

THE PUBLISHED DAAI BOOKS

The Daai people reside in their own territory called Daailand, and their spoken language was not specified until around 1890. Their group name was recorded as “**Dai**” as they just heard the sound by outsiders. The recorded of group name as “Dai” became part of their important history. That is why many other surrounded neighbors to recognize them as “Dai.”

But the Daai language was specified after many times of research had done linguistically by Dr. Helga So Hartmann and Kheng Sho in collaboration with SIL International (<https://www.sil.org/>) in 1975.

After approximately 30 years of research, it was determined that the language has contrastive phonemic vowel length. Based on this research, the correct pronunciation of the ethnic group's name features a long vowel, which is accurately represented by the spelling Daai. Consequently, our community has used the spelling "Daai" since around 1975.¹

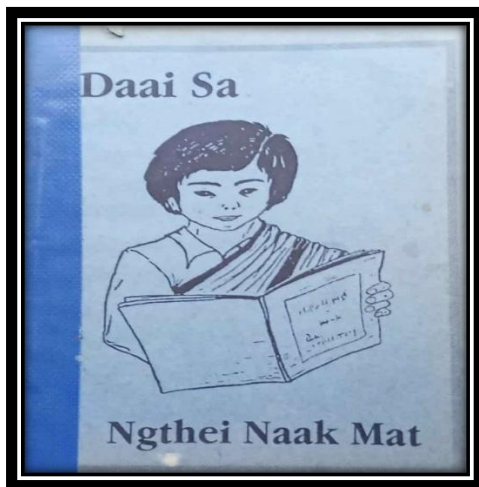
As the time has passed, there are many significant publications in the Daai language by the educated Daai men and women over the past years. Some of the books are mentioned as follows:

I: Daai Sa Ng'thei Naak Ksa Upe - 1976

Daai Sa ng'thei naak ksa upe “The Daai language Teaching Textbooks with three levels were published by Kheng Sho and Helga So Hartmann as follows. These were the first books ever published in the Daai language.

A. The Original Textbooks

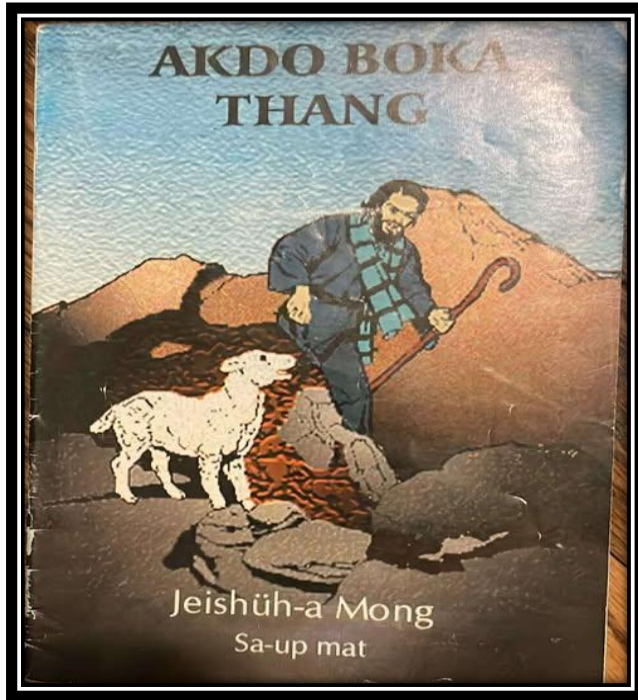
1. Level – **ONE** “ngthei naak Mat” in 1976.
2. Level – **TWO** “ngthei naak nghngih” in 1977.
3. Level – **THREE** “ngthei naak kthum” in 1977.



¹ Why Daai? By Naing Kheng.

II: Akdo Boka Thang - 1978

The book calls “Akdo Boka Thang” is About “**Jesus Christ**” in the Daai language was written by Kheng Sho and Helga So Hartmann and published in 1978.



