it”, (to express plurality, /hi/ is added after the pronouns.), and “šũ” “the other one”, “others”, “they”, “contrastive or remote third person”. See the chart below:

Person	Singular	Plural
1	/ŋà/	/ŋà - hi/
2	/nɔ̃/	/nɔ̃ - hi/
3	/yɔ̃/	/yɔ̃ - hi / or /sũ/

Six Lahu Shi pronouns are found in the texts illustrated as follows:

Person	Singular	Plural
1	ngag	ngag hehd
2	nawg	nawg hehd
3	yawd	ix hehd

Personal pronouns have the same form whether they are subject, possessive, or object. The following are some examples illustrating pronoun functions.

Example 1 : Sentence #19 (C/D)

<i>Ngag</i>	<i>ca</i>	<i>ngawx-eg</i>	<i>sar</i>
<i>IS</i>	<i>go and look</i>	<i>-motion_away_from_speaker</i>	<i>before</i>
<i>pro</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>v -prt</i>	<i>adv</i>

“I’m going to check it first.”

Lahu Shi is a rigid SOV type language that is a subject comes first followed by an object and the verb comes last (see 4.1). From the above example it can be summarized that “Ngag” functions as a subject of the clause since it comes first.

Example 2 : Sentence #29 (C/D)

<i>awg sehr phad</i>	<b>ngag</b>	<i>haq awr maq</i>	<i>car vad.</i>
<i>owner</i>	<b>IS</b>	<i>OM food NEG -strong</i>	<i>feed eat</i>
<i>n</i>	<b>pro</b>	<i>Pn n adv</i>	<i>v v</i>

“The master won’t give me any food.”

The pronoun “ngag” is an object of the clause coming after the subject “awg sehr phad”, and there is also an object marker “haq” at the end of the noun phrase.

### 2.1.2 Possessive noun phrases

Possessive constructions are “constructions used to express ownership. Possessive noun phrases contain two elements, a possessor and a possessed item. The possessor may be referred to as the genitive. The possessed item may be referred to the possessee (e.g. “Mary’s dog”, Mary is a possessor, dog is a possessee.)” (Payne 1997: 104). In some languages, the possessive construction is a kind of modified noun phrase, that is, possession is part of the noun phrase.

Noun possession may be marked by affixation in some languages, while it may be marked by a modifying phrase in other languages. There are two types of possession: alienable possession and inalienable possession (which include body parts, kinship terms, clothing and certain household items) (Elson and Pickett 1988).

In some languages, body parts, kinship terms, clothing, and certain household items may be counted as alienable possession. For example, in Thai when you want to introduce your father to your friend, you may say /nii3 pɔɔ3/ (/nii3/ = this, /pɔɔ3/ = father) “this is my father”. In this sentence, there is no possessive marker. A

possessive marker may be marked after the head noun, /nii3 ɔɔ3 k<sup>h</sup>ɔɔŋ5 tʃ<sup>h</sup>an5/ (/k<sup>h</sup>ɔɔŋ5/ = genitive, /tʃ<sup>h</sup>an5/ = 1<sup>st</sup> person singular). Sometimes the genitive can be left out without changing the meaning. /nii3 ɔɔ3 tʃ<sup>h</sup>an5/ means “this is my father”, there is no genitive marker /k<sup>h</sup>ɔɔŋ5/ preceding the pronoun /tʃ<sup>h</sup>an5/.

Body parts, kinship terms, clothing and certain household items are inalienable in English. We always say, “This is my father” in stead of saying, “This is father” when we want to tell someone that this person is your father. In English, the possessive adjective (e.g. my, your, etc.) or “ ’s ” are possessive markers. In Thai, a possessive marker /k<sup>h</sup>ɔɔŋ5/ is used to indicate possession.

Matisoff describes the genitive structure of Lahu Na saying that “the simplest type consists of three elements, the possessor nucleus, plus the particle “ve” (genitive), plus the head nucleus (e.g. /Câ – lō ve ô-ha/(picture)” means “Jalaw’s picture”) (1982:140).

Like Lahu Na, the Lahu Shi genitive structure consists of three elements. They are the possessor nucleus, the particle, and the head nucleus.

