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Luo (Kenya)

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Submitted by: Maureen Smith  
Informant: Richard Apela  
Language: Luo of Kenya  
July 30, 1963

1. 'tšicə̄ 'mořo le: 'maña Qim 2. nā 
sun certain animals which-are-in jungle did (p.t.marker)
o'tšokorə̄ kaña'tšicə̄l 3. 'kʰə̄gi 'goyo 'mbakʰə̄ maŋ 'pəno 
gather together when-they beat debate of the-man
4. 'ma-gi 'ňalə̄ 'yeño 'kʰə̄kʰə̄ 'rũoə̄-gi 5. un'dyeę̄gi gi 
who-they can choose as leader-they. hyena and
si'buɾ nə̄ 'oyeə̄ kwom 'džə̄go 6. 'mane u'nę̄go 'bedi 
lion were (ptm) chosen among those who would become
'rũoə̄ 7. thọ 'tšicə̄ 'mane u'nę̄go gi'be·di e-'yeə̄̄ro 
leader. but sun the special they-were-to-be in-election
8. nĩ̄ 'ome-gi tšikʰ 9. si'buɾ 'mondə̄ o'-di 'ei 
did (ptm) give-them rules. lion in-order he-go in
a'ořa gi on'doŋ 'mondə̄ o'-kʰə̄lgo pʰi 10. thọ un'dyeə̄kʰ 
river with basket in-order he-bring water. but hyena
nə̄ o'-di e-'tšə̄n nam 11. 'dwaŋo o'dundu ma'onec 
did (ptm) he-go in-middle swamp search reed without
dmuotʰ 12. 'džə̄gi 'duto nə̄ u'rəm makʰ o'tšopʰə̄ tšikʰ 
nodes. these-men all did (ptm) fail not fulfill rule
13. ni'kʰetš si'buɾ okʰ nĩ̄ ńa.l 'twomo pʰi kod on'doŋ 
because lion not was (ptm) able draw water with basket
mo'kʰə̄l 'dala. 14. un'dyeə̄kʰ 'bende nə̄ okʰ 'oyudo o'dundu 
to-take home. hyena also did (ptm) not find reed
ma'onec o'muotʰ 15. a'puoyo nĩ̄ o-'biŋo 'dala gi-'tʰuŋ 
without nodes. hare did (ptm) he-go home with-horn
mo'tšom 16. 'ruoə̄ nĩ̄ o'mi a'puoyo 'mane o'kʰauwo 
stuck on. king was (ptm) given-to hare which took
'ndalo a'rëo 'kʰɛnə̄de 17. thọ tʰuŋ olu'aŋ 18. 'kʰə̄ni 
days two only but horn broke-off. when
džo-Qim o'windžə̄ ma. 19. nĩ̄ gi 'tšokʰə̄ 'buɾə̄ 
people-jungle heard this did (ptm) they gather for-judgment
kʰə̄n'do 20. 'buɾə̄ni nĩ̄ o-'yeə̄̄ro si'buɾ kʰə̄ṛ 
again. discussion-this did (ptm) it-nominate lion king
maŋ Qim 21. kwə̄tə̄ džia'kʰə̄no 22. li'etš džə̄goə̄ 23. 'džowi 
of jungle, leopard treasurer, elephant secretary buffalo
1. Once upon a time, the jungle animals gathered together to elect their leader. The hyena and lion were among those running for election. On the election day the lion was ordered to go to the river to bring water with a basket. The hyena was to bring the reed without a node. However, they all failed to fulfill the orders, for the lion was not able to reach home with the water in a basket. Neither could the hyena find a reed without a node. The hare came with an artificial horn. Then he was crowned, for they thought that he fulfilled the order. After two days the horn broke. Hearing about the loss of the hare's horn, the jungle animals gathered for a second time to nominate another one instead. The lion was crowned the king, the leopard treasurer, the elephant secretary, the buffalo headman, the rhino publicity. The day that these people began their work, all the little animals felt insecure. They could not appeal to the leaders. All their wealth and property was confiscated, to be put in the hands of the others, except the property of the father of the hare, which was not taken. The leaders were all very angry with the little animals because they would not willingly give their property to the government. Then the lion made the rule that all the old men must be killed.
džö² Qim³
People Jungle

