THE POISON ROOT SONG

Siko

Free Translation

That's what they were singing about, kona poison roots. It was kona, a big pile. His name has gone away quickly from my memory. Don't you know, Boroko? The one I used to talk about, who sang about kona. Oh, Aifa, yes, Aifa. They dug up kona roots. They started into the forest to the place where they would beat the kona. My father was small. He was very small. Aifa was thinking about the kona. They were thinking the kona. "You beat kona. You go on ahead. You beat kona," Aifa said. "You go on ahead. You put the poles for beating kona on the ground. I'll come later. I'm going to take snuff now." He took snuff. He went into the forest to defecate. He went and defecated. He came back. "We are going to beat kona for a while," he said [to his wife, in the village]. He came to the others. He had painted his face red with annatto. He came.

"Well? Have you begun the kona song?" he said.
"We haven't begun the song yet."
"They are taking a long time. Sit in two rows." They sat in two rows on the poles, facing each other. One group sat on one side, and the other group sat on the other side, and he started the song.

He sat down on one of the poles. He grabbed a baton, to beat the kona. The baton went "teioo" as he beat the kona. He started the E Onira song, the kona song. "My younger sister doesn't know how to take out fish gall bladder. My younger sister doesn't know how to take out fish gall bladder," he said, singing the kona song. They sang the E Onira song. The sound of them beating the kona went "baro, baro". They were in lines beating the kona, my father and the others used to say. The E Onira song could be heard. They kept bending their heads down as they beat the kona.

He came to start the E Onira song, and all of a sudden he started the E Onira song. "They never sang this song a long time ago," he said. "Our adolescent boys are beating to the song that was never sung a long time ago. They will learn it."
"Baro, baro." It was the kona song. They beat the kona.

As they beat the kona, he sang the E Onira song, the kona song. He sang about it, the bahama catfish. "When the bahama fish hear the enemy Indians [i.e. the Jarawaras], they 'talk' to warn each other," he sang. They beat the kona really fast, by the E Onira song. They beat the kona by the E Onira song. "The bahama fish has a white moustache," he sang. He composed the E Onira song, my father said. This is what he was like: he had painted his face red, and his knees went up over his head as he sat, and he was between two others. They kept moving their heads up and down as they beat the kona. The bahama song didn't exist before. That kona song didn't exist before.

He started another right after that one. "A piece of a tawi fish
goes around and around in the water as it hits the enemies' fish wier," he sang. [The tawi fish was cut in half by piranhas.] "E Onira, E Onira," he sang. They walked around to the song, wearing toucan feather ornaments.

They sang, singing the kona song. "The wasa fish blows to keep the fever of the enemy Indians away," he said, singing the kona song, which they had composed and taught. I am telling what I heard my father say long ago.

He started another right after that one. "The base fish turns its anus up when it hits the enemy Indians' fish wier," he sang.

They took turns starting songs. They took turns starting other songs about animals and fish. "The wisi tamarin goes, 'Sisibarara. The wisi tamarin goes, 'Sisibarara,' on the fork in the awa sawa tree," he sang. That's what he was like.

He started the kiso capuchin song right away. "The pregnant kiso capuchin says, 'Hao,'" he sang. "The pregnant kiso capuchin says, 'Hao.'" They sang it all very fast and loudly, and it was good, my father used to say.

"The kabobo lizard, the yifoma lizard; it is pregnant, and just hits the water repeatedly [instead of running on the surface]. E Onira, E Onira," they sang.

There were songs about both fish and animals. "The bobo owl hoots on the tree branch," he sang.

When one was over, he started another. He started it. "I swam to get the fat of the aba fish," he sang. "I swam to get the fat of the aba fish."

When the beating of the kona was done, they left to go on the trail singing the E Onira, decorated. They went back. The women got them all wet with mud. They got mud all over them with leaves. They wet them with mud and leaves. The women's fire went out because there were so many of them. [The men came back to the village and went over the fire, and the mud that was dripping off them put out the fire. This was symbolic of the aba that comes to the surface because of the kona poison.] The fire went out. The women had burned them with brands [which they touched to their skin], and now the fire went out. [The men are upset at being burned by the women, and they put the fire out, so they couldn't burn them anymore.] They had burned them. They were burned because of the women. They were burned, because they burned them. They got mud on them so they could eat. They got mud on them and they were burned, they burned them, they were hurt. They put out their fire, so they could shoot fish the next day, and kill many fish.

