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YATZACHI ZAPOTEC TEXTS

A collection of narratives by Zapotec speakers of  
Yatzachi el Alto and Yatzachi el Bajo,  
Oaxaca, Mexico

Volume I

Translated, Compiled and Edited by

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1989



OTIS and MARY LEAL

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To Mary and Otis Leal,  
who laid the groundwork for my studies of Zapotec  
and taught me  
by the example of their service of love among the Zapotecs.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLECTION OF  
YATZACHI ZAPOTEC TEXTS

Yatzachi Zapotec is a variety of Zapotec spoken by the inhabitants of the villages of Yatzachi el Bajo and Yatzachi el Alto in the Villa Alta district of north central Oaxaca, Mexico. There is a high degree of intelligibility between the Zapotec spoken in the two Yatzachis and that of several other Zapotec towns of the region. Throughout the region, however, each town has dialect variations involving phonological, grammatical and lexical differences which have great cultural significance, giving people a strong sense of local identity and loyalty.

Both Yatzachi el Bajo and Yatzachi el Alto are small villages, with a combined resident population of less than a thousand people. San Baltazar Yatzachi el Bajo has the administrative status of a municipio, whereas San Baltazar Yatzachi el Alto is one of three villages which are in a reporting relationship to it as "agencias". Yatzachi el Bajo is actually a newer village, having been formed by residents of Yatzachi el Alto who chose to cross over the hill top a couple of hundred years ago and form a new settlement in an area on the other side.

Both villages are situated in the mountains at altitudes which vary from 5,000 to 5,500 ft., about 40 air miles north of the more famous Zapotec town of Mitla (which is known for its ancient ruins). Only since about 1983 have road improvements made access to Yatzachi el Bajo and Yatzachi el Alto possible by automobile or passenger bus, although trucks often made the journey previously. By mountain road Yatzachi is about 80 miles from Oaxaca City, the capital of the state.

Although there is little level ground in either village. The town hall, church, an old cemetery, the school, the basketball court, a public auditorium, a couple of small stores and a few dwellings are located in a small flat area at one edge of Yatzachi el Bajo. Other homes are located on the hillsides relatively near to one another, with most farm lands on the downward slopes of the mountain all the way to the river three thousand feet below. The town hall, school, church and cemetery of Yatzachi el Alto are on top of a hill above Yatzachi el Bajo, with most of the dwellings of its citizens on the downward slope of the other side of the hill.

The hillsides were once forested with long needle pines, but most of the timber has been cut for firewood or lumber for local use, with the result that the area has become more arid than it used to be. The climate is temperate. The coldest weather is usually in December and January, and the hottest weather in April and May. The rainy season can be expected from June through September.

A dramatic change in the landscape can be seen as the rainy season transforms the dry, brown hillsides to green. The rainy season also makes possible the cultivation of subsistence crops of corn (maize), and beans. Every family cultivates chili peppers and squash as well, and some families also cultivate small crops of tomatos, onions, avocados, mangos and oranges for local consumption.

Until the 1960's the region was largely self-sufficient economically, each village supplying certain commodities. Trade took place as people gathered to buy and sell in large markets on Tuesdays in Yalalag, Wednesdays in Solaga, and Thursdays in Zoogocho. People of Yalina supplied lumber and did blacksmithing. People of the Yatzachis produced chili peppers, eggs and mescal (the distilled liquor made from the maguey cactus) for sale in local stores and markets and chickens for the sacrifices the Mixes needed at harvest time. People of Zoogocho produced coffee and fireworks which were essential to every fiesta and funeral. People of Yalalag supplied sandals and the woven shawls all the women used. There were butchers in Yalalag, Yalina and Zoogocho who supplied beef and pork. People of Zochina, Tabehua and Yohueche supplied pottery cooking utensils, water jars and the earthenware comals on which tortillas were baked. Ropes, harnesses and bags of ixtle fiber were supplied primarily by people from the Cajonos area. During that era, most Yatzachi families made brown sugar for their own use from locally grown sugar cane.

Most Yatzachi households have a few chickens and turkeys and a dog or two. Many have one or more donkey, a pig or two, and a few sheep. A few have oxen which they use for plowing their fields and hire out for the use of others. A very few individuals own a horse or mule. These are used as cargo animals but never for plowing. The chickens and turkeys are valued both for their eggs and as a source of food for special occasions. Every few weeks someone in the village kills a pig on a Wednesday and sells some of the meat and lard to neighbors. If there is more than can be sold

locally it is taken to the Thursday market in Zoogocho, a neighboring Zapotec town about three miles away where people from as many as twelve to fifteen villages gather to buy and sell each week. Meat, vegetables, fruits, dry goods, clothing, tools, cooking pots, buckets, water jars, comals and even chairs and tables can be purchased in the market place. Most families from both of the Yatzachis dispatch someone to the market each week to purchase supplies.

Within the last twenty years the local economy has changed from that of a subsistence economy to that of a consumer economy. Now only a few Yatzachi families make brown sugar and mescal. The liquor produced is still sold as a cash crop to local stores. Although a few individuals sell their entire small crop of avocados to a non-local buyer, there are no commercial crops of economic significance produced in the area. Most families now depend on money sent from relatives with jobs in the United States to purchase a large portion of their supplies of food, clothing and medicines. Major expenses such as those of house building or sending children out for education are likewise financed from non-local sources.

Houses used to be constructed of adobe bricks produced locally, with wooden beams, doors and window shutters secured from Yalina, and roofing tiles produced locally or in one of the neighboring pottery making villages. Now new houses are constructed using cement and brick, with roofs of asbestos tile or corrugated metal.

A rural electrification project brought electricity to the Yatzachis in 1970. Since the founding of these villages there has been significant influence from outsiders resulting from the Spanish conquest and the spread of Roman Catholicism which followed it.

There is a story of the founding of Yatzachi el Bajo tells of the rivalry between the two villages occasioned by the building of the large Catholic churches which now stand in each of them. However, there have never been resident priests in either village. Instead, the priest of the region has his headquarters in the village of Zochila, not more than four miles away.

Early in this century the people of Yatzachi el Bajo realized the importance of education for their children and established some sort of locally financed school which some of the children attended. Then in 1921 an American missionary entered the region looking for a place to found a

school and start his work. In 1923 he opened a school for children and young people which by the next year was expanded to include night classes. The school was carried on in Spanish with a staff which included some Mexican teachers. It operated until mid 1929, when the missionary and his team of teachers left the area as a result of a decision of the mission under which he worked. The period of the mission school had tremendous influence on Yatzachi el Bajo, for under the influence of the missionary a sort of secularism was introduced which makes it different from any of the other villages of the region. Education became the primary concern, along with economic gain, and close ties between religion and civil government were severed. Until that time local government was closely tied into the religious life of the town through the appointment of individuals to religious duties and the obligatory sponsoring of religious fiestas. Now the two are kept strictly separate. A small evangelical church functions under local Zapotec leadership, and the Catholic church has a modest number of adherents who make processions to the church on religious holidays or attend mass when the priest makes one of his occasional visits for a baptism, a funeral, a wedding, or the major village fiesta.

Not long after the mission school disbanded, a secular elementary school was established in Yatzachi el Bajo staffed by a teacher paid by the Mexican department of education. It has operated continuously since its establishment, often with the financing of additional teachers from local resources. In the early 1970's, because of a shortage of teachers throughout Mexico, the department of education required a larger number of students per grade before a teacher would be supplied than the number of Yatzachi students for grades five and six. Grades one through four maintained a large number of students because many lacked sufficient understanding of Spanish to progress into the upper grades. It was of deep concern to the villagers that a full six year elementary program could not be maintained, so an appeal was made to people of influence in government which resulted in the establishment around 1978 of a boarding unit for the school so children from the nearby villages could attend the upper grades in Yatzachi el Bajo. Today a majority of the children of Yatzachi families are being educated in secondary and technical schools outside the local area after completing elementary schooling locally, and some even attend universities. Over the past fifty years Yatzachi el Bajo has produced an

unusual number of people who have become school teachers and others who hold government jobs.

After acquiring an education Yatzachi young people may return to the village to marry, but few return to rear their families, for there are no opportunities for employment except as farm laborers or school teachers. During World War II a number of Yatzachi men went to the United States to work as farm laborers. Then during the next few years, as the standard of living advanced without an advance in local economic resources, women began to go to Mexico City and the United States as domestic workers. For the last twenty years there has been a growing trend for both men and women of Yatzachi el Bajo to seek employment in the United States. Whole families often move to the city of Oaxaca or to Mexico City to provide further education for their children when they have completed their elementary schooling locally. In some cases whole families have migrated to the United States. Because of these trends there are now few young people or young families residing in Yatzachi and there is a general shrinkage in the population of villages of the area.

The art of story telling, which doubtless served to preserve the culture in earlier years, has now been largely lost as education has become a function of the government rather than of the family. As contacts with the outside world through radio, television, travel, formal education and job opportunities have increased, the standard of living has also increased beyond that which can be supported by local means of production. Therefore adults who remain in the local area are burdened by the struggle for subsistence and the required civic duties, leaving them little leisure time. Furthermore, children and young people now spend little time with their parents and grandparents, with the result that the oral traditions of the culture are being lost.

A rather full treatment of the Zapotec beliefs and practices found in the neighboring town of Yalalag is given by Julio de la Fuente in his book *Yalalag, una villa zapoteca serrana*, México: Museo Nacional de Antropología, 1949. The chapter on religion (pp. 259 - 310) is especially informative. Although the animistic beliefs and practices and the witchcraft referred to in his book and in these texts are no longer openly espoused by the Zapotecs of Yatzachi el Alto and Yatzachi el Bajo, traces of the old beliefs are still found. Especially in times of serious

illness, tragic occurrences, crop failure, lack of rain or other natural disasters, traditional causes and cures may be sought.

The linguistic investigations on which this text collection is based were carried on under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. Mary and Otis Leal carried on intermittent linguistic investigation in Yatzachi el Bajo from 1937 until about 1965. I joined them in 1952, and in 1956 Ramona Millar came to work with me. We two women lived in Yatzachi el Alto until 1961, and then in Yatzachi el Bajo until 1967. I continued intermittent contacts with the Yatzachi people, spending short periods in Yatzachi el Bajo most years until 1985. This compilation and analysis of text materials is my work, although much credit is due to the Leals for their initial analysis of the language, their establishment of friendly relationships with the people, and their contribution of a few of the texts in this collection. The assistance of Ramona Millar in collecting the Yatzachi el Alto materials is also gratefully acknowledged. Rebecca Long provided much assistance in the final preparation of these materials..

Inez M. Butler

## THE ZAPOTEC AUTHORS OF THE TEXTS IN THIS COLLECTION

Narratives by eleven different people of various ages and degrees of sophistication are included in this collection of texts. All except the ones given by Gregorio López were taken down in writing from oral dictation by the authors.

A brief description follows of each individual as I knew them at the time the texts were given.

**Juan Vicente Hernández** was an adult resident of Yatzachi el Alto. At the time the texts were given, he was probably in his early forties, an industrious and fairly prosperous man, active in Roman Catholic and civic affairs in his community. He supported his wife and two children by farming and making mezcal. While Ramona Millar and I lived in the home of this family, Juan frequently came to us saying, "I have something for you to write down." The texts were always offered spontaneously and with the subject matter of his own selection.

**Agustina Vicente** was the grown daughter of Juan Vicente, a young woman of about twenty years who still lived at home with her parents although she had a two-year-old child who was considered part of the family. She helped with food preparation, laundry and field work for the family.

**Carmela Rodríguez** was a shy young woman of Yatzachi el Alto in her late teens, away from home for the first time when her text was given. She was a member of a prominent and prosperous family with which we had extensive contact for a few years.

**Crescencia Enríquez** was a widow about fifty years of age of Yatzachi el Alto who supported herself, a teen-aged son and granddaughter of about twelve years by farming and hiring out to other families of the locality to do grinding or field work. A married daughter, who was the mother of the twelve-year-old, lived nearby with her husband (who was not the father of the older child) and two small children.

**Hermila Pilar** was a young married woman of Yatzachi El Bajo. She and her husband were in Mitla, Oaxaca, with their small child helping with preparation of literacy materials at the time her explanation of wedding customs was given. She had been through primary school and knew quite a lot of Spanish but had not learned to write Zapotec.

**Hermínio López** was a prominent citizen of Yatzachi el Bajo, about sixty years of age. He supported his wife and daughter by farming and making



mezcal. Herminio had had some elementary education and had a fairly good command of Spanish in addition to his own language. He had served as mayor of his village for at least three years, as well as being a leader of the brass band of his barrio and having served as a local assistant to the Catholic priest when he came on rare visits. Because Herminio knew of my interest in the history of the town, he came with the suggestion that I write down the texts he dictated to me.

**Amalia Martínez**, of Yatzachi el Bajo, was a woman of about forty years who had a son about twenty years old, and a daughter of six. She had had sufficient education to be a primary teacher in village schools of the area, but was working in Mexico City at the time I knew her as assistant cook in a unit of the Summer Institute of Linguistics where the pay must have been better. Her son was away in boarding school and her daughter at home with the grandparents. She evidenced pride in her language and village culture.

**Micaela López**, of Yatzachi el Bajo, was the daughter of a very prominent family. She worked as a maid and language teacher for Mary and Otis Leal as a young unmarried woman. She had been through the local elementary school and had been exposed to outside culture because of literary and religious interests of her father before having contact with the Leals. The stories she gave no doubt found their source in her parents, for her father enjoyed telling a good story, and her mother, who was quite monolingual, was thoroughly versed in the customs and beliefs of the past.

**Praxedes Guzmán**, of Yatzachi el Bajo, is another young woman who served as a maid and language teacher for the Leals for a short period of time. She also had been educated in the local elementary school, and had been exposed to the the beliefs, customs, and stories of the locality through membership in a prominent Yatzachi family.

**Librado Guzmán**, of Yatzachi el Bajo, was a grown man involved in farming and the life and culture of his town. I do not know the circumstances which brought forth the text he gave.

**Gregorio M. López**, of Yatzachi el Bajo, was a man of about thirty-five or forty years of age with a wife and several children. He had been trained as a local school teacher, and served in Yatzachi in that capacity for a short period of time. Because of his knowledge of Spanish and his

skill in analytical thinking, he was a very capable language teacher for the Leals and for me. We found him to have unusual talent for writing, which is displayed in the texts of his which are included in this collection. Although some of the stories he gave could have come from things he read or heard outside the local Zapotec region, he certainly had personal knowledge of, and experience with, the beliefs and customs of his people and seemed to enjoy sharing that information with others who showed interest in a non-threatening way.

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Costa Mesa, CA  
August 11, 1989

## THE PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHY OF YATZACHI ZAPOTEC

A rather detailed popular presentation of the sound system and grammar of Yatzachi Zapotec is found in the volume *GRAMATICA ZAPOTECA: Zapoteco de Yatzachi el Bajo*, México, D.F., Instituto Lingüístico de Verano, 1980. The practical orthography used for the Zapotec materials in that volume is also used in the presentation of this collection of texts.

