VEDA'S
JOURNAL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (JOELL)
An International Peer-Reviewed (Refereed) Journal
Impact Factor (SJIF) 6.002 http://www.joell.in

Vol.13, No.4
(Oct.-Dec.)
2026

RESEARCH ARTICLE

ISSN: 2349-9753

PLURALIZATION SYSTEM IN REANG

Dr. Daimalu Brahma[1] & Dr. Rotnojoy Reang[2]

[1]*Assistant Professor, Junior Research Officer, Barama College, Barama, Baksa-781346, Assam*

[2]*RIWATCH Centre for Mother Languages, Khinjili, Roing-792110, Arunachal Pradesh*

Email(s): daimalubrahma85@gmail.com , rotnojoyreang@gmail.com.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.54513/JOELL.2026.13413

ABSTRACT

The aim of the present paper is to discuss the pluralisation system of the Reang. It belongs to the Bodo-Garo subgroup of the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family. Reang is mainly spoken in Tripura and some adjacent parts of Mizoram and Assam as well as Bangladesh. The paper will focus on pluralisation processes and morphosyntactic structure of the pluralisation in Reang. It will be notice in this paper pluralisation by suffixation processes, pluralisation by reduplication processes, pluralisation by numeral classifiers and pluralisation by adjective of quantity words. The Reang has two kinds of plural markers i.e. *-rao* and *-suŋ,* which are added to the singular form of nouns, pronouns and kinship words to form pluralisation in the language. It is hope that this analysis will help us to understand the pluralisation system in Bodo-Garo group of languages.

Article history:

Received on: 28-09-2026
Accepted on: 24-10-2026
Available online: 11-11-2026

Keywords: *The Language, Pluralisation, Suffixation, Reduplication, Numeral Classifier and Adjective of Quantity.*

Author(s) retain the copyright of this article. Copyright© 2026 VEDA Publications.

Author(s) agree that this article remains permanently open access under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 International License.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Reang is recognized as an ethnic tribe of Tripura and their language belongs to the Bodo-Garo sub group of the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan family of languages. It is mainly spoken in Tripura and some adjoining parts of Mizoram, Assam and some parts of Bangladesh and Myanmar. The language is natively known as *Kau Bru* (*Kau* means language; *Bru* means people). Reang is closely connected to other Bodo-Garo languages such as Kokborok, Dimasa and Bodo etc. The paper of the study is pluralization system of the Reang spoken in Tripura variety. Pluralization is the grammatical mechanism used to indicate that a noun phrase refers to more than one entity. Like other Tibeto-Burman languages, Reang has also plural affixes to indicate the plurality of nouns and pronouns. The pluralization systems of the language are discussed in detail in Subsection 2.

1.1. Review of Literature:

The study of Pluralization Systems in Reang is a Tibeto-Burman tongue primarily spoken in Tripura and some adjacent parts of Mizoram and Assam. The study of pluralization system is a core subfield of morphosyntax in descriptive linguistics. While specific scholarly works dedicated solely to the Reang pluralization system are limited in comparison to those of closely related Tibeto-Burman languages, existing research still brings several key grammatical dimensions to highlight.

Prof. G. Baskaran (2016) mentioned in his *'Reang Word Book'* regarding the basic vocabulary such as natural objects, body parts, housing, and household articles, numerals, adjectives verbs, and Adverbs, etc.

Singha and Singha (2017) also discuss cultural and linguistic profile of the Reang briefly in the article *'Linguistic and Cultural Aspects of Reang'*. The paper has divided into two sections, the first part discusses the cultural aspects and the second section discusses the linguistic features of the Reang. They mentioned Reang is a tonal language; it has two lexical tones i.e. high and low tones.

Y. Arunima Singha (2017) discusses in her PhD dissertation entitled '*A Descriptive Grammar of Reang*' about the phonology, nominal morphology, verbal morphology, word orders, phrases and sentences structures. She mentioned Reang has two kinds of plural markers i.e. *-rau* and *-soŋ*. Lincoln Reang (2021) discusses in his book *Arag (A social drink prevalent among the Reang (Bru) community)* regarding the Reang community. He gives a brief study of the Reang (*Bru*) community, including the language, social structure, village life, family and kinship, life style, cultural life and the preparation of country wine.