They got up early and put the kona in the water. They killed lots of fish in a trap. They brought the fish that had been caught by the fish wier, my father used to say. They carried lots of fish in the fish trap. [Several men carried one trap full of fish.]

Back at the village, they decided to start preparing the fish, and they wrapped the fish in leaves. They roasted the fish on grills. "Aren't they going to light the feast?!" They danced after they ate. They were still dancing at dawn. They slept during the day. They ate in the morning and then slept, when it was day.
THE POISON ROOT SONG

Interlinear Presentation

1
Hahi, tani me hihiri hiyematamona.

′That's what they were singing about.'

2
Kona, kona amaka hari kona, ehebote.

′It was kona, a big pile.'

3
Ee, ino fawa ni kekerewe re.

′His name went away quickly.'

4
Me te watore Boroko, aya ino

′Don't you know, Boroko? The one I used to talk about, who sang about kona.'

5
Aa, Aifa, ee, Aifa.

′Oh, Aifa. Yes, Aifa.'

6
Kona, kona me wi nemetemoneke.

′They dug up kona.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

7
Kona me wi na me, kona me, kona me wi
kona me wi na me kona me kona me wi
vine_sp 3PL.S dig AUX+F 3PL.S vine_sp 3PL.S vine_sp 3PL.S dig
nm *** vt *** *** nm *** nm *** vt
na me, kona me baro nabone me yana
na me kona me baro na -habone me yana
AUX+F 3PL.S vine_sp 3PL.S beat AUX -INT+F 3PL.S start
*** *** nm *** vt *** *** *** *** vi
tonemetemone.
to- na -hemete -mone
CH= AUX -FP.N+M -REP+F
*** *** *** ***
'They dug up kona. They dug up kona. They started out to beat the kona.'

8
Okobi okobi okobi
o- ka abi o- ka abi o- ka abi
1SG.POSS- POSS father 1SG.POSS- POSS father 1SG.POSS- POSS father
*** *** nm *** nm *** *** *** nm
okobi nafirematamonaka.
o- ka abi nafi -ra -himata -mona -ka
1SG.POSS- POSS father big -NEG -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** *** nm vi *** *** *** *** ***
'My father was small.'

9
Okobi jisi kabote ne, faya
o- ka abi DUP- isi na -kabote na faya
1SG.POSS- POSS father DUP- small AUX -quickly AUX+M so
*** *** nm *** vi *** *** *** ***
okobi nafire ni ya, Aifa
o- ka abi nafi -ra ni ya Aifa
1SG.POSS- POSS father big -NEG+M to ADJNCT (man's_name)
*** *** nm vi *** *** *** *** nm
kona wati kanahi, kona wati
kona wati ka- na -hi kona wati
vine_sp go_after COMIT- AUX -RC+M vine_sp go_after
nm vt *** *** *** nm vt
kanematamonaka.
ka- na -himata -mona -ka
COMIT- AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** *** *** *** *** ***
'My father was very small. Aifa was thinking about kona.'
"They were thinking about kona. "You beat kona."

"You go on ahead."

"You beat kona," he said.

"You go on ahead."

"You put the poles for kona on the ground, too."
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16
Okomakebana o.
o- to- ka -maki -habana o-
1SG.S- away- go/come -after -FUT+F 1SG.S-
*** *** vi *** *** ***
"I will come later."

17
Sina hisi omate sina.
sina hisi o- na -mata sina
snuff inhale 1SG.S- AUX -short_time snuff
nf vt *** *** *** nf
"I'm going to take snuff now."

18
Sina hisi ne, faya sina hisi ne, mi nebona
sina hisi na faya sina hisi na mi na -hibona
snuff inhale AUX+M so snuff inhale AUX+M defecate AUX -INT+M
nf vt *** *** nf vt *** vi *** ***
tokematamonaka.
to- ka -himata -mona -ka
away- go/come -FP,N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** vi *** *** *** ***
'He took snuff. He went to defecate.'

19
Tok, toke mi
to- ka to- ka mi
away- go/come+M away- go/come+M defecate
*** vi *** vi
		
towiti, kame kobo name,
to- na -witI ka -ma kobo na -ma
away- AUX -out+M go/come -back+M arrive AUX -back+M
*** *** *** vi *** vi *** ***
Kona ota baro namate.
kona ota baro na -mata
vine_sp 1EX.S beat AUX -short_time
nm *** vt *** ***
'He went. He went and defecated. He came back and arrived. "We are going to beat kona for a while."'