The most important distinction between Yatzachi Zapotec consonant phonemes is that of fortis vs. lenis articulation rather than a distinction between voiced vs. voiceless or stop vs. fricative. Many of the phonemes occur in fortis and lenis pairs. The fortis consonants are /p/, /t/, /č/ (written as ch), /s/, /š/, /š/ (written as x), /k/ (written as c except before *i*, *e*, and *ə*, in which cases it is written as qu, although written as k in a few words borrowed from Spanish), /kw/ (a labialized velar written as cu before vowels and as cw before consonants and in word final position), /l̥/ (written as l to distinguish it from its lenis counterpart), and /n̥/ (written as n to distinguish it from its lenis counterpart). Except for /n̥/ and /l̥/, fortis consonants are voiceless. Fortis stops are aspirated in word final position.

The lenis consonants, which are often voiced, are /b/, /d/, /j/ (written as ch), /z/, /ž/, /ž/ (written x), /g/, /gw/ (the labialized velar, written as gu before back vowels and as gü before front vowels), /l̥/ (which is usually voiceless) and /n̥/. The /n̥/ assimilates before consonants in labial and velar position whereas its fortis counterpart does not.

Other consonants, which are non-contrastive in strength of articulation, are: /m/, /x̞/ (alveopalatal fricative, written as y), /ř/, /R̥/ (uvular fricative, written as j, making it ambiguous with the velar fricative written as j found in a few words of Spanish origin), /R̥w/ (labialized uvular fricative, written as jw before consonants and in word final position and as ju before vowels), and glottal (written as ʔ). In Spanish borrowings /f/, /xw/ and /r̃/ also occur. In many Spanish loan words /b/ is written as v, /ny/ as ñy and /y/ as ll.

Vowels are /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/ and a central vowel of indeterminate quality written as ə. The vowel /u/ occurs in Spanish borrowings and where labialized consonants precede vowels.

## TABLE OF MODIFICATIONS

A table of modifications in *Gramática Zapoteca*, pp. 66-67, shows changes produced when pronominal clitics are added to noun or verb stems ending in vowels or vowel-glottal combinations.

## EXPLANATION OF THE FORMAT USED IN THIS TEXT COLLECTION

With minor modifications the EZTEXT system of text processing was employed in preparing these texts as described in *EZTEXT: Integrated Tools for Text Analysis* by Bryan L. Harmelink, of the series *Occasional Publications in Academic Computing*, Number 4, Dallas, Texas, Summer Institute of Linguistics, 1985.

These texts are presented in a format with sets of four lines. Because the morphemes of Yatzachi Zapotec undergo phonological changes when combined with other morphemes, it seems helpful to present the normal form of each Zapotec word in line one in contrast to the morpheme by morpheme form shown in line two. Line three gives a literal gloss directly below each morpheme. Line four gives a semi-free English translation of the text with the beginning of each sentence lined up, and, in longer sentences, with the beginning of each major clause lined up.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN GLOSSING TEXTS

## Primary Aspects:

Continuative-habitual, H

Completive, C

Potential, P

Stative, S

Dubitative, D

(This is a form manifested by only a few verbs. It appears to be an alternate for the potential aspect when an element of doubt is present.)

## Secondary aspects:

Repetitive (of both first and second degree), REP

Motion away, MA

Motion toward, MT

## Other verbal affixes and related items:

Causative, CA

Passive, PAS

Nominalizer, NOM

Pluralizer, PL

Infinitive, INF

Imperative, IMP (The plural imperative is marked IMPp.)

Conjugation marker, CM

## Person markers:

1 singular, 1s

1 plural inclusive, 1pi

3 plural exclusive, 1pe

2 singular, 2s

2 plural, 2p

3 human respect, 3r

3 human familiar, 3f

3 animal, 3a

3 inanimate, 3i

3 indefinite, 3ind

## Other morphemes:

Interrogative prefix, Q  
 Free pronoun stem, X  
 Deictic elements, DEM  
 Intensifiers, INT  
 De-emphasizer, DE  
 Obligatory grammatical particle which does not translate, G  
 Politeness, POL  
 Transitional phoneme, TR  
 Possessed item, POS  
 Stylistic rhyming morpheme, STY

## OTHER CONVENTIONS

The sign / is used between the glosses of two morphemes which cannot be clearly separated or to indicate the glosses of a portmanteau morpheme.

beco'	xico'
dog	POS/dog
ch-ziye'	siye'
H-deceive	P/deceive

Periods are used between words when more than one word is required for a gloss.

cana'  
 at.that.time

In the text, prefixes are followed by = and suffixes preceded by -. For example, when divided into morphemes the verb **chebeichgüeida'** appears as:

ch=	e=	bei	-chgua	-ei	-da'
H=	REP=	be.happy	-INT	-CM	-1s

When two words in the text cannot be glossed separately they are shown to have a joint meaning by using the sign | between them.

bžin'|yixə'  
deer

bžin'	yixə'
mule	wild

Sometimes elements appear as infixes and sometimes elements combine with something intervening which must be translated together. This is shown by use of arrow-like brackets.

g= oc<-lizə>e            -ne'  
C= think<-cleverly> -3r

The English gloss of words borrowed from Spanish is marked (S).

burr  
donkey(S)

HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

Given by Herminio López, in Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in August, 1972.

1. Tmil gueyə' gueyoa tochoa iz, canan' bidə  
 1. t= mil gueyə' gueyoa tochoa iz cana'  
 1. one= thousand(S) five hundred twenty-one year at.that.time  
 1. In the year fifteen twenty-one, at that time

Hernán Cortés, bedənabi'e yež qui, na'  
 -n' b= idə hernán cortés b= edə= nabia' -e' yež qui na'  
 -DEM C= come Hernán(S) Cortés(S) C= MT= rule -3r town these and  
 Hernán Cortés came, he came to rule these towns, and

gwnabi'e doxen Syi'itə' ni. 2. Cuich no nla' ca le'.  
 gw= nabia' -e' doxen syi'itə' ni 2. cui -ch no n= la'  
 C= rule -3r all.over Mexico DEM 2. NEG -more anyone S= be.seen  
 he ruled all over Mexico here. 2. There is no longer anyone

3. Goque' to beṇə' gwnabia' xen na' beṇə' gwni'a,  
 ca le -e' 3. g= oc -e' to beṇə' gw= nabia' xen na' beṇə'  
 like X -3r 3. C= be -3r one person INF= rule big and person  
 like him. 3. He was a powerful ruler and a rich man,

na' naque' beṇə' España. 4. Beyož gw Xenlaže'e ba  
 gwni'a na' n= aquə -e' beṇə' españa 4. b= eyož gw=  
 rich and S= be -3r person Spain(S) 4. C= be.finished C=  
 and he was from Spain. 4. After he was satisfied

gwo'e Syi'itə' ni, na' gwleje' to to  
 xenlaže' -e' ba gw= yo'o -e' syi'itə' ni na' gw= lej  
 be.satisfied -3r already C= be.in -3r Mexico DEM and C= pick.out  
 that he had entered Mexico here, then he picked out

beṇə', beṇə' naque beṇə' che', beṇə' gwyaš doxen ga  
 -e' to|to beṇə' beṇə' n= aquə beṇə' che -e' beṇə' gw= yaš  
 -3r each person person S= be person POS -3r person C= go.about  
 each person, people who belonged to him, people who went about

zelao mbane Syi'itə' ni. 5. Na' jəsə'anabia' beṇə'  
 doxen ga zelao m= bane syi'itə' ni 5. na' jə= sə'ə= nabia'  
 all.over where S/end S= rule Mexico DEM 5. and C/MA= PL= rule  
 all over where he ruled here in Mexico. 5. And those people ruled

ca' to to yež len xaxtao' beṇə' qui,  
 beṇə' ca' to|to yež len xaxtao' beṇə' qui  
 person those each town with POS/forefather person these  
 each village along with the ancestors of these people,

beṇə' gwlas ca'. 6. Na' jəsə'anabi'e beṇə' gwlas ca',  
 beṇə' gwlas ca' 6. na' jə= sə'ə= nabia' -e' beṇə' gwlas  
 person long.ago those 6. and C/MA= PL= rule -3r person long.ago  
 the people of long ago. 6. And they went and ruled the people of long



HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

aztec ca'. 7. Na' bosō'ogone' beṇə' ca' žin can' chse'ene'e',  
 ca' aztec ca' 7. na' b= oso'o= g= on -e' beṇə' ca' žin ca  
 those Aztec(S) those 7. and C= PL= CA= do -3r person those work like  
 ago, the Aztecs. 7. And they forced those people to work like they

na' gosə'əbeje' beṇə' bgone' le' žin con can'  
 -n' ch= se'= ene'e -ne' na' g= osə'ə= bej -e' beṇə' b= g= on  
 -DEM H= PL= want -3r and C= PL= pick.out -3r person C= CA= do  
 wanted them to, and they chose people to make them work just

che' xanen' le'.  
 -e' le -e' žin con ca -n' ch= e' xan -e' -n' le -e'  
 -3r X -3r work just like -DEM H= tell POS/boss -3r -DEM X -3r  
 as their boss told them.

8. Na' gwso'one' con bi gwnazə ben' gwnabia'anə'.  
 8. na' gw= so'= on -e' con bi gw= na -zə ben' gw= nabia'  
 8. and C= PL= do -3r just what C= say -DE person/DEM INF= rule  
 8. And they did just whatever the ruler said.

9. Na' yelə' zi' de'en gwneze be'enə' gwnabia'anə',  
 -a -nə' 9. na' yelə' zi' de'e -n gw= neze be'enə' gw=  
 -TR -DEM 9. and NOM injured thing -DEM C= know person/DEM INF=  
 9. And the injury that the rulers knew (to use),

bchišə'əga'aque'enə', bzo'e' lega'aque'  
 nabia' -a -nə' b= chišə' -ə -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' b= zo -e' le -ga'ac  
 rule -TR -DEM C= press -TR -PL -3r -TR -DEM C= put -3r X -PL  
 they pressed them, they put on them a

señy len ya la. 10. Chəsə'əbež beṇə' ca' de'en chone beṇə'  
 -e' señy len ya la 10. ch= əsə'ə= bež beṇə' ca' de'e -n  
 -3r sign(S) with metal hot 10. H= PL= cry person those thing -DEM  
 brand with hot metal. 10. The people were crying at what was

lega'aque'.  
 ch= on -e beṇə' le -ga'ac -e'  
 H= do -CM person X -PL -3r  
 being done to them.

11. Cana' gwso'one' yo'odao' de'e ža' to to yež šlac gosə'ənabi'e.  
 11. cana' gw= so'= on -e' yo'odao' de'e ža' to'to  
 11. at.that.time C= PL= make -3r church thing S/be each  
 11. At that time while they ruled they built the churches that

12. Na' xaxta'oga'aque' ca'  
 yež šlac g= osə'ə= nabia' -e' 12. na' xaxta'o -ga'ac -e' ca'  
 town while C= PL= rule -3r 12. and POS/forefather -PL -3r those  
 are in each town. 12. And their forefathers worshipped

gwse'ejni'alaže'e sant ghega'aque' ben' ne' bedao' yej.  
 gw= se'= ejni'alažə' -e' sant ghe -ga'ac -e' ben' na -e'  
 C= PL= worship -3r saint(S) POS -PL -3r person/DEM S/say -3r  
 their saints which are called rock gods.

HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

13. *Benə' gwza'azlaže'e gwso'one' dios*  
 bedao' yej 13. *benə' gw= za'azlažə' -e' gw= so'= on*  
 object.of.worship rock 13. person C= like -3r C= PL= make  
 13. *People who wanted made their gods that*

*qhega'aque' benə' gwse'ejni'alaže'e, na'*  
*-e' dios qhe -ga'ac -e' benə' gw= se'= ejni'alažə' -e' na' b=*  
 -3r god(S) POS -PL -3r person C= PL= worship -3r and C=  
*they worshipped, and*

*boso'osi'e la to to sant qhega'aque'enə'.*  
 oso'o= si' -e' la to|to sant qhe -ga'ac -e' -e -nə'  
 PL= give.name -3r POS/name each saint(S) POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM  
*they gave names to each of their deities.*

14. *Gwso'one' bedao' qhega'aque' qhe yejw, na'*  
 14. *gw= so'= on -e' bedao' qhe -ga'ac -e' qhe yejw na'*  
 14. C= PL= make -3r object.of.worship POS -PL -3r for rain and  
 14. *They made their god of rain, and*

*gwso'one' qhe ye|ə' mban qhega'aque', na' gwso'one'*  
*gw= so'= on -e' qhe ye|ə' m= ban qhe -ga'ac -e' na' gw= so'= on*  
 C= PL= make -3r for NOM S= live POS -PL -3r and C= PL= make  
*and they made (one) for their life, and they made*

*dios qhega'aque' benə' gwso'olğüiže' catə' goc gwdilə.*  
*-e' dios qhe -ga'ac -e' benə' gw= so'= olğüiž -e' catə' g= oc*  
 -3r god(S) POS -PL -3r person C= PL= call.to -3r when C= be  
*their god whom they called on when there was war.*

15. *Zan lao zan cue' benə' gwso'one'.*  
 gwdilə 15. *zan lao zan cue' benə' gw= so'= on -e'*  
 war 15. many POS/face many type person C= PL= make -3r  
 15. *They made many different gods.*

16. *Na' gwse'ejni'alaže'e bio' na' bgüiž. 17. Binlo nitə'əcze'*  
 16. *na' gw= se'= ejni'alažə' -e' bio' na' bgüiž 17. binlo nitə' -ə*  
 16. and C= PL= worship -3r moon and sun 17. well S/be -TR  
 16. *And they worshipped the moon and sun. 17. They were happy*

*zjəno'e xpeze catə'ən bla'ac spañol ca'.*  
 -cz -e' zjə= n= oe' -e' x= pəz -e catə' -ə -n' b= la'ac  
 -INT -3r S/PL= S= give -3r POS= road -3i when -TR -DEM C= arrive/PL  
 (and) well established in their system when the Spaniards arrived.