The possessive noun phrase of Lahu Shi consists of a noun plus possessive marker “ve” or a pronoun plus possessive marker “ved” followed by the head noun. The tone of the marker “ve” is changed when it follows a pronoun. As mentioned previously, in some languages the possessive marker can be omitted. In Lahu Shi, the possessive marker can be left out when the possessor and possessed head are juxtaposed to each other, the first modifying the second. This phenomenon is called covertly genitive. Some examples are illustrated as follows:

Example 3 : Sentence #10 (C/D)

*yawd ved Sehx sir*  
*3S genitive amulet*  
*pro Pn n*

“ his amulet”

The possessive marker “ved” comes after the pronoun “yawd” followed by the head noun “Sehx sir”.

Example 4 : Sentence #45 (C/D)

*ngag ved Sehx sir*  
*1S genitive amulet*  
*pro Pn n*

“ my amulet”

The possessive marker “ved” comes after the pronoun “ngag” followed by the head noun “Sehx sir”.

Example 5 : Sentence #20 (C/D)

*jawd mawd ve hawx yehg lo*  
*king genitive palace house LOC place*  
*n Pn n n Pn*

“ king’s palace”

The possessive marker “ve” comes after the noun “jawd mawd” followed by the head noun “hawx yehg”.



The possessive marker may be left out, for example:

Example 6 : Sentence #9 (C/D)

*"Nawg phad mawd*  
*2S husband*  
*pro n*

**“Your husband ”**

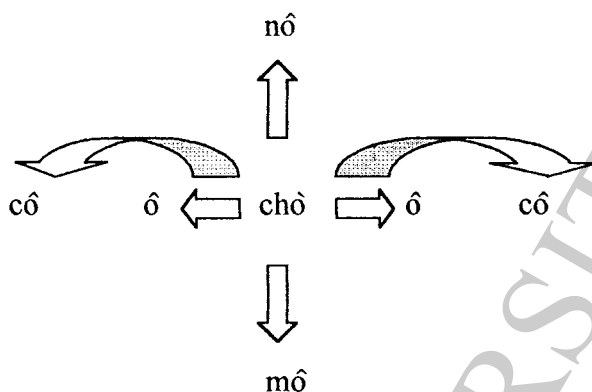
There is no possessive marker after the pronoun “nawg”, it directly follows the head noun “phad mawd”. The possessive marker is left out when it occurs with a pronoun, kinship terms, and is part of a whole.

### 2.1.3 Deictic demonstrative phrase

The term “deictic” is from the Greek word that means “point”. It covers more than just one class of words. Deictics are words having a referring function. They refer to something in a situation. They may refer to some other words or phrases in the discourse for their interpretation (Healey 1992). Deictics or demonstratives are used to point out and specify positions relative to the speaker or the hearer. They may stand alone substituting for nouns, or they may modify nouns (Elson and Pickett 1988). Payne (1997:103) says that demonstratives may express distance or orientation with respect to the speaker and the hearer. Some languages have two degrees of distance, others may have three or more degrees of distance. In English, there are four forms of demonstratives. They are “this” (singular and close to the speaker), “that” (singular and far from the speaker), “these” (plural and close to the speaker), and “those” (plural and far from the speaker).

Matisoff (1982:51) describes five spatial demonstratives in Lahu Na, including /cho/, /ô/, /cô/, /nô/, /mô/. The demonstratives involve more than two degrees of the distance, since /chò/ means “here”, /ô/ means “there”, /cô/ means “way over there”,

/nô/ means “up there”, and /mô/ means “down there”. Below is the figure illustrating their degrees of distance. These spacial deictics derive from geography, since the Lahu peoples have traditionally lived in mountainous areas.



Spacial demonstratives may precede a phrase which consists of number plus classifier (e.g. /nô te mà/ “the one up there”), or a noun phrase (e.g. /mô lo yâ? e ve/ “He went down there”). Matisoff also describes the determiner /chi/ which means “this”. He says that /chi/ may occur before a phrase which consists of number plus classifier (e.g. /chi tê khe/ “this animal”), it may occur directly after any common noun (e.g. /cho chi/ “this person”).

Like Lahu Na, Lahu Shi also has demonstratives, though only one found in the texts. It is “u ve”. This demonstrative involves a degree of distance. “u ve” is used to point out someone or something which is far from the speaker, whether it is singular or plural. According to Elson and Pickett (1988:79) demonstrative and article never occur together, but they substitute for each other. An article is a modifier that is used to limit, specify, particularize, or determine the head noun. Therefore “u ve” may refer to or actually be an article in Lahu Shi. Given below are some examples of using “u ve” found in the texts entitled “The cat and dog”, “Male gives birth”, and “Shrew story”.

