

Informant: Dawið 'Adam (Dure)

(1) mára 'iθwa¹ xá nàša,¹ xa-qurðàya.¹ móre kúlla náša hóle zála l-šúla.¹ 'áp-²ana b_t-ázən šúla¹ pàlxən.¹ qìmele,¹ šəmmət máθa díye wéwa Barwòre.¹ 'ámte díye¹ hóla gu-Sàrzar¹ 'u-xále díye¹ hóle gu-Daštàne.¹ 'áwwa móre !la-bábe díye-w yámme díye mərə¹ bábì-w yəmmi¹ 'áp-²ana t-ázən pàlxən¹ xa-pəlxána ta-t-ləpena.¹ (2) bábe-w yámme díye mərə¹ bròni¹ qá-mo là?² si!¹ kúlla náša hole-plàxa.¹ 'áp-²ati si¹ pàlxeti.¹ 'áwwa zílele be-²ámte díye.¹ 'ámte xáθət bəbe.¹ há bròni,¹ m-əkət θáya?² b-álaha m-b-èθən θáya,¹ 'ánti.¹ lèka?² (3) móre báyən t-ázən kəs-xáli.¹ xáli zàngīn-ile,¹ t-yállì xa-šúla pàlxən 'áp-²ana.¹ kúlla náša hóle plàxa,¹ 'áp-²ana pàlxən mánne díye.¹ móra qá-mo là?² (4) qìmtela¹ wiðtəlle 'ixàla,¹ b'è.¹ qədamtela,¹ wiðtəlle 'ixàla¹ b'è-w mósxa-w qàlya,¹ mərə¹—šəmmə díye 'Ummo-wewa¹—móra 'Ummo,¹ 'ána qémən 'ázən nàblən 'ixàla¹ !la-xətnux¹ 'u-²áti xùl¹ 'u-sí l-be-xàlux.¹ móre ma-yxàləf 'ánti.¹ (5) xá-bena 'ay-ziltela məskánta.¹ 'áw pišele,¹ xiləlle 'o-'ixála t-ile kəsle.¹ mərə¹ bálki zillì b-úrxa¹ 'u-kpìnni.¹ qémən šaqlənni xákma məndi mənni b-²idi¹ ta-t-²ázən b-úrxa,¹ 'ən-kpìnni,¹ t-axlənne.¹ (6) qìmele¹ bəθər t-ile pírqa mən-'ixàla,¹ qìmele¹ šqila xa-²árba xamšà b'è.¹ šqilele xa-²árba xamšà b'è¹ múttəlla xo-kosìθe.¹ 'u-šqilele qàlya,¹ dóryalle gu-jebàne.¹ 'u-hóla t-amrəxi xa-kawàza¹ məšxa gáwa.¹ (7) 'áwwa dóryalla 'ide gáwe díye ta-t-mpálət məšxa,¹ 'u-²ide díye šiθela gáwe.¹ 'u-báyə mpálətə külle¹ 'u-l-èle pláta.¹ 'u-hírele b-gáne díye.¹ 'u-pišele gu-d-ε-pyàšta¹ há-t-ila θiθa 'ámte díye.¹ θéla 'ámte díye mərə¹ há 'Ummo¹ mùt wáða?² móre 'ánti dūs báyət?² (8) móre 'ána báyəwəwa šaqlənwali xáčča məšxa¹ móre ta-t-áxlən b-²úrxa¹ xáčča məšxa-w ləxma¹ 'ina 'idi šéla gu-d-áwəwa hónna lintə,¹ ləla pláta,¹ t-məšxa.¹ 'ay-móra qətma b-rəšux!¹ de-si!¹ qəm-maxyále hátxa gu-réše díye,¹ šléla b'è 'əx-²axxe díye.¹ (9) 'áyya mòdila?² móre šqilənni xákma b'è-žigəm¹ móri bálki,¹ bálki kápna kápna.¹ hóle qúrbət nùrele.¹ núra qùrbəle,¹ šxínne qàlya.¹ məšxət qàlya plitlə b-jebàne díye.¹