III: Daai Hne ka kkhui kkame - 1978

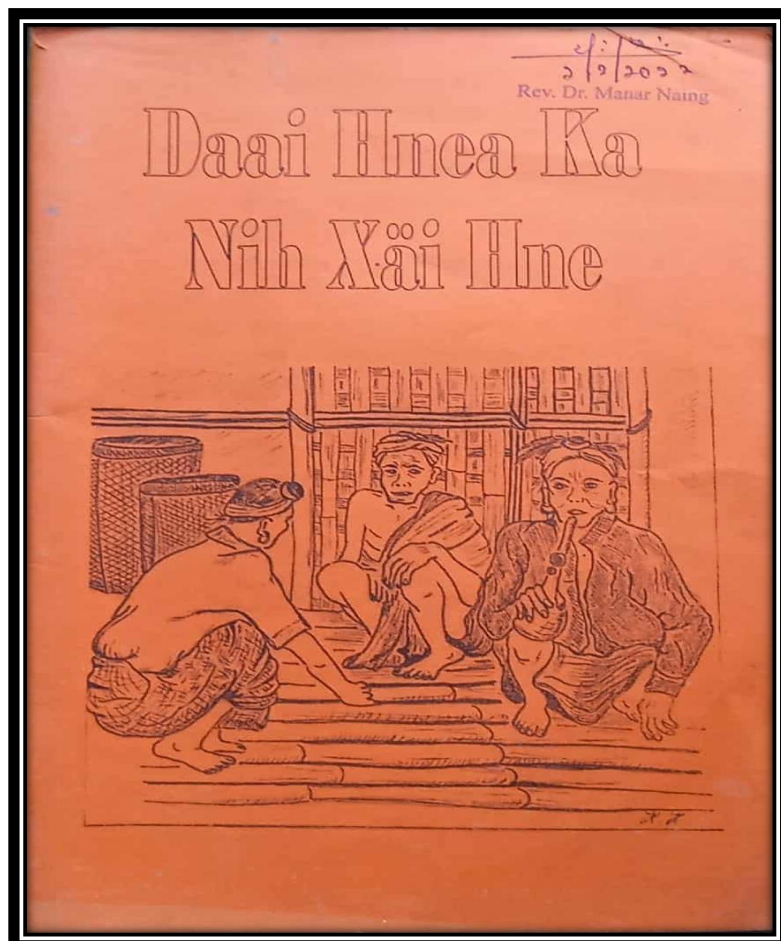
The “Daai Hne ka Kkhui Kkame” is called “The cultural saying of Daai Proverbs book” in English. The Daai people are rich in verbal proverbs regarding their tradition and culture. This small book was documented by Kheng Sho and Helga So Hartmann and published in 1978.



IV: DAAI HNEA KA NIH XÄI HNE - 1979

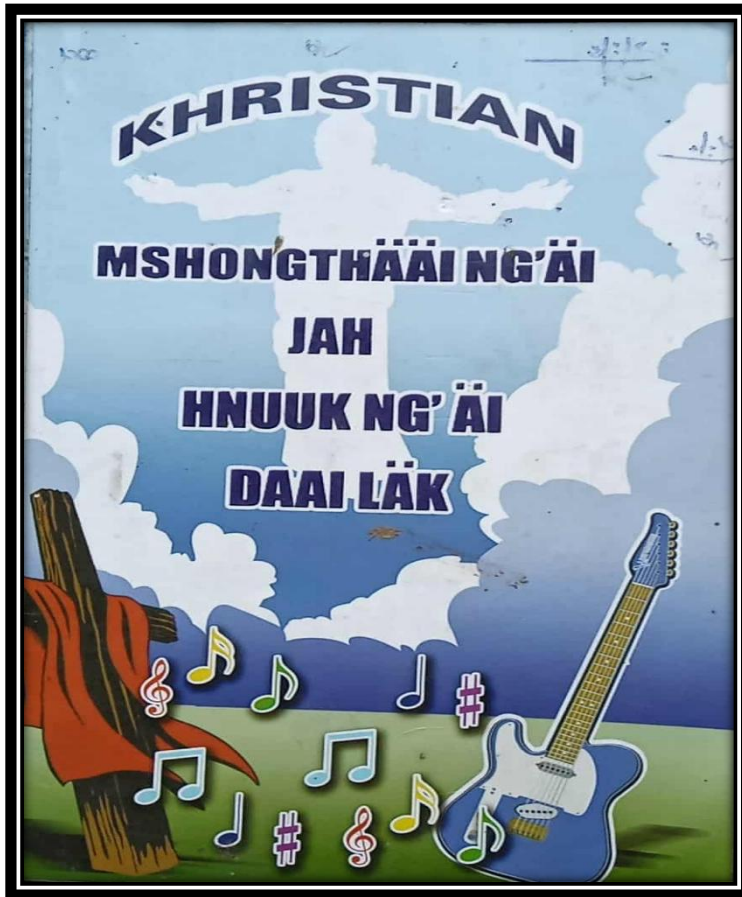
What is Xäi Hne? All the Daai people should understand the meaning of the Daai word, “**Xäi Hne**.” This word carries a deeper meaning for “A Unique ritualizing Custom or the ritual practicing” in the life of the Daai people. The ancient Daai verbal vocabularies of spoken words are used for cultural practice and are recorded in this book. Those words have been used for certain custom songs that, with their inner heartfelt meaning, were sung by blowing the bamboo fipple-flute. It is called “**Xäi Hne**” in Daai, a cultural heritage that makes the Daai people a unique ethnic group. This xäi hne sets the Daai people apart from other Chin tribes by giving them their own language and literature. All other ethnic groups have their own culture. But no one (group of people) has the same exact culture as the Daai people. That is why the Daai people have their own literature because they have their own culture and language.

