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Molika kang molik / Do come home
Jerry Caab (1987)
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Molika kang Molik *Do Come Home*

This fictitious letter was written at the request of the researcher by Jerry Caab (27 years old) in 1987. It communicates the importance of family, and exemplifies a request from the heart.

1. Dir Manong,
dir manong
dear elder.brother

2. Balampa ong kaloy tang Dios ay mo-ya ka tang niong
balampa ong kaloy tang Dios ay ma =o-ya ka tang nio =ang
DESID OBL grace DEF God INV ADJ =good EXP TOP 2S.O =LKR

sinangoni atan. 3. Ig mga yo tang niong
sinangoni atan ig mga yo tang nio =ang
body LOC2 and if 1S.F TOP 2S.O =LKR

pakomostan ay mo-ya ka. 4. Manong, yo ay
pa =komosta =an ay ma =o-ya ka Manong yo ay
CAUS =greeting =INF,RF INV ADJ =good also elder.bro 1S.F INV

binti siti anios da. 5. Ong teled ta nang
binti siti anios da ong teled ta nani =ang
twenty seven years already OBL inside GEN D1 =LKR

idadong narin ay india pa gitae. 6. Galiliago man ang magigita ong nio ay
idad =o =ang narin ay indi =a pa ag-en =ita =o
age =1S.G =LKR LOC1 INV NEG1 =2S.T yet IMP,GF =see =1S.G

6. Galiliago man ang magigita ong nio ay
gaa =CV =liag =o man ang magig =ita ong nio ay
IMP,STAT =PL =want =1S.T CONCESS LKR SOC =see OBL 2S.O INV

indi ka poidi tenged anda ra kay aroman tang mga
indi ka poidi tenged anda ra ka =ay aroman tang mga
NEG1 EXP can because NEG3 already EXP =INV companion DEF PL

ginikanan ta tani. 7. Na, Manong, bebeg o ong
ginikanan ta tani nani manong CV =beg =o ong
parents 1PI.G LOC1 D1 elder.brother IMP,GF =say =1S.G OBL

1. Dear Brother,

2. I hope that
by God's grace you
are in good health
there.

3. And if you want
to know about me
(lit. I am the one
you greet) I am also
fine. 4. Elder
Brother, I am
twenty-seven years
old now.

5. In all these years
of mine I have
never seen you.

6. And even if I
should want to
(come to) meet you
I cannot because
our parents have no
companion here.

7. I am telling you
this, brother.

nio. 8. Si tatay may si nanay ay mepet da. 9. Indi
 nio si tatay may si nanay ay meept da indi
 2S.O PM.T father and PM.T mother INV old already NEG1

ra poiding magobra mga isipen ta tenged
 ra poidi =ang mag =obra mga isip =en ta tenged
 already can =LKR INF,AF =work if think =INF,GF 1PI.G because

malolobay da. 10. Sia, tanira bilang da lamang
 ma =CV =lobay da asia tanira CV =bilang da lamang
 ADJ =PL =slow already D2 3P.F IMP,AF =count already only

tang oras nira. 11. Sigoro yawa ay neman kang ana para
 tang oras nira sigoro yawa ay neeman ka =ang ana para
 TOP time 3P.G maybe 2S.F INV thoughtful EXP =LKR child for

maliag ang magigbagat pa ka mintras boi pa tang mga
 ma =liag ang magig =bagat pa ka mintras boi pa tang mga
 INF,STAT =want LKR SOC =meet yet EXP while alive yet TOP PL

ginikanan ta. 12. Tenged na doro kambeng ong yaten
 ginikanan ta tenged nani doro ka =ambeng ong yaten
 parents 1PI.G because D1 much INTENS =happy OBL 1PI.O

ang ginikanan ang gaita ong ana na ang
 ang ginikanan ang gaa =ita ong ana na ang
 LKR parents LKR IMP,STAT =see OBL child 3S.G LKR

naboay dang nagalin pariho tong nio,
 na =boay da =ang nag =alin pariho tong nio
 PERF,STAT =long.time already =LKR PERF,AF =leave same OBL 2S.O