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(1) There was a man, a Kurd. He said 'Everybody goes to work. I also shall go to work and work. He set off. The name of his village was Barwore. His aunt was in Sarzar and his uncle was in the Daštane. He said to his father and mother, he said 'Father and mother, I also shall go and work, so that I can learn (how to do) a job'. (2) His father and mother said 'My son, why not? Go on. Everybody works. You also go and work'. He went to the house of his aunt, his aunt, the sister of his father. 'Hey, my son, where are you coming from?' 'By God, I'm coming from home, aunt' 'Where (are you going)?' (3) He said 'I want to go to my uncle. My uncle is rich, he will give me a job so that also I can work. Everybody works, I also shall work with him'. She said 'Why not?' (4) She made him food, some eggs. (When) it was morning, she made him food, eggs, oil and roasted meat. She said—his name was Ummo—she said 'Ummo, I am going to take food to my husband.¹ You eat and go to the house of your uncle'. He said 'Fine, aunt'. (5) Then she, poor thing, went off while he stayed and ate the food that was in front of him. He said 'Perhaps when I have set out on the road, I shall be hungry. I'll take something for myself with me in my hand so that when I go on the road, if I get hungry, I can eat it'. (6) When he had finished the food, he took four or five eggs. He took four or five eggs and put them under his hat. He took roasted meat and put it in his pockets. There was what we call a *kawaza* ('jar') with oil in it. (7) He put his hand in it to take out some oil, but his hand got stuck in it. He tried to take it all out, but it did not come out. He was perplexed. He remained in that predicament until his aunt came. His aunt came and she said 'Hey, Ummo, what are you doing?' He said 'Aunt, do you want the truth?' (8) He said 'I wanted to take a little oil to eat on the way, a little oil and bread, but my hand has got stuck in this thing, pot of oil, and it does not come out'. She said 'Confound you!² Go!' She struck him like this on his head and the eggs ran down on him here. (9) 'What is this?' He said 'I also took some eggs. I thought perhaps I shall be hungry'. He was near the fire. The fire was near and the roast meat heated up. The oil of the roast meat came out of his pockets.

¹ This is a paraphrase. The term *xəbna* has the sense here of the husband of a maternal aunt.

² Literally: Ash on your head!

(10) *mára 'áwewa mòdile?¹ móre šqílənwa xáčča xéna qàlya¹ ta-ṭ-axlónne b-ʔúrxa.¹ mára míla l-hàlux!¹ de-sìgən.¹ 'áti cù-pəlxana la-pəlxət.¹ har-blígət b-kàsux.¹ mára qímtela mtugbàrtəlle,¹ móra de-sì!¹*

(11) *'áwewa zílele b-ʔúrxa,¹ zílele be-xàle.¹ 'ámər šláma-llexu xàli.¹ 'ámər ya-b-šéna tawàθa,¹ b-šéna.¹ ha-mò báyyət?¹ móre báyyən t-yawótli xa-šùla.¹ móre mò palxéti?¹ móre 'ána hāden pláta,¹ léðən cù pəlxána.¹ (12) móre 'itli šawewà xmàre.¹ kùt-yum¹ 'ásqət masqátla 'an-šáwewa xmàre l-túra.¹ méθət qése biyyè.¹ 'áwewele súlux.¹ báyyət?¹ móre hè,¹ 'áwewa xòš-šuləle xàli.¹ 'áwewa qiməle¹ músqəllele 'an-xmàre l-túra.¹ (13) 'é-ga šáwewa xmàre ràbela hal-é-gə mjáméla qése,¹ ta-dérela l-xásət xmàre.¹ 'áθi dēwe.¹ 'axlila xmàre díye.¹ 'áw mòdi wídle?¹ qiməle¹ tìnəlla,¹ tìnəlla 'an-qurṭáne.¹ qurṭánət t-xmàre.¹ tìnəlla l-xáše šawewà qurṭáne-w¹ mùšlyəlla.¹ (14) mùšlyəlla díwən,¹ díwən t-xále díye hóla dwìqta.¹ 'áyya díwən lāxxela¹ 'aw-gàrele.¹ har-ʔəθyēle mən-túra réša-reša d-o-gàre.¹ 'u-ʔáni l-xáše díye mrūpyəlla gu-díwən-t xále.¹ (15) 'án-naše kúlla xírra bíye díye¹ 'ína qurṭánət xmàre tàma.¹ qəryēle xále díye bíye díye¹ móre 'Úmmo, 'Úmmo hàyyo.¹ móre 'ína mòdila?¹ móre xàli¹ xmàre,¹ šáwewaθna hóla xíle l-dēwe,¹ móre qəm-məθənnə qurṭanèy.¹ 'ámər mà-yxələf.¹ (16) 'áni zilla,¹ fədwə ʔəllux.¹ mára sigən baxt-xàlux.¹ xzi-mó pəlxána xazyàlux.¹ plúx gu-bèθa.¹ móre hè.¹*

