THE FIRST CORN

Yowao

Free Translation

They cut down many trees, and burned them. "Younger brother, come here. When the river floods, when the mato fruits fall, you come back here. Bring mato fruits without shells. I want to see them. I won't die in the middle of the fire as the new garden burns. I won't die," he said. He stood on top of the trees that had been felled. "Set fire to the edge of the garden," he said. They set fire to it. He had a ceramic noisemaker [a wind instrument]. He was wearing feathered armbands, and he had painted his face red with annato. They set fire around him. "You all move to another village. Put out the fire in the whole garden with water," he said. At first there were no crops, but he planted crops. They put out the fire. When they burned him, he went into the air. After him there was a noise. His stomach went, "Tooo" when it exploded. He shot into the air. He landed in a stream and lay there.

They went to another village. They didn't see him for a long time. Then his younger brother came after him. "I want to see my older brother again. Mother, my brother said he wasn't going to die." So he came back, bringing mato fruits. "I'm going to roast mato fruits on my brother's fire. I will bring mato fruits," he said back and got to their village. "I set fire to my brother here." He saw the crops, there were many. Pineapple, peach palm, manioc, yams, taro, corn. The older brother had been making a house in the middle of the garden. His younger brother had come after him, and had found him. They went through where there was no path. The two of them went. They found him in a thick stand of manioc. "Older brother, is it you?" "It's me." He was weaving thatch. His house was big. "Where are my children?" asked the older brother. "The children are crying with hunger, and I came back because of them. I am bringing mato fruits because there is no way to roast them. Where is your fire?" "I don't have a fire," he said. "Your grandfather is sitting there. Twist your grandfather's ear, the first towisi lizard," said the older brother. So they twisted his ear, and he was scared of the fire that came out and ran away, leaving his fire behind. So he roasted the mato fruits.

The day was progressing. It was far back to the other village. "Older brother, I'm going." "All right, go. You all come back tomorrow." He was thinking about what he would do to them. He was thinking about his switch, and his pointed darts, to perforate their lips. He made the darts to perforate their lips and ears. It was corn.

"Mother, my older brother said we should go back tomorrow. We are killing the children with hunger. You haven't seen the crops. It happened just as my older brother said. There are crops all over," he said.

So they moved to the other village, and he perforated their lips. They arrived. His mother's lip was perforated, also his younger sisters', his father's, and the children's, all of them. He perforated all their lips. He beat them with a switch, so they could all eat the crops. After he beat them, they brought crops from the garden. He cut the corn stalks to harvest the corn. Then they ate the crops.
THE FIRST CORN

Interlinear Presentation

1

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Awa} & \quad \text{me} & \quad \text{kaka} & \quad \text{toha} & \quad \text{me}, & \quad \text{awa} & \quad \text{me} & \quad \text{sari} \\
\text{awar} & \quad \text{kaka} & \quad \text{toha} & \quad \text{me} & \quad \text{awa} & \quad \text{me} & \quad \text{sari} \\
\text{tree} & \quad 3\text{PL.S} & \quad \text{aracari_sp} & \quad \text{CH-AUX+F} & \quad 3\text{PL.S} & \quad \text{tree} & \quad 3\text{PL.S} & \quad \text{burn} \\
\text{nf} & \quad 3\text{PL.S} & \quad \text{tree} & \quad \text{harmed} & \quad \text{vt} \\
\end{align*}\]

\text{kanememetemoneke.}

\text{ka} & \quad \text{na} & \quad \text{hemete} & \quad \text{mone} & \quad \text{ke} \\
\text{COMIT-} & \quad \text{AUX-} & \quad \text{FP.N+F} & \quad \text{REP+F} & \quad \text{DECL+F} \\
\text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} \\

'They cut down many trees, and burned them.'

2

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Niso,} & \quad \text{niso} \\
\text{niso} & \quad \text{niso} \\
\text{younger_brother} & \quad \text{younger_brother} \\
\text{nm} & \quad \text{nm} \\
\text{tikamiya.} & \quad \text{ti} & \quad \text{ka} & \quad \text{ma} & \quad \text{yahi} \\
\text{2SG.S-} & \quad \text{go/come} & \quad \text{-back+F} & \quad \text{-DIST.IMP+F} \\
\text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} \\

''Younger brother, come here.''