S. Bhattacharjee and K. Reang (2024) has also discussed about the society and culture of the Reang language in the article '*Glimpses about the society and culture of the Reangs in Tripura'*.

Rotnojoy Reang (2025) in his PhD dissertation entitled '*Word Formation in Reang*', here discusses regarding grammatical categories, word orders, word formation processes i.e. affixation, compounding and reduplication processes in Reang. He discussed some of the pronominal prefixing words of the kinship nouns in the language. He also mentioned Reang has two kinds of plural markers i.e. *-rau* and *-suŋ*. The present paper of the study is pluralization system of the Reang, here it will be discussed morphosyntactic

features and processes of the pluralization in the language.

1.2. Data Methodology:

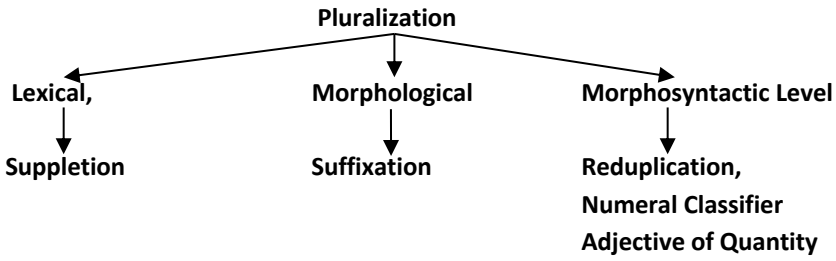
The data for this paper were collected from native speakers of the Tripura variety of Reang during the second author's PhD research from 2020 to 2025, and have been recently cross-verified. The primary data were gathered from both male and female informants across various age groups. Secondary data were sourced from theses published in Shodhganga and several online journals. Because the second author is a native speaker of Reang, data collection was highly efficient. Ultimately, all collected data were thoroughly cross-verified to ensure accuracy.

1.3. Grammatical Character:

Phonologically, Reang has six basic vowels */i, e, a, o, u, ə/* and twenty consonants: */p, pʰ, b, t, tʰ, d, c, k, kʰ, g, m, n, ŋ, z, s, h, r, l, w, y/* (Singha, 2017). It is a tonal language characterized by two types of lexical tones: a high tone, as in /ká/ 'cry', and a low tone, as in /kà/ 'step'. Morphologically, Reang employs three major word-formation processes: affixation, compounding, and reduplication. It utilizes both prefixation and suffixation, through which a vast majority of its vocabulary is formed. Syntactically, Reang is a verb-final language with a basic Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) word order, and its grammar features a robust case-marking system.

2. PLURALIZATION IN REANG:

Reang pluralization operates across lexical and morphosyntactic levels, employing three distinct grammatical strategies: suppletion, suffixation, and phrasal modifiers like numeral classifiers or adjectives of quantity. At the pronominal level, the language relies on suppletion to shift the first-person singular pronoun *aŋ* 'I' into the plural *chuŋ* 'we', aligning Reang with fellow Tibeto-Burman languages. For all other instances of grammatical plurality, Reang utilizes morphological suffixation through two primary markers: *-rao* and *-suŋ*. The Reang Pluralization can be classified as follows:



2.1. Pluralization by Suppletion:

Most of the Tibeto-Burman languages have a suppletive form for the 1st person plural pronoun, such as *zɯŋ* in Bodo, *chiŋ* in Rabha, *cuŋ* in Kokborok, and *ʤiŋ* in Dimasa. Reang also forms its 1st person plural pronoun through the process of suppletion. Consider the following example:

Person	Singular Form	Plural Form (Suppletive)
1st Person	***aŋ*** 'I'	***chuŋ*** 'we'

Table No.1: Reang 1st Person Plural

The formation of other personal pronouns, such as the 2nd and 3rd person plural via suffixation, is discussed in subsection (2.2.1.1).