(17) *xá-yoma béθa hóle šya.¹ yá'ni wíða xàθa-w¹ 'ùpra-w¹ šyàlle,¹ 'u-parošyáθa hátxa glòle,¹ šənduxyàθa y-amrəxla,¹ šənduxyàθa.¹ hóle 'iθən lāxxa¹ stərra.¹ stərra mòdile?¹ xəṭṭele¹ 'u-šišmele¹ 'u-prəge¹ 'u-sàre,¹ kúlla dórye gu-mzìde,¹ 'u-mútte hátxa pummèy.¹ (18) 'u-xa-línta górtə hátxa t-nepòxta¹ hóla muttéθa 'áp-ʔay kəsleý.¹ 'u-móra 'əlle díye,¹ baxt-xále díye mára xzi¹ 'áyya 'ótəx hox-šyəlla.¹ là-qablət¹ là bəṛ-náša ṭ-áwəṛ gáwa¹ 'u-là héwən.¹ móre ma-yxələf.¹ tíwele gu-tàra.¹*

(10) She said 'What is this?' He said 'I took a little more roasted meat to eat on the way'. She said 'Confound you!³ Go! You will not be able to do any work, you are always concerned about your stomach'. So, she prepared things for him and said 'Off you go!'

(11) He went on his way, he went to his uncle's house. He said 'Greetings to you uncle'. He said 'Welcome. Well, what do you want?' He said 'I want you to give me a job'. He said 'What kind of work do you do?' He said 'This is the first time I am going out (to work). I don't know any (kind of) work'. (12) He said 'I have seven asses. Every day go up and take those seven asses up the mountain. Bring back wood with them. That is your job. Do you want it?' He said 'Yes. That is a good job, uncle'. He went off and took those asses up the mountain. (13) Well, seven asses were a lot for him to collect wood and put on their backs. Wolves came and ate his asses. What did he do? He put the blankets, the blankets of the asses, he loaded the seven blankets on his back and brought them down. (14) He brought them down to the meeting room, the meeting room of his uncle was full. The meeting room was here and this was its roof (adjacent to the mountain). He came straight from the mountain across the roof and threw those things on his back into the meeting room of his uncle. (15) All the people looked at it and saw that asses' blankets were there. His uncle called him and said 'Ummo, Ummo, come here'. He said 'But what is this?' He said 'Uncle, the asses, the seven of them have been eaten by wolves'. He said 'I have brought their blankets'. (16) He said 'Fine. They died and you are safe.⁴ He said 'Go to the wife of your uncle.⁵ See what job she can find for you. Work in the house'. He said 'Yes'.

(17) One day the house had been plastered, that is newly decorated, with mud, they plaster it, with round flat stones, which we call *šənduxyathə*. There was a food store. What is a food store? It is wheat, sesame, millet, barley, everything put in leather bags, with their mouth placed thus (facing forward). (18) A large pot of date syrup also was placed in their store. She said to him, the wife of his uncle said 'Look, we have (newly) plastered this room. Don't let any person or animal enter it'. He said 'Fine'. He sat at the door.

³ Literally: Blue on your condition!

⁴ Literally: (as) a redemption for you.

⁵ I.e. his wife.