## Example 7 : Sentence #14 (C/D)

*Awg phad mawd u ve maq ca bawz kawaq che te yand*  
*husband that war go and shoot returned CHE at the time*  
*n det n v v v Pu adv:tm*

“At the time **the husband** returned from the war.”

## Example 8 : Sentence #16 (C/D)

*Sehx sir u ve haq ca kawq yug khuhq pe che yaog.*  
*amulet that OM go and return grab return[something] look for CHE DECL*  
*n det Pn v v v v v Pu Pf*

“(The cat and the dog) went to find and brought back **the amulet**.”

The determiner “u ve” is used to point out and specify position of the head noun relative to the speaker. From the above examples “Awgphad mawd” and “Sehx sir” are at somewhere away from the speaker. They are also particularized.

### 2.1.4 Classifier phrases

In language, singularity or plurality is indicated for nouns. In general, the simple form (‘stem’) of a noun is the singular form. In order to make plurality, a singular form is added (Givon 1984). Some languages have plural markers on nouns called bound morphemes in order to make the difference between singular and plural. Others have a free morpheme for plural (Elson and Pickett 1988). There are still other languages that have markers in both singular and plural in order to make the distinction between them (e.g Swahili). There are also some languages that distinguish singular and plural by marking on the singular noun (Payne 1997).

Use of a classifier is another way of specifying quantity. Some languages have classifier systems. According to Elson and Pickett (1988:79), “Classifiers have particles or affixes accompanying nouns to make a particular arbitrary class of nouns.

The classes may be either identified with some semantic feature (the physical shape of the article designated by the noun, animate in contrast with inanimate), or be completely arbitrary.”

Payne (1997:107) states that “a noun class, gender, or grammatical gender system is the grammatical classification of nouns, pronouns, and other referential devices. The system involves some extralinguistic grouping. A language which has a noun class system, will almost certainly be well installed in the number system. A language which has no noun class system will use numeral expressions to indicate quantity.”

Lahu Na is a language which has a noun class system. Therefore to specify quantity, a classifier system is used. Matisoff (1982:99) describes a quantifier in Lahu Na that plurality may express by adding /- hi/ after the pronoun (e.g /ŋâ - hi/ “we”) or /hi/ after the proper noun (e.g /Câ - lî hi/ “Jalaw’s group”). Quantifiers may even occur with classifiers (e.g /ŋâ? tê khe/ : /ŋâ?/ “bird”, /te/ “one”, /khe/ is a classifier for animal, the phrase means “one bird”). In Lahu Shi the classifier is one way of indicating a plural noun. The classifier phrase construction consists of a head noun followed by a number plus a classifier. The classifiers are varied depending on the head nouns. The Lahu Shi classifier phrase structure rule is:

classifier phrase : noun + numeral + clf

Here are the lists of classifiers found in the texts.

pa	“group”
sir	“round”
ghad	“person”
mag	“piece”
kheh	“animal”

Some examples illustrating the use of classifiers as follows:

Example 9 : Sentence #3 (C/D)

*daq jad che Seh x sir teq sir*  
*good very CHE amulet one round*  
*adj adv Pu n num clf*

“one very good amulet.”

The “sir” is a classifier for a round object, occurring with a numeral “teq” (one). The phrase “teq sir” specifies the number of “Sehx sir” (amulet). The whole phrase “daq jad che Seh x sir teq sir” tells that there is one very good amulet.

Example 10 : Sentence #8 (C/D)

*Yawd ved awg ceg te ghad haq*  
*3S genitive assistant one person OM*  
*pro Pn n num clf Pn*

“his one assistant”

“ghad” is the classifier for a person, preceded by a numeral “te” (one). “te ghad” specifies the number of “awg ceg” (assistant) indicating that there is one assistant.

Example 11 : Sentence #12 (C/D)

*ta kor ted mag khuh*  
*trunk one piece in*  
*n num clf Pn*

“ in one trunk.”

“mag” is a generic classifier, preceded by a numeral “ted” (one). “ted mag” specifies the number of “ta kor” (trunk) indicating that there is one trunk.

Example 12: Sentence #32 (C/D)

*ngad lux maz teq kheh*  
*fish large much one animal*  
*n adj adj num clf*

“one very large fish”

“kheh” is the classifier for animals, preceded by a numeral “teq” (one). “teq kheh” specifies the number of “ngad” (fish), indicating that there is one fish.