18. *Na' chse'en que chse'enene' gwso'one' ca naquə*  
 spañol ca' 18. *na' ch= se'= e'en|que|ch=se'=ene'e -ne' gw=*  
 Spaniards(S) those 18. and H= PL= want.to.or.not -3r C=  
 18. *And want to or not, they did as those people*

HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

gož be'en lega'aque',  
 so'= on -e' ca n= aquə g= ož be'en le -ga'ac -e' ch= e'  
 PL= make -3r like S= be C= tell person/DEM X -PL -3r H= tell  
*told them,*

che'ega'aque'enə':  
 -e' -ga'ac -e' -e -nə'  
 -3r -PL -3r -TR -DEM  
*they told them:*

--Caguə yej nga šejnialažə'əle, benga le'e šejni'alažə'ətele.  
 caguə yej nga šejni'alažə' -ə -le benga le'e  
 NEG rock DEM P/worship -TR -2p person/DEM immediately  
*"Don't worship this rock, right away worship this person."*

šejni'alažə' -ə -te -le  
 P/worship -TR -immediately -2p

19. Na' gosə'əbejyichj sant čhega'aque' ca', na'  
 19. na' g= osə'ə= bejyichj sant čhe -ga'ac -e' ca' na'  
 19. and C= PL= forsake saint(S) POS -PL -3r those and  
 19. *And they forsook their deities, and*

gwso'ela'oche' sant čhe beṇə' español ca'.  
 gw= so'= o'elao' -ch -e' sant čhe beṇə' español ca'  
 C= PL= serve -more -3r saint(S) POS person Spaniards(S) those  
*and they worshipped instead the saints of the Spaniards.*

20. Len zda ža neža. 21. Costumbr na' nechi' na'a.  
 20. le -n z= da ža neža 21. costumbr na' ne= chi'  
 20. X -3i S= go day today 21. custom(S) that still= S/sit  
 20. *That is what continues today.* 21 *Those customs still exist*

22. Na' gwɔɔxjue' yoguə'əloɔ de'en chse'ejni'alaže'enə'.  
 na'a 22. na' gw= ɔɔxjw -e' yoguə' -ə -loɔ de'e -n ch= se'=  
 now 22. and C= establish -3r every -TR -INT thing -DEM H= PL=  
 22. *And they established everything that people believe.*

23. Len ne'e chi' na'a, caguə cheniṭən.  
 ejni'alažə' -e' -nə' 23. le -n ne'e chi' na'a caguə ch= e=  
 worship -3r -DEM 23. X -3i still S/sit now NEG H= REP=  
 23. *That still exists now, it doesn't*

24. Na' nse'e de'en ne' čhalə' Tsant,  
 nit -ən 24. na' n= sa' -e' de'e -n na -e' ch=  
 disappear -3i 24. and S= bring.along -3r thing -DEM S/say -3r H=  
 disappear. 24. *And they brought what is called All Saints,*

na' gwne' čeda'ac beṇə' golə catə' čhalə'  
 aɔə' tsant na' gw= na -e' ch= e= da'ac beṇə' golə  
 take.place All.Saints(S) and C= say -3r H= REP= come/PL person old  
*and they said the old people return when All*

HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

Tsantən'. 25. Ža nech, ža primer  
 catə' ch= a<sub>1</sub>ə' tsant -ən' 25. ža nech ža primer  
 when H= take.place All.Saints(S) -DEM 25. day first day first(S)  
*Saints takes place. 25. The first day, November*

noviembr, cana' naquə ža che bdao', na' chechop ža naquə  
 noviembr cana' n= aquə ža che bdao' na' ch= e=  
 November(S) at.that.time S= be day for baby and H= REP=  
*first, then is the day of babies, and the second day is*

ža che beṇə' golə. 26. Na' chte' ya chopə ža,  
 chop ža n= aquə ža che beṇə' golə 26. na' ch= ta -e' ya  
 be.second day S= be day for person old 26. and H= ring -3r bell  
*the day of old people. 26. And they ring the bell*

chte' ya che bdao', na' chechop ža chte' ya che  
 chopə ža ch= ta -e' ya che bdao' na' ch= e= chop ža  
 two day H= ring -3r bell for child and H= REP= be.second day  
*two days, they ring the bell for children, and the second day they ring*

beṇə' golə. 27. Ca' naquə de'en bedəlec beṇə'  
 ch= ta -e' ya che beṇə' golə 27. ca' n= aquə de'e -n b= edə=  
 H= ring -3r bell for person old 27. thus S= be thing -DEM C= MT=  
*the bell for old people. 27. That is what the Spaniards came*

spañolən' lao yež qui. 28. Len nga'an ža  
 lec beṇə' spañol -ən' lao yež qui 28. le -n n= ga'an ža  
 put person Spaniards(S) -DEM in town these 28. X -3i S= remain day  
*and established in these villages. 28. That is what remains*

neža lao yež lbajon'. 29. Na' bente' gwse'ejni'alaže'e  
 neža lao yež lbajw -n' 29. na' b= en -te -e' gw= se'=  
 today in town El.Bajo -DEM 29. and C= make -also -3r C= PL=  
*today in the town of El Bajo. 29. And they made them believe,*

chnabe' mis len bgoz. 30. Chone' che nis  
 ejni'alažə' -e' ch= nab -e' mis len bgoz 30. ch= on -e' che  
 worship -3r H= ask -3r mass(S) with priest 30. H= do -3r for  
*they ask for masses by the priest. 30. He does them*

yejw, chone' che ye<sub>1</sub>ə'mban, chone' che yez xoa',  
 nis yejw ch= on -e' che ye<sub>1</sub>ə' m= ban ch= on -e' che  
 water rain H= do -3r for NOM S= live H= do -3r for  
*for rain, he does them for life, he does them for corn*

na' chone' che beṇə' ba gwsa'at,  
 yez xoa' na' ch= on -e' che beṇə' ba gw= sa'= at  
 dry.ears.of.corn corn and H= do -3r for person already C= PL= die  
*harvest, and he does them for people who have died,*

HL2. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

che anm.            31. Pero na'a ba zda ba chnit balən.  
che anm            31. pero na'a ba            z= da ba            ch= nit  
for spirit(S) 31. but(S) now already S= go already H= disappear  
*for the spirit. 31. But now some of these are beginning to disappear.*

                         32. Ca' naquə de'e bga'aŋ lao yež ni.  
balə -n 32. ca' n= aquə de'e b= ga'aŋ lao yež ni  
some -3i 32. thus S= be thing C= remain in town DEM  
                         32. *That is what remained here in the village.*

JV55. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

Given by Juan Vicente Hernández, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca,  
August 21, 1976.

1. Xtižə' beṇə' golə, chese'ene' catə' gwlaguə' españolən'  
 1. x= tižə' beṇə' golə ch= ese'e= na -e' catə' gw=  
 1. POS= word person old H= PL= say -3r when C=  
 1. *In the words of the old people, they say when the Spaniards*

Veracruz, na' beṇə' le'e bente' le' txen  
 laguə' español -ən' veracruz na' beṇə' le'e b= en  
 cross Spaniards(S) -DEM Veracruz(S) and person immediately C= do  
*crossed Veracruz, the people who right away sided*

goque' partido español ca'.  
 -te -e' le -e' txen g= oc -e' partido español  
 -immediately -3r X -3r together C= be -3r faction(S) Spaniards(S)  
*with them became the Spanish party.*

2. Na' mix ca' byob gwso'one' españolən' txen,  
 ca' 2. na' mix ca' b= yob gw= so'= on -e' español  
 those 2. and Mixe(S) those C= be.quick C= PL= do -3r Spaniards(S)  
 2. *And the Mixes quickly sided with the Spaniards,*

na' zapotecos ca' cui byob əsa'aque' conform əsa'aque'  
 -ən' txen na' zapotecos ca' cui b= yob əsa'= ac -e'  
 -DEM together and Zapotecs(S) those NEG C= be.quick P/PL= be -3r  
*but the Zapotecs were not quickly willing to side with*

español ca' txen. 3. Nach español ca'  
 conform əsa'= ac -e' español ca' txen 3. nach español  
 willing P/PL= be -3r Spaniards(S) those together 3. then Spaniards(S)  
*the Spaniards. 3. Then the Spaniards*

za'aque' šo'olažə', na' zapotecos ca' gosə'ədilələne'  
 ca' za'ac -e' šo'olažə' na' zapotecos ca' g= osə'ə= dilə  
 those S/come/PL -3r slowly and Zapotecs(S) those C= PL= fight  
*advanced slowly, and the Zapotecs fought against the*

partido che español ca', beṇə' mix ca'anə'.  
 -len -e' partido che español ca' beṇə' mix ca' -a  
 -with -3r faction(S) POS Spaniards(S) those person Mixe(S) those -TR  
*party of the Spaniards, those Mixes.*

4. Ca' chaquən' besyə'əga'an beṇə' Lao Ya'a ca' len beṇə' Lbajw  
 -nə' 4. ca' ch= ac -ən' b= esyə'ə= ga'an beṇə' lao ya'a  
 -DEM 4. thus H= happen -DEM C= PL/REP= remain person on mountain  
 4. *Thus it happened the people of El Alto and El Bajo remained*

ca' galə'əzə. 5. Na' to beṇə' mixən'  
 ca' len beṇə' lbajw ca' galə'əzə 5. na' to beṇə' mix -ən'  
 those with person El.Bajo those nearby 5. and one person Mixe(S) -DEM  
*nearby. 5. And a Mixe could turn*

JV55. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

naljene' bež,    bež tigrən',  
n= aljə    -e -ne' bež    bež    tigr    -ən'  
S= be.born -CM -3r fierce.wild.animal fierce.wild.animal puma(S) -DEM  
*into a fierce wild animal,    into a puma,*

na' bedəxo'e' lao Yej Jsešən' de'en leczə nzi'in Ya'a Jsešən' o Yej  
na' b= edə= xoə    -e' lao yej jseš    -ən' de'e -n  
and C= MT= put.oneself -3r on rock Yatzachi -DEM thing -DEM  
*and he came and laid on Yatzachi Rock which is also called Mt.*

Beġhən'.  
leczə    n= zi'    -i -n ya'a    jseš    -ən' o    yej beġh  
likewise S= be.called -TR -3i mountain Yatzachi -DEM or(S) rock crow  
*Yatzachi or Crow Rock.*

6. Na' beṅə' Lao Ya'a ca' len beṅə' lbajw ca' besə'əžebe' bežən',  
-ən' 6. na' beṅə' lao ya'a    ca' len beṅə' lbajw ca' b=  
DEM 6. and person on mountain those with person El.Bajo those C  
6. *And the people of El Alto and El Bajo were afraid of the*

    la' tant xya chomb yoguə' ža.  
esə'ə= žeb    -e' bež    -ən' la'    tant    xya    ch=  
PL=    fear -3r puma -DEM because so.much(S) damage H=  
*puma    because it did so much damage*

    7. Nach bosə'oxia' šəṅə beṅə',    gosə'əne':  
on -b yoguə' ža    7. nach b= oso'o= xia'    šəṅə beṅə'    g= osə'ə=  
do -3a every day    7. then C= PL=    decide three person C= PL=  
*every day.    7. Then three people decided,    they said:*

na -e'  
say -3r

--Cheyaḷə' gotchob.  
ch= e=    y=    aḷə' g=    ot    -cho -b  
H= REP= TR= must P= kill -1pi -3a  
*"We must kill it."*

8. Na' to beṅə' lbajon' goque' bsia dao',    na' to  
8. na' to beṅə' lbajw    -n' g= oc    -e' bsia dao' na' to  
8. and one person El.Bajo -DEM C= be    -3r eagle large and one  
8. *And an El Bajo person was a great eagle,    and an*

beṅə' Lao Ya'an goque' yi' gwzio',    na' yeto beṅə'  
beṅə' lao ya'a    -n g= oc    -e' yi'gwzio' na' ye=    to  
person on mountain -DEM C= be    -3r lightning    and another= one  
*El Alto person was lightning,    and another Zochina*

Sši'innə' goque' be' bdon'.    9. Nach gwso'one'  
beṅə' sši'in    -nə' g= oc    -e' be'bdon' 9. nach gw= so'= on  
person Zochina(S) -DEM C= be    -3r hurricane 9. then C= PL= make  
*person was a hurricane.    9. Then they made a*

JV55. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

ye<sub>l</sub>ə' goxian' to ža par gwsote' bežən'.

-e' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' go= xia' -n' to ža par gw= so'= ot -e'  
 -3r NOM INF= decide -DEM one day in.order.to(S) P= PL= kill -3r  
*decision one day to kill the puma.*

10. Na' ben' goque' bsian' gw<sub>di</sub>e' lo'o yejən',  
 bež -ən' 10. na' ben' g= oc -e' bsia -n' gw= de -e'  
 puma -DEM 10. and person/DEM C= be -3r eagle -DEM C= pass -3r  
 10. *And the person who was the eagle passed through the*

bela'ate' yeš<sub>l</sub>a'alən' par əgwšebe' bežən'.  
 lo'o yej -ən' b= e= la' -a -te -e' ye= š= la'a -lə  
 into rock -DEM C= REP= arrive -TR -INT -3r another= one= side -DIR  
 rock he came out on the other side to frighten the puma.

11. Na' ben'  
 -n' par əgw= šeb -e' bež -ən' 11. na'  
 -DEM in.order.to(S) P= frighten -3r puma -DEM 11. and  
 11. *And the person*

goque' be' bdo'on<sub>nə</sub>' bote'e bejw bza' par gwzola<sub>o</sub> yejw sio'onə'.  
 ben' g= oc -e' be' bdon' -o -nə' b= o= ta -e' bejw|bza'  
 person/DEM C= be -3r whirlwind -TR -DEM C= REP= stir -3r thundercap  
 who was the hurricane stirred up the thundercaps so a torrential rain

12. Na' ben' goque'  
 par gw= zola<sub>o</sub> yejw sio' -o -nə' 12. na' ben'  
 in.order.to(S) C= begin rain torrential -TR -DEM 12. and person/DEM  
 began. 12. *Then the person*

yi' gwzio'onə', le'enə' bete' tigrən'.  
 g= oc -e' yi' gwzio' -o -nə' le -e' -e -nə' b= et -e' tigr  
 C= be -3r lightning -TR -DEM X -3r -TR -DEM C= kill -3r puma(S)  
 who was lightning, he killed the puma.