20
Kona ota baro namateya.
kona ota baro na -mata -ya
vine_sp 1EX.S beat AUX -short_time -now
nm *** vt *** *** ***
"We're going to beat kona for a while."
THE POISON ROOT SONG

21
Kamakimatamonaka.
ka -maki -himata -mona -ka
go/come -after -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
vi *** *** *** ***
'He came to the others.'

22
Kamaki, noko mawa
ka -maki noko mawa
go/come -after+M face+M red
vi *** *** *** ***
kanematamonaka ahi, ate ya.
ka- na -himata -himona -ka ahi atehe ya
COMIT- AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then annatto ADJNCT
***- *** -*** -*** *** ***
'He came. He had painted his face red with annatto.'

23
Ate ya noko mawa
atehe ya noko mawa
annatto ADJNCT face+M red
nf *** pn vt
kanematamonaka.
ka- na -himata -mona -ka
COMIT- AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
***- *** -*** -*** ***
'He had painted his face red with annatto.'

24
Noko mawa kane kamaki, Faïra?
noko mawa ka- na ka -maki faira
face+M red COMIT- AUX+M go/come -after+M where
pn vi *** *** vi *** ***
'He painted his face red and came. "Well?"'

25
Tani te iti? ati nematamonaka.
tani te iti ati na -himata -mona -ka
song 2PL.S say say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
pn *** vt vt *** -*** -*** -***
"'Have you begun the kona song?" he said.'

26
Tani ota itikara.
tani ota iti -ka -ra
song 1EX.S say -DECL -NEG+M
pn *** vt *** *** ***
"'We haven't begun the kona song.'"
THE POISON ROOT SONG

27

Me kihine awane.
me ki hi- na awa -ne
3PL.S look_at OC- AUX+M seem+M -BKG+M
*** vt *** *** *** ***
"They are taking a long time."

28

Te bere kanahi.
te bere ka- na -hi
2PL.S in_rows COMIT- AUX -IMP+F
*** vi *** *** *** ***
"Sit in rows."

29

Me bere kanemetemone ahi.
me bere ka- na -hemete -mone ahi
3PL.S in_rows COMIT- AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F then
*** vi *** *** *** *** ***
'They sat in rows.'

30

Ha me kaya kana ha me kaya kana
ha me kaya ka- na ha me kaya ka- na
DEM 3PL.S lie COMIT- AUX DEM 3PL.S lie COMIT- AUX
*** *** vi *** *** *** *** vi *** ***
inemetemoneke, kona kona tani me,
na -hemete -mone -ke kona kona tani me
AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F vine_sp vine_sp song 3PL.S
*** *** *** *** *** nm nm pn ***

itihibanoho.
iti -hiba -no -ho
say -FUT+M -IP.N+M -IMP+M
vt *** *** *** ***
'One group sat on one side, and the other group sat on the other side, and he started the kona song. '

31

Itaririsematamonaka ahi.
ita -rl -risa -himata -mona -ka ahi
sit -raised_surface -down -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
vi *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***
'He sat down on a pole.'

24 me is a mistake.
32

**Itaririse,***

ita -rI -risa
sit -raised_surface -down+M
vi -***  ***

**itaririsematomona.***

ita -rI -risa -himata -mona
sit -raised_surface -down -FP.N+M -REP+M
vi -***  ***  ***  ***

'He sat down. He sat down.'

33

**Itaririse,***

ita -rI -risa awa
sit -raised_surface -down+M wood
vi -***  ***  ***

**itimatamonaka***

iti -himata -mona -ka ahi kona

**take_out***

-FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then vine_sp

**vt***

-***  ***  ***  *** nm

**babarobonaha.***

DUP- baro -bona -ha
DUP- beat -INT+M -DUP
***- vt  ***  ***

'He sat down and grabbed a stick, to beat the kona.'

34

**Awa itimatamonaka***

awa iti -himata -mona ahi

**wood***

take_out -FP.N+M -REP+M then

**vt***

-***  ***  ***

'He grabbed a stick.'

35

**Teioo***

ati nematamonaka ahi.

teioo ati na -himata -mona -ka ahi

**hitting_on_wood***

say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then

**sound***

vt ***  ***  ***  ***  ***

''Teioo'' he went.'