Therefore, this book shows that the Daai people had their own language before the orthographic coding of their literary process began. This book was written by Kheng Sho and Helga So Hartmann in 1979.



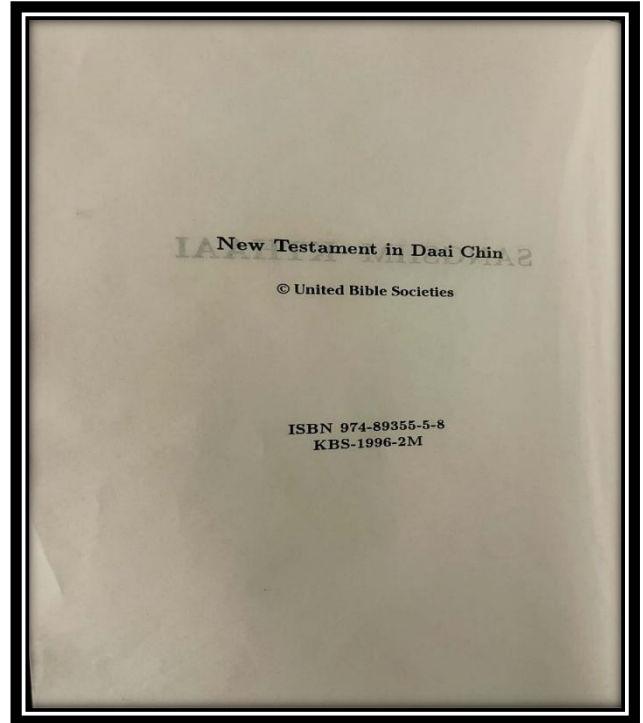
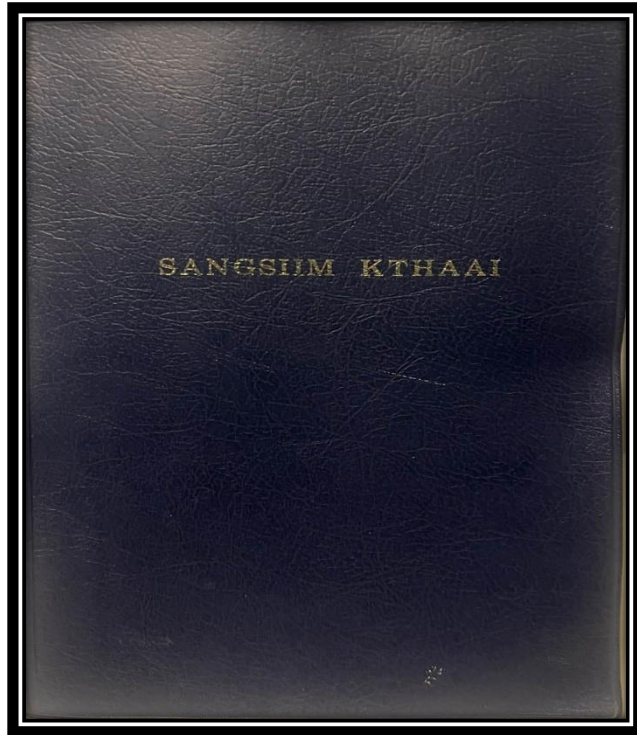
V: Mshongthäi ng'äi jah Hnuuk ng'äi – 1989