-ən'  
 -DEM

13. Nach gwsone' yeto ye<sub>l</sub>ə' goxia' čhega'aque',  
 13. nach gw= so'= on -e' ye= to ye<sub>l</sub>ə' go= xia' čhe  
 13. then C= PL= make -3r another= one NOM INF= decide POS  
 13. *Then they made another decision among themselves,*

na' boso'ozoe' to San Anton gan' gwsote' tigrən'.  
 -ga'ac -e' na' b= oso'o= zo -e' to san anton ga -n' gw=  
 -PL -3r and C= PL= put -3r one St. Antonio(S) where -DEM C=  
 and they put up (an image of) St. Antonio where they killed

14. Na' boso'ozolene'ene' to tesoro.  
 so'= ot -e' tigr -ən' 14. na' b= oso'o= zo -len -e' -e -ne'  
 PL= kill -3r puma(S) -DEM 14. and C= PL= put -with -3r -TR -3r  
 the puma. 14. *And they put a treasure with him.*



JV55. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

15. Cana' gwža'achgua beṇə' gwni'a Lao Ya'a ni na'  
 to tesoro 15. cana' gw= ža' -a -chgua beṇə' gwni'a  
 one treasure(S) 15. at.that.time C= be -TR -INT person rich  
 15. *At that time there were many rich people here in*

Lbajon'. 16. Gwsa'ape' bia yixə',  
 lao ya'a ni na' lbajw -n' 16. gw= sa'= apə -e' bia'yixə'  
 on mountain DEM and El.Bajo -DEM 16. C= PL= have -3r animal  
 El Alto and El Bajo. 16. *They had animals,*

gwsa'ape' mech, na' gosə'anezene' bi tiemp žjəsə'əlane'e  
 gw= sa'= apə -e' mech na' g= osə'ə= neze -ne' bi tiemp ž=  
 C= PL= have -3r money(S) and C= PL= know -3r what time(S) P=  
*they had money, and they knew what time to go visit their*

sant qhega'aque'enə'. 17. Catə' chžin  
 j= əsə'ə= lanə' -e' sant qhe -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' 17. catə' ch=  
 MA= PL= visit -3r saint(S) POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM 17. when H=  
 saint. 17. *When the El*

beṇə' Lbajon' chjəlane'e sant qhega'aque'enə',  
 žin beṇə' lbajw -n' ch= jə= lanə' -e' sant qhe -ga'ac -e'  
 arrive person El.Bajo -DEM H= MA= visit -3r saint(S) POS -PL -3r  
*Bajo people would arrive to visit their saint,*

na' chgüiate' Lbajw na'alə, na' catə' chžin  
 -e -nə' na' ch= güia -te -e' lbajw na' -a -lə na' catə' ch=  
 -TR -DEM and H= look -INT -3r El.Bajo there -TR -DIR and when H=  
*he would look over there toward El Bajo, and when El Alto*

beṇə' Lao Ya'a ni, na' chgüiate' lbix ya'a nilələ.  
 žin beṇə' lao ya'a ni na' ch= güia -te -e' lbix  
 arrive person on mountain DEM and H= look -INT -3r on.other.side  
*people here would arrive, then he would look over on this side of*

ya'a ni -lə -lə 18. Na' beṇə' Sši'innə', ca naquə  
 18. na' beṇə' sši'in -nə' ca n=  
 mountain here -DIR -surprisingly 18. and person Zochina -DEM as S=  
 the mountain. 18. *And the Zochina people, since*

gwsə'one' txen gwsə'ote' tigrən',  
 aquə -n' gw= so'= on -e' txen gw= so'= ot -e' tigr -ən'  
 be -DEM C= PL= do -3r together C= PL= kill -3r puma(S) -DEM  
*they had worked together killing the puma,*

lecə gwža'achgua beṇə' gwni'a Sši'innə'. 19. Pero  
 lecə gw= ža' -a -chgua beṇə' gwni'a sši'in -nə' 19. pero  
 likewise C= be -TR -INT person rich Zochina -DEM 19. but(S)  
 likewise there were many rich people in Zochina. 19. *But*

beṇə' Sši'innə', catə' bich gwnite'e güen entr qhopə yež,  
 beṇə' sši'in -nə' catə' bi -ch gw= nitə' -e' güen entr  
 person Zochina -DEM when NEG -more C= be -3r good(S) between  
*the Zochina people, when the two villages were not getting along,*

JV55. WHEN THE SPANIARDS CAME

benə' lbajw len benə' Lao Ya'a ca', cana' betə'  
 ɸhopə yež benə' lbajw len benə' lao ya'a ca' cana'  
 two town person El.Bajo with person on mountain those at.that.time  
*the people of El Bajo and El Alto, at that time*

benə' Sši'innə' San Antonnə' gosə'əzi' benə'  
 b= etə' benə' sši'in -nə' san anton -nə' g= osə'ə= zi'  
 C= sell person Zochina -DEM St.(S) Antonio(S) -DEM C= PL= buy  
*the Zochina people sold the image of St. Antonio, the Yalalag people*

Yelaljən'. 20. Ca' naquə to historia de'e be' to benə' golə  
 benə' yelaljə -n' 20. ca' n= aquə to historia de'e b= e'  
 person Yalalag -DEM 20. thus S= be one history(S) thing C= tell  
*bought it. 20. That is the history that an old man told who*

gwle José María Hernández, na' gwdape'  
 to benə' golə gw= le josé maría hernández na' gw=  
 one person old C= be.named José(S) María(S) Hernández(S) and C=  
*was named José María Hernández, and he had*

libr de'en gwlabə' cuent de'e be'e dižə' can' goquə tiempən'.  
 dapə -e' libr de'e -n gw= lab -e' cuent de'e b= e' -e'  
 have -3r book(S) thing -DEM C= read -3r story thing C= speak -3r  
*a book that he read in order to tell what happened at that time.*

dižə' ca -n' g= oquə tiemp -ən'  
 word how -DEM C= happen time(S) -DEM

21. Campan de orən'.  
 21. campan de or -ən'  
 21. bell(S) of(S) gold(S) -DEM  
 21. *The golden bell.*

22. Ya'a Yej Lexo' nzi' to latjə ba benczeto' bat na' yel Nošə'  
 22. ya'a yej lexo' n= zi' to latjə ba b=  
 22. mountain rock earthquake S= be.called one place already C=  
 22. *Mt. Earthquake Rock a place is called where we have heard*

Güen chda campan chəsə'əne' campan de oro.  
 en<cz>e -to' bat|na' yel nošə' güen ch= da campan  
 hear<INT> -1pe years.ago night Night(S) Good(S) H= move bell(S)  
*that long ago on Christmas Eve night a bell would ring which they*

ch= əsə'ə= na -e' campan de oro 23. Na' beneto' fin juisy chol  
 H= PL= say -3r bell(S) of(S) gold 23. na' b= ene -to' fin  
 called the golden bell. 23. and C= hear -1pe fine(S)  
 23. *And we heard that it had*

campannə'.  
 juisy ch= ol campan -nə'  
 extremely(S) H= sing bell(S) -DEM  
*an extremely beautiful sound.*

JV29. BUILDING CHURCHES IN THE TWO YATZACHIS

Given by Juan Vicente Hernández, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca,  
June, 1958.

1. Catə' gwsa'aque' choplə yež,                      beṇə' gwni'anə' to  
1. catə' gw= sa'= ac -e' chop -lə yež beṇə' gwni'a -nə' to  
1. when C= PL= be -3r two -ADV town person rich -DEM one  
1. *When they became two villages,                      the one rich man talked*

- gwnelene' ya'a yaonə'.                      2. Na' gwdape' bel̄ bia chyiš  
gw= ne -len -e' ya'a yao -nə' 2. na' gw= dape -e' bel̄  
C= speak -with -3r mountain river -DEM 2. and C= have -3r snake  
*with the mountain and river.                      2. And he had a snake which*

- mech.                      3. Na' catə' ba de mech xen ghe',  
bia ch= yiš mech 3. na' catə' ba de mech xen  
animal H= defecate money(S) 3. and when already S/be money(S) big  
*laid money.                      3. And when he had accumulated a lot of*

nach che'e beṇə' yežən':  
ghe -e' nach ch= e' -e' beṇə' yež -ən'  
POS -3r then H= tell -3r person town -DEM  
*money, then he said to the townspeople:*

--Na'a goncho to yo'odao' ghecho, to de'e güen  
na'a g= on -cho to yo'odao' ghe -cho to de'e güen  
now C= make -lpi one church POS -lpi one thing good(S)  
*"Now we will build our church, a good one,"*

--che'e beṇə' yež ca'.  
ch= e' -e' beṇə' yež ca'  
H= tell -3r person town those  
*he told the townspeople.*

4. Na' bene beṇə' yeto ba nite'e yelə' goxia' par so'one'  
4. na' b= ene beṇə' ye= to ba nitə' -e' yelə'  
4. and C= hear person another= one already S/be -3r NOM  
4. *And another person heard that they had come to a decision*

yo'odao' chega'aque'enə'.  
go= xia' par so'= on -e' yo'odao' ghe -ga'ac -e' -e  
INF= decide in.order.to(S) P/PL= do -3r church POS -PL -3r -TR  
*to make their church.*

5. Nach ben' yeto gosdobe' beṇə' yež che'enə',  
-n' 5. nach ben' ye= to g= os= dobə -e' beṇə' yež  
-DEM 5. then person/DEM another= one C= CA= gather -3r person town  
5. *Then the other person also gathered his townspeople,*

che'ene':  
ghe -e' -e -nə' ch= e' -e' -ne'  
POS -3r -TR -DEM H= tell -3r -3r  
*telling them:*

JV29. BUILDING CHURCHES IN THE TWO YATZACHIS

--Ba nezdə' nɑ'a so'on yo'odao' ɕhe beŋə' ca', to de'e güen.  
 ba neze -da' nɑ'a so'= on yo'odao' ɕhe beŋə' ca'  
 already know -1s now P/PL= make church POS person those  
*"I now know that those people are going to build their church,*

6. Na' lez gon ɕhe chio'o nɑ'a.  
 to de'e güen 6. na' lez g= on ɕhe chio'o nɑ'a  
 one thing good(S) 6. and likewise P= make POS 1pi now  
*a good one. 6. So we will do likewise now."*

7. Nach gosə'əzolaogüe' ɕhopte beŋə' gwni'a ca' gwso'one'  
 7. nach g= osə'ə= zolao -gw -e' ɕhopə -te beŋə' gwni'a ca'  
 7. then C= PL= begin -TR -3r two -INT person rich those  
 7. *Then both of the rich men began to build their churches.*

yo'odao' ɕhega'aque'enə'. 8. Na' ben' gwdapə  
 gw= so'= on -e' yo'odao' ɕhe -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' 8. na' ben'  
 C= PL= make -3r church POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM 8. and person/DEM  
 8. *And the one who*

be<sub>l</sub> meçən' gwne':  
 gw= dapə be<sub>l</sub> meç -ən' gw= na -e'  
 C= have snake money(S) -DEM C= say -3r  
*had the money snake said:*

--To yo'odao' güench goncho --che'e beŋə' yež  
 to yo'odao' güen -ch g= on -cho ch= e' -e' beŋə'  
 one church good(S) -more P= make -1pi H= tell -3r person  
*"We will build a better church," he told the people*

ɕhe'enə'. 9. --Bito cuidad gape ba<sub>l</sub> iztezə goncho  
 yež ɕhe -e' -e -nə' 9. bito cuidad g= apə -le ba<sub>l</sub>  
 town POS -3r -TR -DEM 9. NEG care(S) P= have -2s how.many  
*of his town. 9. "Don't worry about how many years it may*

yo'oda'onə'. 10. Nadə' gona' mantener  
 iz -tezə g= on -cho yo'odao' -nə' 10. nadə' g= on -a'  
 year -ever C= make -1pi church -DEM 10. 1s P= do -1s  
*take us to build the church. 10. I will support all of*

yoguə'ə<sub>l</sub>olle, yoguə' family ɕhele --gože' beŋə'  
 mantener yoguə' -ə -<sub>l</sub>ol -le yoguə' family ɕhe -le g= ož -e'  
 maintain(S) all -TR -INT -2p every family(S) POS -2p C= tell -3r  
*you, all of your families," he told his*

yež ɕhe'.  
 beŋə' yež ɕhe -e'  
 person town POS -3r  
*townspeople.*

JV29. BUILDING CHURCHES IN THE TWO YATZACHIS

11. Na' lezə ca' gwna beṇə' yeto gože' beṇə' yež che'enə'.  
 11. na' lezə ca' gw= na beṇə' ye= to g= ož -e'  
 11. and likewise thus C= say person another= one C= tell -3r  
 11. And the other man told his townspeople the same thing.

beṇə' yež che -e' -e -nə'  
 person town POS -3r -TR -DEM

12. Na' entr chopə beṇə' gwni'a ca':  
 12. na' entr chopə beṇə' gwni'a ca'  
 12. and between two person rich those  
 12. And the two rich men said to one another:

--Con nocho yob ša' yo'odao' checho na' gaquə lao na'acho campan  
 con no -cho yob ša' yo'odao' che -cho na'  
 just who -1pi P/be.quick P/be.completed church POS -1pi and  
 "Just which ever one of us finishes our church first will have

de'en ze cho'en dižə'  
 g= aquə lao na' -a -cho campan de'e -n' ze ch= oe' -n  
 P= be in hand -TR -1pi bell(S) thing -DEM P/hang H= speak -3i  
 the bell which hangs announcing when

notə'əzə beṇə' gat --gosə'əne'.  
 dižə' notə'əzə beṇə' g= at g= osə'ə= na -e'  
 word whoever person P= die C= PL= say -3r  
 anyone dies," they said.

13. Na' besyə'əla|chgüei to toga'aque'.  
 13. na' b= esyə'ə= la| -chgua -ei to|to -ga'ac -e'  
 13. and C= REP/PL= be.busy -INT -CM each -PL -3r  
 13. And each of them were extremely busy.

14. Na' toe' gya' yo'odao' che'enə' len na'  
 14. nə' to -e' gw= ya' yo'odao' che -e' -e -nə' len na' gw=  
 14. and one -3r C= be.finished church POS -3r -TR -DEM with and C=  
 14. Then one of them finished his church and he got

gwxie šonə sant. 15. Na' ben' yeto cui byob gaquə yo'odao'  
 xi' -e' šonə sant 15. na' ben' ye= to cui b= yob  
 get -3r three saint(S) 15. and person/DEM another= one NEG C= be.quick  
 three saints. 15. And the other person, his church was not

che'enə'. 16. Na' gwne':  
 g= aquə yo'odao' che -e' -e -nə' 16. na' gw= na -e'  
 P= be church POS -3r -TR -DEM 16. and C= say -3r  
 finished as quickly. 16. And he said:

--Caguə ben ben' yo'odao' che'enə' güen  
 caguə b= en ben' yo'odao' che -e' -e -nə' güen  
 NEG C= make person/DEM church POS -3r -TR -DEM good(S)  
 "That man didn't do a good job of building his church,"

JV29. BUILDING CHURCHES IN THE TWO YATZACHIS

--gwna ben' to. --Bežda'agan' bene'en. 17. La'aczə  
 gw= na ben' to bežda'agan' b= en -e' -e -n 17. la'aczə  
 C= say person/DEM one poor.quality C= do -3r -TR -DEM 17. although  
 said the one man. "He built it of poor quality. 17. Although

cui gwa'alao che chio'o per naquəchən de'e güench.  
 cui gw= ya'alao che chio'o per n= aquə -ch -ən de'e güen -ch  
 NEG C= be.finished POS lpi but(S) S= be -more -3i thing good(S) -more  
 ours did not get finished (as soon), it is better."

18. Pero na' gosə'ənite'e to yeļə' goxia' šao',  
 18. pero na' g= osə'ə= nitə' -e' to yeļə' go= xia'  
 18. but(S) and C= PL= be -3r one NOM INF= decide  
 18. But they made an excellent decision,

gosə'əzi'e lebe campan ca'.  
 šao' g= osə'ə= zi' -e' lebe campan ca'  
 excellent C= PL= get -3r equally bell(S) those  
 they divided the bells equally.

19. Na' catə' beyož gwa' yo'odao' che ben' yeto,  
 19. na' catə' b= eyož gw= y= a' yo'odao' che  
 19. and when C= be.finished C= TR= be.finished church POS  
 19. And when the other man's church got finished,

na' gwəlene' bəxoz benle'eye'e liže'enə'.  
 ben' ye= to na' gw= ne -len -e' bəxoz b= enle'eye'  
 person/DEM another= one and C= speak -with -3r priest C= bless  
 then he asked the priest to bless his building.

20. Na' catə' gwej nague'enə' chel gwse'e  
 -e' liž -e' -e -nə' 20. na' catə' gw= wej nag -e' -e -nə'  
 -3r POS/house -3r -TR -DEM 20. and when C= go ears -3r -TR -DEM  
 20. Then at midnight he overheard people

benə' ca' le':  
 chel gw= se'= e' benə' ca' le -e'  
 midnight C= PL= tell person those X -3r  
 people saying to him: (probably in a dream or thought)

--Nayežagchoei --gwse' benə' ca' le'.  
 nayežagcho -ei gw= se'= e' benə' ca' le -e'  
 we.will.meet.again -STY C= PL= tell person those X -3r  
 "Goodbye," the people said to him.