2.2. Pluralization by Suffixation:

Reang has two kinds of plural makers i.e. *-rao* and *-suŋ* to form plurality of nouns and pronouns. In contrast, some other Bodo-Garo languages such as Bodo and Garo, have three kinds of plural markers. The details of the *-rao* and *–suŋ* are discussed below:

2.2.1. The Plural Suffix *-rao*:

The plural suffix *-rao* can be added to the pronouns and nouns to form plurality in the language. The 1st person plural is suppletive form in Reang but the 2nd and 3rd person plural is morphologically formed by the process of suffixation.

2.2.1.1. The Plural Suffix *-rao* with Pronouns:

The 2nd and 3rd Person Pronouns Pluralization Process is given below:

	Person +	**Suffix**	**>**	**Plural Form**
(1a)	*nuŋ*	*rao*	>	*nə-rao*
	2SG	+ PL.SUF	>	'you (PL)'
(1b)	*buŋ*	*rao*	>	*bə-rao*
	3SG	+ PL.SUF	>	'they'

The demonstrative pronouns in Reang also can be pluralized by adding /-rao/ as given below in the example (2a) and (2b).

Demonstrative +	**Plural**	**>**	**Plural Form**		
(2a)	*bo*	+	*rao*	>	*bo-rao*
	PROX	+	PL	>	'these'
(2b)	*ubo*	+	*rao*	>	*ubo-rao*
	DIST	+	PL	>	'those'

2.2.1.2. The Plural Suffix *-rao* with Animate Nouns:

The plural suffix *-rao* can be occurred with both human and non-human animate nouns to form plurality in Reang. These are given below:

Human Noun:

The *-rao* can be added to the human noun except kinship terms words as shown below:

(3a)	*broi*	+	*rao*	>	*broi-rao*
	girl	+	PL.SUF	>	'girls'
(b)	*c^{h}əla*	+	*rao*	>	*c^{h}əla-rao*
	boy	+	PL.SUF	>	'boys'
(c)	*sik^{h}la*	+	*rao*	>	*sik^{h}la-rao*
	bachelorette	+	PL.SUF	>	'bachelorettes'
(d)	*ap^{h}ei*	+	*rao*	>	*ap^{h}ei-rao*
	baby	+	PL.SUF	>	'babies'

Non-Human Noun:

The *-rao* can be added to the non-human animate nouns in Reang such as animal, birds, insects etc. to indicate plurality as shown below in the examples (4a) to (4j):

(4a)	*tao*	+	*rao*	>	*tao-rao*
	bird	+	PL.SUF.	>	'birds'
(b)	*poiŋ*	+	*rao*	>	*poiŋ-rao*
	goat	+	PL.SUF.	>	'goats'
(c)	*mok^{h}ra*	+	*rao*	>	*mok^{h}ra-rao*
	monkey	+	PL.SUF.	>	'monkies'
(d)	*taola*	+	*rao*	>	*taola-rao*
	cock	+	PL.SUF.	>	'cocks'
(e)	*ku*	+	*rao*	>	*ku-rao*
	grasshopper	+	PL.SUF.	>	'grasshoppers'
(f)	*yoŋla*	+	*rao*	>	*yoŋla-rao*
	frog	+	PL.SUF.	>	'frogs'
(g)	*bilai*	+	*rao*	>	*bilai-rao*
	cat	+	PL.SUF.	>	'cats'
(h)	*soi*	+	*rao*	>	*soi-rao*
	dog	+	PL.SUF.	>	'dogs
(i)	*taot^{h}u*	+	*rao*	>	*taot^{h}u-rao*
	dove	+	PL.SUF.	>	'doves'

(j)	*taoma*	+	*rao*	>	*taoma-rao*
	hen	+	PL.SUF.	>	'hens'

2.2.1.3. The Plural Suffix *-rao* with Inanimate Nouns:

The suffix */-rao/* is also added to the inanimate nouns such as material nouns, abstract nouns etc. consider the following examples:

(5a)	*nouh*[1]	+	*rao*	>	*nouh-rao*
	house	+	PL.SUF	>	'houses'
(b)	*hloŋtʰai*	+	*rao*	>	*hloŋtʰai-rao*
	stone	+	PL.SUF.	>	'stones'
(c)	*kʰampʰlai*	+	*rao*	>	*kʰampʰlai-rao*
	stool	+	PL.SUF.	>	'(traditional) stools'
(d)	*lekʰaboi*	+	*rao*	>	*lekʰaboi-rao*
	book	+	PL.SUF.	>	'books
(e)	*wa*	+	*rao*	>	*wa-rao*
	bamboo	+	PL.SUF.	>	'bamboos'
(f)	*əmpʰaŋ*	+	*rao*	>	*əmpʰaŋ-rao*
	tree	+	PL.SUF.	>	'tress'
(g)	*ri*	+	*rao*	>	*ri-rao*
	cloth	+	PL.SUF.	>	'clothess'
(h)	*sor*	+	*rao*	>	*sor-rao*
	iron	+	PL.SUF.	>	'irons'
(i)	*malkʰuŋ*	+	*rao*	>	*malkʰuŋ-rao*
	car	+	PL.SUF.	>	'cars'
(j)	*hatʰai*	+	*rao*	>	*hatʰai-rao*
	hill	+	PL.SUF.	>	'hils'
(k)	*mətaŋ*	+	*rao*	>	*mətaŋ-rao*
	sentence	+	PL.SUF.	>	'sentences
(l)	*kao*	+	*rao*	>	*kau-rao*
	language	+	PL.SUF.	>	'languages

[1] Reang has glottal stop sound /ʔ/, that is shown in this paper as /h/ in the final position of word such as *nouh* phonetically it is [nouʔ].

(m)	*at^{h}uk^{h}roi*	+	*rao*	>	*at^{h}uk^{h}roi-rao*
	star	+	PL.SUF.	>	'stars'

2.2.1. The Plural Suffix *-suŋ*:

In the Reang, the plural suffix *-suŋ* is only added to human nouns, specifically kinship terms. When this suffix is attached to kinship nouns to pluralize them, it also functions as an honorific, expressing respect within the language. For Example:

(6a)	*ata*	+	*suŋ*	>	*ata-suŋ*
	(my) elder brother	+	PL.SUF.	>	'(my) elder brother and others'
(b)	*amoŋ*	+	*suŋ*	>	*amoŋ-suŋ*
	(my) mother	+	PL.SUF.	>	'my mother and others'
(c)	*atoi*	+	*suŋ*	>	*atoi-suŋ*
	(my) aunty	+	PL.SUF.	>	'my aunty and others'
(d)	*ac^{h}u*	+	*suŋ*	>	*ac^{h}u-suŋ*
	(my) grandfather	+	PL.SUF.	>	'my grandfather and others'
(e)	*aibi*	+	*suŋ*	>	*aibi-suŋ*
	(my) elder-sister	+	PL.SUF.	>	'my elder sister and others'
(f)	*nəta*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nəta-suŋ*
	(your) elder brother	+	PL.SUF	>	'(your) elder brother and others'
(g)	*nətoi*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nətoi-suŋ*
	(your) aunty	+	PL.SUF	>	'(your) aunty and others'
(h)	*nəchoi*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nəchoi-suŋ*
	(your) grandmother	+	PL.SUF	>	'(your) grandmother and others'
(i)	*nəchu*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nəchu- suŋ*
	(your) grandfather	+	PL.SUF	>	'(your) grandfather and others'
(j)	*nəma*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nəma-suŋ*
	(your) mother	+	PL.SUF	>	'(your) mother and others'
(k)	*bəsala*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəsala-suŋ*
	(his/her) son	+	PL.SUF	>	'(his/her) sons and others'
(l)	*bəsayouh*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəsayouh-suŋ*
	daughter	+	PL.SUF	>	'(his/her) daughters and others'
(m)	*bəchui*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəchui-suŋ*
	grandmother	+	PL.SUF	>	'(his/her) grandmother and others'

