

## Kachin Phonology in Northern Thailand

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### Abstract

The objective of this investigation is to study the phonology, syllabic structures, and consonantal, vocalic and tonal phonemes of Kachin as spoken in northern Thailand by using Phonemics of Pike (1947) to analyze the language. The data collection is based on 766 lexical items from the SIL Southeast Asian and African Wordlists. The findings reveal that there are 24 consonantal phonemes, nine of which can occur word-finally, ten monophthongs without diphthongs, and five tones. The tones are acoustically analyzed by using the Praat Program to find out their fundamental frequencies and tone contours. The article also discusses minor syllables and compares the findings with those of Kurabe (2014), who investigated Standard Jingpho in Myanmar.

**Keywords:** Kachin, phonology, consonants, vowels, tones