36

**Teioo***

ati ne ee, E Onira

teioo ati na ee E Onira

**hitting_on_wood***

say AUX+M (pause) (name_of_song)

**sound***

vt ***  interj nf

**itimatamonane,***

kona tani.

iti -himata -mona -ne kona tani

say -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M vine_sp song

**vt***

-***  ***  ***  *** nm pn

''Teioo'' he went. He started the E Onira, the kona song.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

37

Kona tani itimatamonaka ahi.
kona tani iti -himata -mona -ka ahi
vine_sp song say -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
nm pn vt -*** -*** -*** ***

'He started the kona song.'

38

Okasima, okasima, aba,
o- ka asima o- ka asima aba
1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister 1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister fish
***- *** nf ***- *** nf nm

aba sitakari iti, okasima
aba sitakari iti o- ka asima
fish gall_bladder take_out 1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister
nm pn vt -*** -*** *** *** *** vt

watomonerani ha, monerani ha ati
wato -mone -rani ha -mone -rani ha ati
know -REP+F -? DEM -REP+F -? DEM say
vt -*** -*** *** *** *** vt

nematamonane.
a -himata -mona -ne
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M
*** -*** -*** ***

"My younger sister doesn't know how to take out fish gall bladder," he said.'

39

Okasima, okasima, aba
o- ka asima o- ka asima aba
1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister 1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister fish
***- *** nf ***- *** nf nm

sitakari iti, okasima watomonerani
sitakari iti o- ka asima wato -mone -rani
gall_bladder take_ou1SG.POSS- POSS younger_sister know -REP+F -?
pn vt -*** -*** nf vt -*** -***

ha, monerani ha ati nematamonaka ahi,
ha -mone -rani ha ati na -himata -mona -ka ahi
DEM -REP+F -? DEM say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
*** *** -*** *** vt -*** -*** *** ***

kona tani itihari.
kona tani iti -hari
vine_sp song say -FP.E+M
nm pn vt -***

"My younger sister doesn't know how to take out fish gall bladder," he said, singing the kona song.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

40

E Onira me hiri na me, hiri
E Onira me hiri na me hiri
(name_of_song) 3PL.S speak AUX+F 3PL.S speak
nf *** vt *** *** vt

nemetemoneke ahi.
a -hemete -mone -ke ahi
AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F then
*** *** *** *** ***

'The sang the E Onira.'

41

Baro baro baro baro baro
baro baro baro baro baro
sound sound sound sound
baro baro baro me, me yowaba
baro baro baro me me yowaba
sound_of_beating sound_of_beating sound_of_beating 3PL.S 3PL.S in_line
sound sound sound *** *** vi

nemetemone ahi, okobi me ati
na -hemete -mone ahi o- ka abi me ati
AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F then 1SG.POSS- POSS father 3PL.S say
*** *** *** *** *** nm *** vt
towamaroke.
to- ha -hamaro -ke
CH- AUX -FP.E+F -DECL+F
*** *** *** *** ***

"Baro, baro." They were in lines, my father and the others used to say.'

42

E Onira saihemetemone amake ahi.
E Onira saihemetemone amake ahi
(name_of_song) be_heard -FP.N+F -REP+F SEC -DECL+F then
nf vi *** *** *** *** ***

'The E Onira could be heard.'

43

Me mowimowi kana nemetemoneke,
me DUP- mowi ka- na na -hemete -mone -ke
3PL.S DUP- bend_over COMIT- AUX AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F
*** *** vi *** *** *** *** ***
kona me baro na mati ahi.
kona me baro na mati ahi
vine_sp 3PL.S beat AUX+F 3PL.S then
nm *** vt *** *** ***

'They kept bending their heads down as they beat the kona.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

44

E Onira  itihiba,  kamaki  E Onira
E Onira  iti -hiba  ka -makI  E Onira
(name_of_song)  say -FUT+M  go/come -after+M  (name_of_song)

nf  vt  ***  vi  ***  nf

ki nematamon.
kI  na  -hima  -mona
look_at AUX -FP.N+M  -REP+M

vt  ***  ***  ***

'He came to start the E Onira, and all of a sudden he started the E Onira.'

45

Ota, e ka yama wasini  amaremetemone.
ota  e  ka  yama  wasi  -ni  ama  -ra  -heme  -mone
1EX 1IN  POSS  thing  find  -IP.N+F  be  -NEG -PP.N+F  -REP+M
***  ***  ***  nf  vt  ***  vc  ***  ***  ***  ***

"Our people never sang this song a long time ago."

