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Chorti (Mayan) Texts pp.176-183

Transcription/translation by Ch'orti' Project, Robin Quizar

12 Buzzard - Usij

1. K'ani		inche	kontar		inte'	inte' ojroner		lo ke'		uk'ajti ani		
I want		to do	tell		a	story	that			they used to tell		
e	onya'n	l	jente.		Ayan		inte'		ojrone	r	ak'ajna	
the	old		people.		There is		a		story		is told	
									inte'			
ke'	ayan	ayan		inte'		diya		tajwina			winik.	
that	there was		one		day		came along		a		man.	
I	e	winik		yaja'		che		ke'	e	saksak		
And	the	man		that		they sa	ıy	that	the	white		
u't upix.		I	arob'na,			"Ne't, tuk'a			apatna	apatna'r ana'ta?		
his knees.		And	he was spoken to,			"You, what			your w	your work you know?		
War inwira			u't apix		ya'x	ke'	intakix		intanta	intantan."		
I	see		your k	nees	there	that	all		dusty.'	,		
27. Ja'xir		che,	"Ne'n,		nipatna		a'r	ja'x	(e)	cheyaj	otot.	
Н	е	said,		"Me,		my wo	rk	it is	the	buildin	g houses.	
Tya'		inpejkna			twa'	a'nchi		ingojr		otot,	inxin.	
Wherever		I am called			to	put up		a (round)		house,	I go.	
Porke'		ja'x		nipatna'r		ne'n	i	tamar		innumse nib'a.		

Because that is my work to me and with it I make my living.

Tamar intajwi tuk'a ink'uxi."

With it I find something I eat."

44. Entonses che twa', "Kocha (in)kay kanwe't?"

Then they said to him, "How began you learn?"

47. Ja'xir che, "Ne'n kay kanwe'n porke' nipya'rob' He said, "I began I learned because my friends

insolo albani'lob' i poreso ne'n ub'an kanwe'n.
all masons and that is why I also I learned.

I inte'to *niwerma'nob'* ja'x upatna'rob' ub'an, porke' And then one my brothers he his work too, because

no'n kocha ja'x era kapya'rob' xe' b'ajxanob' *albani'lob'*.

we are like them here, our friends, who were first masons.

I tuno'ron, no'n b'an kalok'oy *albani'lon*."

And all of us, we also have become (come out) masons."

68. Entonses che twa', "I e *kal*, tya' atajwi

Then they said to him, "And the lime, where from you got (on)

amanil?"

your mason's apron?"

75. Ja'xir che, "Ne'n kal ne'n lok'oy inche." e ira "I I make." He said, the lime, Ι it come out

79. Entonses che ke', "No'n k'ani ani twa' Then they said to him that, "We wanted lo ke' kawira kocha ache kal ab'oni e you make lime we see how the that you spread tamar." otot house with it." 88. I ja'xir che, k'ani (in)wira i inwirsyo'x." "Jay I will show you." "If And said, (I) see, he want and Che ke' ixin ixin, pakwan tama roosted (mouth downward) They say that he went, he went on

blanko inte' uk'ab' te', uyakta tari rum ta its branch tree, let fall white a here on ground kocha e kal, kocha puk'b'ir tan.

like the lime, like the watery (beaten) mud.

98. Entonses che twa' umen e winikob' lo ke' Then to him said by the men who o'jron "Pero si takar, ma'chi ja'x ne't, war speaking with him, "But indeed you, it were not tuk'a axix ak'ampes, awa're ke', 'Albani'len.' war

something you are using, you say that, 'I am a mason,'

ajchi' blanko i ata' taka si pero your droppings but indeed with them that white and kisas awa're ke', 'Albani'len." tamar with that 'I am a mason." maybe you say that,

110. Entonses ja'xir che ke' ma'chixto ojronyan. Then could speak. he they say not then Sino ke' lo ke' konde ja'xir uche, arob'na, did, when this was told to him, Instead what he uche "Jos, jos. Jos, jos." Porke' che ke' unuk (e) he made his throat (the), "Hos, hos. Hos, hos." Because they say that arob'na ke' uta' k'ijna kwando tama war he was angry when he was told that with his droppings he was Intakixto umajres ke' albani'l. e jente ja'xir deceiving the people that he was Just then mason. o'srema pakar tama uk'ab' e te'. he went "hos hos" perched on its branch the tree. 126. Che twa' winikob', "Jay ik'ijna umen e It was said to him by the the "If you get angry men, o'yb'i lo ke' kawa're't, kawa're't war pero no'n war

we are telling you,

well,

we

are

telling you

hearing

what

lo ke' e'ra'ch." that which is true."

130. Ja'xir sutpa winikob' che ke' uwira e yaja'. They that he returned to look at the those. say men Pero t'ujna ? ujor esto yax umen k'ijna'r, e But this one green turned? his head because of the anger, i e winik yaja', xe' war che ke' albani'l, ja'x and the those, who they say men are masons, he a'rob'na kone'r che ke' mentado usij, e e it is said today the one called buzzard, they say that the uta' usij, tz'u'b'a, ke' ja'xir albani'l, buzzard, whose droppings pile up, he is that mason, i ke' i alok'oy uche ke' erer otot, and that he can go out make houses, and that alok'oy ub'oni otot taka (e) twa' uche saksak. he makes house with that which white. he goes out to spread 152. I kone'r blanko kawira poreso e usij And therefore today the buzzard white we see u't upix, a'ta'n blanko porke' tya' his knees, and where he leaves his droppings white because

che ke' ja'xir *albani'l*. they say that he mason.

a

there was

162. Ja'xir ke' konda'ixto utajwi ub'a taka winikob' che e yaja', They that when he met with the those, say men ayan inte' chinam cheker tya' utajwi ub'ob'.

appeared

where

they met each other.