(19) *tíwele gu-tàra,*¹ *'áyya ta-t-bàrza,*¹ *θíθela xa-qàtu*¹ *'u-šwirtela-w*¹ *b-tàra wirtela,*¹ *kliθa kəs-d-ó-linət nepòxta.*¹ *'aw-màre*¹ *baxt-xàli hóla mírta lá bəṛ-nàša*¹ *'u-lá héwən 'áwər gu-d-áyya 'òtəx.*¹ *'áyya kúlla qəm-maxərwàla*¹ *b-aqláθa diya,*¹ *béθa šya.*¹ (20) *šqiləlla xá šəndùxta.*¹ *šqiləlla ta-t-deréla b-qàtu,*¹ *là-qəθa b-qàtu,*¹ *qéθa b-bé-palgət nepùxta,*¹ *d-o-linət nepùxta.*¹ *'áw bāze,*¹ *šəməṭ.*¹ *nepòxta šuréla plàta.*¹ *bízla nepùxta gu-béθa.*¹ (21) *'áwəwa zille*¹ *šqála mən-púmmət präge,*¹ *m-mzida,*¹ *šqála 'o-júlla mən-púmmət präge ta-t-mattúle gu-púmmət líntət nepòxta.*¹ *'an-präge kúlla šáli gu-nepòxta.*¹ *písla nepòxta 'u-präge gu-gòðə.*¹ *'o-béθa m̀lèle mənnyé.*¹ (22) *θéla baxt-xále diye*¹ *móra ha-ʾÚmmo mùt wída?*² *móre b-álaha látwa mirta*¹ *la-héwən 'u-lá bəṛ-nàša 'áwər gu-ʾòtəx?*² *θéla qàtu,*¹ *wirra,*¹ *kléla kəs-linta.*¹ *'áp-ʾana šqiláli šəndùxta*¹ *dəryáli biya.*¹ *là-qitla biya diya.*¹ *qitla b-linta.*¹ *linta šmitla.*¹ (23) *qimli zilli šqilli 'áwəwa júlla t-ile gu-púmmət mziðət präge.*¹ *móri mattónne gu-nepòxta t-là-bəza.*¹ *'áp-präge šléla gàwa.*¹ *'ana mò-ʾoðən?*² *léle gnàyi.*¹ (24) *móra ham-ma-γxələf,*¹ *lilita xám.*¹ *qiméle,*¹ *zila*¹ *mtugəbrəlla,*¹ *háde m-hàde-w*¹ *wiðəlla 'ày-u*¹ *'u-tàra çiməlle ta-t-lá-ʾawər 'áp-xa náša gàwa.*¹

(25) *xále diye m̀re*¹ *xzi*¹ *har 'ənən*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán,*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán-bək*¹ *'ile šəmmi.*¹ *kut-ʾàθe*¹ *'ámər 'Abda-Raḥmán-bək,*¹ *tàra la-paθxátle 'ille diye.*¹ *bas-har-ʾànwəwən,*¹ *'àna.*¹ *'iθwa xá'a masyòθe*¹ *báθər tàra.*¹ *masyòθe-wəwa*¹ *'imə t-wəwa-mára tla-ʾÚmmo,*¹ *mára-wəwa har-ʾàna*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán,*¹ *'áp-xa la-qáblət t-àwər gu-béθa,*¹ *'al-ʾasás ta-t-ázəl l-bàxte.*¹ (26) *'áp-ʾawəwa çiməlle tàra.*¹ *xa-béna wítela hádəx b-lèle*¹ *máxyele taq-taq-táq l-tàra.*¹ *ha-mə̀niwət?*² *'ámər 'àna*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán-iwən,*¹ *pθúx tàra.*¹ *pθixəllele tàra.*¹ *wiréle zila*¹ *dmixéle kəs-báxtət*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán-bək,*¹ *kəs-baxt-xále.*¹ (27) *bar-hádəx θéle xa-xéna mxéle l-tàra,*¹ *ha-mə̀niwət?*² *móre*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán-iwən.*¹ *móre kəmà*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán 'iθ?*² *xà*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán?*² *trè*¹ *'Abda-Raḥmán?*² *'àna tla-d-èni páθxən tàra?*² *móre 'o-t-ile wira 'áw xāràmele.*¹ *genəwéle 'áw,*¹ *qaṭòlele.*¹ *pθúxli tàra t-àwərən*¹ *ta-t-qaṭləxle.*¹