46

E ka yama wasini  amari,
e  ka  yama  wasi  -ni  ama  -ra
1IN  POSS  thing  find  -IP.N+F  be  -NEG+F
***  ***  ***  nf  vt  ***  vc  ***
amarimetemone,  me  ati
ama  -ra  -mte  -mone  me  ati
be  -NEG+F  -FP.N+F  -REP+M  3PL.S  say
vc  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  vt

ninetini,  ati  nematamon.
a  -ne  -ti  -ni  ati  na  -hima  -mona
AUX -CONT+F  -HAB.NOM  -IP.N+F  say  AUX -FP.N+M  -REP+M
***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  vt

"Our people never sang this song a long time ago," he said.'

47

E ka yama wasini,  e ka yama wasini
e  ka  yama  wasi  -ni  e  ka  yama  wasi  -ni
1IN  POSS  thing  find  -IP.N+F  1IN  POSS  thing  find  -IP.N+F
***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  nf  vt  ***
amaremetemone,  metemonehe,  ati
ama  -ra  -heme  -mone  -mte  -he  ati
be  -NEG -FP.N+F  -REP+F  -FP.N+F  -REP+F  -DUP  say
vc  ***  ***  ***  pn  ***  ***  ***  vt

nematamonaka.
a  -hima  -mona  -ka
AUX -FP.N+M  -REP+M  -DECL+M
***  ***  ***  ***

"Our people never sang this song a long time ago," he said.'
"Our adolescent boys are beating to the song that our people never sang a long time ago," he said.

"They will learn it."

"Baro, baro." It was the kona song.
THE POISON ROOT SONG

52

Kona me baro na me, E Onira hiri
kona me baro na me E Onira hiri
vine_sp 3PL.S beat AUX+F 3PL.S (name_of_song) speak
nm *** vt *** *** nm *** vt
nematamonaka ahi, kona tani hiri
na -himata -mona -ka ahi kona tani hiri
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then vine_sp song speak
*** *** *** *** nm pn vt
nari ahi.
a -hari ahi
AUX -IP.E+M then
*** *** *** ***

'As they beat the kona, he sang the E Onira, the kona song.'

53

Tani hiri hinehimatamona.
tani hiri hi- na -himata -mona
song speak OC- AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M
pn vt ***- *** -*** ***

'He sang the bahama song.'

54

Bahama amane bahama.
bahama ana -ne bahama
catfish_sp be -BKG+M catfish_sp
nm vc *** nm

'It was the bahama fish.'

55

Yawa atimonehe ya, yawa atimonehe
yawa ati -mone -he ya yawa ati -mone -he
enemies voice -REP+F -DUP ADJNCT enemies voice -REP+F -DUP
nf pn *** *** *** nm pn *** *** ***
ya, aba bahama ati ihihimonarani ha, monarani
ya aba bahama ati ihihi -mona -rani ha -mona -rani
ADJNCT fish catfish_sp voice talk -REP+M -? DEM -REP+M -?
*** nm nm pn vi *** *** *** *** *** ***

ha, ati nematamonane.
ha ati na -himata -mona -ne
DEM say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M
*** vt *** *** *** *** *** ***

'”When the bahama fish hear the enemy Indians, they ‘talk’,” he said.'
'They beat the kona really fast, by the E Onira.'

'The bahama has a white moustache," he said.'

'He composed the E Onira, my father always said.'

'That's what he was like.'
'He had painted his face red, and his knees went up over his head, and he was between two others.'

'They kept moving their heads up and down as they beat the kona.'

'The bahama song didn't exist before.'

'The kona song didn't exist before.'

'He started another right after that one.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

Aba, aba tawi, yawa ka serima baki ya,
aba aba tawi yawa ka serima baki ya
fish fish fish_sp enemies POSS fish_wier inside_surface+P ADJNCT
nm nm nf nm *** nf pn ***

aba tawi kote tawimonarani ha, monarani ha,
aba tawi kote tawi -mona -rani ha -mona -rani ha
fish fish_sp piece glide -REP+M -? DEM -REP+M -? DEM
nm nf pn vi *** *** *** nm *** ***

ati nematamonane.
ati na -himata -mona -ne
say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -BKG+M
vt *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** 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"The wasa fish blows to keep the fever of the enemy Indians away," he said, singing the kona song, which they had composed and taught.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