1. sun certain animals which are in jungle did (p.t.)
'o²tšo³ko³ye² 'ka²nya²tšel³ 'kʰa¹ gi² go³yo² 'maba²kʰa³ e
gather together when they beat debate (say)
mař 'ŋa³no³ 'ma² gi² nya³lo² 'yie³r² 'kʰa²kʰa² 'ruo³a³gi⁴ //
of man that who they can chose as leader they //
un³di²e¹gi² gi² si³ 'buor² ni² o² 'yie²ro³ 'ku²om³
2. hyena and lion were (p.t.) chosen among
'džo²go³ 'ma²ne³ 'o²ne³go³ 'be³di² 'ru²oe⁴ // to² tšie¹
those who were to become leaders // 3. but sun
'me²ne² 'o²ne³go³ gi² 'be²di³ e³ 'yie²ro³ // ni³
which were to be they become in election/ did (p.t.)
'o²me²gi³ tšuk⁴ // si² 'buor¹ 'mon³do² o³ 'ái² 'e²i² 'a²o³ru²
give them rules // 4. lion in order he go in river
'gi² 'on²dop² 'mon³do² o³ 'kʰel²go² phi⁴ // to³ un³di²e³k²
with basket in order he bring water // 5. but hyena
ni² o³ 'ái² tšu²y² nam² 'du² 'a³ro³ o³ 'dun²du²
did (p.t.) he go in middle swamp search for reed
ma³ 'oŋ²ge³ 'om³wuot⁴ // 'džo²ge² 'du²to² ni²
without nodes // 6. these men all did (p.t.)
'o²tšum³ mak³ 'o²tšo³po³ tšuk³ // 'ni³kʰetš² si² 'buor¹
fail not fulfilling rule / because lion
ok³ ni² nyal³ 'twu²o³mo³ phi³ ko³ 'on²dop³ 'mo²kʰel³
not did (p.t.) can draw water with basket to take
'da³la⁴ // un³di²e³k² 'ben³de² ni² ok² o² 'yo²do³
home // 7. hyena also did (p.t.) not find
'o³ 'dun²du² ma² 'oŋ²ge³ 'om³wuot⁴ // a² 'puo²yo² ni²
reed without nodes // 8. the hare did (p.t.)
'o³ 'bi³ro³ da³la² gi² tšu² 'mo²tšom⁴ // 'ru² 'oe² ni²
he go home with horn wax // 9. king was (p.t.)
'o¹mi² a³ 'puo² 'ma²ne² 'o²kʰao³wa² 'nda³lo² a² 'ri²yo³
given to hare which took days two

Submitted by: Henry Breidenthal
Informant: Richard Apela
Language: Luo
Date: July, 1963
Free Translation

Once upon a time the jungle animals gathered together to elect their leader. The hyena and the lion were among those running for election. On the election day the lion was ordered to go to the river to bring water with a basket. The hyena was to bring the reed without node. However they all failed to fulfill the orders for the lion was not able to reach home with the water in a basket. Neither could the hyena find the reed without a node. The hare came with an artificial horn. Then he was crowned for they thought that he fulfilled the order. After two days the horn broke. Hearing about the loss of the hare's horn the jungle animals gathered for a second time to nominate another one instead. The lion was crowned king the leopard treasurer the elephant secretary the buffalo headman the rhinoceros publicity agent. The day that these people began their work all the little animals felt insecure. They could not appeal to their leaders.

Symbols for Tone:
- High 1
- Mid 2
- Low 3
- Low-Low 4
in photograph this

I 'see farmer if-standing prepared sack containing

he prepares it in-the cart clean then

he will grind-it in-the market has cart which

take-those sack many containing coffee he-makes

ja'pur 'ne engi 'kako kod 'eo maT lOoD mu'malo
farmer did have-strength and knowledge of soul which

ripen crops good again can-make fields many

ka'takarano: 'oOl a'heMa ko'ay e'puGeO ku'nO mOtliye
never-the-less he-takes very big garden where works-it

then-eats crop little from garden-that now

oloko: ma'lereO 'kOo mo'se pan - kenda 'mase-mo:
he-prepared to-take seed which-has pick again which-in-sun

dried well in-order-to he-go grind turn-then

coffee which can-drink if-takes-them of-house sell

but he-come get money which-can equal shilling

ma'Go- 'nivoO 'to ka'takarano ti6 mo'tlO go 'jotlO
many very but although labor used and workers

which he-hire for-help-him with digging come cost

money many very that-portion-that come remain-him not

come equal much as people see.
He will put the coffee in a clean cart. Then he will grind it in the market. He has a cart with which to take many sacks of coffee. The farmer is skilled in raising crops and in planting large fields. Although he makes a large garden and works in it, he eats very little from it. He dries in the sun the beans which he has picked. He grinds them into coffee and takes them to a shop. He will get many shillings for his coffee. Although he works hard and hires many laborers his profit will not be as much as people think.