In the examples above, “te”, “teq”, “ted” all mean “one”. The difference between them is only a change of tone, which may be the result of tone sandhi.

### 2.1.5 Compound nouns

Payne (1997:92) defines a compound noun as a word that is formed from two or more different words. Not every juxtaposition of words forms a compounding. Therefore the juxtaposition of words must be investigated as to whether they are compounds or simple sequences of words. Elson and Pickett (1988:158) suggest specific ways of determining compounds as follows:

- Word stress criterion, *e.g. in English* “greenhouse” (structure in which plants are grown, the word green is stressed) is a compound word whereas “green house” (a house which is green, the word house is stressed) is not.
- Noninterruptability, *e.g.* it can be said “green cement house” while it must be said “cement greenhouse” in a compound word.
- Inflection and distribution, *e.g.* “windbreak” and “takeoff” are compound because they can be inflected in plural, “windbreaks”, “takeoffs”.

The difference between compounds and simple sequences of words are word stress criterion, noninterruptability, and inflection and distribution.

Matisoff (1982:53) says “Lahu Na morphemes are one syllable long in the overwhelming majority of cases. Therefore it must be considered when a polysyllabic string is confronted whether the string is a syntactic construction consisting of more than one word, or it is a noun compound.” Lahu Na compounds are the result of combination in which the elements combine freely, and they are also independent of one another.

Like Lahu Na, Lahu Shi morphemes are one syllable long in the majority of cases. A Lahu Shi compound noun can be determined by the characteristics defined by Elson and Pickett (1988). The following are some examples of compound nouns in Lahu Shi.

Example 13 : Sentence #6 (C/D)

*muhd mig u ve khuh*  
*country that in*  
*n det Pn*

“in that country”

The word “muhd mig” which means “country” is composed of two words: “muhd” “sky” and “mig” “soil”. Together they mean “country”.

Example 14: Sentence #35 (C/D)

*Ghig phid u ve*  
*otter that*  
*n det*

“that otter”

The word “ghig phid” which means “otter” is composed of two words: “ghig” “liquid”, and “phid” “dog”. Together they mean an otter.

Example 15: Sentence #25 (C/D)

*faz chaq haq*  
*mouse OM*  
*n Pn*

“mouse”

The word “faz chaq” which means “mouse” is composed of two words: “faz” “rodent” and “chaq” “dirty”. Together they mean a mouse.

### 2.1.6 Co-ordinate phrases

Elson and Pickett (1988:87) define coordinate phrases saying “coordinate phrases consist of two similar head constituents joined by a conjunction,” for example “and” and “or” in English. In Lahu Na, the word /lɛ/ is used after a nominal nucleus to associate it with a following nucleus in a coordinate conjunctive relationship (Matisoff 1982: 177). Consider the example below:

Example 16 : /ghâ-sě le ghâʔ-yâ té phā/

*headman and villager group*  
*n conj n*

“headman and villagers”

Lahu Na uses the word /lɛ/ as a conjoint word. It is a kind of conjunctive.

Like other languages, Lahu Shi coordinate noun phrases consist of two (or more) noun head elements. There are not only conjunctives but also disjunctives in Lahu Shi. The disjunctive is expressed by putting the word “la” after each noun. The following is the example elicited from Lahu Shi people.



Example 17 : *na mix khawehr la phid la Sehxsir cawg che yaog*  
*cat or dog or amulet have CHE DECL*  
*n disj n disj n v Pu Pf*

“The cat **or** the dog has an amulet.”

The conjunctive “*he lehq*” is found in the texts. Following is an example illustrating the use of the conjunctive “*he lehq*” in order to connect the two head nouns.

Example 18 : Sentence #16 (C/D)

*Kheh te lehq ix mag Na mix khawehr he lehq Phid haq cuh pe lehq*  
*so CONJ 3Dual cat and dog OM use look for CONJ*  
*adv:tm Pnf pro n conj n Pn v v Pnf*

“So he used the cat **and** dog to find (it).”

“*he lehq*” is used to connect the two head nouns “*Na mix khawehr*” and “*Phid*”. Both of them have the same entity. From the example #18, the dog and cat are assigned to do some mission.