73
Yawa ka serima baki ya, aba, aba base
enemies POSS fish_wier inside_surface+F ADJNCT fish fish fish_sp
yawa ka serima baki ya aba aba base

74
Me wara kanikima hinemetemoneke ahi.
They took turns.

75
Me wara kanikima hina me, bara ihawa
They took turns starting other songs about animals and fish.

76
Aba bani, bani wisi ati sisibararamonanari ha,
"The wisi goes, 'Sisibarara.'"
"The poison root song"

77

Awa sawa, awa sawa ino batori ya, bani
awa sawa awa sawa ino batori ya bani
tree tree_sp tree tree_sp branch+M junction ADJNCT animal
nf nm nf nm pn pn *** nm
wisi ati sisibararamonarani ha, monarani ha ati
wisi ati sisibarara -mona -rani ha -mona -rani ha ati
tamarin voice call_of_wisi -REP+M -? DEM -REP+M -? DEM say
nm pn sound *** *** *** *** *** *** vt
nematamonaka.
a -himata -mona -ka
AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
*** - *** - *** - ***
"The wisi goes, 'Sisibarara,' on the fork in the awa sawa tree," he said.'

78

Ee towemata, kiso tani
DUP- e to- ha -himata kiso tani
DUP- similar CH- be -FP.N+M white-fronted_capuchin song
*** - vi *** - vc *** nm pn
itikiwakabote.
it -ki -waha -kabote
say -coming -change -quickly
vt - *** - *** - ***
'That's what he was like. He started the kiso song right away.'

79

Bani kiso, bani kiso nabakoro,
bani kiso bani kiso nabakoro
animal white-fronted_capuchin animal white-fronted_capuchin pregnant
nm nm nm nm
bani kiso nabakoro ati haomonerani
bani kiso nabakoro ati hao -mone -rani
animal white-fronted_capuchin pregnant voice kiso_call -REP+F -?
nm nm ? pn sound *** - ***
ha, monerani ha ati nematamonaka ahi.
ha -mone -rani ha ati na -himata -mona -ka ahi
DEM -REP+F -? DEM say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M then
*** - *** - *** - *** vt *** - *** - *** ***
"The pregnant kiso capuchin says, 'Hao,'" he said.'

80

Bani bani kiso, nabakoro ati
bani bani kiso nabakoro ati
animal animal white-fronted_capuchin pregnant voice
nm nm nm
haomonerani ha, monerani ha.
hao -mone -rani ha -mone -rani ha
kiso_call -REP+F -? DEM -REP+F -? DEM
sound *** - *** *** *** *** *** ***
"The pregnant kiso capuchin says, 'Hao.'"
They sang it all very fast and loudly, and it was good, my father used to say.'

"The kabobo lizard, the yifoma lizard; it is pregnant, and hits the water repeatedly."

"E Onira, E Onira," they said.'
'The songs about the animals were joined to the songs about the fish.'

'The bobo hoots on the tree branch,' he said.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

Yana hikana, Aba, aba, aba sobori,
yana hi- to- ka- na aba aba aba sobori
start OC- CH- COMIT- AUX+F fish_sp fish_sp fish_sp navel
vi ***- ***- ***- *** nm nm nm pn
aba sobori, tone25 tibo nama oni, tibo
aba sobori tone tibo na -ma o- ni tibo
fish_sp navel bone swim AUX -back 1SG.S- BKG+F swim
nm pn pn vi ***- ***- ***- *** vi
nama oni ati nematamonaka.
na -ma o- ni ati na -himala -mona -ka
AUX -back 1SG.S- BKG+F say AUX -FP.N+M -REP+M -DECL+M
***- ***- ***- *** vt ***- ***- ***- ***

'He started it. "I swam to get the fat of the aba fish," he said.'

Aba sobori, aba sobori tone tibo nama oni,
aba sobori aba sobori tone tibo na -ma o- ni
fish_sp navel fish_sp navel bone swim AUX -back 1SG.S- BKG+F
nm pn nm pn pn vi ***- ***- ***- ***
tibo nama oni.
tibo na -ma o- ni
swim AUX -back 1SG.S- BKG+F
vi ***- ***- ***- ***

'"I swam to get the fat of the aba."'