21. Catə' gwe'eni', boxonj bel bia nape'enə' bian' chyš  
 21. catə' gw= ye'eni' b= o= xonj bel bia n= apə -e' -e  
 21. when C= dawn C= REP= flee snake animal S= have -3r -TR  
 21. When it got light, the snake he had which laid money ran

məchən'. 22. Na' beteyo latjə  
 -nə' bia -n' ch= yiš mech -ən' 22. na' b= eteyo  
 -DEM animal -DEM H= defecate money(S) -DEM 22. and C= be.next.day  
 away. 22. And the next day

JV29. BUILDING CHURCHES IN THE TWO YATZACHIS

le'i benə' gote'enə',                      to beza'aze',  
latjə le'i benə' g= ot -e' -e -nə' to b= e= za' -a -z -e'  
place P/see person C= die -3r -TR -DEM one C= REP= leave -TR -DE -3r  
*instead of people seeing him die,            he just left,*

choso'ogüiate' zjəda to plomxtilən' cha'alə.  
ch= oso'o= güia -te -e' z= jə= da to plomxtil            -ən' cha'a -lə  
H= PL= look -INT -3r S= MA= go one white.dove(S) -DEM above -DIR  
*they saw a white dove go upward.*

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

Given by Herminio López, in Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, August 1, 1972.

1. To mil ga guey<sub>o</sub>a to iz gwnabia' yoguə'ə<sub>l</sub>ol<sub>l</sub> yel l<sub>ni</sub> to to bar.  
 1. to mil ga guey<sub>o</sub>a to iz gw= n<sub>a</sub>bia' yoguə' -ə  
 1. one thousand(S) nine hundred one year C= rule every -TR  
 1. In the year 1901 the fiesta system dominated in each barrio.

- <sub>l</sub>ol<sub>l</sub> yel l<sub>ni</sub> to;to bar 2. Boso'onite'e mardom be<sub>nə</sub>'  
 -INT night fiesta each barrio(S) 2. b= oso'o= nitə' -e' mardom  
 2. C= PL= put -3r sponsor(S)  
 2. They chose sponsors who would

gwso'on gast de'e de chega'aque'.  
 be<sub>nə</sub>' gw= so'= on gast de'e de che -ga'ac -e'  
 person C= PL= make expense(S) thing S/be POS -PL -3r  
 spend what they had (for the fiestas).

3. Chəsə'ə<sub>z</sub>ag be<sub>nə</sub>' bar to to l<sub>ni</sub>. 4. To barən'  
 3. ch= əsə'ə= zag be<sub>nə</sub>' bar to;to l<sub>ni</sub> 4. to  
 3. H= PL= meet person barrio(S) each fiesta 4. one  
 3. The people of the barrio would meet for each fiesta. 4. One barrio

nzi'in Bedao' Jeso'os, na'  
 bar -ən' n= zi' -i -n bedao' jeso'os na'  
 barrio(S) -DEM S= be.called -TR -3i object.of.worship Jesus(S) and  
 is named The God Jesus, and

yeto barən' chso'one' l<sub>ni</sub> che La Trinidad.  
 ye= to bar -ən' ch= so'= on -e' l<sub>ni</sub> che la  
 another= one barrio(S) -DEM H= PL= make -3r fiesta for the(S)  
 the other barrio celebrates the fiesta of The Trinity.

5. Ca' gwso'one' yog iz chopə la'ate bar.  
 trinidad 5. ca' gw= so'= on -e' yog iz chopə la'a -te bar  
 Trinity(S) 5. thus C= PL= do -3r every year two side -INT barrio(S)  
 5. That is what they did every year in both barrios.

6. Per la fuersən' chso'one' l<sub>ni</sub>, to to be<sub>nə</sub>'  
 6. per la;fuers -ən' ch= so'= on -e' l<sub>ni</sub> to;to be<sub>nə</sub>'  
 6. but(S) by.force -DEM H= PL= make -3r fiesta each person  
 6. But they were celebrating the fiestas out of duty, each person

cheyalə' gosə'əbeje' sant gweje' lao nez catə' chalə' xman sant yoguə'  
 ch= e= y= a<sub>l</sub>ə' g= osə'ə= bej -e' sant gw= yej -e' lao nez  
 H= REP= TR= must C= PL= remove -3r saint(S) C= go -3r on road  
 had to take the saint out going on the road each night when Holy Week

- že'. 7. Na' ca naque  
 catə' ch= a<sub>l</sub>ə' xman sant yoguə' že' 7. na' ca n= aque  
 when H= take.place week(S) holy(S) every night 7. and as S= be  
 came. 7. And as for their





HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

pur be<sub>nə</sub>' golə be<sub>nə</sub>' xguan, bito bgüialaogüe' be<sub>nə</sub>' güego'  
 pur be<sub>nə</sub>' golə be<sub>nə</sub>' xguan bito b= güialao -gw -e' be<sub>nə</sub>'  
 only(S) person old person influential NEG C= admit -TR -3r person  
*(it was) only old influential men, they didn't admit young men*

lao ye<sub>lə</sub>' goxia' che'enə'. 10. Be<sub>nə</sub>' gol  
 güego' lao ye<sub>lə</sub>' go= xia' che -e' -e -nə' 10. be<sub>nə</sub>' gol  
 young.person at NOM INF= decide POS -3r -TR -DEM 10. person old  
*into their decision making. 10. Those old*

ca'anə' choso'oxi'e bi de'en de, bi de'en  
 ca' -a -nə' ch= oso'o= xia' -e' bi de'e -n de bi de'e  
 those -TR -DEM H= PL= decide -3r what thing -DEM S/be what thing  
*men would decide what there was, what effort*

chžaglao, bi de'en chyažje catə'en za' no l<sub>ni</sub>.  
 -n ch= žaglao bi de'e -n ch= yažje catə' -ə -n za' no  
 -DEM H= suffer what thing -DEM H= need when -TR -DEM S/come any  
*would be made, what would be needed when any fiesta would come.*

11. Lega'aque' chəsyə'əyilje' ben' ne' xa'ag yo'odao',  
 l<sub>ni</sub> 11. le -ga'ac -e' ch= əsyə'ə= yilj -e' ben' na  
 fiesta 11. X -PL -3r H= PL= look.for -3r person/DEM S/say  
*11. They would hunt for the person called errand man of the*

ben' cheya<sub>lə</sub>' gon de'en chse'e le'enə',  
 -e' xa'ag yo'odao' ben' ch= e= y= a<sub>lə</sub>' g= on de'e  
 -3r errand.men church person/DEM H= REP= TR= must P= do thing  
*church, the one who had to do what they told him,*

gone' tcho'a tšao', žjəte'  
 -n ch= se'= e' -e' le -e' -e -nə' g= on -e' tcho'a,tšao' ž=  
 -DEM H= PL= tell -3r X -3r -TR -DEM P= do -3r exactly P=  
*doing it exactly, going*

ya šba<sub>lə</sub> oracion, lecz ca' catə' galə'  
 jə= ta -e' ya šba<sub>lə</sub> oracion lecz ca' catə' g=  
 MA= swing -3r bell at.3.or.4.a.m. prayer(S) likewise thus when P=  
*to ring the bell for early morning prayer, likewise when noon came,*

gobiž, leczə gwte' ya, na' ca' še'elə əgwte'  
 a<sub>lə</sub>' gobiž leczə gw= ta -e' ya na' ca' še'elə əgw=  
 take.place noon likewise P= swing -3r bell and thus at.night P=  
*likewise he would ring it, and also at night he*

oracion par nič cue' ži yež.  
 ta -e' oracion par nič cue' ži yež  
 swing -3r prayer(S) in.order.to(S) in.order.to P/sit quiet town  
*would ring prayer time so it would be quiet in the village.*

12. Šə xa'ag yo'odao' cui gone' ca de'en beya<sub>lə</sub>'enə',  
 12. šə xa'ag yo'odao' cui g= on -e' ca de'e -n b= e= y=  
 12. if errand.men church NEG P= do -3r like thing -DEM C= REP= TR=  
*12. If the church errand man would not do like he was supposed to,*

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

na' de ca cheya<sub>l</sub>ə' gac qhe',  
 a<sub>l</sub>ə' -e' -nə' na' de ca ch= e= y= a<sub>l</sub>ə' g= ac qhe -e'  
 must -3r -DEM and S/be how H= REP= TR= must P= happen to -3r  
*then there was something that would happen to him,*

co'o justisən' lē' ližya. 13. Na' prisident yo'odao',  
 co'o justis -ən' lē -e' ližya 13. na' prisident yo'odao'  
 P/put.in official(S) -DEM X -3r jail 13. and president(S) church  
*the officials would put him in jail. 13. And the church president,*

ža, zoe' gone' mendad na' chnabi'e len justisən'.  
 ža zo -e' g= on -e' mendad na' ch= nabia' -e' len  
 you.see S/be -3r P= make -3r command(S) and H= rule -3r with  
*you see, he would be there commanding and exercising authority with*

14. Na' lē', mardom qhe yo'odao', ža,  
 justis -ən' 14. na' lē -e' mardom qhe yo'odao' ža  
 official(S) -DEM 14. and X -3r sponsor(S) POS church you.see  
*the officials. 14. And he, the sponsor of the church, you see,*

de de'e chone' lo'o yo'oda'onə', əgwsini'e gatə' ser de'e ba  
 de de'e ch= on -e' lo'o yo'odao' -nə' əgw= si'ini'a -e' g= atə'  
 S/be thing H= do -3r in church -DEM P= prepare -3r P= be  
*there are things he does in the church, he will prepare so there will*

nazjə par gote'enə'  
 ser de'e ba n= azjə par g= otə' -e'  
 wax.candle(S) thing already S= be.dipped in.order.to(S) P= sell -3r  
*be candles already dipped for him to sell*

na' par gaquən gast lo'o yo'oda'onə'  
 -nə' na' par g= aquə -n gast lo'o yo'odao' -o  
 -DEM and in.order.to(S) P= be -3i expense(S) in church -TR  
*and to be used in the church*

nich ca' gatə' mech yež. 15. Na' xəgüez  
 -nə' nich ca' g= atə' mech yež 15. na' xəgüez  
 -DEM so.that thus P= be money(S) town 15. and steward  
*so there will be money for the town. 15. And the steward*

yo'odao', o ben' nacho xəgüez yix, be'ena'  
 yo'odao' o ben' na -cho xəgüez yix be'ena'  
 church or(S) person/DEM S/say lpi steward fodder person/DEM  
*of the church, or the one we call the steward of fodder, that man*

cheyalə' cue' yichje' soe' əgwsini'e catə' za' to lni,  
 ch= e= y= a<sub>l</sub>ə' cue' yichj -e' so -e' əgw= si'ini'a -e' catə'  
 H= REP= TR= must P/sit POS/head -3r P/be -3r P= prepare -3r when  
*had to be concerned to be there to make preparation when a fiesta was*

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

za' to l̥ni cue' yichje' de'e ye'ej gao b̥xoz beŋə' de'lo'o  
 S/come one fiesta P/sit POS/head -3r thing P= drink P/eat priest  
*coming, he would be concerned for what the priest who*

l̥ni, no žit, no belə', no  
 beŋə' de= lo'o l̥ni no žit no belə' no  
 person P/MT= put fiesta any eggs any meat any  
*consecrates the fiesta would drink and eat, any eggs, any meat, any*

jeid, no šcwlat, no yetxtil, no roz, no za, yoguə'ə'lo'lo'  
 jeid no šcwlat no yetxtil no roz no za yoguə' -ə  
 chicken any chocolate(S) any bread any rice(S) any lard every -TR  
*chicken, any chocolate, any bread, any rice, any lard, everything*

de'e chyažje, na' ca' cue' yichje' no xoa', no yix yelə' par  
 -lo' de'e ch= yažje na' ca' cue' yichj -e' no xoa' no yix  
 -INT thing H= be.needed and thus P/sit POS/head -3r any corn any fodder  
*needed, and thus he would be concerned for any corn,*

gao cabey che b̥xozən'. 16. De'e nga  
 yelə' par gao cabey che b̥xoz -ən' 16. de'e nga  
 corn.leaf in.order.to(S) P/eat horse(S) POS priest -DEM 16. thing DEM  
*any fodder the priest's horse would eat. 16. This was*

chbague'e naque' xəgüez yo'oda'onə'. 17. Na' le'  
 ch= bague' -e' n= aquə -e' xəgüez yo'odao' -nə' 17. na' le' -e'  
 H= be.obligated -3r S= be -3r steward church -DEM 17. and X -3r  
*his obligation as steward of the church. 17. And he would*

əgwse'e xa'ag yo'odao'. 18. De'e naquən chega'aque',  
 əgw= sa' -e' xa'ag yo'odao' 18. de'e n= aquə -n che -ga'ac  
 P= direct -3r errand.men church 18. thing S= be -3i POS -PL  
*direct the church's errand men. 18. Their responsibility was that*

žjəsə'əxi'e b̥xoz gata'ətezə yež soe', na'  
 -e' ž= jə= sə'ə= xi' -e' b̥xoz ga -tə'ətezə yež so -e' na'  
 -3r P= MA= PL= get -3r priest where -ever town P/be -3r and  
*they would go get the priest at whatever town he was in, and*

so'e šinlaz b̥xozən', no yoa' che', yesə'əche'e  
 soa' -e' šinlaz b̥xoz -ən' no yoa' che -e' y= esə'ə=  
 P/carry -3r POS/equipment priest -DEM any load POS -3r P= PL=  
*they would carry the priest's equipment, any load of his, they would*

cozner. 19. De'e na' de'e chso'on xa'ag yo'odao' ca'.  
 che' -e' cozner 19. de'e na' de'e ch= so'= on xa'ag  
 take.along -3r cook(S) 19. thing there thing H= PL= do errand.men  
*bring along his cook. 19. That is what the church's errand men would*

yo'odao' ca'  
 church those  
*do.*

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

20. Na' mardom yo'oda'onə', ža, yo'o mech lao ne'e.  
 20. na' mardom yo'odao' -nə' ža yo'o mech lao  
 20. and sponsor(S) church -DEM you.see S/have money(S) in  
 20. And the church sponsor, you know, the money is in his

21. Le' nezene' šə chga'an mechən' de'e chyixjue' bitə'ətezə  
 na' -e' 21. le -e' neze -ne' šə ch= ga'an mech -ən' de'e  
 hand -3r 21. X -3r S/know -3r if H= remain money(S) -DEM thing  
 hands. 21. He knows if money remains to pay for whatever expenses

gast de'e chyixjue', no  
 ch= yixjw -e' bi -tə'ətezə gast de'e ch= yixjw -e' no  
 H= pay -3r what -ever expense(S) thing H= pay -3r any  
 he pays, for the

bɣoz, no, catə' chedəlo'e lɲi. 22. Na'  
 bɣoz no catə' ch= edə= lo'o -e' lɲi 22. na'  
 priest any when H= MT= put -3r fiesta 22. and  
 priest or anything, when he comes to consecrate the fiesta. 22. And