M'shongthäi ngäi jah Hnuuk ngäi book is a book of songs praising God. M'shongthäi ngäi means “Song for Praising God” and hnuuk ngäi means “hymn songs.” This book was written by Rev. Mnai Nääng and was published in 1989.

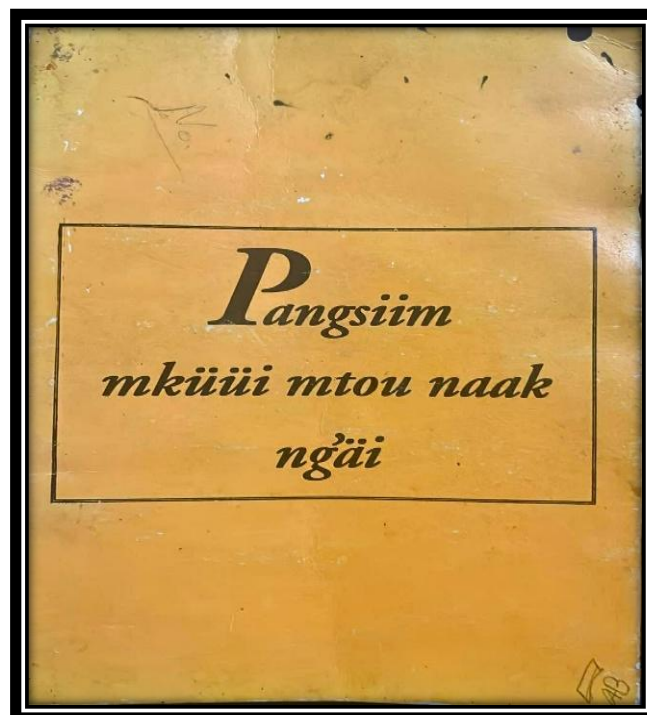


VI: Sangsiim Kthai - 1996

This is the “New Testament Bible” in the Daai language. This translation was completed by Kheng Sho and Helga So Hartmann and published by the United Bible Societies in 1996.