3

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Fa fowe} & \quad \text{kisi} & \quad \text{ya,} & \quad \text{mato} & \quad \text{sone} \\
\text{fahafowe} & \quad \text{ka} & \quad \text{risa} & \quad \text{ya} & \quad \text{mato} & \quad \text{sona} \\
\text{seasonal_flooding} & \quad \text{go/come} & \quad \text{-down+F} & \quad \text{ADJNCT} & \quad \text{tree_sp} & \quad \text{fall+M} \\
\text{nf} & \quad \text{vi} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} \\
\text{ya} & \quad \text{tikamiya.} \\
\text{ya} & \quad \text{ti} & \quad \text{ka} & \quad \text{ma} & \quad \text{yahi} \\
\text{ADJNCT} & \quad \text{2SG.S-} & \quad \text{go/come} & \quad \text{-back} & \quad \text{-DIST.IMP+F} \\
\text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} \\

''When the river floods, when the mato fruits fall, you come back here.''

4

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Mato} & \quad \text{korone} & \quad \text{tama} & \quad \text{tikiyahi.} \\
\text{mato} & \quad \text{korone} & \quad \text{tama} & \quad \text{ti} & \quad \text{ka} & \quad \text{na} & \quad \text{yahi} \\
\text{tree_sp} & \quad \text{nakedness+M} & \quad \text{hold_onto} & \quad \text{2SG.S-} & \quad \text{COMIT-} & \quad \text{AUX} & \quad \text{-DIST.IMP+F} \\
\text{nm} & \quad \text{pn} & \quad \text{vt} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} & \quad \text{***} \\

''Bring mato fruits without shells.''

5

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Owehiba.} \\
\text{o} & \quad \text{awa} & \quad \text{hiba} \\
\text{1SG.S-} & \quad \text{see} & \quad \text{-FUT+M} \\
\text{***} & \quad \text{vt} & \quad \text{***} \\

''I want to see them.''

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THE FIRST CORN

6

Ohabaraba owa awine oke.
o- ahaba -ra -haba owa awine o- ke
1SG.S- die -NEG -FUT+F 1SG.S seem+F 1SG.S- DECL+F
***- vi _*** _*** *** *** *** _*** _***

"I won't die [in the middle of the fire in the new garden]."

7

Ohabaraba owa awine o.
o- ahaba -ra -haba owa awine o-
1SG.S- die -NEG -FUT+F 1SG.S seem+F 1SG.S-
***- vi _*** _*** *** *** *** _*** _***

"I won't die."

8

Ohabaraba owa awine oke, ati
o- ahaba -ra -haba owa awine o- ke ati
1SG.S- die -NEG -FUT+F 1SG.S seem+F 1SG.S- DECL+F say
***- vi _*** _*** *** *** *** _*** _*** vt
nematamonaka.
a -himata -mona -ka
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** _*** _*** _*** _*** _***

"I won't die," he said.'

9

Awa mese ya
awa mese ya
tree top_surface ADJNCT
nf pn ***
warematamonaha.
wa -rl -himata -mona -ha
stand -raised_surface -FP.N+M -REP+M -DUP
vi _*** _*** _*** _*** _***

'He stood on top of the trees.'

10

Yama te sari na, awa ibotori, ati
yama te sari na awa ibotori ati
thing 2PL.S burn AUX tree beside say
nf *** vt *** nf pn vt
nematamonaka.
a -himata -mona -ka
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** _*** _*** _*** _*** _***

"Set fire to the edge of the garden," he said.'

11

Yama me sari nemetemoneke.
yama me sari na -hemete -mone -ke
thing 3PL.S burn AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F
nf *** vt *** _*** _*** _*** _*** _***

'They set fire to it.'
'He had a noisemaker.'

'He was decorated with feathered armbands, and annatto had painted his face red.'

'They set fire [around] him.'

"You all move to another village."

"Put out all the burning garden," he said.'
THE FIRST CORN

17
Yamata wata wata ri ya, yamata wata teri
yamata DUP- wata na -ra ya yamata wata -te -ra
food DUP- exist AUX -NEG ADJNCT food exist -HAB -NEG
nf ***- vi *** -*** *** nf vi -*** -***
yamata yama nematamonaka.
ya yamata yama na -himata -mona -ka
ADJNCT food work_on AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** nf vt *** -*** -*** -*** -***

"At first there were no crops, but he planted crops."

