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Telugu (India) texts

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The Monkey and the Crocodile

1) oka-nardi vadduna oka-cetthu-miida oka-kooti nivasincedi.
a(one)-river on a-tree- in(on) a-monkey lived.

2) a-nardi-lo oka-mosali kuda vundeidi. 3) avi-rendu
that-river-in a-crocodile also was. those-two
snehamuga vundevi. 4) amosali bharieku okamaru zabbu-cesi-ña-di.
friendly were. that-crocodile's wife one-time sickness-got.
tns-prs.

5) vaidyurdu kooti-gundekaya iste zabbu-nayamo-vutundani
doctor monkey-heart if-give sickness-will-be-cured-that
ceppina-rdu. 6) amosali oka-naardu tana-
said-tns-prs-(statement). that-crocodile one-day his-
snehitudu kooti-ni nardi a-vatala-vardduku dartista-nani
friend-monkey-to river's- that-other-side-to cross-make(help)-that
ceppi vi'pu-miida kuido-pethu-kon-na-di. 8) nardi
say(and) back-on sit- let- tns- prs-statement. river-
awatala vardduku badulu ingkokavaipu verlluta-cuci kootiki
other-side- to instead another-side going- having-seen monkey(sj)
anumanamu vesi-na-di. 9) appurdu mosalini adugagaa,
suspicion got tns-prs. that-time (then) crocodile asked-when,
mosali kootini tanagundekaya immani ardigenadi.
crocodile (sj) monkey(dat) his- heart to-give asked-he.

10) kooti tanayuktini opayoginci tana-
monkey his-"nack"(wisdom) used-he (cont.) ((11)) his-
gundekaya tana-daggara ledani
heart his- with (with him) doesn't have -that(factual)
cetthu-pai vadalivesina-dani ceppi-na-di 12) aite-
tree- on(in) left -tns-prs-that told-tns-prs. being-
sere-(n)ane mosali, kootini terigi cetthu-
"ok"- that crocodile, monkey(dat) again(returning) tree
vaddaku ceci , gundekaya portukurammani ceppi-na-di.
to brought-(cont.) heart bring- that said -tns-prs.
14) alage-ani ceppi kooti cetthu eki i-laana-di: Fine (that) said (and) monkey tree climbing this-way-spoke

15) mertramaa! ni-agnyana-niki vicarincu-cun-na-nu; friend your-ignorance-for feeling sorry-progressive-tns

16) enducertarnante yaveri-gundekaya vari-rsariomu-lo vuntun-di,-prs, because everyone's-heart his-body-in remains

kani cetthu-mīda vuntun-da?
but tree-on stays-?

Free Translation:

1) A monkey was living in a tree by the bank of a river.
2) A crocodile also lived in that river. 3) Both of them were friends. 4) Once, the wife of that crocodile got sick.
5) The doctor said: that she would be alright (get well) if she would be given a monkey's heart. 6) One day the crocodile promised the monkey that it would help him across the river to the other side; 7) And he let him sit on his back. 8) The monkey got suspicious when it saw the crocodile moving towards the other bank of the river. 9) Then he accused the crocodile.
10) The crocodile asked the monkey to give him his heart.
11) The monkey used his nāc(11) and said that he didn't have his heart with him, but that he had left it up in the tree.
12) "OK", said the crocodile to the monkey(13) and returning, he brought him to the tree to get his heart.
13) The monkey said "Fine", and climbing the tree, spoke in this manner:15"Friend", I'm feeling sorry for your ignorance;
14) because everybody's heart remains in his body, but (yours) stays on a tree

tns = tense  dat = dative
pr = person    cont = continuative
sj = subject
1. One day while riding a bicycle, my bicycle hit a boy. 2. He got injured. 3. Then I got down to help the boy. 4. Then I saw the boy to his house. 5. There I asked pardon from his parents. 6. The boy's father asked what the reason was for this danger. 7. Then this is what I said. 8. "While I was riding my bycycle in the middle of the road, my bicycle hit your boy and he got injured," I said. 9. The boy's father asked, "Why did you walk in the middle of the road without looking?" 11. Then the boy said this way, 12. "I will never again walk in the middle of the road. 13. Forgive me."
1. A boy and his friend were playing ball in front of the house.
2. They played by one throwing the ball and the other catching it.
3. In the mean time the boy's younger sister ran out of the house.
4. At that time the ball hit her. 5. She started to cry. 6. She went and told her mother. 7. Her mother consoled her. 8. Hen her father comes home he will straighten things out.
1. emandi/ miiru ee-vuru verlu-tuna-r-u/
Sir, you which (signals inter.)-town go-prog-you-decl.