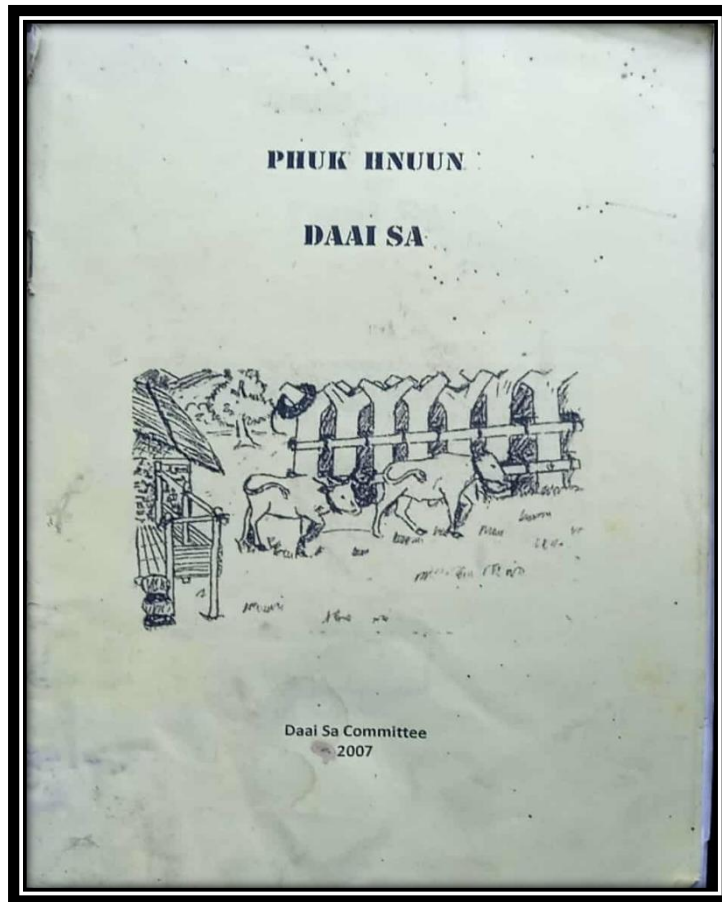


VII: Pangsiim Mküüi Mtou Naak Ngäi – 1996



VIII: PHUUK HNUUN DAAI SA - 2007

This book is adult reading book and was Written by Ng'ling Sho and published by the Daai Sa Committee in 2007.



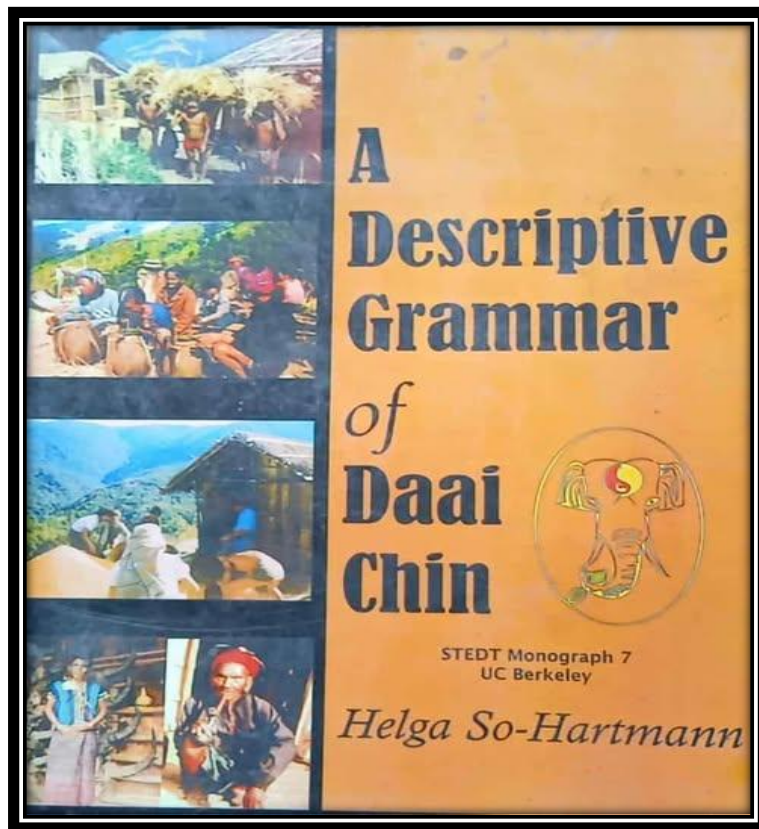
IX: A DESCRIPTIVE GRAMMAR OF DAAI CHIN – 2008

The book of descriptive grammar of the Daai Chin by Dr. Helga SO-Hartmann states,

So-Hartmann's Descriptive Grammar of Daae Chin must be ranked as the most detailed and sophisticated grammar of the Chin language to have appeared since Eugenie J.A. Henderson's classic (1965) study of Teddim (Northern Chin Group).²

The online source, "*Tiddim Chin: A Descriptive Analysis of Two Texts*. By Eugénie J. A. Henderson. London: Oxford University Press, 1965 (London Oriental Series, Vol. 15). ix, 172, Index. 70 s."³

Any Daai or whoever wanted to buy this book, it can do so easy online. It is just to type the name of the book, then will show up immediately. It can also be printed on a PDF file online for free.

