Ch'orti' speaker: Isidro González Anthropological linguist: John Fought *Chorti (Mayan) Texts* pp.86-99

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

was destroyed the

e

Not long ago

satpa

konda

3 Landslide - Kib'itz'

1. K'ani I will	inche I do	kontar tell	otronte		ojroner. story.		Ayan There is		inte' a	
chinam town	uk'ab'a'	Okotepeke Ocotepeque	tama in	e the	Ondur Hondu		Yaja', Of that	t,	e the	
chinam town	yaja', that,	che they say	ke'	tarix	e tyen	npo	me'yra	ı	ani	e the
chinam, town,	i and	me'yra many	ani	e the	jente people	;	ayan there w	vere	tamar.	
E The	ototob'	galan pretty	ik'ani you wa	ant	uwirna	a'r. earance		Pero But	k'otoy	
inte'	diya day	satpa, was destroyed		ke'	e the	chinan town		yaja' that	satpa,	estroyed,
tama in	e the	anyo mil n	, obesyer					tilat	was ac	suoyea,
28. Ma t		year 1932. satpa	e	chinan	n	yaja',	i	che		ke'

town

chinam

they say

that

sakojpa,

that,

yaja',

and

konde

when	en was destroyed		the	town		that,		when		day came,	
kay began	xana go around	inte'		ilama.		Arob' Was t		e the	chinar town	n	twa'
alok'ob' they should	ani. ld leave.	Che Said	Cha'iy	7	e the	ilama old w	oman	ke'	"Lok' "Get o		
kone'r! now!	Porke' Because	kone'ı today	•	mix no lon	iger	ja'x it	twa'	e the	korpa ³		e the
chinam town	ira. this.	Porke Becau		e the	chinar town	n	ira this	kone'i today	•	turu is	
udi'ir its day	twa' that	asatpa it will	, be dest	royed,	i and	ti'ne those	who	alok'o	У	a'jni runnir	ng
akorpato, will be sti	ll saved,	i and	ti'ne those	who	ma'ch	ii	ya' there	twa' so that	t	ak'a'p	
53. Pero But	e jente the people	ma'ch e not	i		'syob'. beyed.		Che'n		ke' that	e the	
ilama	ira	intaka		matuk	a'a	ujwisy	yo	wa'r,		war	

her mind

e

the

ke'

that

kay

standing,

old woman

ilama

uche

she is

yaja'

that

abisar

old woman

axana

interu

walking

this

o'jron.

talking.

e

just

Porke

Because

ototob'

not

che

they say

xana,

all the houses walked to, began she did warn e jente. I pero ja'xob' che'nob' ke' e ilama And -- but they said old woman the people. that the intaka lokojran. Ma'chi uk'ub'syob' lo ke' uk'ajti ira this just has gone crazy. Not they believed what she told them ilama. e the old woman. 72. Pero kwando tarderan, kay k'axi e jaja'r, war ak'axi evening came, began to fall the But when rain, it was falling I ejsto sakojpa otronte' diya, ma'chi anumuy. dawned until another day, not it passed. And ejsto ke' b'an numuy e diya, ma'chi anumuy e jaja'r. up until indeed passed the ended the rain. day, not Ι konda ixto sakojpa ajanakna, otro diya, ere war And when then dawn came day, at the moment it was getting light, next kwando jik'na e witzir tichan. Porke' ja'x inte' thundered the when mountain above. Because that a witzir Ja'x kib'tz'a tari umaki me'yra. e mountain great. It slid down coming buried the chinam, porke' no'n akay kak'otoy i kawirato town, because began coming and we we saw

kib'itz' umaki chinam. e xe' tari e the landslide that came buried the town. 107. Uk'ajti jente kone'r, ti'ne turwob' yaja', e Tell people today, those who the were there, che ke' kwando satpa chinam, ayanto e was destroyed the they say that when town, there were still jente lok'oy ajni chinam e kay tama e the people began running the going from town Tari kay turwanob' ejsto inte' plan yaja'. tama They came that. began staying up until in place a unajtir. me'yra far away. very

