

Informant: Bənyamən Bənyamən (ʔEn-Nune)

(1) qātu-w ʔaqùbra dšžmən t-ğdàðela.¹ qātu xazyále ʔaqùbra,¹ doqále ʔaxlèle.¹ ʔé-ga,¹ ʔaqùbre¹ kùlla jmìla.¹ jmìla xa-dùkθa,¹ móra mo-čára t-óðəx tla-d-áyya qātu t-la-ʔaxlələni.² ʔaxni pláta gu-bèθa,¹ báyx táyəx xá-məndi t-àxləx,¹ hóla xzáyəllən qātu ráqa báθrən xàlələni.¹ (2) móra t-óðəx xà-məndi¹ qa-t-ʔíman t-áθya qātu,¹ ʔaxni šəməxle qála díya,¹ ha-t-àrqəxi.¹ móra màto.² móra dərəx xa-zága b-qðálat qātu.¹ taləxle zága b-qðála díya.¹ ʔímat ʔəθya,¹ mzàngər zága,¹ ʔaxni šəməxle qále t-àrqəx mətəšəx.¹ (3) móra ʔáyya xoš-šanitela!¹ béna xá-məna mərə de-yàlla!¹ bas-ʔéni dərəle zága b-qðálat qātu.² (4) ʔáp-xa lá-šabər taléle zága b-qðálat qātu.¹ ʔo-ʔaqùbrət tále zága b-qðálat qātu t-axlèle.¹ ʔé-ga píšla hàdəx.¹ mərə ʔáp-xa la-šabər dərəle zága b-qðálat qātu.¹

A44 THE CAT AND THE MICE

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(1) A cat and a mouse were mutual enemies. The cat saw the mouse, caught it and ate it. Then all the mice gathered together. They gathered in a place and said 'What solution can we find for this cat so that it does not eat us? When we go out into the house searching for something to eat, the cat sees us, runs after us and eats us'. (2) They said 'Let's do something so that when the cat comes we shall hear its sound and we can run away'. They said 'How (shall we do this)?' They said 'Let's put a bell on the neck of the cat. Let's hang a bell on its neck. When it comes, the bell will sound, we shall hear its sound and run and hide'. (3) They said 'That's a good idea!' Then one of them said 'Let's do it! But who will put the bell on the neck of the cat?' (4) None of the them dared to put the bell on the neck of the cat. The mouse who hung the the bell on the neck of the cat would be eaten by it. So they remained as they were. They said 'Nobody dares to put the bell on the neck of the cat'.