(19) He sat at the door, until it dried, but a cat came, leapt, entered through the door and stood by that pot of date syrup. He said 'The wife of my uncle said that no person and no animal should enter this room. This (cat) has messed everything up with its feet'—the room was (newly) plastered. (20) He picked up a small stone, he picked it up to throw it at the cat, but it did not hit the cat but rather hit right in the middle of the date syrup, of the pot of date syrup. It was pierced and broke. The date syrup began to run out. The date syrup spilt into the room. (21) He went to take from the mouth of the bag of millet, take the cloth from the mouth (of the bag of) millet to put it in the mouth of the pot of syrup. All the millet fell down into the syrup. The syrup and the millet seed were mix together. The room was filled with them. (22) The wife of his uncle came and said 'Ummo, what have you done?' He said 'By God, did you not say that no animal and no person should enter the room? A cat came, entered and stood by the pot. I picked up a small stone and threw it at him. It did not hit it, but hit the pot. The pot broke. (23) I went and took the cloth that is in the mouth of the bag of millet. I thought I would put it in the (pot of) syrup so that it does not pour out. The millet fell down into it. What should I do? It is not my fault'. (24) She said 'Its is all right, don't worry'. They went and put (the room) in order once again. They closed the door so that nobody would go into it.

(25) His uncle said 'Look, only I am 'Abda-Raḥmān, 'Abda-Raḥmān-bēk is my name. If anybody comes and says "'Abda-Raḥmān-bēk', do not open the door to him. It is only me (who is called 'Abda-Raḥmān)'. There was somebody who was listening behind the door. He was listening when he said to Ummo 'I am the only 'Abda-Raḥmān, do not let anybody come in the house'. (He was listening) so that he (the intruder) could go to his wife. (26) So, he (the uncle) closed the door. Then, when it was night, there was a knock at the door. 'Who are you?' He said 'I am 'Abda-Raḥmān, open the door'. He opened the door and he (the intruder) entered and went to sleep with the wife of 'Abda-Raḥmān-bēk, with the wife of his uncle. (27) Afterwards somebody else knocked on the door 'Who is it?' He said 'I am 'Abda-Raḥmān'. He said 'How many 'Abda-Raḥmāns are there? One 'Abda-Raḥmān, two 'Abda-Raḥmāns? For whom should I open the door?' He said 'The person who has gone in (before me) is a villain. He is a thief, he is a murderer. Open the door to let me in so that we can kill him'.