122. Pero alumuy uyori'ir ayan inte' kojn tama e But there was stream by the edge a ran e chinam tya' satpa yaja'. I che ke' where it was destroyed they say the town there. And that kojn yaja' ja' e ya tari syan anam, e the stream that there came the much mud, lo ke' tari kib'itz' tichan. Ι che ke' e which landslide from above. brought the And they say that

Kay ti'ne ulok'se kayto utumin tari. ayan there were those who began to get out their money here. They began uch'ab'u najtir tya' una'ta ke' ma'chi twa' where to put it far away they knew that not to it kib'itz'. Porke' ke' alumuy che kib'itz' e e pass by the landslide. Because they say that the landslide imb'ijk imb'ijk kib'tz'a tari. Uyub'yob' yaja' kay that little by little They heard began to slide down. Che che'nob' ajik'na. ke' "B'ajk'at intonses, it thundering. They said then, it was said "Danger that, kasatpa berda, porke' kib'itz' meru war water we may be destroyed truly, because real landslide is coming

tichan.

from above.

153. Entonses tuno'r e syan jente tama e chinam Then all the many people in the town ulok'se kay tuno'r lo ke' uyotot ayan tama began to take out everything that there was in their houses uturub'a najtir. I ti'ne uyajti u't utumin, kay putting it far away. And worried about their money, began some

uk'eche lok'oy ubalija. Kay uch'ab'u tari najtir. to carry it away (in) their bags. They began taking it putting it away. I ti'ne kay tari uch'ab'ob' yaja', i And those who began taking it putting it there, and ke' uch'ami che twa' asutpa a'xin otra they say that they turned back to get other that kosa lo ke' ulok'se uyotot. Tya' war ta things their houses. The place where that they got out from amaktz'a, porke' aj(e)kib'itz' war watar ya war e landslide they were going there being buried, because the was tichan. awatar war down from above. was coming 180. I tya' war alumwob' tama e kojn yaja' ya ravine that And where they were passing the there in amaktz'ob'. Ι che ke' tumin lo ke' e yaja' they were buried. And they say that the money that which kay lok'esna ch'ab'na najtir tya' ma'chi was beginning to be taken out to be put far away where not alok'oy kib'itz'. e

reached

the

landslide.

188. I uwinkir amaktz'a konda asutpa a'xin twa' ya' And its owners there were buried when turned back going where (a)tan ulok'se lo ke' Ι mas ayan uyotot. ta their houses. they take out that there was in And more ya' amaktz'a. Konde che uche sentir water there they were buried. When they say they did coming hear ujor i ak'a'pa. Ι e syan rum ta their heads they were finished. the much earth onto and And ma'chi'x uwira utumin tya' asutpa ayo'pa uyakta. where it was left. they returned coming their money not to see 201. I chinam poreso uk'ajti e jente tama e And therefore people in say the the town Okotepeke ke' uk'ab'yob' yaja' me'yra jente kay Ocotepeque that there many people began to gather up e tumin yaja', i tamar kone'r ayan because of it today the money that, and they have Porke' utuminob'. jente kay ulok'se me'yra their money. Because people began to take out many utumin uch'ab'u najtir tya' ma'chi alumuy their money putting it far away where it passed not

kib'itz'. ja'xir ma'chi'x Pero korpa, porke' e the landslide. But that was safe, because not ja'x tya' asutpa a'xin uyotot utaresan ta that where their houses returned going to bring to tuk'a lo ke' k'ani Ι ma'chi'x utares. otronyajr again what that which they wanted to bring. And not alok'oy porke' kib'itz' tichan, e war awatar the landslide from above, they get out because was coming

war amaktz'ob'. was burying them.