(n)	*bəchu*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəchu-suŋ*
	grandfather	+	PL.SUF	> '(his/her) grandfather and others'	
(o)	*bəkra*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəkra-suŋ*
	father-in-law	+	PL.SUF	> '(his) father-in-law and others'	
(p)	*bəkrayouh*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bəkrayouh-suŋ*
	mother-in-law	+	PL.SUF.	> '(his) mother-in-law and others'	
(q)	*bətoi*	+	*suŋ*	>	*bətoi-suŋ*
	aunt	+	PL.SUF	>	'(his/her) aunty and others'
(r)	*biyong*	+	*suŋ*	> *biyong-suŋ*	
	elder uncle/aunt	+	PL.SUF	> '(his/her) elder uncle/aunt and others'	

It is also worth mentioning that the suffix *-suŋ* can be used after a proper noun i.e. names of persons to show the plurality of the nouns.

(7a)	*pokt^{h}ola*	+	*suŋ*	>	*pokt^{h}ola-suŋ*
	pokt^{h}ola (person name)	+	PL.SUF	>	'Pokt^{h}ola and others'
(b)	*nasomti*	+	*suŋ*	>	*nasomti-suŋ*
	nasomti (person name)	+	PL.SUF	>	'Nasomti and others'

2.3. Pluralization by Reduplication:

The Pluralization is denoted by the process of reduplication in Reang, it is a morphosyntactic process where the nouns and pronouns are pluralized by the reduplication in the sentences. They are discussed below:

2.3.1. Reduplication of Nouns:

Common nouns are pluralized by complete reduplication in Reang.

For example:

	Singular	Plural
(8a)	*nouh*	*nouh-nouh*
	house	'house to house' or 'houses'
(b)	*para*	*para-para*
	village	'village to village' or 'villages'
(c)	*lama*	*lama-lama*
	road	'throw the roads' or 'road to road'
(d)	*əmp^{h}aŋ*	*əmp^{h}aŋ-əmp^{h}aŋ*
	tree	'tree to tree' or 'many trees'

For example in sentences:

(8e) *mok^{h}ra- le* *əmp^{h}aŋ-əmp^{h}aŋ* *bai-ha*
monkey-NOM tree-RED jump-PST
'Monkey has jumped tree to tree (or many trees).'

(f) *bərao-le* *para-para* *t^{h}aŋ-pai-ha*
they- NOM village- RED go-COMPL- PAST
'They have already gone to the villages.' or
'They have already gone from village to village'

(g) *brao-le* *sasao-ni* *nouh-nouh-wo* *t^{h}u-wo*
they- NOM selves-GEN house- RED-LOC sleep- PERF
'They sleep in their own houses.'

(h) *aŋ-le* *bo-lama-lama* *hiŋ* *toŋ-wo*
1SG-NOM PROX-road- RED walk be- PERF
'I am walking through these roads.'

2.3.2. Reduplication of Adjectives:

Complete reduplication of adjectives also denotes the plural meaning in Reang.
For example:

	Singular	Plural
(9a)	*kəchao*	*kəchao-kəchao*
	red	'red-red (or many reds)'
(b)	*p^{h}ui*	*p^{h}ui-p^{h}ui*
	white	'white-white (or many whites)'
(c)	*kəsom*	*kəsom-kəsom*
	black	'black-black (or many blacks)'

As example in sentences:

(9d) *uro-k^{h}umluŋ-wo* *kormo-kormo* *k^{h}um* *toŋ-wo*
DIST-garden-LOC yellow- RED flower be-PERF
'There are yellow (yellow) flowers in the garden.'

(e) *bo-para-wo* *kəp^{h}ui-kəp^{h}ui* *korai* *toŋ-wo*
PROX-village- LOC white- RED horse be- PERF
'White (white) horses are available in this village.'

(f) *aŋ* *lama-wo* *kəsom-kəsom* *wouk* *nu-ha*
1SG road- LOC black- RED pig see- PAST
'I have seen black (black) pigs at the road.'