šə cui de mechən', ža, na' šə cui gaquen,  
 šə cui de mech -ən' ža na' šə cui g= aque -n  
 if NEG S/be money(S) -DEM you.see and if NEG P= be.sufficient -3i  
 if there isn't the money, you see, and if it isn't enough,

nach te' yež əgwto'be'en niç əza'a šə  
 nach te -e' yež əgw= tobə -e' -e -n niç əza'a  
 then P/pass -3r town P= gather -3r -TR -3i so.that P/be.complete  
 then he will go through the village gathering it so the amount will be

ja'aquə'ətə' chbague'e laxjw beɲə' ca',  
 šə ja'aquə'ətə' ch= bague' -e' laxjw beɲə' ca'  
 if however.much H= be.obligated -3r POS/wages person those  
 complete, however much he owes for those people's wages and

laxjw bɣozən'. 23. Na' šə ga əchoj beɲə' əbi'e znia ye'e  
 laxjw bɣoz -ən' 23. na' šə ga əchoj beɲə' əbi'i  
 POS/wages priest -DEM 23. and if where P/show.up person P/reply  
 the priest's wages. 23. And if anyone would come out replying

cui əgwnežjue' ca de'en chtobe'enə',  
 -e' znia y= e' -e' cui əgw= nežjw -e' ca de'e -n ch= tobə -e'  
 -3r mean P= say -3r NEG P= give -3r like thing -DEM H= gather -3r  
 harshly saying he wouldn't give what he was gathering,

mardom na' žjətaogü'e' xya lao justis  
 -e -nə' mardom na' ž= jə= tao -gw -e' xya lao justis  
 -TR -DEM sponsor(S) there P= MA= claim -TR -3r damage before official(S)  
 the sponsor would go make accusation before the town officials

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

nigh na' gaxe' le' biġhen' cui chnežjue' de'en chdobə mardomən',  
 nigh;na' g= ax -e' le -e' biġhe -n' cui ch= nežjw -e' de'e  
 so.that P= call -3r X -3r Q/why -DEM NEG H= give -3r thing  
 so they would call him (to give account) why he wasn't giving what the

na' cue'e le' ližya nigh ġhixjue'en.  
 -n ch= dobə mardom -ən' na' cue' -e' le -e' ližya nigh  
 -DEM H= gather sponsor(S) -DEM and P/put -3r X -3r jail so.that  
 sponsor was gathering, and they would put him in jail so he

ġhixjw -e' -e -n  
 P/pay -3r -TR -3i  
 would pay it.

24. Ca' naquə costumbr de'e gotə', goquən ye\_lə' chnabia'  
 24. ca' n= aquə costumbr de'e g= otə' g= oc -ən ye\_lə' ch=  
 24. thus S= be custom(S) thing C= be C= be -3i NOM H=  
 24. That is the custom which there was, it was a crucial

xen iz ca' de'en ba gwde don'.  
 nabia' xen iz ca' de'e -n ba gw= de don'  
 rule big year those thing -DEM already C= pass around.here  
 concept in years past around here.

25. Naquən ca to ley, pero syempr dezd cana'ate za'aque'  
 25. n= aquə -n ca to ley pero syempr dezd cana' -a  
 25. S= be -3i like one law(S) but(S) always(S) since(S) long.ago -TR  
 25. It was like a law, but always since long ago they have

gwse'enene' scuel, la'aczə šə noxə'  
 -te za'ac -e' gw= se'= e'ene -ne' scuel la' -a -czə šə  
 -INT S/come/PL -3r C= PL= want -3r school(S) although -TR -INT if  
 come along wanting a school, even if it was mixed

nġhixən len no le'ey, par choso'osede' letrən'.  
 n= oxə' n= ġhixə -n len no le'ey par ch=  
 S= hold S= be.mixed -3i with some doctrine in.order.to(S) H=  
 with some doctrine, so they would study

oso'o= sed -e' letr -ən'  
 PL= study -3r letters(S) -DEM  
 reading and writing.

26. Ca naquə lao ba zdacho na'a, naquən ca  
 26. ca n= aquə lao ba z= da -cho na'a ba n= aquə  
 26. as S= be while already S= go -lpi now already S= be  
 26. As for the way we are living now, it is like

to de'e cobə, ca nacho yoguə'ə\_lə\_l be\_nə' ba za'aque'  
 -n ca to de'e cobə ca na -cho yoguə' -ə -lə\_l be\_nə'  
 -3i like one thing new like P/say -lpi every -TR -INT person  
 something new, like we might say everyone is going along

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

chsa'anlaže'e latə' güejə ca naquən' goquə cani' lao iz nga ba gwdecho  
 ba za'ac -e' ch= sa'= anlažə' -e' latə' güejə ca n= aquə  
 already S/come/PL -3r H= PL= forget -3r some each how S= be  
*forgetting a little of how it was long ago in the years that have*

na'a.

-n' g= oquə cani' lao iz nga ba gw= de -cho na'a  
 -DEM C= happen long.ago during year DEM already C= pass -lpi now  
*now passed.*

27. To mil ga gueyoa ši'inčhopə todavia ne'e za'agacze' len  
 27. to mil ga gueyoa ši'inčhopə todavia ne'e  
 27. one thousand(S) nine hundred seventeen still(S) still  
 27. *In 1917 they were still going along somewhat with their system*

yelə' chejni'alažə'ənə', len ca'  
 za' -a -ga -cz -e' len yelə' ch= ejni'alažə' -ə -nə' len  
 S/come -TR -DE -INT -3r with NOM H= worship -TR -DEM with  
*of worship, and also*

ba za'aque' chso'one' byen šejni'i bi'i xcuidə',  
 ca' ba za'ac -e' ch= so'= on -e' byen šejni'i  
 thus already S/come/PL -3r H= PL= make -3r necessary P/understand  
*they were going along making an effort for their children to*

chəsə'əbecze' scuelən', besyə'əzoine'  
 bi'i xcuidə' ch= əsə'ə= bec -cz -e' scuel -ən' b= esyə'ə= zoi  
 child young H= PL= put -INT -3r school(S) -DEM C= PL/REP= bear  
*understand, they were establishing the school, they bore the*

gosə'əyixjue' maestr scuel che yež latə' güejə  
 -ne' g= osə'ə= yixjw -e' maestr scuel che yež latə' güejə  
 -3r C= PL= pay -3r teacher(S) school(S) POS town some each  
*load of paying the school teacher of the town a little each*

nigh gwxi' laxjw beṇə' ca' to to iz. 28. Zan izczə  
 nigh gw= xi' laxjw beṇə' ca' to|to iz 28. zan iz  
 in.order.to C= get POS/salary person those each year 28. many year  
*so those people received wages each year. 28. The people of*

besə'əžaglao beṇə' yež lbajw nga par nigh gwse'ejni'ine' latə' güejə.  
 -czə b= esə'ə= žaglao beṇə' yež lbajw nga par  
 -INT C= PL= suffer person town El.Bajo(S) DEM in.order.to(S)  
*the town of El Bajo here suffered many years so they understood a*

nigh gw= se'= ejni'i -ne' latə' güejə  
 so.that C= PL= understand -3r some each  
*little.*

29. Ca' chac can' iz mil ga gueyoa tochoa,  
 29. ca' ch= ac ca -n' iz mil ga gueyoa  
 29. thus H= be when -DEM year thousand(S) where hundred  
 29. *That is how it was in 1921,*

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

catə' chaclə, sin cui no neze,  
 tochoa catə' ch= ac -lə sin cui no  
 twenty-one when H= happen -surprisingly without(S) NEG anyone  
*when it suddenly happened, without anyone knowing,*

bla' to misionero lao yež ni, sin cui no chon xbab.  
 neze b= la' to misionero lao yež ni sin cui no  
 S/know C= arrive one missionary(S) in town DEM without(S) NEG anyone  
*a missionary arrived here in town, without anyone*

30. Benə' lao' yež nga gwsa'aquene' tolə,  
 ch= on xbab 30. benə' lao' yež nga gw= sa'= aque -ne' tolə  
 H= make thought 30. person in town DEM C= PL= feel -3r upset  
*expecting it. 30. The people here in town were upset,*

cui rson chso'one' noxa be'enə', ga ze'enə'.  
 cui rson ch= so'= on -e' no -xa be'enə' ga za' -e'  
 NEG news(S) H= PL= do -3r Q/who -INT person/DEM where S/come -3r  
*they had no idea who the man was, (or) where he came from.*

31. To yetoe' chəsə'əpəbe ljuežje', pero  
 -nə' 31. to ye= to -e' ch= əsə'ə= nab -e ljuežj -e' pero  
 -DEM 31. one another= one -3r H= PL= ask -CM POS/fellow -3r but(S)  
*31. Each one asked the others, but*

ni toe' que neze. 32. Balə benə' gosə'əne':  
 ni to -e' que neze 32. balə benə' g= osə'ə= na -e'  
 not.even(S) one -3r NEG S/know 32. some person C= PL= say -3r  
*no one knew. 32. Some people said,*

"šəquə benə' za' lo'o ya'a".  
 šəquə benə' za' lo'o ya'a  
 probably person S/come in mountain  
*"He is probably a person who came from inside the mountain".*

33. Ca che to dižə' cani', benə' ya'a benə' xan ya'a yao.  
 33. ca che to dižə' cani' benə' ya'a benə' xan  
 33. like about one word long.ago person mountain person POS/owner  
*33. Like a saying of long ago, the mountain person was owner of the*

34. Ba chəsə'əžeb benə' lao' yež qui,  
 ya'a yao 34. ba ch= əsə'ə= žeb benə' lao' yež  
 mountain river 34. already H= PL= fear person in town  
*mountains and rivers. 34. The people here in the village were afraid,*

pero na' le' goczə gwo'olaogüe' ble'ine' benə' lao' yež qui.  
 qui pero|na' le -e' g= oc -zə gw= yo'olao -gw -e' b=  
 these but(S) X -3r C= happen -DE C= become.accustomed -TR -3r C=  
*but he got used to seeing these people in the village.*



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le'i -ne' beṇə' lao' yež qui 35. Choṁcwlen to beṇə' ba got,  
 see -3r person in town these 35. choṁcwlen to beṇə' ba g=  
 35. thanks one person already C=  
 35. *The thanks belongs to a man now dead*

gwle' Marselino López. 36. Be'ena'  
 ot gw= le -e' marselino lópez 36. be'ena'  
 die C= be.named -3r Marcelino(S) López(S) 36. person/DEM  
 named Marcelino López. 36. *That man honored the*

be'ela'ogüe' misioneron', be'ene' de'e güe'ej de'e  
 b= e'elao' -gw -e' misionero -n' b= e' -e' -ne' de'e gw= e'ej  
 C= honor -TR -3r missionary(S) -DEM C= give -3r -3r thing C= drink  
 missionary, he gave him his drink and food,

gwdaogüe', be'ene' ga gwtase' šlac baḷə ža gwzoe' lao' yež  
 de'e gw= dao -gw -e' b= e' -e' -ne' ga gw= tas -e' šlac baḷə  
 thing C= eat -TR -3r C= give -3r -3r where C= sleep -3r while some  
 he gave him a place to sleep as many days as he

nga catə' bide' de'e nechən'.  
 ža gw= zo -e' lao' yež nga catə' b= idə -e' de'e nech -ən'  
 day C= be -3r in town DEM when C= come -3r thing first -DEM  
 stayed here in the village when he came the first time.

37. Na' šlac gwzoe' nga, ža, le'e gwzolaote' chlo'ine'  
 37. na' šlac gw= zo -e' nga ža le'e gw= zolao  
 37. and while C= be -3r DEM you.see immediately C= begin  
 37. *And while he was here, you see, he immediately began teaching*

beṇə' ca' latə' güejə dižə' de'e yo'o le'e Biblia na' lao to ḥopə  
 -te -e' ch= lo'i -ne' beṇə' ca' latə' güejə dižə' de'e  
 -immediately -3r H= show -3r person those some each word thing  
 a few people a little at a time the words there in the Bible,

beṇə' ca', na'  
 yo'o le'e biblia na' lao toḥhopə beṇə' ca' na' g=  
 S/be.inside in Bible(S) there before a.few person those and C=  
 and it

gocczə gwso'ombi'e le'elja.  
 oc -czə gw= so'= ombia' -e' le -e' -e -lja  
 happen -INT C= PL= know -3r X -3r -TR -perhaps  
 happened that they got acquainted with him perhaps.

38. Ca' naquən catə' beze'e, pero baḥ gocbe'ine',  
 38. ca' n= aquə -n catə' b= e= za' -e' pero baḥ g=  
 38. thus S= be -3i when C= REP= leave -3r but(S) already C=  
 38. *That is how it was when he left, but he already*

len ba nezene', de que guac soe' lao' yež nga,  
 ocbe'i -ne' len ba neze -ne' de'que gw= ac so -e'  
 realize -3r with already S/know -3r that(S) D= be.able P/be -3r  
 realized, and he already knew, that he could live here in the

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na' gwo'olažə'əchgüe' soe'. 39. Goczə  
 lao' yež nga na' gw= yo'olažə' -ə -chgua -e' so -e' 39. g=  
 in town DEM and C= like -TR -INT -3r P/be -3r 39. C=  
 village, and he wanted very much to live here. 39. It just

gwda'alaže'e beṇə' gwlaž qui. 40. Na' yeto  
 oc -zə gw= da'alažə' -e' beṇə' gwlaž qui 40. na' ye=  
 happen -DE C= like -3r person homeland these 40. and another=  
 happened that he liked these villagers. 40. And the other

šla'a, ža, beṇə' lao' yež qui, abiczə gwse'enene'  
 to š= la'a ža beṇə' lao' yež qui abi -czə gw= se'= e'ene  
 one one= side you.see person in town these NEG -INT C= PL= want  
 side, you see, these people in the village, they in no way wanted to

yesə'əle'ine' le' nga, chedə' cui chejṇi'alaže'e sant  
 -ne' y= esə'ə= le'i -ne' le -e' nga chedə' cui ch= ejṇi'alažə' -e'  
 -3r P= PL= see -3r X -3r DEM because NEG H= worship -3r  
 see him here, because he did not worship the

xnax. 41. Boso'ožia boso'onite'e beṇə' gwlaž qui  
 sant xnax 41. b= oso'o= žia b= oso'o= nitə' -e'  
 saint(S) female.deity 41. C= PL= slander C= PL= defame -3r  
 saints and virgins. 41. These villagers slandered and cursed the

beṇə' ca' boso'ogüialaogüe' misioneron',  
 beṇə' gwlaž qui beṇə' ca' b= oso'o= güialao -gw -e'  
 person homeland these person those C= PL= admit -TR -3r  
 people who welcomed the missionary,

per na' aguə zjənezene' šə bichlə yeļə' chejṇi'i  
 misionero -n' per|na' aguə zjə= neze -ne' šə bi -ch -lə  
 missionary(S) -DEM but(S) NEG S/PL= S/know -3r if what -more -ADV  
 but then they didn't know there was other wisdom

de'e nsa' misioneron' be'en bla' lao' yežən'.  
 yeļə' ch= ejṇi'i de'e n= sa' misionero -n'  
 NOM H= understand thing S= bring.along missionary(S) -DEM  
 the missionary brought, the person who arrived in the village.