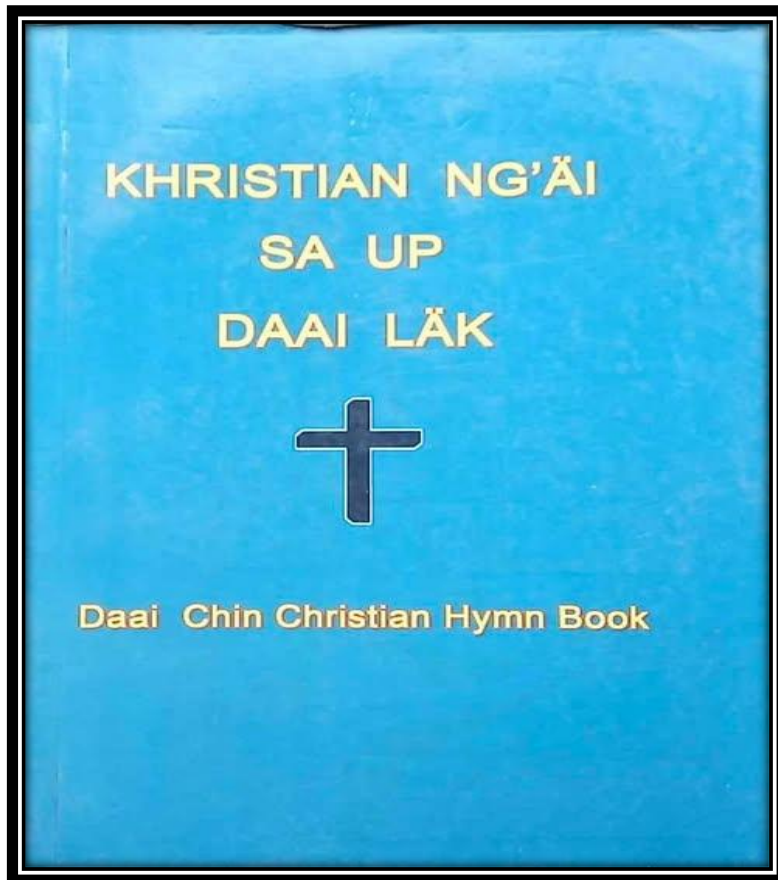


² So-Hartmann, Helga "Descriptive Grammar of Daai Chin."

³ <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-asian-studies/article/abs/tiddim-chin-a-descriptive-analysis-of-two-texts-by-eugenie-j-a-henderson-london-oxford-university-press-1965-london-oriental-series-vol-15-ix-172-index-70-s/7AA9E4F61ED9FFE80C54774E215FDC0B>

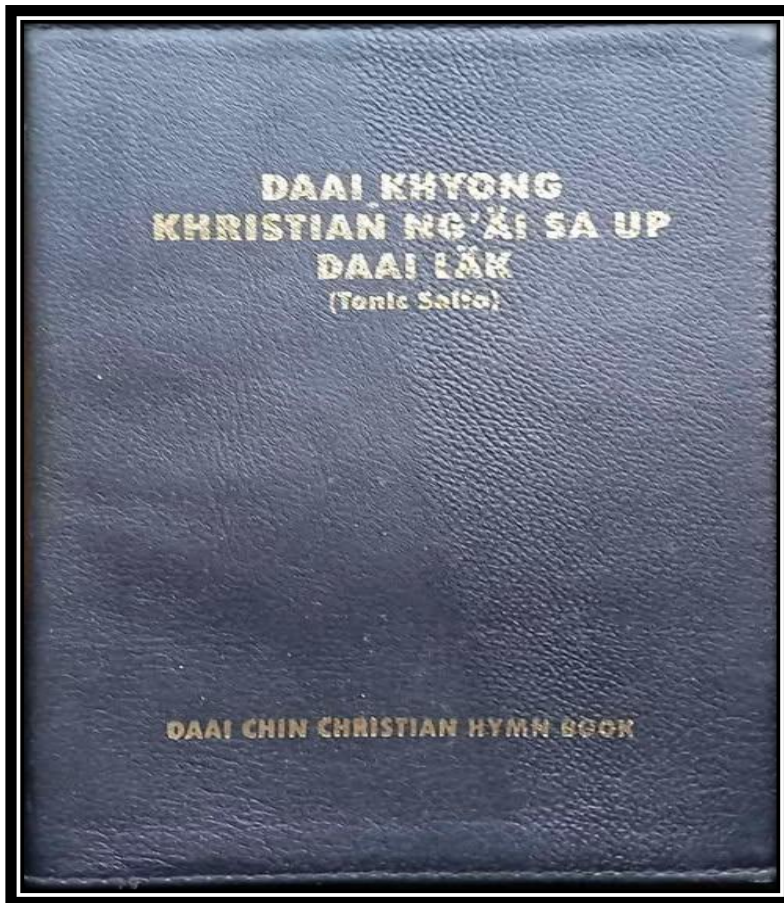
X: DAAI KHYONG KHRISTIAN NG'ÄI SA UP – 2013

This is a Christian Hymn Book that translated into Daai language by Rev. Dr. Mnai Nääng and published in 2013.