18
Faya yama me yafa na me, me sari
faya yama me yafa na me me sari
so thing 3PL.S put pressure on AUX+F 3PL.S 3PL.S burn
*** nf *** vt *** -*** -*** -*** vt
hikane tokemamonaka
hi- ka- na to- ka -himata -mona -ka
OC- COMIT- AUX+M away- go/come -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
***- ***- ***- ***- vi -*** -*** -***
ahi.
ahi
then
***

"They put out the fire. When they burned him, he went into the air."

19
Nowati moni yana tonakosematamona
nowati moni yana to- na -kosa -himata -mona
behind sound start CH- AUX -middle -FP.N+M -REP+M
pn pn vi ***- ***- ***- ***- ***- ***
amane.
amane -ne
SEC -BKG+M
*** -***

"After him there was a noise."

20
Tooo nabati moni
too nabati moni
(sound of explosion) stomach make_sound
*** pn vt
nematamonaka ahi.
a -himata -mona -ka ahi
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
*** -*** -*** -*** -*** ***

"His stomach went, "Tooo" [when it exploded]."
THE FIRST CORN

21
Tokematamonaka neme ya.
to- ka -himata -mona -ka neme ya
away- go/come -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M up ADJNCT
*** vi *** *** *** nf ***

'He went up into the air.'

22
Tobokawitimatamonaka faha ya,
to- boka -witI -himata -mona faha ya
CH- enter_water -out -FP.N+M -REP+M water ADJNCT
*** vi *** *** *** nf ***
fare hofabano ya.
fare hofa -ba -no ya
same+M be_in_water -FUT -IP.N+M ADJNCT
nf vi *** *** *** ***

'He landed in a stream and lay there.'

23
Me bana me
me bana me
3PL.S move 3PL.S
*** vi ***
tokomabisemetemone me ama fa.
to- ka -ma -bisa -hemete -mone me ama fa
away- go/come -back -also -FP.N+F -REP+F 3PL.S SEC that+F
*** vi *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** dem

'They went to another village.'

24
Me tokoma me, me aawama
me to- ka -ma me me DUP- awa -ma
3PL.S away- go/come -back+F 3PL.S 3PL.S DUP- see -back
*** *** vi *** *** *** *** *** vt ***
na hiyare nisori
na hi- to- ha -ra nisori
AUX OC- CH- AUX -NEG+M 3SG.POSS_younger_brother
*** *** *** *** *** nm
hinakamatemamonaka.
hi- na- ka -ma -himata -mona -ka
OC- CAUS- go/come -back -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** vi *** *** *** *** ***

'They went and didn't see him for a long time. Then his younger brother came after him.'
THE FIRST CORN

25
Okoyo
o- ka ayo
1SG.POSS- POSS older_brother
***- *** nm
owamamatibe.
o- awa -ma -mata -be
1SG.S- see -back -short_time -IMMED+F
***- vt -*** -*** -***
"I want to see my older brother again."

26
Ami, okoyo ahabarehibona ati
ami o- ka ayo ahaba -ra -hibona ati
mother 1SG.POSS- POSS older_brother die -NEG -INT+M say
nm ***- *** nm vi -*** -*** vt
nofe ama.
a na nofa ama
AUX always+M SEC
*** *** ***
"Mother, my older brother said he wasn't going to die."

27
Faya kamematamonaka.
faya ka -ma -himata -mona -ka
so go/come -back -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** vi -*** -*** -*** -***
'So he came back.'

28
Kame, mato tama
ka -ma mato tama
go/come -back+M tree_sp hold_onto
vi -*** nm vt-
kanematamonane.
ka- na -himata -mona -ne
COMIT- AUX -FP.+M -REP+M -BKG+M
*** *** *** *** ***
'He came back bringing mato fruits strung on a line.'

29
Mato oyokibe okoyo
mato o- yoka -be o- ka ayo
tree_sp 1SG.S- roast -IMMED+F 1SG.POSS- POSS older_brother
nm ***- vt -*** ***- *** nm
ka yifo.
ka yifo
POSS fire
*** nf
"I'm going to roast mato fruits on my older brother's fire."
THE FIRST CORN

30
Mato tama okobe.
mato tama o- ka na -be
tree_sp hold_onto 1SG.S- COMIT- AUX -IMMED+F
nm vt ***- ***- ***-***
"I will bring mato fruits."

