

GUINA-ANG BONTOK PUBLISHED TEXTS

The *Chokochok* Prayer¹ (Text K04)

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| 1. San sin-akhi ay ipokhaw, inanapchas incharewcha. | 1. The two brothers hunted for something to sustain them. |
| 2. Mamifiligcha, ma-icharcharchas natimochan nan chanom. | 2. They climbed the mountains, and reached the gathering of the waters. |
| 3. Chanena ya pad-anancha nan tapan nan kar-atab ² ay pakhey, nan owak nan tongango, ³ nan okit nan agkhong. | 3. Suddenly they came upon the husks of newly harvested rice, the sheaths of corn and the shells of field snails. |
| 4. "Sino nan ninlatab si sa? Entat sa wanchen." | 4. "Who harvested that? Let's go and trace him." |
| 5. Omalichad Faliwen. | 5. They came to Faliwen. |
| 6. Omalichas nan iFaliwen, "Fakenkamis ninlatab." | 6. They came to the people of Faliwen, "It wasn't us who harvested." |
| 7. Omalichad Khawa. | 7. They came to Khawa. |
| 8. Ifakhachas nan iKhawa, "Fakenkamis nas nan ninlatab." | 8. They asked the people of Khawa, "It wasn't us here who harvested." |
| 9. Omalichad Paling. | 9. They came to Paling. |
| 10. Ifakhachas nan iPaling, "Fakenkamis nan ninlatab." | 10. They asked the people of Paling, "It wasn't us who harvested." |
| 11. Osa-orencha nan Cheka-ar, tay in-sinicha-or ⁴ nan Makonanoy. | 11. They followed a stream to Cheka-ar, because they visited with the people of Makonanoy. |
| 12. "Into nan marpos ili ay Likhey?" | 12. "Where is the one (stream) starting from the village of Likhey?" |
| 13. "Nan pet marpos ilis Lichem. Na-ay folingling nan mangil-ilpowanas nan ta- | 13. "It is the one starting from the village of Lichem. This clear water is what is |

pan nan pakhey, nan okit nan agkhong, ya nan owak nan tongango, ya nan okis nan itab."

bringing down the husks of rice, the shells of field snails, the sheaths of corn and the shells of beans."

14. Omeychad Langtakhan.

14. They went to Langtakhan.

15. Sagsakhangenchad Pak-et, et ka-it-et.

15. They looked ahead to Pak-et, it just became quiet.

16. Komay-at si nan Chakhochog, in-kanatey si nan Atiwerwer.

16. He climbed up to Chakhochog, and went straight on to Atiwerwer.

17. Osochongana nan Alimegmekhan si nan Yommad.

17. He looked down at the descendants of Alimegmeg at Yommad.

18. Kankanan nan iYommad, "Faken nan marpos Lichem, che-ey ay Fotiwtew nan mangil-ilpowanas nan tapan nan pakhey ay kar-atab, okis nan tongango, ya nan okis nan itab."

18. The people of Yommad were saying, "It's not the stream that comes from Lichem, it is the Fotiwtew stream that is bringing down the husks of newly harvested rice, sheaths of corn, and shells of beans."

19. Komay-atchad Khiwang.

19. They climbed to Khiwang.

20. "Nan pet pay iLitangfan nan ninlatab."

20. "So it's the Litangfan people who have started harvesting."

21. Esachat katkataw-an nan kha-eb nan chokochok.

21. They said the *chokochok* prayer.

22. Kanencha nan kar-atab ay pakhey ya achicha kayawayan.⁵

22. They eat the newly harvested rice and they don't get sick from it.

23. Okitancha nan agkhong ya achicha kachawes.

23. They shell the field snails and do not get sick.

24. Kanencha nan tongangocha ya achi-cha kayawayan.

24. They eat their corn and don't get sick.

25. Pakchermis nan Paliwak ay kegser ya sikar, somikar nan latafenmis na, ya inkekegserkami ay mangan si nan linatab ya mangokit si nan agkhong.

25. Our *pakcher* spirit at Paliwak who is resistant and gives increase, may what we harvest here increase, and may we who eat the harvested rice and the shelled field snails be resistant.

26. Pakchermis nan Fa-ang ay tengnen,

26. Our *pakcher* spirit at Fa-ang who is

intetengnenkami, tay na-ay ay iyar-
arawagko sik-as nan chokochok.

cool, may we be cool, because here we are
mentioning you in the *chokochok*.

27. Achikami kayawyawan si nan ka-
nenmi, ay kar-atafay pakhey, ya nan oki-
tanmi ay agkhong, ya nan tongango.

27. May we not get sick from what we eat,
the newly harvested rice, the snails we
shell, and the corn.

NOTES

¹ This prayer is said during a ceremony of the same name which is performed on the first day of harvest, when a woman from each family goes to the fields to collect a bundle of unripe rice (also called *chokochok*). It is made that night into a confectionary called *cho-om*, this ritual prayer is said over it and it is then hung in the house until the following morning when it can be eaten by children. The purpose of the ceremony is to prevent a sickness called *machawes* which can affect people who eat newly harvested rice. It is also said during the *ketketad* ceremonies which are part of the *fayas* marriage ceremonies, following the removal of the *fansar* structures from which the heads of sacrificed water buffalo are hung (see Text C11).

² *latab* 'the first rice harvested after *chokochok*'

³ The term presently used for corn in Guina-ang is *tongnga*.

⁴ *asicha-or* 'to visit each other'

⁵ *iyawyaw* 'to wash clean by pushing in and out of water', *mayawyawan* 'to have a washed out feeling, following an attack of diarrhoea'