2.3.3. Reduplication of Pronouns:

The interrogative, indefinite and reflexive pronouns are pluralized by complete reduplication in Reang. They are given below:

Interrogative pronoun:

	Singular	**Plural**
(10a)	*təma*	*təma-təma*
	what	'what (Plural)'
(b)	*spo*	*spo-spo*
	who	'who (Plural)'
(c)	*ubo*	*ubo-ubo*
	which	'which (Plural)'

A few examples are given below with the help of sentences:

(10d) *nuŋ* *təma* *mai-no* *kʰatuŋ*
2SG what rice-ACC like
'What rice do you like?' ('What' is singular form in the sentence)

(e) *nuŋ* *tma-tma* *mai-rao-no* *kʰatuŋ*
2SG what- RED rice-PL- ACC like
'What (what) rice do you like?' (the 'What' is plural form in the sentence)

(f) *ro-spo* *pʰai-nai*
PROX-who come-FUT
'Who will come here?'

(g) *ro* *spo-spo* *brouh* *pʰai-nai*
PROX who- RED man come- FUT
'Who are the people to come here?'

Indefinite pronoun:

	Singular	**Reduplication**
(11a)	*trekeha*	*trekeha-trekeha*
	someone	'some-ones'
(b)	*trebrouh*	*trebrouh-trebrouh*
	somebody	'some-bodies (Plural)'
(c)	*trekruŋha*	*tre kruŋha-tre kruŋha*
	somewhere	'somewhere (Plural)'

Example in Sentences:

(11d) *bo-masiŋ-le* *trekruŋha-trekruŋha-wo* *aŋ-tʰaŋ-nai*
PROX-winter- NOM somewhere- RED -LOC 1SG-go-FUT
'I will go somewhere this winter.'('Somewhere' is plural form in the sentence)

(e) *nərao* *trekeha-trekeha* *university-wo* *pʰai-nai-de*
you(PL) someone- RED university-LOC come- FUT-QP
'Is someone coming to the university?' ('Someone' is plural form in the sentence)

Reflexive pronoun:

For example:

(12a) *sao* *sao-sao*
self 'selves'

(b) *bə-rao-le* *sao-sao* *samuŋ* *taŋ-wo*
3SG-PL-NOM self-RED work do-PERF
'They work by themselves.'

2.4. Pluralization by Numeral Classifier:

Pluralization in Reang is also indicated by numeral classifiers; it is a morphosyntactic process where the numeral and classifier attach together and denote the plurality of nouns in a sentence. As a Tibeto-Burman language, Reang relies heavily on monosyllabic numeral classifiers to categorize nouns based on physical traits, shape, and state. In this language, both classifiers and numerals are bound morphemes that must appear together, with the classifier always preceding the numeral. Consequently, a number cannot stand alone without its classifier, and nouns only require these classifiers during explicit counting contexts rather than in everyday speech. The numeral classifier in Reang can be divided into two types, i.e. sortal classifier and mensural classifier. They are discussed below:

Pluralization by Sortal Numeral Classifier:

When a numeral is more than one indicated then the noun is denoted plurality without adding any plural marker in the language as shown below:

(13a) *taokraŋ* 'feather'

(b) *taokraŋ* *kaŋ-broi* 'four feathers'
feather CLF –four

(c) *əmsa* 'tiger'

(d) *əmsa* *ma-ba* 'five tigers'
tiger CLF –five

(e) *mokʰra* 'monkey'

(f) *ma-broi* *mokʰra* 'Four monkeys'
CLF -four monkey

(g)	*wa*	'bamboo'	
(h)	*ke-t^{h}am* CLF -one	*wa* bamboo	'Three bamboos'
(i)	*əmt^{h}ai*	'fruit'	
(j)	*t^{h}ai-noi* CLF -two	*əmt^{h}ai* fruit	'Two fruits'
(k)	*t^{h}aip^{h}loi*	'elephant apple'	
(l)	*t^{h}ai-noi* CLF -two	*t^{h}aip^{h}loi* elephant apple	'Two elephant apples'
(m)	*nouh*	'house'	
(n)	*nouh* house	*k^{h}oŋ-t^{h}am* CLF –three	'Three houses'
(o)	*broi* girl	*kə-noi* CLF-two	'Two girls'

The above examples (13b), (13d), (13f), (13h), (13j), (13l) (13n) and (13o) are denoting plurality without adding plural markers in the language.