(28) pθixəlle t̄ara.¹ 'iθwa bərzōma,¹ bərzōma yá'ni ta-t-šáli gu-gōma,¹ b-semàlta.¹ pθixəlle¹ 'u-šəlyele gu-gōma.¹ t̄arət gōma hóle č̄ma.¹ wírele xále d̄iye t-ħaqquθa.¹ m̄ore k̄ele 'Abda-Raħmān-t-tre,¹ 'áxxa l-tàmma.¹ (29) hóle šəlyə gu-gōma.¹ šəlyele gu-gōma,¹ 'itle t̄awre.¹ 'itle dawère,¹ 'itle m̄andiyáne,¹ hóle gu-gōma.¹ kút-xa m̄onna šqílalle xa-skinta rixta¹ 'u-šəlyele.¹ šəlyela,¹ 'Abda-Raħmān t̄áyela,¹ 'Abda-Raħmān t̄áyela,¹ 'áxxa l-tàmma.¹ x̄iyele,¹ p̄úrya liθ,¹ b̄arqa liθən.¹ (30) xazéle xa-t̄awra,¹ 'Úmmo¹ xazéle t̄awra¹ 'u-parəmle réšə t̄awra.¹ 'ámər xáli p̄rimli t̄awra.¹ 'ámər ham-ma-yxàləf,¹ 'Abda-Raħmān d̄-la-'arəq.¹ z̄ila mátya l-sùsele,¹ 'ap-súsa p̄rimalle.¹ (31) z̄ila ta-t-máte 'Abda-Raħmān,¹ 'Abda-Raħmān p̄áθəx t̄ára 'u-pálət,¹ 'u-'arəq.¹ 'áwəwa q̄t̄ille xm̄are,¹ 'u-q̄t̄ille s̄usa,¹ q̄t̄ille t̄awra,¹ 'ánna kúlla q̄tilile,¹ har-m̄ore ma-yxàləf.¹ (32) 'u-r̄iqle 'Abda-Raħmān,¹ r̄iqle 'u-zille.¹ 'iθyele 'ámər¹ šqul-ḡanux,¹ siḡən 'áti b̄éθi muxrùlux.¹ h̄átxa p̄əlxána p̄əlxeti.² č̄u p̄əlxána la-p̄əlxət 'áti.¹ q̄imle q̄əm-t̄arədle.¹ (33) q̄əm-t̄arədle θéle zille¹ be-'ámte d̄iye,¹ k̄əs-d-ε-'ámte d̄iye t-wéwa šq̄ila b̄éle mútta xo-réše d̄iye.¹ m̄óra ha-'Úmmo d̄ir̄rux.¹ m̄ore h̄e,¹ xáli liθwale šúla q̄əm-yállì,¹ d̄ir̄ri.¹ (34) m̄óra d̄ūs.² mòd̄it w̄ída.² mòd̄ila.² m̄ore b-álaha d̄ūs b̄əyátla.² m̄óra h̄e.¹ m̄ore q̄əm-yállì šúla,¹ m̄ore yállì šawwà xm̄are.¹ súq m̄éθi q̄əsa biȳé.¹ h̄əyyo.¹ m̄ore 'áp-'ana síqən l̄əbbi šəpya l̄əðən,¹ síqən¹ m̄jāmòyella q̄ése,¹ dr̄áya r̄əš-ḡəðəde.¹ (35) šáwəwa xm̄arela.¹ 'ána m̄jāmóye q̄ése,¹ déwe bl̄ige b-xm̄are xála.¹ q̄əm-axl̄ila xm̄are.¹ q̄im̄ən šq̄iləlla qurt̄ane¹ tyánəlla l-xàšì mušəlyən-əlla¹ z̄ódyən-əlla gu-b̄əθa.¹ m̄óra b̄á'd módi x̄ena.² (36) m̄ore baxt-xáli š̄itəwəlle b̄əθa.¹ 'u-θéla q̄átu w̄irra t̄ama.¹ 'u-d̄əryáli š̄ənduxta,¹ q̄itla gu-nep̄uxta.¹ nep̄uxta-w p̄rage wéla gu-ḡəðəde.¹ 'u-l̄ə-q̄billa¹ baxt-xáli.¹ m̄óra si-m-àxxa.¹ (37) xárθa xáli m̄əre¹ lá lá l̄itla xám.¹ m̄ore t̄l̄áli h̄átxa 'iθm̄¹ bas-'ənən 'Abda-Raħmān.¹ 'áp-xa la-q̄ablət t-áwər gu-b̄əθa.¹ θéle xà-xena 'Abda-Raħmān.¹ θéle xà-xena 'Abda-Raħmān,¹ m̄əri 'ána¹ 'əni 'Abda-Raħmān.² ȳáðən 'ána 'ənile¹ xáli¹ 'éni l̄ə.²