2. nena/ nenu kalika'ta verlu-tuna-n-u/

3. oho/ miiru kalikata-lo panicye-stuna-r-a/
Oh? you Calcutta-in work - prog-you-inter.?

4. leedu/ maatamurdu kalikata-lo panicye-stuna-rd-u/
no, my-younger-brother Calcutta-in work - prog-he-decl.

5. aite miiru e-kharda panicye-stuna-r-u/
then you where (signals inter.) work - prog-you-decl.?

6. neenu ma'dras-lo panicye-stuna-n-u/
I Madras-in work - prog-I-decl.

7. miiru kalikata syalavalaku velu-tuna-r-a/
you Calcutta hollidays go-prog-you-inter.?

8. avunu/ 9. e-nallu vuun-ta-r-u/
yes how (signals inter.)-long stay-prog.-you-decl.?

10. bhahusya padi panendu rodzulu vuun-ta-n-u/
probably ten twelve days stay-prog-I-decl.

11. miitamurdu e-ndu-lo panicye-stuna-r-u/
your-younger-brother which-place-in work - prog-he-decl.?
(signals inter.)

12. maatamurdu gover.nment-lo sekretari-ga panicye-stuna-rd-u/
my-younger-government-in secretary-as work - prog-I-decl.
brother

13. miiru e-khada panicye-stuna-r-u/
you where-(signals inter.) work - prog-you-decl.?

14. neenu khargapur-lo panicye-stuna-n-u/
I (name of town)-in work-prog-you-decl.

15. miiru e-ndu-lo panicye-stuna-r-u/
you which-place-in work - prog-you-decl.?
(signals inter.)

16. neenu reelwe-lo panicye-stuna-n-u/
I railway-in work - prog-I-decl.
17. *eemi* panicye-stuna-r-u//
   which work - prog-you-decl.? (signals inter.)

18. *neenu* reelwe-lo mekanikal enginir-ga panicye-stuna-n-u//
   I railway-in mechanical engineer-as work- prog- I-decl.

Free translation:

1. Sir, to which town are you going?
2. Me? I'm going to Calcutta.
3. Oh? Are you working in Calcutta?
4. No, my younger brother is working in Calcutta.
5. Then where are you working?
6. I am working in Madras.
7. Are you going to Calcutta for the holidays?
8. Yes.
9. How long will you be staying?
10. I will probably be staying ten or twelve days.
11. Where is your younger brother working?
12. My younger works for the government as a secretary.
13. (And you,) where are you working? (second speaker)
15. In which department do you work? (specific place)
16. I am working for the railway.
17. What kind of work are you doing?
18. I am working for the railway as a mechanical engineer.

*e- or ee- at the beginning of a word means 'which' or 'how, or 'which' and any of these words with this suffix signals that the sentence is interrogative.

miiru 'you' is the honorific form used in speaking to a person with whom the speaker is not well acquainted, or someone to whom respect is due.

prog = progressive       decl = declarative

The reader will notice that several English words are used. This is due to the influence of English speakers in the part of India where Telugu is spoken. These words have come to be used more often than their Telugu equivalents.
A Train Conversation

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

8. 

9. 

10. 

11. 

12. 

13. 

14. 

15. 

16. 

17. 

18. 

19. 