31
Kame me tabori wasime,
ka -ma me tabori wasi -ma
go/come -back+M 3PL.POSS place+F find -back+M
vi ***- *** pn vt ***

Okoyo sari
o- ka ayo sari
1SG.POSS- POSS older_brother burn
***- *** nm vt
okiro ama ahi.
o- ka na -ro ama ahi
1SG.S- COMIT- AUX -RP.E+F SEC then
***- ***- ***-*** *** ***
'He came back and got to their village. "I set fire to my older brother here."

32
Yamata tamemetemone amani,
yamata tama -hemete -mone ama -ni
food many -FP.N+F -REP+F SEC -BKG+F
nf vi ***- ***- ***-***

hiwasimaharo.
hi- wasi -ma -haro
OC- find -back -IP.E+F
***- vt ***- ***
'He came on the crops, which were many.'

33
Yamata hiwasima tamemetemone amake.
yamata hi- wasi -ma tama -hemete -mone ama -ke
food OC- find -back+F many -FP.N+F -REP+F SEC -DECL+F
nf ***- vt *** vi ***- ***-*** ***-***
'The crops that he came on were many.'

34
Sami, yawita fowa, biha haso, nakarifa, yama
sami yawita rowa biha haso nakarifa yama
pineapple peach_palm manioc yam taro_sp taro_sp thing
nf nm nm nf nm nf nm

tamemetemone ama kimi.
tama -hemete -mone ama kimi
many -FP.N+F -REP+F SEC corn
vi ***- *** nm
'Pineapple, peach palm, manioc, yams, taro, there were many, corn.'
'He had been making a house in the middle of the garden. His younger brother had come after him, and had found him.'

'He found him. They went through where there was no path.'

'The two of them went.'
THE FIRST CORN

Yama, tataraba ri ya fowa iso,
yama DUP- ta -raba na -ra ya fowa iso	hing DUP- dense -a_bit AUX -NEG+F ADJNCT manioc caule+M
nf *** vi *** *** *** nm pn

botone, me hiwasiwitimatamona fahi.
botone me hi- to- wasi -witI -himata -mona fahi
bunch+M 3PL.S OC- away- find -out -FP.N+M -REP+M then
pn *** ***- ***- vt *** *** *** *** ***

"In a thick stand of manioc they found him."

Ayo afa ama ti?
ayo afa ama ti-
older_brother this+F be 2SG.S-
nm dem vc ***-

"Older brother, is it you?"

Afa ama oke.
afa ama o- ke
this+F be 1SG.S- DECL+F
dem vc ***- ***

"It's me."

Yobe kowematamonaka.
yobe kowa -himata -mona -ka
thatch weave -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
nm vt *** ***- *** ***

'He was weaving thatch.'

Hinaka yobe nafimatamonane.
hina ka yobe nafi -himata -mona -ne
3sPOSS POSS house big -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M
*** *** nm vi *** *** *** *** ***

'His house was big.'

Mate e ri?
matehe e na -ri
children (question) AUX -CQ+F
nf vi *** ***

"Where are the children?"
"The children are hungry and crying because of their hunger, and because of them I came back."

"Older brother, I am bringing mato fruits because there is no way to roast them."

"Where is your fire?"

"I don't have a fire," he said.'
51  
**Faya, towisiteba warabo mete me wari**

faya towisi -te -ba warabo mete me wari
so lizard_sp -HAB -FUT ear base+M 3PL.S rotate
*** nm -*** -*** pn pn *** vt

**hiwahe towakematamonona**

hi- na -waha to- ka- ka -himata -mona
OC- AUX -change+M away- COMIT- go/come -FP.N+M -REP+M
*** -*** -*** -*** ** vi -*** -***

**amaka fari.**
amka -ka fari
SEC -DECL+M that_one+M
*** -*** ** vi

"So they twisted the first *towisi* lizard's ear, and he went away."

52  
**Oyene, tokowitakosematamonane.**

oyene to- ka- ita -kosa -himata -mona -ne
light+M CH- COMIT- sit -middle -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M
*** -*** -*** -*** ** vi -*** -*** -***

'He left his fire behind.'