(28) He opened the door. There was a hatch,⁶ a hatch for them to go down into the basement stable, by a ladder. He (the intruder) opened it and went down in the basement. The door of the basement was closed. His real uncle went in. He said ‘Where is the second ‘Abda-Raḥmān?’’, and so forth. (29) ‘He has gone down into the basement’. Each of them took a long knife and went down. They went down searching for ‘Abda-Raḥmān, searching for ‘Abda-Raḥmān, and so forth. It was dark. There was no light and no electricity. (30) He saw an ox. Ummo saw an ox and cut off the head of the ox. He said ‘Uncle, I have slaughtered an ox’. He said ‘That’s all right, so long as ‘Abda-Raḥmān does not get away’. He went and came to the horse. He slaughtered also the horse. (31) He went to catch ‘Abda-Raḥmān but ‘Abda-Raḥmān opened the door, went out and ran away. He had killed the asses, killed the horse, killed the ox. He had killed them all. He (the uncle) still said ‘That is all right’. (32) ‘Abda-Raḥmān (the intruder) ran away and disappeared. He (the uncle) came back and said ‘Be off with you! Go away! You have destroyed my house! Is this the kind of work that you do? Don’t do any more work’. He drove him away. (33) He drove him away and he went back to his aunt’s house, his aunt’s house, where he had taken eggs and put them on his head. She said ‘Hey, Ummo, you have returned!’ He said ‘Yes, my uncle did not have any work to give me, so I returned’. (34) She said ‘Is that so? What did you do? What happened?’ He said ‘By God, do you want the truth?’ She said ‘Yes’. He said ‘He gave me a job’. He said ‘He gave me seven asses “Go up and fetch wood with them. Get on with it!”’. He said ‘So, I went up (the mountain)—I was innocent, I did not know (what I was doing)—I went up and collected the wood and piled them up. (35) There were seven asses. While I was collecting wood, wolves were busy eating the asses. I took the saddle blankets, loaded them on my back, brought them down and threw them into the house’. She said ‘Then, what else?’ (36) He said ‘The wife of my uncle had plastered a room. A cat came and entered. I threw a stone, but it hit some date syrup. Syrup and millet seed got mixed together. The wife of my uncle did not tolerate this. She said “Go away”’. (37) Then my uncle said “No, no, don’t worry”. He said to me as follows “There are (other men), but it is only me who is called ‘Abda-Raḥmān. Do not let anybody come into the house. Another ‘Abda-Raḥmān came. Another ‘Abda-Raḥmān came and I said “Which ‘Abda-Raḥmān? (How) do I know which is my uncle and which not?””

⁶ The term *bərzoma* properly means a storage room in the basement.

(38) *máre šléleni gu-gòma¹ tǎya l-ó ‘Abda-Raḥmān.¹ xzéli tàwra¹ ’ána bəd-lóbbi*
‘Abda-Raḥmān-ile¹ prīmli.¹ xzéli sùsa,¹ ’áp-’aw prīmli.¹ ’ána lèðena,¹ bəd-lóbbi nàšele.¹
 (39) *’imə t-in prámalle,¹ xzáyən naḥyàðe¹ ’ína t-ħewàne.¹ mára hātχət wíða?¹ mára hot-*
štiməlle bέθət xálux.¹ ’ap-bέθi báyyət šaṭmàtle?¹ xús šqúl gànux¹ si-l-bèθa.¹ (40) qímεle
zila l-bèθa.¹ zilεle l-bèθa,¹ bábe yómme díye mára hà,¹ xázəx kéle ma’áyšux?¹ máre
mút ma’áyša muttáli?¹ máre hātχən wíða be-xàli,¹ hātχən wíða be-’àmti.¹ ’u-’əḥyən.¹
’ána xéna šúla la-pàlxən¹ ’u-la-bǎyànne.¹ šwiqáli tàma¹ ’u-θéli làxxa.¹

(38) He said 'We went down into the basement stable, searching for that (intruder) 'Abda-Raḥmān. I found an ox. I thought he was 'Abda-Raḥmān and slaughtered him. I found a horse and slaughtered it also. I did not know. I thought it was a man. (39) When I was slaughtering it, I saw that its ears were those of animals'. She said 'Have you done this?' She said 'You have ruined your uncle. Do you want to ruin also me? Go, take yourself off. Go home'. (40) He went back home. He went back home and his father and mother said 'Ah, let's see, where are your earnings?' He said 'What earnings could I make?' He said 'I did such-and-such in the house of my uncle, I did such-and-such in the house of my aunt, then I came home. I shall not do any more work. I don't want it.' I have left it there and come here.