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Chorti (Mayan) Texts pp.75-85

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

2 Serpent - Nojta' Chan

1. Ayan	otronte	·'	ojronei	:	ak'ajna	a	tama	e	syerpo		xe'
There is	s anothe	r	story		is told		about	the	serpen	t	that
a'rob'na	Chan.	Che		ke'	ayan		inte'	tyempo	0,	tama	
is called	Chan.	They s	ay	that	there v	vas	a	time,		about	
e	xukur	xe'	alumuy	y	tama	uti'		e	chinan	1	
the	river	that	passes		by	its edg	e	the	town		
Jokotan.	Che		ke'	tama		e	xukur		yaja',		
Jocotán.	They s	ay	that	about		the	river		that,		
ayan	inte'	tyempo	ο,	e	ch'i'		ixin		ejsto		
there was	a	time,		the	flow		went		up to		
maku'	k'opot.	E	ja'	k'a'pa		uk'uch	i	tuno'r,		e	
inside	brush.	The	water	comple	etely	carried		everytl	ning,	the	
sik'ab'ob'	, e	kene',		lo ke'	1	pak'b'	ir	ani		serka	
cane,	the	banana	ıs,	that wh	nich	was pla	anted			near	
e	oriya	e	ja'.								
the	banks	the	water.								

29. K'a'pa uk'uchi tari, i k'a'pa uk'uchi

e

ototob'

It finished carrying off			here, and		it finished		carrying off		the	houses	5
lo ke'	utajwi		serka near			tya' where		alumuy it passed		ja'. water.	
K'a'pa uk'uchi It finished carrying off			tari, here,			uwajpi it grabbed		nik would		chitam pigs,	1,
ak'ach, chickens,	•		wakax, cattle,		tuno'r everything		lo ke' that		utajwi it found		
tya' where	b'ut'ur overflowing		a'xin it came		serka near		e the	oriya banks		ani	
e the	xukur. river.		Tuno'r Everything		1			uk'eche it carried		e ototob', the houses.	
Porke' Because	che they say	ke'	e the	syerpo		lok'oy		tama at		inte'	
montanya uk'ab'a' mountain named		Sesekmil.									
62. Ma'c	hi kache we do		konos	er	e the	lugar,		pero but		b'an so	
ak'ajna it is said	ke' that	ja'x it is	b'an indeed	1	uk'a'p its nar		e the	monta mount	•	tya' where	
lok'oy came out	e the	chan snake	yaja'. that.		Tar'ix For th	to at reaso	che	e the	jente people	e	ke' that

e chan, konda a'ch'i' makwi'r e witzir the snakes, when they grow within the mountains

alok'oy uka'chwob'. come out their horns.

go out

the

into

mountains

75. I konda ixto a'ch'yob', chan xe' entonses e And when they grow, the then then serpents that Onya'n Chan, i konda ach'i', ma to ja'x they are Great Serpents, when they grow, not yet and che ke' b'an kocha jente e axana, like people they say that indeed the they walk, usik'b'a uwixka'rob' anujb'yob' takar. twa' they look for their wives in order to they mate with them. konda kib'itz', i Pwes, che ke', lok'oy e Well, they say that, when comes out the landslide, and e chan yaja' alok'oyob', che ke' uwixka'rob' the serpents those come out, they say that their wives, anujb'yob' a'xin usajkob' takar. I poreso they go looking for mating with them. And that is why alok'wob' witzir tya' cha'rob', a'xin ta e

where

they live,

they go

ach'a'nob' otronte' witzir. alok'wob', Pero tya' tama crawling another mountain. But where they come out, to uchob' me'yra kib'itz', i usatyob' lugar. e e they make great landslides, they destroy the and the place.

113. I tarixto che ke' uk'ajti jente kone'r e And so they say that say the people today ke' tuno'r alok'wob' a'xinob' ak'ani ma tya' all that to where they want not come out go che ke' ak'otwob' porke' chan yaja' atajwina e they go because they say that the serpent that was found ch'a'r tama e uyori'r e ja'. I ja'xir ketpa remained lying its edge the water. And he on the ch'a'n makwi'r ja' ujor ingojr noxi' e tama tun. lying the water on its top a (round) big rock. in I aketpa ch'a'n. Porke' che ke' jajtz'a he was beaten And he stayed lying. Because they say that dyosob' porke' irna ke' me'yra umen war by the gods because it was seen that much he was usati lugar. Ι uk'uchi ototob', e war e

destroying the

place.