be'en b= la' lao' yež -ən'  
 person/DEM C= arrive in town -DEM

42. Na' to mil ga gueyoa chopechoa iz bla' misioneron' de'e  
 42. na' to mil ga gueyoa chopechoa iz b= la'  
 42. and one thousand(S) nine hundred twenty-two year C= arrive  
 42. In 1922 the missionary arrived here in the village again.

yoblə lao' yež nga. 43. Cana'ach beṇə'  
 misionero -n' de'e yoblə lao' yež nga 43. cana'  
 missionary(S) -DEM thing other in town DEM 43. at.that.time  
 43. At that time

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gwlaž qui beṇə' ca' btopəlene' catə'ən beze'e,  
 -a -ch beṇə' gwlaž qui beṇə' ca' b= topə -len -e'  
 -TR -more person homeland these person those C= gather -with -3r  
*these villagers who had gathered with him when he left,*

cana'ach boso'ogüia boso'oye'e le' ca  
 catə' -ən' b= e= za' -e' cana' -a -ch b= oso'o= güia b=  
 when -DEM C= REP= leave -3r at.that.time -TR -more C= PL= look C=  
*at that time they cared for him as should*

cheyalə'. 44. Lene cana'  
 oso'o= ye -e' le -e' ca ch= e= y= alə' 44. lene  
 PL= care.for -3r X -3r like H= REP= TR= must 44. with  
*be done. 44. Also at that*

gwzoe' to qhop bio' ni na' gwzolaogüe' btobe'  
 cana' gw= zo -e' to'qhop bio' ni na' gw= zolao -gw -e' b=  
 at.that.time C= be -3r a.few months DEM and C= begin -TR -3r C=  
*time he stayed here a few months and he began to gather*

beṇə' gonlene' txen qhe de'en chejni'alaže'enə',  
 tobə -e' beṇə' g= on -len -e' txen qhe de'e -n ch=  
 gather -3r person P= do -with -3r together about thing -DEM H=  
*people who would join him in the way he worshipped,*

na' gwzolao bene' cult to to yo'o qhe beṇə' ca'  
 ejni'alažə' -e' -nə' na' gw= zolao b= en -e' cult to|to  
 worship -3r -DEM and C= begin C= make -3r services(S) each  
*and he began to hold services at the house of*

ba zjəda' le'enə', to to  
 yo'o qhe beṇə' ca' ba zjə= da' le -e' -e -nə' to|to  
 house POS person those already S/PL= stick.to X -3r -TR -DEM each  
*each of the people who were joined with him, in each*

ližga'aque'. 45. Nga zoe' catə' golə' Nošə' Güen,  
 liž -ga'ac -e' 45. nga zo -e' catə' g= olə'  
 POS/house -PL -3r 45. DEM S/be -3r when C= be.time  
*of their homes. 45. He was here when Christmas Eve came,*

na' bene' lṇi Nošə' Güen de'e nechən'.  
 nošə'|güen na' b= en -e' lṇi nošə'|güen de'e nech -ən'  
 Christmas.Eve(S) and C= make -3r fiesta Christmas.Eve(S) thing first -DEM  
*and he put on the first Christmas Eve fiesta.*

46. Cana' beṇə' zan beṇə' bdopə, pero na' yeto  
 46. cana' beṇə' zan beṇə' b= dopə pero|na' ye=  
 46. at.that.time person many person C= gather but(S) another=  
 46. *At that time there were many people who gathered, but on the*

šla'a chəsə'əzi'iqhiže'e le', qhedə' la' chnabia'  
 to š= la'a ch= əsə'ə= zi'iqhižə' -e' le -e' qhedə' la' ch=  
 one one= side H= PL= slander -3r X -3r because because H=  
*other side they slandered him, because the worship of*

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ye<sub>l</sub>ə' chej<sub>ni</sub>'alažə' ċhe sant xnax lao' yež ni.  
 nabia' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' ch= ej<sub>ni</sub>'alažə' ċhe sant xnax lao' yež  
 rule NOM H= worship of saint(S) female.deity in town  
*the saints and virgins dominated the village here.*

47. Gwde l<sub>ni</sub> Nošə' Güen, ža, beze'e de'e yoblə,  
 ni 47. gw= de l<sub>ni</sub> nošə'güen ža b= e= za' -e'  
 DEM 47. C= pass fiesta Christmas.Eve(S) you.see C= REP= leave -3r  
 47. *After the fiesta Christmas Eve, you see, he left again,*

zjəde' l<sub>a</sub>' güen lgens ċhe'.  
 de'e yoblə zjə= da -e' l<sub>a</sub>' gw= en lgens ċhe -e'  
 thing other S/PL= go -3r Oaxaca INF= do business(S) POS -3r  
*he had gone to Oaxaca to get his supplies.*

48. To mil ga gueyoa šonechoa iz catə' ble'e de'e yoblə.  
 48. to mil ga gueyoa šonechoa iz catə'  
 48. one thousand(S) nine hundred twenty-three year when  
 48. *(It was) 1923 when he arrived again.*

49. Cana'ach ba nċhe'e no'ol ċhe' na'  
 b= la' -e' de'e yoblə 49. cana' -a -ch ba n=  
 C= arrive -3r thing other 49. at.that.time -TR -more already S=  
 49. *At that time he brought his wife and*

yeziquə'əchlə be<sub>nə</sub>' naque' txen,  
 ċhe' -e' no'ol ċhe -e' na' yeziquə'əchlə be<sub>nə</sub>' n= aque -e'  
 take.along -3r woman POS -3r and other person S= be -3r  
*other people that were with him,*

cozner ċhe', na' güib lachə', na' nċhe'e maestro be<sub>nə</sub>'  
 txen cozner ċhe -e' na' gw= ib lachə' na' n= ċhe' -e'  
 together cook(S) POS -3r and INF= wash cloth and S= take.along -3r  
*his cook, his laundress, and he brought a teacher*

gon scuel. 50. Na' gwzolao btobe' bidao',  
 maestro be<sub>nə</sub>' g= on scuel 50. na' gw= zolao b= tobə -e'  
 teacher(S) person P= make school(S) 50. and C= begin C= gather -3r  
*who would teach school. 50. And he began to gather*

btobe' bi'i güego' nach no'olə, chene'ene'  
 bidao' b= tobə -e' bi'i güego' nach no'olə ch= ene'e -ne' y=  
 child C= gather -3r child young.person then woman H= want -3r P=  
*children, he gathered young people and women, he wanted those*

yoso'osed be<sub>nə</sub>' ca' letr. 51. Nach gwzolaogüe' žin ċhe  
 oso'o= sed be<sub>nə</sub>' ca' letr 51. nach gw= zolao -gw -e'  
 PL= study person those letters(S) 51. then C= begin -TR -3r  
*people to study reading and writing. 51. Then he began the work of*

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scuelən', na' gocze besyə'əbei bi'i scuel ca'  
 žin che scuel -ən' na' g= oc -ze b= esyə'ə= bei bi'i  
 work for school(S) -DEM and C= happen -DE C= PL/REP= be.pleased child  
 the school, and it happened that the school children were

besyə'əžagbo', bi'i güego' ca', na'  
 scuel ca' b= esyə'ə= žag -bo' bi'i güego' ca' na'  
 school(S) those C= PL/REP= meet -3f child young.person those and  
 pleased to gather, the young people, and

lecze ca' ba chesyə'əbei yeziquə'əchlə beṇə' lao' yež chesyə'ədope'  
 lecze ca' ba ch= əsyə'ə= bei yeziquə'əchlə beṇə'  
 likewise those already H= PL/REP= be.pleased other person  
 likewise other people in the village who gathered where they sang

gan' chso'one' güiḷ.  
 lao' yež ch= esyə'ə= dopə -e' ga -n' ch= so'= on -e' gw=  
 in town H= PL/REP= gather -3r where -DEM H= PL= make -3r INF=  
 were pleased.

52. Pero na' ža'aczə beṇə' chəsə'əzi'ichižə' lega'aque',  
 iḷ 52. pero na' ža' -a -czə beṇə' ch= əsə'ə= zi'ichižə' le  
 sing 52. but(S) and S/be -TR -INT person H= PL= slander X  
 52. But there were people who slandered them,

cui chsa'azlaže'e ja'aque' cultən' gan' ba chja'ac beṇə'  
 -ga'ac -e' cui ch= sa'= azlažə' -e' ja'ac -e' cult -ən' ga  
 -PL -3r NEG H= PL= like -3r C/go/PL -3r service(S) -DEM where  
 they didn't like that they went to the services where those

ca'. 53. Ba chəsə'əne':  
 -n' ba ch= ja'ac beṇə' ca' 53. ba ch= əsə'ə= na -e'  
 -DEM already H= go/PL person those 53. already H= PL= say -3r  
 people went. 53. They were saying,

"Che gwxiye', aguə che Diozən'", chəsə'əne'.  
 che gwxiye' aguə che dioz -ən' ch= əsə'ə= na -e'  
 from devil NEG POS God(S) -DEM H= PL= say -3r  
 "It is of the devil, it is not of God", they were saying.

54. Ca' naquə bene' lao to iz, izən' ble'ənə'.  
 54. ca' n= aquə b= en -e' lao to iz iz -ən' b= la' -e'  
 54. thus S= be C= do -3r in one year year -DEM C= arrive -3r  
 54. That is what he did in one year, the year he arrived.

55. Na' lecze iz to mil ga gueyoa tapechoa,  
 -nə' 55. na' lecze iz to mil ga gueyoa tapechoa  
 -DEM 55. and likewise year one thousand(S) nine hundred twenty-four  
 55. And likewise in 1924,

cana' bidə organo che', jəxi' beṇə' gwlaž qui len  
 cana' b= idə organo che -e' jə= xi' beṇə' gwlaž  
 at.that.time C= come organ(S) POS -3r C/MA= get person homeland  
 at that time his organ came, these villagers went to Oaxaca

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**La'ate.** 56. Na' ca do xda'obiž ja'aque'  
 qui le -n la' -a -te 56. na' ca do xda'obiž ja'ac  
 these X -DEM Oaxaca -TR -INT 56. and like about two.weeks C/go/PL  
 to get it. 56. They went for about two weeks to

güia'an, na' besə'əchoj bguaz, beṇə' jsoa'  
 -e' gw= ia' -a -n na' b= esə'ə= choj bguaz beṇə' j=  
 -3r INF= carry -TR -3i and C= PL= leave food.bearers person C/MA=  
 carry it, and food bearers went, people who

yet con ga besyə'əžague' lega'aque' don',  
 so'= oa' yet con ga b= esyə'ə= žag -e' le -ga'ac -e'  
 PL= carry tortilla just where C= PL/REP= meet -3r X -PL -3r  
 took tortillas to wherever they met them out there,

yet de'e əsa'o beṇə' ca'. 57. Chacchgua yeḷə'  
 don' yet de'e əsa'= ao beṇə' ca' 57. ch= ac -chgua  
 around.here tortilla thing P/PL= eat person those 57. H= be -INT  
 tortillas for those people to eat. 57. There was great

goban za' de'enə' de'e cuiṇə' yesə'əle'ine'.  
 yeḷə' g= oban za' de'e -nə' de'e cui -ṇə' y= esə'ə=  
 NOM INF= be.amazed S/come thing -DEM thing NEG -yet P= PL=  
 amazement that something was coming which they had never seen.

58. Beṇə' zan bžag catə' ža bela'alenga'aque'en lao' yež  
 le'i -ne' 58. beṇə' zan b= žag catə' ža b= e= la' -a -len  
 see -3r 58. person many C= meet when day C= REP= arrive -TR -with  
 58. Many people gathered on the day when they arrived here

ni.  
 -ga'ac -e' -e -n lao' yež ni  
 -PL -3r -TR -3i in town DEM  
 in the village with it.

59. Nach beža' iz to mil ga gueyoa tapechoa catə'əczə bsaljue'  
 59. nach b= e= ža' iz to mil ga gueyoa  
 59. then C= REP= change year one thousand(S) nine hundred  
 59. Then the year of 1924 was completed when he opened the

scuel xen, na' bla'ac  
 tapechoa catə' -ə -czə b= saljw -e' scuel xen na' b=  
 twenty-four when -TR -INT C= open -3r school(S) big and C=  
 big school, and well trained

maestras beṇə' zjənsed ca cheyaḷə' che primer año, segundo año.  
 la'ac maestras beṇə' zjə= n= sed ca ch= e= y=  
 arrive/PL female.teachers(S) person S/PL= S= study like H= REP= TR=  
 teachers arrived for the first and second grades.

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a<sub>1</sub>ə' ɕhe primer año segundo año 60. Cana'ach gwzolao  
 must for first(S) year(S) second(S) year(S) 60. cana' -a  
 60. at.that.time -TR  
 60. At that time he began

bene' scuelən' teža, na' ɭeczə ca'  
 -ch gw= zolao b= en -e' scuel -ən' teža na' ɭeczə ca'  
 -more C= begin C= make -3r school(S) -DEM daytime and likewise thus  
 to have school in the day time, and he also had it

benteze'en še'elə. 61. Beṇə' güego' na' no'olə  
 b= en -tezə -e' -n še'elə 61. beṇə' güego' na'  
 C= make -unhesitatingly -3r -3i at.night 61. person young.person and  
 at night. 61. He gathered young people

beṇə' btobə'. 62. Na' iz na' gwzolaogüe' gwsini'ini'e gon  
 no'olə beṇə' b= tobə -e' 62. na' iz na' gw= zolao -gw -e' gw=  
 woman person C= gather -3r 62. and year there C= begin -TR -3r C=  
 and women. 62. In that year he began to prepare to

liže'enə'. 63. Na' bgüie' de que  
 si'ini'a -e' g= on liž -e' -e -nə' 63. na' b= güia -e'  
 prepare -3r P= make POS/house -3r -TR -DEM 63. and C= look -3r  
 build his house. 63. And he saw that

ba chəsə'əžaguəch bi'i scuel, bi'i zan,  
 de|que ba ch= əsə'ə= žag -əch bi'i scuel bi'i zan  
 that(S) already H= PL= meet -more child school(S) child many  
 more school children were gathering, many children,

cana' bzanche' maestr scuel ca'.  
 cana' b= zan -ch -e' maestr scuel ca'  
 at.that.time C= cause.to.be.many -more -3r teacher(S) school(S) those  
 at that time he secured more school teachers.