XI: DAAI KHYONG KHRISTIAN NGÄI SA UP (TONIC SOFA) - 2017

This book is the First Christian Song book that added a tonic sofa with letter cover. This beautiful job was done by Rev. Dr. Mnai Nääng and published in Mizoram, India in 2017.



XII: SÜSA JAH MANGNA (KKHYÜ PYAH) – 2018

This book is a Daai Poems book, kind of “the ancient Daai Stories telling book.” It was written by Yang Long and published it in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2018.

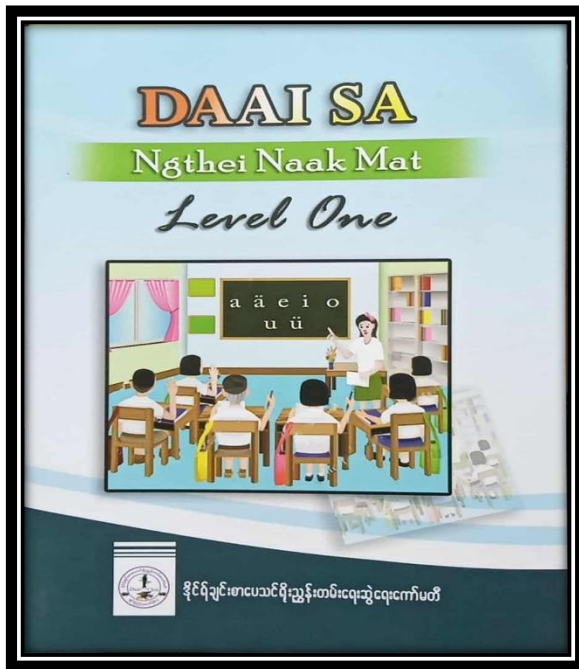


XIII: DAAI SA NGTHEI NAAK - 2023

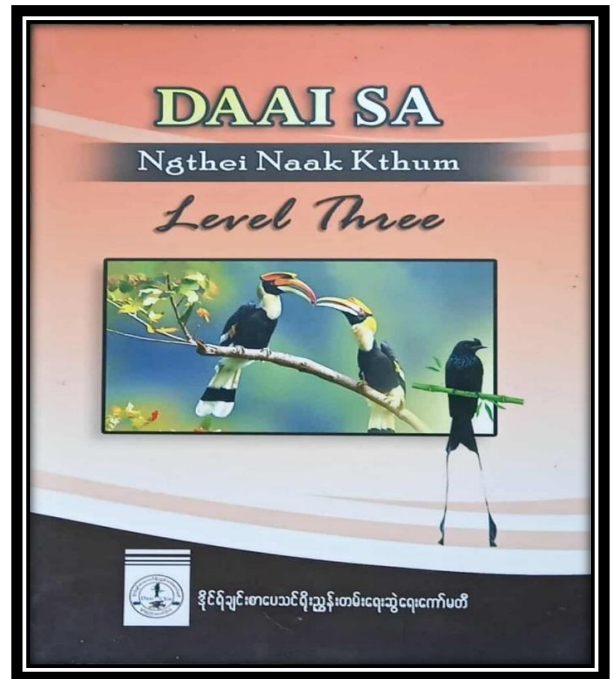
Revised Textbooks - 2023

The Daai Literature Committee revised the three teaching textbooks (Ngthei Naak Mat, ng'thei naak ng'hngih, and ng'thei naak k'thum) and distributed them to all the Daai people around the world in 2023.