Free Translation

Shastri's Autobiography

1. neenu višakaputnum-nunši vuč-ina-nu 2. na-talli-
   I town-from come-(pst. tns.)-I my-mother-
dundru-lu kuda višakaputnum-lone nevasin-tsunva-ru
father-(pl.) also town-in live-are-they

3. ma-nana nayawadi-ga puni-čeuy-tsunna-du 4. ma-uma
   my-father attorney-as work-do-is-he our-mother
maa-ku inti-lo anni sudupayamulu čes-tun-di. 5. apudapudu
us-for house-in all arrangements do-is-she sometimes
vunta vund-utsun-di 6. neem electrical engineer degree
   food cook-is-she I
andra university-lo putsukuna-nu7.tuvata germany-lo okka
Andra University-at receive-I later on Germany-in one
sumvučarama udzugamu čes-ina-nu 8. a-pudu neenu ik-
year job do-(pst. tns.)-I that-time I this-
 kuda-ku vač-ina-nu 9. i-pudu neenu ik-kada
place-to come-(pst. tns.)-I this-time I this-place
university-lo tsadaw-utsuna-nu 10. neenu teaching assistant-ga
 university-at study-am-I I teaching assistant-as
 puni-čeuy-utsunna-nu 11. naa-ku tirika-samayamulo postukamu-lu
 work-do-is-I ma-to spare-time book-(pl.)
tsadaw-uṭa īṭemu.
read-to please

Free Translation

1. I came from vishakaputnum. 2. My parents also are living
in vishakaputnum. 3. My father works as an attorney. 4. Our
mother runs the house. 5. Sometimes she cooks the food.
6. I received my electrical engineer degree at Andra Univer-
sity. 7. Later on in Germany I worked on a job for one year.
8. Then I came to this place. 9. Now I am studying at the
University here. 10. I am working as a teaching assistant.
11. In my spare time I like to read.
Submitted by: Bonnie Epler
Informant: Shastri
Language: Telugu
Date: August 1, 1964

oka ōytu
A farmer

1. oka ōytu mokkalu makturtaku velēnardu. 2. mokkalu aadone farmer plants to plant went plants while
3. planting some seeds outside fell then birds
4. konni vittamamu ōtati bhumipay mādi navu. 5. maṛiyu avi padindu pradeesamulo ekua mannu leddu. 6. vedutšēta also they fell piece of land lot of soil no therefore
7. tśigušunindu navu. 8. konni vittamamu mantšiprādešimulo
9. avi konni
mokkalu wadipoyi tśenipoyinavi. plants wilted died some seeds good-place
8. konni vittamamu mantšiprādešimulo
9. avi konni
because of falling quickly grew fruit yielded they some
māpadešētlu konni āruwadišētlu maṛi konni nuṛuśētlu peṛišinavi. thirty times some sixty times more some one hundred times grew

Free Translation

1. A farmer went out to plant. 2. And while he was planting, some seeds fell outside (the plot). 3. Then the birds ate them. 4. And some fell on stony ground, 5. where there was not much soil. 6. Immediately they sprouted. 7. But when the sun was up, the plants were scorched and they died. 8. But other seeds fell on good soil and they produced fruit which yielded (much). 9. And some multiplied thirty times, and some sixty times, and some one hundred times.

Rainy Weather

1. evaala produku koyntšumu mobuga vunnadi. 2. koyntšumo tē today morning a little cloudy was a little
3. kudavesinadi. 4. onti gantu velaju māžašu kuṛuyuta prārimbintšinadi. one o'clock time during rain to fall started
5. wadu kaḷabu ekuaka vunnadi. for sure would rain I thought
6. kuṇa vesinadu. 7. out of the roads mud too much is there

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Free Translation

1. This morning it was a little cloudy. 2. A cool breeze was blowing a little also. 3. I thought for sure it would rain. 4. About one o'clock rain started to fall. 5. Here and there on the roads there is a lot of mud.

Shopping for a Sari (conversation)

1. eemandi miiku, emi kavali? 2. naamu oka tšiira kavalenu. please madam what do want for myself one sari I want
3. enta kařidu tšiira kavalenu? 4. nalabhe, abhe rupayelu dař how expensive sari do want forty fifty rupees cost
4. potu tšiira leeka nuunu tšiira? 6. nuunu within want silk sari or cotton sari cotton
tšiira. 7. tšetineta leeka mašineta? 8. tšetineta. sari hand-woven or machine-woven hand-woven if so
9. ayte sarì. 10. ikada ts.ele. rakanoly unayi. 11. miiku this way come here many varieties are there for your-
  kavasindì ensukindi. 12. naamu ii aputatsanidi kavalenu. self what want choose for myself this green one want
13. ayte saře. that's fine

Free Translation