231. Entonses uwirob' ke' ma'chi'xto alumuyob' uyub'i Then they saw that not then they were able to pass kojn porke' ketpi'x ya' tama e puru anam there through the ravine because it already remained pure mud e kojn. Entonses lo ke' uchyob', ti'ne turwob' ravine. they did, the Then, what those who were turwanob' umorojse ub'ob' inte' tama chinam, tama in the town, they gathered themselves sitting in a me'yra uyaltir. Ayan ti'ne korpob'to, otot tall. house very There were those who they were still safe,

kay korpob'. they began to be safe.

kayto 250. Pero ti'ne b'ejrwob' twa' to ani But those who still began to move things so as to still ulok'se ukosob' lo ke' uyototob' -ayan ta take out their things they had their houses -that in utuminob', ub'ujkob', tuno'r k'antan ulok'syob' najtir. their money, their clothes, everything they wanted to take far away. I k'a'pob' b'i'r ya' kay tama u't e they finished on And there began its surface the path kib'itz'. I ejsto ke' tya' awatar e syan war where was coming the great landslide. And up until b'an b'ut'k'a tuno'r e chinam taka e anam indeed full all the with the town mud majka ototob'. Ketpa tuno'r e puru anam

e chinam. the town.

all

the

houses.

Remained

pure

mud

burying

274. Pero ingojr takix otot ketpa tama uyori'yer
But one (round) only house remained on its edge

e the	chinam town		tama on		e the		inxejr one sid	le	tya' where		i and
to'r on top	inte' one	santar high p		ja'x it		takix alone		ketpa.	ied.	I And	
ab'ut'k'a filled it		e the		jente people		ti'ne who		korpol were s	o'to. till safe.		
284. I And	konda	ixto then	kay began		numuy to pass		e the	kib'itz landsli		yaja', that,	
entonses then	tama from	e the	abyon airplar		kay began	k'otoy to com		e the	pujsa droppi	ng	e the
pan	to'r	e	otot	yaja'	tya'		makar	ob'.		I	
bread	on top of	op of the house		that where		they w		vere enclosed.		And	
ixinna it went on	kay began	xana going	e the	abyon airplan	ie	kay began		upusi to drop)	e the	pan bread
tya' where	ketpato remained	still	e the	mojr others			tama in	e the	otot house	yaja'. that.	
Pero But	tuno'r all	e the	jente people	k'a'pa finishe		maktz' were b		tama in		uyotot their h	
Porke' Because	inyajrer	è	maktz was bu		e the	chinan town	1	umen by	e the	anam.	

I	e	ja'		me'yr	a	kay		ch'i'.		I	pwes,
And	the	water		high		began		to rise		And,	well,
(e yaja'	si) if	kana'i we kn		ke'		berda it is tr	ue	porke becau		kak'ot	•
kawira	ke'	e	kib'itz	ζ',	turuto		esto		kone'ı	r	xe'
to see	that	the	landsl	ide	is still		up un	til	today		which
usati destroyed	e the	chinam. town.									
322. I	2. I kone'r e		chinar	chinam		Okotepeke		ja'x		lo ke	
And today		the	town		Ocotepeque		not	it is		that which	
turu was	ani once			e tyempo, old days,		sino ke' but rather		e inte'yx the another			
sutpa Okotepe		epeke.	e. I		poreso)	uk'ab	'a'	e	chinam	
turned into	o Ocote	peque.	que. And		therefore its i		its naı	its name		town	
yaja' that	Nweb New	oa	Okote	peke. peque.		Porke Becau	, ese	mix not		ja'x it is	e the
Okotepek	e xe'		turu		ani	ixni'x	•				
Ocotepequ	ue that	was			once used t		be.				
334. Pero che		ke'		xe'	e	china	n	ixni'x	,		

that

the

town

used to be,

But

they say

that

che ke' me'yra chinam, i ani ayan ani e they say that, big the town, and they had once once utumin jente lo ke' turwob' tamar. Pero e their money the people who lived in it. But k'a'pa Uk'ajti satpob' tyempo yaja'. tama e They tell it finished were destroyed the time that. at jente ke' chinam yaja' e e satpa the people the that was destroyed that town maku' porke' inte' lok'oy e witzir, syerpo because from inside serpent came out the mountain, a i ja'x uche kib'itz' lok'oy. syan tya' he came out. and he made large landslide where 349. I poreso kone'r che jente ke' e syerpo e And therefore today the serpent the people that say e syerpo ja'x e chan, e nukir chan snake, the serpent it is the the great snake ch'a'r witzir. I makwi'r kwando alok'ob', e lying inside the mountain. And when it comes out, entonses uchyob' syan kib'itz'. I asatpa e e landslides. then it causes the large And are ruined the

lugar umenerob'.

places by them.