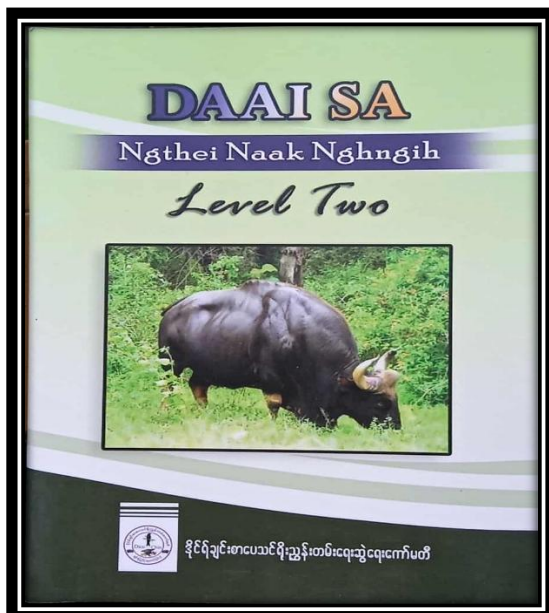
A. Revised Level - ONE



C. Revised Level – THREE

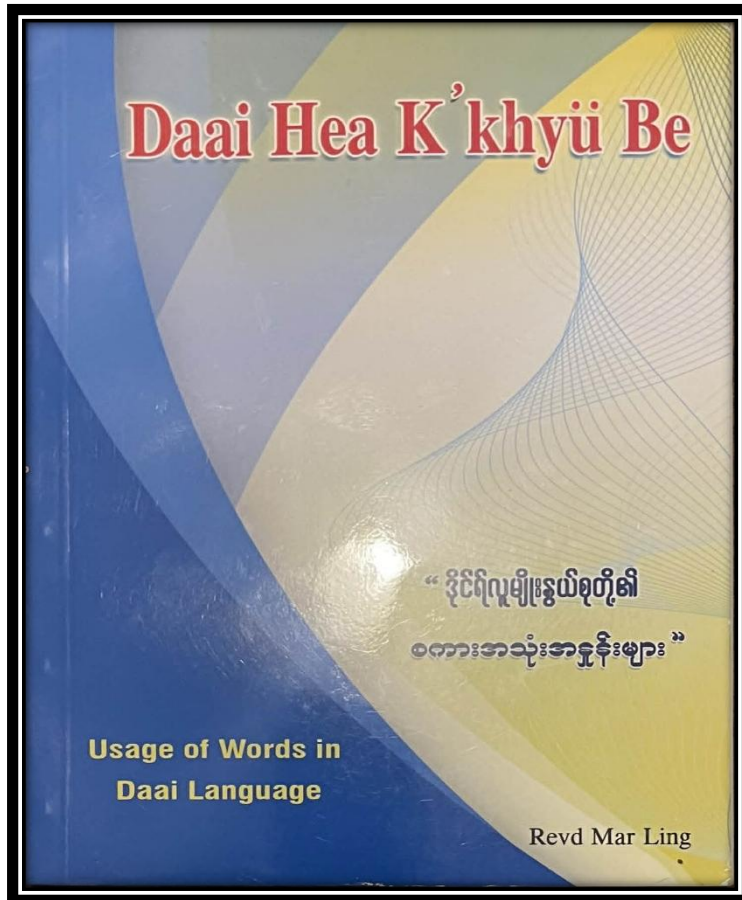


B. Revised Level – TWO



XIV: DAAI HEA K'khyü Be He - 2025

The book titled “Daai Hea K’khyü Be (The Usage of Words in the Daai language.” This book was written by Rev. Mar Ling and published in Yangon, Myanmar, in 2025. Rev. Mar Ling is one of the senior retired ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Myanmar, having served for many years as a church pastor and lecturer at a theological seminary.



Some of the books are listed here. There will be books that we do not include here. Now, the Old Testament Bible in the Daai language is being translated under the leadership of the Daai Translation Team and Daai Literature Centre Committee.

Some of the Daai brothers and sisters still hold strongly to “Dai” as the group name because they accept Dai as the original and correct history. That might be the case for splitting one group into two. Regarding that, nobody wants to split, but there are no other options except to agree with them for Dai as a group name. But that will not happen because the “Daai” has been officially used globally as a group name since the Daai Spoken language has been linguistically and systematically specified. It has also been accepted by 90 percent of the Daai population.