Pluralization by Mensural Numeral Classifier:

In the Reang, mensural classifiers precede numerals to measure quantity and indicate the plural meaning of nouns. These classifiers individuate both countable and mass nouns based on their amount, physical measurement, or transient external characteristics.
Consider the following examples:

(14a)	*bermai* dried-fish	*c^{h}u-noi* CLF -two	'Two pack of dried-fish'
(b)	*wa* bamboo	*p^{h}ao-t^{h}am* CLF –three	'Three bundles of bamboo'
(c)	*lai* leaf	*do-noi* CLF –two	'Two bundles of leaves'
(d)	*ri* cloth	*do- t^{h}am* CLF-three	'Three bundles of cloths'

(e) *tʰaipʰloi* *əmpʰaŋ* *əmdei* *dei-tʰam*
elephant apple tree branch CLF-three
'Three branches of elephant apple tree'

2.5. Pluralization by Adjective of Quantity:

The plural meaning is indicated by the adjective of quantity words in Reang, it is a morphosyntactic process where the quantity words denote plurality of noun in the sentence. They are given below:

(15a) *gəbaŋma* ***brouh***
many human
'Many people'

(b) *gəbaŋma* ***brouh*** *phai-ha*
many human come-PST
'Many people came'

(c) *nouhkʰa* *saka-wo* *gəbaŋma* ***tao*** *bi-tʰaŋ-ha*
sky over-LOC many bird fly-away-PST
'Many birds flew away in the sky'

(d) *buŋ-le* *gəbaŋma* ***tʰaicʰu-kəmui*** *tuibi-ha*
3SG-NOM many mango-ripe buy-PST
'He/she has bought many ripe mangoes.'

(e) *buŋ-le* *gəbaŋma* ***muitʰuŋ*** *tuibi-ha*
3SG-NOM many vegetable buy-PST
'He/she has bought many vegetables.'

3. CONCLUSION

Reang pluralisation relies on a structurally diverse linguistic matrix that systematically transitions from lexical suppletion to morphological suffixation and morphosyntactic reduplication depending on semantic and grammatical context. Pronominal pluralisation uses lexical **suppletion** to uniquely transform the first-person singular pronoun into a distinct plural form, while relying on the morpheme ***-rao*** to pluralise second and third-person pronouns, demonstratives, and all standard animate and inanimate nouns. Conversely, human kinship terms and proper names require the specialized suffix ***-suŋ***, an architectural feature of the language that uniquely fuses **plurality with honorific respect** while simultaneously conveying an associative meaning of 'and others'. Finally, complete **noun reduplication** serves as a vital morphosyntactic alternative, transforming common nouns to communicate spatial distribution, motion through paths, or distributive plurality within sentence structures.

In the conclusion, Reang pluralisation operates through an intricate morphosyntactic framework where plurality is driven not only by noun and pronoun reduplication, but also via adjective duplication, numeral

classifiers, and adjectives of quantity. Structurally, complete reduplication expands its function past common nouns to intensify semantic scope-pluralizing adjectives to denote multiple instances of a feature e.g., *kəsom-kəsom* 'black-black', multiplying reflexive and indefinite pronouns, and shifting interrogative scales like *təma* 'what' to *təma-təma* 'what (PL)'. Furthermore, the language frequently completely bypasses morphological plural suffixes through its rigid numeral classifier system-split into sortal and mensural categories, where the presence of any count above one bound to a preceding classifier automatically establishes noun plurality. Coupled with phrasal modifiers like *gəbaŋma* 'many', this multi-tiered system demonstrates that Reang relies heavily on contextual, syntactic, and structural configuration rather than purely lexical or morphological marking to express the plural domain.