Faya me, me, faya kona baro ni ahabe
faya me me faya kona baro na ahabe
so 3PL 3PL so vine_sp beat AUX.NFIN end+M
***- ***- ***- *** nm vt *** vi
ya, me yana tonemetemoneke,
ya me yana to- na -hemete -mone -ke
ADJNCT 3PL.S start CH- AUX -FP.N+F -REP+M -DECL+F
*** vi ***- ***- ***- ***- ***

E Onira me towakamaba
E Onira me to- ka- ka- ma -hama
(name_of_song) 3PL.S start COMIT- go/come -back -FUT+F
nf ***- ***- *** vi ***- ***
mati ahi, me atoha mati, ahi hawi ya.
mati ahi me ato mati ahi hawi ya
3PL.S then 3PL.S decorated+F 3PL.S there trail ADJNCT
*** vi ***- *** nf ***

'When the beating of the kona was done, they left to go on the trail with the E Onira, decorated.'

25 I don't know how tone 'bone' fits in here.
THE POISON ROOT SONG

90
Tokomemetemone ahi, to- ka -ma -hemete -hamone ahi
away- go/come -back -FP.N+F -REP+F then
***- vi *** *** *** *** ***
tokoma me, me me foto to- ka -ma me me me foto
away- go/come -back+F 3PL.S 3PL.O 3PL.S get_wet
***- vi *** *** *** *** ***
memetemoneni, ahi atabo ya
na -hemete -mone -ke ahi atabo ya
AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F then mud ADJNCT
*** *** *** vt *** *** *** ***

'They went back. They got them all wet with mud.'

91
Atabo ya me me foto nemetemoneni,
atabo ya me me foto na -hemete -mone -ni
mud ADJNCT 3PL.O 3PL.S get_wet AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F -BKG+F
nf *** *** *** vt *** *** *** ***

waso ya.
waso ya
leaf ADJNCT
nf ***

'They got mud all over them with leaves.'

92
Atabo waso kihaha ya me me foto
atabo waso kihaha ya me me foto
mud leaf have -RC+F ADJNCT 3PL.O 3PL.S get_wet
nf nf vt *** *** *** *** vt
hinemetemone.
hi- na -hemete -mone
OC- AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F
***- *** *** *** ***

'They wet them with mud and leaves.'

93
Me fanawi ka yifo witi owihemetemonike me
me fanawi ka yifo witi owl -hemete -mone -ke me
3PL woman POSS coals go_out -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F 3PL.S
*** nf *** nf vi *** *** *** ***
tama me ihi ahi.
tama me ihi ahi
many+F 3PL.POSS because_of+F then
vi *** *** *** ***

'The women’s fire went out because there were so many of them.'
The fire went out.'

'They had burned them, and now the fire went out.'

'They had burned them. They were burned because of the women.'

'They were burned, because they burned them.'

'They got mud on them so they could eat, so they could eat the fish.'
THE POISON ROOT SONG

99

Aba me me kababone, me me foto hina
aba me me kaba -habone me me foto hi- na
fish 3PL.O 3PL.S eat -INT+F 3PL.O 3PL.S get_wet OC- AUX+F
nm *** *** vt *** *** *** *** vt *** *** *** ***
me, me hatiha me, me me hinahatiha
me me hati me me me hi- na- hati
3PL.O 3PL.S burnt+ F 3PL.S 3PL.O 3PL.S OC- CAUS- burnt+ F
*** *** vi *** *** *** ***- *** vi
me, me hiyaya
me me hiya -DUP
3PL.O 3PL.S bad -DUP
*** *** vi ***
kawahemetemoneke ahi.
ka- na -waha -hemete -mone -ke ahi
COMIT- AUX -change -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F then
*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***
'They got mud on them and they were burned, they burned them, they were hurt.'

100

Me ka yifo witi me nawiymetemoneni,
me ka yifo witi me na- owi -hemete -hamone -ni
3PL POSS coals 3PL.S CAUS- go_out -FP.N+F -REP+F -BKG+F
*** *** nf *** *** *** vi *** *** *** *** *** ***
kona me, kona me sa naminaba mati aba
kona me kona me sa na -mina -haba mati aba
vine_sp 3PL vine_sp 3PL.S release AUX -morning -FUT+F 3PL.S fish
nm *** nm *** vt *** *** *** *** *** nm
me me, katomaba mati.
me me katoma -haba mati
3PL.O 3PL.S be_vi o lent_with -FUT+F 3PL.S
*** *** vt *** *** ***
'They put out their fire, so they could shoot fish the next day, and kill many fish.'

