

Ch'orti' speaker: Isidro González
 Anthropological linguist: John Fought
Chorti (Mayan) Texts pp.184-185
 Transcription/translation by Ch'orti' Project, Robin Quizar

13 Ants - T'isim

1. K'ani inche kontar uyojroner, e ojroner tama e
 Want I do tell its story, the story of the

t'isim. Che ke' konda ma'ta'ni tu k'a
 ant. They say that when there was no

e nar apajk'a, ma'chito aya' ache'na *konoser*
 the corn to plant, not it was (done) known

e nar. Che ke' ta inte' diya e t'isim
 the corn. They say that on one day the ants

uchektes. Porke' che'nob' ke' yaje' ayan inte'
 discovered it. Because it was said that there was a

dyos a'rob'na San Manuel Monte de Oro. Che
 god called San Manuel Monte de Oro. They say

ke' (yaje') e dyos yaja' (yach ya) chekta
 that there the god that, appeared

e nar b'ajxan. I e jente ma'chi una'tob'
 the corn first. And the people not they knew

ma'chi uchok ma'chi una'tob' kocha twa'

not not they knew how about

tuk'a e nar.
what the corn.

41. Entonses e t'isim, che ke' konda sakojpa,
Then the ants, they say that when day broke,

turu umujr tama usuy (e) otot. I'xnob'
was their anthill at its base the house. Went (the people)

kay upikto'b' umujr e t'isim. Che ke'
began to stir up their hill the ants. They say that

utajwyob' ingojr yer ut'isim ch'a'r tamar,
they found one-round little one their ants lying in it,

i kondaixto nak'i yer e nar yaja', kay uketyob'
and when the corn that, began they kept it

ejsto ke' b'an ub'orojsyob'. Che ke'
until that also increased. They say that

b'anixto k'otoy chekta e nar. *Pero* e nar
that is how came to appear the corn. But the corn

che ke' maku' rum tari. Ja'x e t'isim
they say that within earth here. It was the ant

uchektes to'r e rum.
made it appear above the ground.

64. I poreso kone'r e jente tya' uwirob'
And therefore today the people, where they see

turu umujr e t'isim atza'y uwirob' porke'
is its hill the ant, happy they see it, because

che ke' umujr e t'isim galan anari
they say that its hill the ant beautifully grows corn.

Porke' che'nob' ke' ja'x e t'isim uchektes
Because it is said that it was the ants made it appear.