And

he was

carrying off

the

houses,

i dyosob'. entonses jajtz'a I umen e poreso and then he was beaten by the gods. And therefore uk'ajti e jente ke' chan irer alok'oy e ma say the people that the serpent come out not can dyos. a'xin ma'chi ajk'una permiso jay umen e if he is given permission the God. not by go 154. I kib'itz' uche ti'n alok'oy matuk'a e And some come out the landslide they make not any ototob' usati. I motor uche, matuk'a pero e or they do it, but not any the houses they destroy. And ja'xto a'xin esto tya' ak'ani ak'otoy. Pero then they go where they want to go. But up to chan usati ototob' jay e war me'yra e if the serpent is destroying many the houses tya' war alok'oy, ma'chi a'ktana a'xin ejsto tya' is allowed where he is coming out, not to go up to wherever ak'otoy dyos. Ajajtz'a chamen. umen i aketpa e he goes the God. He is beaten and left dead. by Porke' che ke' chan yaja' umen e dyosob' jajtz'a. e Because they say that the serpent that the gods is beaten.

by

I	ya'	taki'x	ketpa		ch'a'n	1	tama	e	ja'
And	there	just	he sta	yed	lying		in	the	water
yaja'	tya'	alok'oy	e	b'i'r,	water		tama	e	aldeyob'.
that	where	it came ou	t the	path,	passin	ıg	by	the	villages.
187. Akay ak'ajna		na ke'	' e	chan	an yaja'		akay		ch'a'n
Can	to be	said tha	it the	serpent that			it is said		lay
tz'akta	ocho	diya i	ach'a'	r	to'r		ingojr		tun.
completin	g 8	days, and	d lying		on top	of	a (rou	nd)	rock.
.							e'rna		
	Porke' yaja' ma			umen		ak'otoy			tya'
Because	that,	nobody	by		he can	ne	to be s	seen	where
				_					
ch'a'r	porke'	ab'ak'ajrn		I	che		ke'	e	chan
lying	because	they were	frightened.	And	they s	ay	that	the	serpent
		1, 1:	1 2,	•	1 1				CI
tama	3		cha'te		balija		axana.		Che
on	his tail	he carried	two		bags		walkii	ng.	They say
12	?	1- 242	e	4		.			
ke'	ya'			tumin		tamar.			
that	there	full of	the	money	ý	in the	m.		
208. I	poreso	che	a	ke'	e	chan		yaja',	
	that is wh		ey say	that	the	serpen	\ +	that,	
Allu	. mat 15 WII	y ille	y say	uiat	шс	scrpen	ıı	uial,	
kwando	tajwin	ıa ch'	'a'r	chame	en,	b'ut'k	'a	e	jente
when	•			dead,		filled		the	people
		-) -	\mathcal{L}						1 1 -

ja'. K'ani oriya a'xin tama e e ani banks the the water. They wanted on to go uch'ak'yob' alok'oy, k'ani ulok'syob' unej e they chop off his tail they wanted they take out the leaving, tumin. ab'ak'tob' che ke' Pero porke' e But they were afraid because they say that the money. chan me'yra uwik'arir u't. Ι uwik'arir u't tama e wind of its passing. wind of its passing serpent great And in the wak'chetaka inte' I uwari ja'. yaja' tama that suddenly throws into the water. And a person I ma'chi'x alok'oy inte'. ab'ak'ajrna poreso e is feared not come out a person. And therefore the chan. serpent.

232. Pwes, e chan yaja', che ke' ya' ch'a'n e Well, the snake that, they say that there lying the Mamajchi' ocho diya. ak'ot'oy uyejtz'er porke' ta 8 days. Nobody passed its side because by che ke' motor chamen pero ayanto uwik'arir u't. they say that although dead it still had wind of its passing. I uyakta ak'otoy ma'chi jente uyejt'zer. e ta And it let the people come it side. not to Pero jente, tumin xe' ch'u'r tama e ja'x e But people, the it is the money that hangs from ke' unej, uwirob', porke' che upuntu ja'x war its end his tail, they watching it, they say because that were me'yra tumin. Uk'uchi alok'oy kwando a'xin, tya' It carried it coming out much money. when go, when ak'ani otronte' anujb'i taka chanir uyej tama its fellow it wanted to mate with another serpent on I algun witzir. Uk'eche utumin a'xin. tuno'r some other mountain. It took all its money going. And che ke' me'yra. they say it was a great deal. that

255. I ja'xto k'ani alok'esna umen e jente, pero And then wanted it to be taken out by the people, but ke' ab'ak'ajrna. I ukachu, che insolo tama they were frightened. And its horn, they say that only on kocha tumin b'ut'ur. Ukachu che ke' b'an money full of. Its horn, they say that indeed like

ukachu wakax, I me'yra nojta'. e pero poreso its horn the bull, but much big. And therefore chan che'nob' ke' ayan utumin. e he has it is said the serpent that his money. taki 271. Konda ixto kay ja', ja'xir ketpa e When then began dries up the he remained water, ch'a'n takin. Entonses che ke' kay b'ut'k'a ta dry land. Then lying on they say that began to gather i usij, k'ujxa. Pero ixna e syan kay the vultures, and began he was eaten. But a long time many ch'a'r. War ak'ujxa usij porke' umen e because he lay there. He wasbeing eaten by the vultures che ke' me'yra nojta' e chan yaja'. they say that much big that. the serpent 283. I poreso ixna k'a'pa k'ujxa umen usij. And that is why a long time it finish to be eaten by vultures. Pero ma'chi ixe'n kocha inwira, ma'chi ne'n, But I, since I see it, I go not not inwira tya' ch'a'r chamen. Ja'x nik inwira, I see it If I had seen it, where he was lying dead.

kisas inlok'se ani utumin. maybe I would have taken his money.