Konko and the fleas

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Konko and the Fleas.

konko-ba butu-ra konko-ra-ini bari-ha tabe ba-uba-ro
Konko-actor along-place Konko-place-at is-prog. see is-he:past-and:he
Konko lived over there at Konkora and he saw that

manabo-ba-ma taru-ra-ini bi-ra?-?aa oba "umpi-ke-ha-ro
Manabo-actor-emph. flea-place-at there-place-on torch light-comp.-prog.-he
Manabo over at Tarura (Flea Place) had lit a torch and he

hak-e oba "umpi bar-ibo ti-ro t-uba-ro oba "umpi-ke-ha-ro
"What is he looking for with the torch!
He (Manabo) had lit a torch and

konko-ba aitutu-ma tabe-ro bari-ha-ro ko?a autu-ke-ro
Konko-actor watch-indic. see he is-prog.-he items:for:trading make-comp.-he
Konko watched and watched and then he prepared trade items and

bare-ro tubi-ro muntu bi-ra-?aa bata-t-oba-ro ?uara
take-he come:down-he bring:down there-place-on put-comp.-he:past-and:he pig
brought them down to there (where Manabo was). He (Manabo) carried a pig

rabuku-ke-ro biti a-m-uba-ro bi-ba konko-ba
carry-comp.-he along him-give-he:past-and:he that-actor(he) Konko-actor
to Konko and offered it to him (for trade) but Konko only

ai?i?-ai tuahera-te ba-uba-ro bairi rabuku-ke-ro biti
nose-only high:up-comp. is-he:past-and:he dog carry-comp.-he along
held up his nose. Then Manabo offered him a dog but

a-m-uba-ro ai?i?-ai tuahera-te ba-uba-ro ori?ete-ro
him-give-he:past-and:he nose-only high:up-comp. is-he:past-and:he go:inside-he
Konko only held up his nose. Then Manabo went inside and

kau-pukaari bare-ro muntu a-m-uba-ro ai?i?-ai
cowrie-shells take-he bring:down him-give-he:past-and:he nose-only
brought out cowrie shells and offered them to him but he only held

tuahera-te ba-uba-ro minti-ma tabe minti-ma tab-okie-ro
high:up-comp. is-he:past-and:he same-emph. see same-emph. see-wonder(?) he
up his nose. Manabo continued to offer things to him and then finally
flea seize leave-he down there-place-on put-comp.-he:past-and:he
he picked up a flea and put it down in front of him and Konko

konko-ba maa-ra bi-ra-ra-ma tub-uro t-uba-ro
Konko-actor this-obj. that-obj.-for-emph. come:down-I:quote say-he:past-and:he
said, "That's what I've come down for!" So Manabo

taru-rabaa?abi-ro rabaa?abi ke-ro ta?u-i-ra unta-ma i-ro
flea seize-he seize leave-he bamboo-in-place fill(?)-indic. do-he
seized fleas and filled up a bamboo container with them and said,

buru ke-ra-ma taari bu?i-ke-ra-ma ko?e-ma ke
bring leave-you-indic. mat spread-comp.-you-indic. good-emph. leave
"Take these to your place and carefully spread out a mat and

bata-te-ra-ma bi-ra?-aa-ma taru ?ahia ra-an-e ti-ro
put-comp.-you-indic. there-place-on-emph. flea tip do-inv.-quote say-he
then tip out the fleas on the mat!"

minti t-uba-ro eo tiba-ke-ro bare-ro oru bi-ro buru
same say-he:past-and:he O.K. say-comp.-he take-he along go-he bring
Konko said, "O.K!!" and brought them to his place.

bi-ra?-aata ke-ro taari bu?i-ke bate-ro taru ?ahia-k-oba-ro
there-place-on leave-he mat spread-comp. put-he flea tip-comp.-he:past-and:he
He spread a mat and tipped out the fleas - and

taru-bano baat-anta-ka ebu-anta-ka kaaki-ru-ka-hai-ro ari
flea-actor body-long-over eye-long-over hair-small-over-from-it hit
the fleas onto his body, his eyes and his hair.

ba-uba-ro see ti-ro ikai taru-bano-ma h-ari ba-ibo
is-it:past-and:he Oh! say-he ouch! flea-actor-emph. me-hit is-it:quote
"Aeee!" he said, "Ouch! The fleas are biting me!"

t-uba-ro be taba-a bi-ra-ra-ma ko?a autu-anara-m
say-he:past-and:he ah! see-inv. that-obj.-for-emph. trade:item make-you:have-indic.
and then Manabo said, "Now see! That is what you traded me for!

i-r-ibo are-bata bi-ra oba ?umpi-ha-ra taba-ana ti-ro
do-(?)-quote you-too it-obj. torch light-prog.-you see-you:inv. say-he
You too can light a torch and look for them!"

minti t-ira-ma minti a-ke r-ora manabo-ka konko-ka
same say-he:has-indic. same do-comp. do-he:past Manabo-and Konko-and
That's what he said - that's what they did - Manabo and Konko.

Abbreviations used:
comp. 'completive'(either te or ke 'leave') prog. 'progressive'
emph. 'emphatic' quote 'reported speech'
inv. 'imperative' ? 'interrogative'
indic. 'indicative' (?) 'translation unknown or not obj. 'object'
clear'

Note: Some hesitant and repeated forms have been deleted from the original taped story. Forms translated 'past' are 'far past'. -ro, translated 'and:he', is the third person singular anticipatory suffix marking change of subject -that is, a third person singular subject is to follow in the next clause.