53  
**Faya mato yokawatematamonaka fahi.**

faya mato yoka -waha -himata -mona -ka fahi
so tree_sp roast -change -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
*** nm vt -*** -*** -*** -*** -***

'So he roasted the mato fruits.'

54  
**Bai tokematamonona amane.**

bahi to- ka -himata -mona ama -ne
sun away- go/come -FP.N+M -REP+M SEC -BKG+M
nm -*** ** vi -*** -*** ** ***

'The day was progressing.'

55  
**Yama yabohemete awineke.**

yama yabo -hemete awine -ke
thing far -FP.N+F seem+F -DECL+F
nf vi -*** -*** ***

'It was far.'

56  
**Ayo okomibone.**

ayo o- to- ka -ma -bone
older_brother 1SG.S- away- go/come -back.NOM -INT+F
nm -*** -*** ** vi -*** -***

"Older brother, I'm going."
THE FIRST CORN

57  
Ee, tikamiya.

ee ti- to- ka -ma -yahi
yes 2SG.S- away- go/come -back -DIST.IMP+F
interj *** - *** vi - *** - ***

"All right, go."

58  
Te kamaminiya, mera wati

te ka -ma -mina -yahi mera wati
2PL.S go/come -back -morning -DIST.IMP+F 3PL.O go_after
*** vi - *** - *** - *** - *** - *** vt

kanenoho hinaka kokosi,

ka- na -hino -ho hina ka DUP- kosi
COMIT- AUX -IP.N+M -DUP 3sPOSS POSS DUP- hit_with_switch
*** - *** - *** - *** - *** - *** - *** - *** vt

sare ini, me witi taibonehe.

sarehe ini me witi tahi -bone -he
dart point+F 3PL.POSS nose killer -INT+F -DUP
nf pn *** pn pn pn - *** - ***

"You all come back tomorrow." He was thinking about what he would do to them, and his switch, and his pointed darts, to perforate their lips.

59  
Me boni taibonehe me warabi,

me boni tahi -bone -he me warabo
3PL.POSS upper_lip+F killer -INT+F -DUP 3PL.POSS ear+F
*** pn pn pn - *** - *** - *** - *** - *** pn

taibone yama nematamonaka.

tahi -bone yama na -himata -mona -ka
killer -INT+F work_on AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
pn - *** vt *** - *** - *** - *** - ***

'He made the things to perforate their lips and ears.'

60  
Kimi kimi kimimatamonaka.

kimi kimi kimi -mata -mona -ka
corn corn corn -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
nm nm nm - *** - *** - ***

'It was corn.'

61  
Ami e tokomaminabone

ami e to- ka -ma -mina -habone
mother 1IN.S away- go/come -back -morning -INT+F
nm *** *** vi - *** - *** - ***

okoyo ati nahare.

o- ka ayo ati na -hare
1SG.POSS- POSS older_brother say AUX -IP.E+M
*** - *** nm vt *** - ***

"Mother, my older brother said we should go back tomorrow."
"The children are hungry, and we are killing them."

"You haven't seen the crops."

"It happened just as my older brother said."

"There are crops all over," he said.'
They arrived. His mother had her lip perforated, also his younger sisters; his father had his lip perforated, also the children's lips, all of them.'

'He perforated all their lips.'

'He beat them with a switch, so they could all eat, so they could eat the crops.'

'He beat them with a switch.'
THE FIRST CORN

71
Me kosi hina me, yamata me iso
me kosi hi- na me yamata me iso
3PL.O hit_with_switch OC- AUX+F 3PL.O food 3PL.S carry
*** vt *** *** *** nf *** vt
nawahemetemoneke fahi.
na -waha -hemete -mone -ke fahi
AUX -change -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F then
*** *** *** *** *** ***

'After he beat them, they brought crops [from the garden].'

72
Yamata, ti nawahematamona kimi.
yamata ti na -waha -himata -mona kimi
food cut_through AUX -change -FP.N+M -REP+M corn
nf vt *** *** *** *** *** nm

'He cut the corn stalks.'

73
Yama me kabawemetemone amake fahi.
yama me kaba -waha -hemete -mone ama -ke fahi
thing 3PL.S eat -change -FP.N+F -REP+F SEC -DECL+F then
nf *** vt *** *** *** *** *** ***

'Then they ate the crops.'