### 2.1.7 Postpositional phrases

Healey (1992:47) explains adposition as follow:

Adposition is a term that covers the terms for preposition and postposition. Preposition and postposition phrases involve one relator element plus a head element, and the element is related to the rest of the clause by the preposition or postposition. The difference between preposition and postposition phrases is the position of the relator element, that is a prepositional phrase has a relator element preceding a head element. A postpositional phrase has a relator element following a head element.

This section describes adpositions in Lahu Shi. These are postpositions since the relator element follows the head element. There are two postpositional phrase constructions in Lahu Shi, both related to location. The first construction includes the word “khuh” which means “in” at the end of the noun phrase. An example is as follows:

Example 19 : Sentence #6 (C/D)

*muhd mig u ve khuh*  
*country that in*  
*n det Pn*

“in that country”

The particle “khuh” is postposition acting as a relator coming after the noun phrase, therefore the combination of the noun phrase and the particle “khuh” is called a postpositional phrase.

The second construction has the word “lo” (Locative place) at the end of the noun phrase to indicate location.

Example 20 : Sentence #31 (C/D)

*cog u ve thag lo*  
*bridge that top LOC place*  
*n det adj Pn*

“on top of that bridge”

The noun particle “lo” is used to specify that the preceding is a place. The noun particle “lo” may also note “time” location, for example:

Example 21: Sentence #2 (C/D)

*A mig thad lo*  
*long ago TEMP LOC time*  
*adv:tm Pu Pn*

“a long time ago”

In this instance, the noun particle “lo” is used to indicate a place in time.

### 2.1.8 Modified noun phrases

Elson and Pickett (1988:76) say that “modified noun phrases include a noun as the nucleus and potential modifiers. There are eight modifiers, including quantifiers or descriptives (usually adjectives), quantifiers, possessors (commonly possessive pronoun or adjectives), nouns or noun phrases, determiners (articles or demonstratives), demonstratives or deictics (used to point out the noun), classifiers (particles or affixes used to mark a particular arbitrary class of nouns), orders and restrictions, and agreement.”

In Lahu Shi, the modified noun phrase is composed of modifiers and a head noun. The modifiers may be possessive, noun, verb, adjective, classifier, determiner, and noun particle.

The following are some examples illustrating some possible modified noun phrases of Lahu Shi.

Example 22 : Sentence #8 (C/D)

*Yawd ved awg ceg*  
*3S genitive assistant*  
*pro Pn n*

“His assistant” NP = Poss , Head

The possessive precedes the head noun.

Example 23 : Sentence #34 (C/D)

*Ghig phid jawd mawd*  
*otter king*  
*n n*

“**otter king**” NP = N. Mod , Head

The noun modifier precedes the head noun.

Example 24 : Sentence #22 (C/D)

*ta kor lux*  
*trunk large*  
*n adj*

“**large trunk**” NP = Head , adj

The adjective follows the head noun.

Example 25 : Sentence #9 (C/D)

*Awg ceg u ve*  
*assistant that*  
*n det*

“**the assistant**” NP = Head , det

The determiner follows the head noun.

Example 26 : Sentence #42 (C/D)

*Naz kag teq kheh*  
*crow one animal*  
*n num clf*

“**crow one animal**” NP = Head, num + clf

The number plus classifier follow the head noun.

Example 27 : Sentence #8 (C/D)

<i>Yawd</i>	<i>ved</i>	<i>awg</i>	<i>ceg</i>	<i>te</i>	<i>ghad</i>	<i>haq</i>
<i>3S</i>	<i>genitive</i>	<i>assistant</i>	<i>one</i>	<i>person</i>	<i>OM</i>	
<i>pro</i>	<i>Pn</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>num</i>	<i>clf</i>	<i>Pn</i>	

“His assistant one person” NP = Poss, Head, num + clf + Pn

In the example above the noun particle comes last at the end of the noun phrase.

## 2.1 Summary

This chapter has discussed the basic structure of the Lahu Shi noun phrase. The noun phrase of Lahu Shi is composed of the head noun and modifiers. The modifiers may precede or follow the head noun depending on a modifier type. There are five types of modifiers found in the texts, including a possessive (noun or pronoun plus genitive marker), a modifier (noun, adjective, verb, plural marker), determiner, classifier (number plus classifier), and noun particle. Normally an adjective comes after the head noun, however it may be found before the head noun, for example “daq jad che Sehx sir” (daq = good, jad = very, che = particle universal, Sehx sir = amulet). Therefore further study would be helpful to figure out the reason for this phenomenon.