

Phan Rang (Eastern) Cham is spoken in SE Asia (Cambodia, Vietnam). It is a member of the Chamic sub-branch of the vast Austronesian family that includes Malay, Philippine, and Polynesian languages. Phan Rang Cham has developed a High [a] vs. Low [à] tonal distinction on the final syllable of the word. The canonical word shape in Austronesian is disyllabic, as shown by the Malay cognates. In Chamic languages the final syllable is stressed and the first syllable is unstressed and often reduced, perhaps reflecting independent developments in Cambodian. Examine the data below to determine how the tonal distinction developed in Phan Rang Cham from the postulated proto-forms based on comparative reconstruction with Malay and other Austronesian languages.

<u>Proto-Chamic</u>	<u>Malay</u>	<u>Phan Rang Cham</u>	
təbus	tebus	təpùh	ransom
?abih	habis	?apìh	all
paɗay	padi	pətày	rice paddy
?iduŋ	hiduŋ	?atùŋ	nose
digəi	gigi	təkəy	tooth
babui	babi	pəpùy	wild pig
labuh	labuh	lapùh	fall down
lanah	nanah	linih	pus
ɲus	iŋus	ɲuh	sniffle
mahirah	merah	mərəh	red
tanah	tanah	tənih	soil
kuli:t	kulit	kəli?	skin
saki?	sakit	həki?	sick
darah	darah	tərəh	blood
dalam	dalam	tələm	deep
bilɑ:n	bulan	pəlàn	moon
biləu	bulu	pələw	body hair
dʒala:n	dʒalan	cəlàn	road
dʒurum	dʒarum	cərùm	needle
bituk	batuk	pətu?	cough
diki?	dikit	təki?	few
basah	basah	pəthah	wet
batəu	batu	pətəw	stone
bisəi	besi	pəthay	iron

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