101

Kona me sa naminaba me, kona me bosa
kona me sa na -mina me kona me bosa
vine_sp 3PL.S release AUX -morning+F 3PL.S vine_sp 3PL.S get_up_early
nm *** vt *** *** *** *** nm *** vi
kona kona me sa
ka- na kona me sa
COMIT- AUX+F vine_sp 3PL.S release
*** *** nm *** vt
naminemetemoneke.
na -mina -hemete -mone -ke
AUX -morning -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F
*** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***
'They got up early and put the kona in the water.'
102

Kona me sa namina me, kona me sa
kona me sa na -mina me kona me sa
vine_sp 3PL.S release AUX -morning+F 3PL.S vine_sp 3PL.S release
nm *** vt *** -*** *** nm *** vt
naminemememoneke.
a -mina -heme -mone -ke
AUX -morning -FP.N+F -REP+F -DECL+F
*** -*** -*** -*** -***

'They put the kona in the water in the morning.'

103

Aba me me katomemememoneni, wawasi
aba me me katoma -heme -mone -ni wawasi
fish 3PL.O 3PL.S be_violent_with -FP.N+F -REP+F -BKG+F fish_trap
nm *** *** vt *** -*** -*** *** nf
ka mati.
ka mati
which 3PL
*** ***

'They killed lots of fish in a trap.'

104

Serima baki ka aba me wasiha me
serima baki ka aba me wasi me
fish_wier inside_surface+F which fish 3PL.S get_caught+F 3PL.O
nf pn *** nm *** vi ***
me kakamemememone
me ka- ka -ma -heme -mone
3PL.S COMIT- go/come -back -FP.N+F -REP+F
*** *** vi *** *** *** -***
okobi aati towemarika.
o- ka abi DUP- ati to- ha -himari -ka
1SG.POSS- POSS father DUP- say CH- AUX -FP.E+M -DECL+M
***- *** nm ***- vt ***- *** -*** -***

'They brought the fish that had been caught by the fish wier, my father used to say.'

105

Aba tamabote me me tiwari
aba tama -bote me me tiwa -ri
fish many -very 3PL.O 3PL.S carry_on_shoulders -DIST
nm vi *** *** *** vt ***
kanememememone wawasi ya.
ka- na -heme -mone wawasi ya
COMIT- AUX -FP.N+F -REP+F fish_trap ADJNCT
***- *** -*** -*** nf ***

'They carried lots of fish in the fish trap.'
'Afore. They decided to start, and they wrapped the fish in leaves.'

'They wrapped the fish, and roasted the fish on grills.'

'Aren't they going to light the feast?''

'They danced after they ate.'

'They ate and danced.'

---

26 At this point Siko said something to his wife Afore, but the sentence is incoherent.
THE POISON ROOT SONG

111
Me  ayaka  me  kawaha  me,  me
me  ayaka  me  ka-  waha  me  me
3PL.S  dance+F  3PL.S  COMIT-  shine+F  3PL.S  3PL.S
***  nf  ***  ***-  vi  ***  ***
kawahemetemoneke.
ka-  waha  -hemete  -mone  -ke
COMIT-  shine  -FP.N+F  -REP+F  -DECL+F
***-  vi  ***  ***  ***
'They were still dancing at dawn.'

112
Faya  me  amo  natiyemetemoneke  fahi.
faya  me  amo  na  nahatI  -hemete  -mone  -ke  fahi
so  3PL.S  sleep  AUX  day  -FP.N+F  -REP+F  -DECL+F  then
***  ***  vi  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***
'They slept during the day.'

113
Me  amo  na,  me  tafamina  me  tafa,  me
me  amo  na  me  tafa  -mina  me  tafa  me
3PL.S  sleep  AUX+F  3PL.S  eat  -morning+F  3PL.S  eat+F  3PL.S
***  vi  ***  ***  vi  ***  ***  ***
amo  nawahemetemoneke  fahi,  me
amo  na  -waha  -hemete  -mone  -ke  fahi  me
sleep  AUX  -change  -FP.N+F  -REP+F  -DECL+F  then  3PL.S
vi  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***
kawaha  mati.
ka-  waha  mati
COMIT-  shine+F  3PL.S
***-  vi  ***
'They ate in the morning and then slept, when it was day.'

114
Karayati.
karayati
fly_sp
nm
'A karayati fly.'

115
Hima.
hima
come_on!
interj
'Come on.'

116
Faya  amake.
faya  ama  -ke
enough  be  -DECL+F
adj  vc  ***
'That's all.'