Uya'ra (i) winikob' ke' ototob' lo ke' e e syan They said (also) the which that the many houses men

uwira yaja' *galanik* saksak. they saw there beautifully white.

town

174. "Pero insolo nitrabajo. Insolo ne'n ko'yen tamar. "But just my work. Just I am tired of it.

Ne'n kawinchi Galan uwirna'r e ototob' yaja'.

I collapse. Beautiful their look the houses those.

Pero insolo ne'n inb'oni.

But alone I plastered them.

183. Entonses che e winikob', "Pwes, jay e'ra'ch ke' Then "Well, if said the men, true that

ne't albani'let, ti'n diya ka'xi kachajnyet? twa' ache

you are mason, how many days would it take you that you make

ko'tot? *Porke*' no'n ma'chi uyub'yo'n twa' kache our houses? Because we not it is possible for us that we make

ingojr ko'tot xe' saksak. I ti'n diya one-round our house that is white. And how many days

ka'xi kach'ajnye't twa' ache ingojr ko'tot would it take for you that you make one-round our house

xe' saksak?" that is white?"

202. Che ke' arob'na umen e winikob' yaja',

They say that he was told by the men those,

"You, your house where you sleep must be pretty

uwirna'r."
its appearance."

209. Che ja'xir, "A', ne'n galan ni'otot, galan Said "Ay, beautiful my house, beautiful he, me inwayan. Ma'chi o'choy tya' sisar, nyen nyen e where I sleep. Not it enters the cold, nor the nor ik'ar, ma'chi o'choy porke' k'ajna'r tamar, wind, not enters in it, because especially

ustamb'ir i galan saksak inwayan." nimener, tya' constructed by me, and beautiful white where I sleep." 222. Entonses mojrob', "Pues, no'n ma'chi uyub'yo'n. che e Then said the others, "Well, to us not is possible for us. No'n kache awantar sisar, porke' o'choy e We we do endure the cold, because it enters ik'ar kawar? e tya' kawayan. I poreso no'n wind where we sleep. therefore the And we ke' ko'tot. inte' k'ani kach'anye't twa' ache diya we request of you that one day want that you make our houses. ma'chi kana'ta akomida lo ke' ak'uxi. Pero no'n But we know your food that you eat. we not A saber ak'uxi tuk'a tuk'a ne't." We wonder what you eat you." 243. Ja'xir che, "Ne'n nikomida lo ke' ink'uxi insolo He said, "Me, my meals that I eat only Ne'n ma'chi ink'uxi tuk'i'k' we'r. xix. I I eat just anything. meat. not Ne'n tama we'r taka ture'n." I live." from only meat

251. I che twa', "I tya' atajwi twa' ak'uxi,

And he said to him, "And where you find what you eat,

ke' kocha atajwi?"
that how you find it?"

257. Ja'xir che, "Ne'n, e we'r lo ke' ink'uxi maja'x
He said, "Me, the meat that I eat it is not

inte'ra. Ink'uxi e wakax, ink'uxi e chij, ink'uxi all the same. I eat the cow, I eat the horse, I eat

tz'i', i ak'ach, e chumpi', i inkojt jay the dog and chicken, turkey, and if one-animal

jente tya' ch'a'r chamen ink'uxi ub'an. person when lying dead I eat also.

Porke' ne'n nikomida xe' ink'uxi, ja'x
Because to me my food that I eat, it

galan o'jtz'un. *Porke'* xe' ojtz'un, ja'x wonderful it smells. Because that which it smells, that

ink'uxi ne'n."
I eat I."

280. Entonses che winikob', "Perok (?) tuk'a ata'tix e masoj tzun ?

Then said men, "But what smells the most?"

284. Ja'xir che, "Konda inkojt wakax inkojt o He said, "When one-animal one-animal cow or chij ch'a'r chamen diya, ch'a'r tama tres horse has lain dead for three days, lying chamen, akay o'b'okna, i achekta uyujtzner. dead, it begins and its smell. to rot, appears Uyujtz'i inxin i ne'n, inwira, tamar taka ture'n. It smells and that is what I live on. to me, I go to see, I Ja'x era nikomida ne'n. jay no'x k'ani imajnen It this my food And if you hire me to me. want you inche twa' yo'tot, ichamse pues, erer your house, so that I make well, you must you kill inkojk iwakax tuk'a yentib'a (?). Pero o one-animal you have. your cow whatever But or ich'ab'u o'jtz'unlan tu'tajn e k'in twa' twa' you layit the so that will smell so that in sun ink'uxi. Porke' ne'n ma'chi ink'uxi inte' I eat it. Because I I eat not a

ojtz'un."

ma'chi

komida

xe'

meal that not it smells."

320. I *poreso* kone'r e usij ukojko

And therefore today the buzzard waits for

atujran e tz'i', e wakax, e chij, e ak'ach,

become valuable the dog, the cow, the horse, the chicken,

tuno'r lo ke' achamay, i a'tujran tamar awe'.

everything that dies, and becomes good for him to eat.

Porke' che ke' ja'x e ojtz'un una'ta. Ja'xir

Because they say that he the smell knows. He

mix uk'uxi inte' kosa ma'chito apukta utwi'r,

not he eats any thing not still stink to him,

porke' ja'xir, che ke' xe' o'jtz'un,

because he, they say that which it smells,

uk'ani.

he likes it.

339. Ja'xto era *ukontaja* e usij.

It this his story the buzzard.