Manong. 13. Belag lamang ang mga ginikanan ta asta yo,
 manong belag lamang ang mga ginikanan ta asta yo
 elder.brother NEG2 only TOP PL parents 1PI.G as.well.as 1S.F

ang mga logod ta, may ang mga parinti ta.
 ang mga logod ta may ang mga parinti ta
 TOP PL sibling 1PI.G and TOP PL relative 1PI.G

14. Sigoro yawa mga isipeno ay galiliag
 sigoro yawa mga isip =en =o ay gaa =CV =liag
 maybe 2S.F if think =INF,GF 1S.G INV IMP,STAT =PL =want

kang maita pa tang mga mepet ta asta ang
 ka =ang ma =ita pa tang mga meept ta asta ang
 EXP =LKR INF,STAT =see yet TOP PL old 1PI.G as.well.as TOP1

8. Father and mother are old now. 9. They can no longer work, if we think about it, because they are weak.

10. As for them, their days are numbered (lit. hours are counted).

11. You are probably a thoughtful (enough) son to want to see our parents again while they are still alive.

12. Because this (would make) our parents very happy to see their child who left long ago, like you, brother.

13. Not only our parents, but also me, our brothers and sisters, and our relatives.

14. Perhaps you, too, when I think about it, also want to see our old folks, as well as our brothers and sisters whom you no longer see.

mga logod tang indi ra ka gitaeñ mo.
 mga logod ta =ang indi ra ka ag-en =ita mo
 PL sibling 1PI.G =LKR NEG1 already EXP IMP,GF =see 2S.G

15. Indio ka ganing ang magpirmia ra
 indi =o ka ga =aning ang mag =pirmi =a ra
 NEG1 =1S.T EXP IMP,AF =say LKR INF,AF =always =2S.T already

tani mga atan tang obra mo. 16. Ang maliago lamang
 tani mga atan tang obra mo ang ma =liag =o lamang
 LOC1 if LOC2 TOP work 2S.G TOP INF,STAT =want =1S.T only

yaning ay maski magbakasiona lamang ta
 i =aning ay maski mag =bakasion =a lamang ta
 INF,GF =say INV even.if INF,AF =vacation =2S.T only GEN

pirapang kaldaw. 17. Sigoro galiaga
 pira =pa =ang kaldaw sigoro gaa =liag =a
 how.many =Q =LKR day maybe IMP,STAT =want =2S.T

kang maita tang banoang dona
 ka =ang ma =ita tang banoa =ang doon =a
 EXP =LKR INF,STAT =see DEF town =LKR LOC3 =2S.T

pinangana nau¹ onoray gatabo,
 in =pangana na ono =ra =ay gaa =tabo
 PERF,GF =give.birth COMP what =already =INV IMP,STAT =happen

na onopa gasinso pa ka obin anda ra.
 na ono =pa gaa =asinso pa ka obin anda ra
 COMP what =Q IMP,STAT =progress yet EXP or NEG3 already

18. Animan, Manong, pagtaligo na
 animan manong pag =talig =o na
 therefore elder.brother IMP,AF =trust =1S.T COMP

molika kang molik.
 m =olik =a ka =ang m =olik
 INF,AF=go.home =2S.T EXP =LKR INF,AF =go.home

15. I am not saying
 that you should
 stay here
 permanently if you
 have your work
 there. 16. All I
 mean to say is that
 even if you would
 just spend a few
 days' vacation here.

17. Maybe you also
 would like to see
 the town where you
 were born, what is
 happening there,
 whether it is
 progressing or not.

18. So, brother, I
 am trusting that
 you really will
 come home.

¹ The complementizer **na**, borrowed from Tagalog, occurs in the speech of the younger generation, who have been educated in that language. Older speakers would probably use **ang** or **nga** in this environment.

19. Magelat aming magelat.
 mag =elat ami =ang mag =elat
 INF,AF =wait 1PE.T =LKR INF,AF =wait

19. We will be waiting.²

20. Komosta ra lamang.
 komosta ra lamang
 greeting already only

20. Greetings.

21. Ang pagmal ang logod mo,
 ang pag =mal ang logod mo
 TOP IMP,AF =love LKR sibling 2S.G

21. Your loving brother,

22. Jerry
 Jerry
 Jerry

22. Jerry

² The intensive nature of the waiting conveyed by the double verb is not easily translated.