Abbreviation:

1SG	=	*1st Person Singular*	*1PRON.PREF*	=	*1st Person Pronominal Prefix*
2SG	=	*2nd Person Singular*	*2 PRON.PREF*	=	*2nd Person Pronominal Prefix*
3SG	=	*3rd Person Singular*	*3 PRON.PREF*	=	*3rd Person Pronominal Prefix*
ACC	=	*Accusative Case*	*COMPL*	=	*Completive*
CLF	=	*Classifier*	*FUT*	=	*Future*
DIST	=	Distal	*GEN*	=	*Genitive Case*
LOC	=	*Locative Case*	*NOM*	=	*Nominative Case*
PL	=	*Plural*	*PST*	=	*Past Tense*
PL.SUF	=	*Plural Suffix*	*PROX.*	=	*Proximal*
PRS	=	*Present Tense*	*PERF*	=	*Perfect*
RED	=	*Reduplication*	*QP*	=	*Question Particle*

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen, Katherine R., Rosemary Blieszner, and Karen A. Roberto. "Perspectives on extended family and fictive kin in the later years: Strategies and meanings of kin reinterpretation." *Journal of Family Issues* 32.9 (2011): 1156-1177.

Baskaran, S. Ganesh. *Reang Word Book: A Classified Vocabulary*. Natun Diganta Prakashani, 2016.

Bhattacharjee, Somenath, and Kiranjit Reang. "Glimpses about the Society and Culture of the Reangs in Tripura." *Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups of India: Livelihood Patterns and Development Strategies (Volume 1)* (2024): 274.

Boruah, Deepa Moni. "A Morphological Study of Baiga Kinship Terminology." *Language in India* 16.8 (2016): 21-30.

Bouchery, Pascal, and Monali Longmailai. "The kinship terminology of the Dimasa." *Anthropological Linguistics* 60.3 (2018): 226-254.

Bouchery, Pascal, and Kiudamliu Gangmei. "The kinship terminology of the Rongmei Nagas." *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 32 (2008): 109-142.

Bouchery, Pascal, and Lemlila Sangtam. "The kinship terminology of the Sangtam Nagas." *European bulletin of Himalayan research* 41 (2012): 9-29.

Brahma, Daimalu. *Word Formation Process in Bodo: Affixation*. Purbayon Publication, 2017.

Brahma, Daimalu, and Rotnojoy Reang. "Some Aspects of Kinship Terminology in Reang." *Language in India, Volume 26: 7 July 2026 ISSN 1930-2940*: 18.

Fox, Robin. *Kinship and marriage: An anthropological perspective*. No. 50. Cambridge University Press, 1983.

Majumdar, D.N. &, T.N. Madan. *An Introduction to Social Anthropology.* ASIA PUBLISHING HOUSE. 1986.

Msha, S. *An Analytical Study on Bru Grammar*. Granco Process, 2025.

Singh, Oinam Ranjit, and Nushar Bargayary. "Examining the Kinships System of the Bodo." *THINK INDIA (Quarterly Journal)*, Vol-22-Issue-3-July- September-2019.

Tuzin, Donald F. "Kinship terminology in a linguistic setting: A case study." (1977).

Singha, Y. Arunima, and Kh. Dhiren Singha. *A Descriptive Grammar of Reang*. Assam University, Silchar, PhD dissertation. 2017.

Singha, Y. Arunima, and K. Kalpi Singha. "Linguistic and Cultural Aspects of Reang." *Language in India* 17.7 (2017).

Reang, Lincoln. *Arag: A social drink prevalent among the Reang (Bru) community.* Agartala: Niharika Publishers . 2021.

Reang, Rotnojoy, and S. Ganesh Baskaran. '*Word Formation in Reang*'. . Assam University, Silchar, PhD dissertation. 2025.

Reang, Rotnojoy, and S. Ganesh Baskaran. "Classifiers in Reang." *Journal of English Language and Literature (Joell). Vol.10, No. 4* (Oct.-Dec) 2023: 30-37.

Wangno, Trisha, and Madhumita Barbora. "Nocte kinship system, terminologies and its affinity to PTB roots." *Indian Journal of Multilingual Research and Development* (2021).

Zemp, Marius. "A functional reconstruction of the Proto-Tibetan verbal system." *Himalayan Linguistics* 15.2 (2016).