Jesus (past)-he-die-for-me thing other which-are-in-
world not can enough with that-thing which Lord

Long ago I roamed in evil as a lost sheep. I refused to listen to the voice of the shepherd.

Note: All unmarked vowels are mid tone.
[tyhɔn gi'1ala nî ni'thiɛ 'wořo 'mořo ma'ne long ago (past tense) there-was father certain who

o'kɔwɔ ῥα'teį'-ne ni'-mo'ndo o'-tʰɛ'ʁɛ 'uɔtɛ / ῥα'teį'-ne he-took son- his so-that he-takes-him journey. son- his

ni o'kɔ o'ŋɛ'ɔ gi-'ma won ma'řɛ du'ařo /'bærɛ (past) not he-know what father (of-him)his (to)want then

kʰa-ni'gi'-se u'ɔtɛ 'kʰɔm mails ma'mo'kʰa/won after-did-they-have (to)walk for miles a-few. father

'ma'řɛ ni o'wat'ɔ̃n-ne ni ni'ʁa'teį-i his (past) he-tell-him (intr.direct speech/:) child-you

ri'tʰa'kʰa 'na-kʰa a'-duoɡ-i /'θɔ'ʁa'teį ni o'kʰa wait-me-here until I-return-(to)you. But child (past) not

o'ŋɛ'ɔ gi-'ma won ma'řɛ 'ditʰimo kʰa o'-wey-ɛ he-know what father his going-to-do when he-(had-)leave-him

kʰ(a)-ut'yʰuŋ 'kʰɛ'ndɛ'/kʰa-ne won ma'řɛ o'-duoɡo (when)-standing lonely. when father his he-(has)-return

ni o'-luoŋ-gɛ ni bi waJdai / ni gi-do'no ɛ-'otʰ (past) he-call-him (: come we-go! (past) they-enter in-house

'mořo ma'thi'n ni'-mo'ndo gi-'kʰɔɔ gi 'pah-no certain little in-order-that they-steal belongings man-that

ma-ni'θiɛ ɛ-'ɔde-no /'bærɛ won ῥa'teį'-no which-(he-)kept stored in-house-that. then father child-that

ni o'-tyhɔ'kʰɔŋgi kʰ'n gi-'kʰɔ'n kʰ'd 'bærɛ (past) he-began (to)look side-to-side (conj.) backward-

'gi'ni'mɛ /'kʰa'ne o'seɪ tʰi'ekoŋgi 'kʰuandɛ'-gi forward. after he-has done (to look) places-these

�a'teį'-ne ni o'wat'ɔ̃n-ne ni 'woř-a i'-dio child-his (past) he-say-him (: father-my you-(have)-look

'kʰuandɛ'duuhtʰo / tʰo'kʰa-ʁa'thɔiɛ ɛ-mo'doŋ-ni ma- places all. but only-one remaining-(for)-you (which-)

pʰu'kʰ i'-dio / pʰu'kʰ i'-dio 'pʰɔlu / won ma'řɛ not yet you-look. not yet you-look heaven(up). father his

ni 'windyo kʰa-ma'no ma o-bu'okʰ (past) (to)hear that (introducing action) he-(fear)startled.
There was once a father who took his son for a walk. The son did not know what his father had in mind. After they had walked for a few miles, the boy's father told his son: "Son, be sure to wait for me here until I return." But still the son did not know what his father was up to do, while he was being left behind. When his father finally returned he exclaimed: "Come, let's go!" Then they entered into a little house in order to steal the belongings of that man which he had stored there. Then the father began to look round about him to make sure no one was observing them. But after his father had looked around, the boy questioned him: "My father, you have looked all round about you- but one place you have not looked yet. You have not looked up to heaven!" After the father heard this word he said to the boy: "Son, you've brought me to my senses! what I wanted to do I am not going to do. Let us rather go home and look upward to heaven!"

There is not much water in Nianza-Gulf, but in the middle of the lake the waves are like the Tower of Babel. Out there a ship is rocking and rolling as if it were to break apart. After the reaching of the next harbor the people feel dizzy as if they had not slept for a month.

Key: [t\textsuperscript{Yh}] is a palatalized alveolar stop with fricative quality (at the time of release)  
[\textsuperscript{v'}] stands for vocoid lengthening

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