64. Na' bša'ayichje' gast ɕhe scuelən',  
 64. na' b= ša'ayichj -e' gast ɕhe scuel -ən'  
 64. and C= take.responsibility.for -3r expense(S) POS school(S) -DEM  
 64. And he took responsibility for the expenses of the school,

bnežjue' ɭibr, bnežjue' pizarr, na' bnežjue' yiš,  
 b= nežjw -e' ɭibr b= nežjw -e' pizarr na' b= nežjw -e' yiš  
 C= give -3r books(S) C= give -3r slates(S) and C= give -3r paper  
 he gave books, he gave slates, and he gave paper,

na' bnežjue' tint. 65. Na' beyož bže'e scuel xen ɕhe'enə',  
 na' b= nežjw -e' tint 65. na' b= eyož b= ža' -e'  
 and C= give -3r ink(S) 65. and C= be.finished C= put -3r  
 and he gave ink. 65. And after he established his big school,

na' bsi'e la scuel Escuela Mixta  
 scuel xen ɕhe -e' -e -nə' na' b= si' -e' la scuel  
 school(S) big POS -3r -TR -DEM and C= get -3r POS/name school(S)  
 then he named the school The Benito

H11. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

Benito Juarez. 66. Cana'ach gotə'əbia' ba  
 escuela mixta benito juarez 66. cana' -a -ch g=  
 School(S) Mixed(S) Benito(S) Juarez(S) 66. at.that.time -TR -more C=  
 Juarez Mixed School. 66. At that time it was

gwdele gašjə beŋə' lao yež nga ba chso'one' le' txen  
 otə'əbia' ba gw= de -lə gašjə beŋə' lao yež nga  
 be.apparent already C= pass -ADV half person in town DEM  
 apparent more than half the people here in the village were working

ba ch= so'= on -e' le -e' txen na' ba chso'onte' le' txen  
 already H= PL= do -3r X -3r together and already H= PL= do -also  
 with him and were also together with

lente evangelion'.  
 -e' le -e' txen len -te evangelio -n'  
 -3r X -3r together with -also gospel(S) -DEM  
 him in the gospel.

67. Ca'azə goc zda yeļə' chejni'inə',  
 67. ca' -a -zə g= oc z= da yeļə' ch= ejni'i -nə'  
 67. thus -TR -DE C= happen S= go NOM H= understand -DEM  
 67. Just like that it happened that understanding was growing,

de'e na' goquə lao iz 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928.  
 de'e na' g= oquə lao iz 1925 1926 1927 1928  
 thing and C= happen in year 1925 1926 1927 1928  
 that happened during 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928.

68. Misionero Lorenzo P. Van Slyke, naci'ate za' ca de'enə'  
 68. misionero laurenzo p van slyke n= acbia' -a -te  
 68. missionary(S) Lawrence(S) P. Van Slyke S= be.apparent -TR -INT  
 68. It was apparent that the work of the missionary Lawrence P. Van

chone'enə'. 69. Ba chejni'i beŋəchən'  
 za' ca de'e -nə' ch= on -e' -e -nə' 69. ba ch= ejni'i  
 S/come like thing -DEM H= do -3r -TR -DEM 69. already H= understand  
 Slyke was prospering. 69. People were already

latə' güejə. 70. Ba chzolao chža' beŋəchən'.  
 beŋəch -ən' latə' güejə 70. ba ch= zolao ch= ža'  
 human.being -DEM some each 70. already H= begin H= change  
 understanding a little. 70. People were already beginning to

71. Bitoch chso'onteque' cas de'en chac lao yež nga.  
 beŋəch -ən' 71. bito -ch ch= so'= on -tec -e' cas  
 human.being -DEM 71. NEG -more H= PL= do -INT -3r attention(S)  
 change. 71. They were no longer paying a lot of attention



HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

de'e -n ch= ac lao yež nga 72. xte len justis ba bže'e can'  
 thing -DEM H= happen in town DEM 72. xte len justis ba  
 to what went on here in town. 72. until with official(S) already  
 72. Even the town officials were

chone'.

b= ža' -e' ca -n' ch= on -e'  
 C= change -3r how -DEM H= do -3r  
 changing their way of doing.

73. Ca naquə de'e de iz che'elte,  
 73. ca n= aquə de'e de iz che'elə -te  
 73. as S= be thing S/be year below -INT  
 73. As for the things of the past,

ca naquə de'e gwso'on beṇə' golə catə' ša' iz,  
 ca n= aquə de'e gw= so'= on beṇə' golə catə'  
 as S= be thing C= PL= do person old when  
 what the old people did when the year would change,

chža' justis, na' juntən' chso'one'  
 ša' iz ch= ža' justis na' junt -ən' ch=  
 P/be.changed year H= be.changed official(S) and meeting(S) -DEM H=  
 the officials would change, and they would hold a

choso'oša' ljuežje' chel.

so'= on -e' ch= oso'o= ša' ljuežj -e' chel  
 PL= make -3r H= PL= change POS/fellow -3r midnight  
 meeting to change one another's place at midnight.

74. Catə' še'eni' na' ba že' beṇə' cobə. 75. De'e  
 74. catə' še'eni' na' ba ža' -e' beṇə' cobə 75. de'e  
 74. when P/get.light and already S/be -3r person new 75. thing  
 74. When dawn came the new people were there. 75. This he

nga bnite', lene de'e nga gwlo'e nez güen  
 nga b= nit -e' lene de'e nga gw= loe' -e' nez güen  
 DEM C= destroy -3r with thing DEM C= show -3r path good(S)  
 destroyed, and in this he taught a good course of action in

ca naquə yeḷə' ba chejni'inə' che misioneron'.

ca n= aquə yeḷə' ba ch= ejni'i -nə' che misionero -n'  
 like S= be NOM already H= understand -DEM POS missionary(S) -DEM  
 the wisdom of the missionary.

76. Na' lezə be'ela'ochgüe' lni che gobiern che Syi'itə' nga.

76. na' lezə b= e'elao' -chgua -e' lni che gobiern che  
 76. and likewise C= honor -INT -3r fiesta POS government(S) POS  
 76. And likewise he honored the national holidays of Mexico here very

77. Lecze' be'echgüe' xpeze par nich goc lni xen che  
 syi'itə' nga 77. le -czə -e' b= e' -e -chgua -e' x= nez  
 Mexico DEM 77. X -INT -3r C= give -TR -INT -3r POS= road  
 much. 77. It was he who led the way so that there were big

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**gobiern.**

-e par niḡh g= oc lṇi xen ḡhe  
 -3ind in.order.to(S) in.order.to C= happen&pass fiesta big POS  
*government fiestas.*

**78. Že' šino'o setiembr na' ža ši'into,**  
 gobiern 78. že' šino'o setiembr na' ža ši'into  
 government(S) 78. night fifteen September(S) and day sixteen  
 78. *The night of September 15th and the day of the 16th,*

**gwo'o lao na' bi'i scuel ca' lene maestr ḡhega'acbo'**  
 gw= yo'o lao na' bi'i scuel ca' lene maestr ḡhe -ga'ac -bo'  
 C= be.in in hand child school(S) those with teacher(S) POS -PL -3f  
*it was in the hands of the school children and their teachers*

**gwso'ombo' no comedy na' recitacion ḡhe no benə' gwnabia' gol ca'.**  
 gw= so'= on -bo' no comedy na'  
 C= PL= do -3f some dramatization(S) and  
*to put on dramas and recitations about the rulers of times past.*

**79. Ca'ateczə**  
 recitacion ḡhe no benə' gw= nabilia' gol ca' 79. ca' -a  
 recitation(S) about some person INF= rule old those 79. thus -TR  
 79. *That is*

**za'an ža neža,** chac lṇi xen ḡhe gobiern lao  
 -te -czə za' -a -n ža neža ch= ac lṇi xen ḡhe  
 -also -INT S/come -TR -3i day today H= happen fiesta big POS  
*exactly how it continues at present, there are big government fiestas*

**yež nga.** 80. Na' leczə le' bene' ga zelao  
 gobiern lao yež nga 80. na' leczə le -e' b= en -e' ga  
 government(S) in town DEM 80. and likewise X -3r C= do -3r where  
 here in town. 80. *And he also did all he could with the*

**gwxaque'ene' len scuel nga,** len len za' na'a.  
 zelao gw= xaque' -e -ne' len scuel nga len le -n za'  
 last C= be.able -TR -3r with school(S) DEM with X -DEM S/come  
*school here, and that continues now.*

**81. Baḡh besyə'əchojtec maestros na' maestras,**  
 na'a 81. baḡh b= esyə'ə= choj -tec maestros na'  
 now 81. already C= PL/REP= show.up -INT teachers(S) and  
 81. *Already many teachers have gone out (from here),*

**baḡh chse'ejni'ine' ca naquə de'en bedəḡe**  
 maestras baḡh ch= se'= ejni'i -ne' ca n= aquə  
 female.teachers(S) already H= PL= understand -3r like S= be  
*already they understand what the missionary came*

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misioneron' lene no'ol che', Mabela de Van Slyke.

de'e -n b= edə= xe misionero -n' lene no'ol che -e'  
 thing -DEM C= MT= found missionary(S) -DEM with woman POS -3r  
*to establish along with his wife, Mabel Van Slyke.*

82. Len na'a caguə no chanlažə' benə' ca'.  
 mabela de van slyke 82. len na'a caguə no ch= anlažə'  
 Mabel(S) of(S) Van Slyke 82. with now NEG anyone H= forget  
 82. *Even now no one forgets those people.*

benə' ca'  
 person those

83. Ca naquə be'eni' de'e bedəsə'ədixjue' lao yež Lbajw nga,  
 83. ca n= aquə be'eni' de'e b= edə= sə'ə= dixjw -e' lao  
 83. like S= be light thing C= MT= PL= lay.down -3r in  
 83. *As for the light which they came and brought here to the town*

ba goquən to de'e cha'o, to de'e xen, de'e cuat te,  
 yež lbajw nga ba g= oc -ən to de'e cha'o to de'e xen  
 town El.Bajo(S) DEM already C= be -3i one thing big one thing big  
*of El Bajo, it was a big thing, a great thing, which will never*

de'e cuat yeyož par bi'i xcuidə',  
 de'e cuat te de'e cuat y= eyož par bi'i  
 thing never P/pass thing never P= be.finished for(S) child  
*pass away, which will never be extinguished for the children,*

par benə' nitə', na' par benə' ze'e za'ac.  
 xcuidə' par benə' nitə' na' par benə' ze'e za'ac  
 young for(S) person S/be and for(S) person about.to S/come/PL  
*for the people living, and for the people yet to come.*

84. Chso'elaogüe'e le'. 85. Zjənaque' ca to xaxna' che  
 84. ch= s= o'elao' -gw -e' le -e' 85. zjə= n= aquə -e' ca to  
 84. H= PL= honor -TR -3r X -3r 85. S/PL= S= be -3r like one  
 84. *They honor him.* 85. *They are like parents of this*

yež nga che yelə' ba chejni'i. 86. Len  
xaxna' che yež nga che yelə' ba ch= ejni'i 86. len  
 POS/parents POS town DEM POS NOM already H= understand 86. with  
*village regarding understanding.* 86. *And*

ca' naquə to dižə' de'e gwdixjw Criston', gwne':  
 ca' n= aquə to dižə' de'e gw= dixjw crist -on' gw= na  
 thus S= be one word thing C= lay.down Christ(S) -DEM C= say  
*it is like a saying which Christ gave, he said:*

"Choxcwlēn benə' šejle' benə' cui ble'i clelə ca be'en ble'i  
 -e' choxcwlēn benə' šejle' benə' cui b= le'i clelə|ca  
 -3r thanks person P/believe person NEG C= see rather.than  
 "Thanks to the one who will believe without seeing rather than to

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na' chejle'e". 87. Ca' bi'i ze'e za'ac  
 be'en b= le'i na' ch= ejle' -e' 87. ca' bi'i ze'e  
 person/DEM C= see and H= believe -3r 87. thus child about.to  
*one who sees and then believes". 87. Thus the children yet to*

se'ejle'ebo' de'en bedəyen misionero Lorenzo P. Van Slyke lene  
 za'ac se'= ejle' -e -bo' de'e -n b= edə= y= en  
 S/come/PL P/PL= believe -TR -3f thing -DEM C= MT= TR= do  
*come will believe what the missionary Lawrence P. Van Slyke came to*

no'ol che', Mabela de Van Slyke.  
 misionero laurenzo p van slyke lene no'ol che -e' mabela  
 missionary(S) Lawrence(S) P. Van Slyke with woman POS 3r Mabel(S)  
*do along with his wife, Mabel Van Slyke.*

de van slyke  
 of(S) Van Slyke

88. Ca' naquə bga'an yoguə'əloḷ de'en əbša'ayichje' bene' lao'  
 88. ca' n= aquə b= ga'an yoguə' -ə -loḷ de'e -n əb=  
 88. thus S= be C= remain every -TR -INT thing -DEM C=  
 88. *That is how everything remained that he took responsibility*

yež nga, lao ga iz bedəso  
 ša'ayichj -e' b= en -e' lao' yež nga lao ga iz b= edə=  
 take.responsibility -3r C= do -3r in town DEM in nine year C= MT=  
*to do here in the village, during the nine years*

misionero Lorenzo P. Van Slyke lao' yež ni.  
 so misionero laurenzo p van slyke lao' yež ni  
 live missionary(S) Lawrence(S) P. Van Slyke in town DEM  
*the missionary Lawrence P. Van Slyke came and lived here in the village.*

89. Gwzelažə'əche' əgwsini'e, per na' bžin ža  
 89. gw= zelažə' -ə -ch -e' əgw= si'ini'a -e' per;na' b= žin  
 89. C desire -TR -more -3r P= prepare -3r but(S) C= arrive  
 89. *He wanted to make more preparations, but the day came*

catə' chaclə bene' le'.  
 ža catə' ch= ac -lə b= e= ne -e' le -e'  
 day when H= happen -surprisingly C= REP= call -3r X -3r  
*when they suddenly called him.*

90. Bich bi de bene'. 91. Caguə que gwzelaže'e soche',  
 90. bi -ch bi de b= en -e' 91. caguə que gw= zelažə' -e' so  
 90. NEG -more any S/be C= do -3r 91. NEG NEG C= desire -3r P/be  
 90. *There was nothing he could do. 91. He didn't stop wanting to live*

pero cuich gwxi' xneze. 92. Nach gwduxjui'e  
 -ch -e' pero cui -ch gw= xi' x= nez -e 92. nach gw=  
 -more -3r but(S) NEG -more C= get POS= road -3i 92. then C=  
*here, but there wasn't a way. 92. Then he*

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ne': "Yeya'a". 93. Pero ɔbixa de so'on beŋə'  
 dixjue'e -e' na -e' y=e= yej -a' 93. pero bi -xa de  
 announce -3r S/say -3r P=REP= go -1s 93. but(S) Q/what -INT S/be  
 announced, saying, "I'm going home". 93. But what could the people

lao' yež qui? ɣhedə' la' xane'en beŋə' le'.  
 so'= on beŋə' lao' yež qui ɣhedə' la' xan -e' -e -n  
 P/PL= do person in town these because because POS/boss -3r -TR -DEM  
 here in the village do? for his boss had called him back.

94. Tant de'e goquene' ža'alə' cui yeyeje'.  
 b= e= ne -e' le -e' 94. tant de'e g= oque -ne' ža'alə'  
 C= REP= speak -3r X -3r 94. so.much(S) thing C= feel -3r if.only  
 94. He wished so very much he didn't have

95. Nach btobe' beŋə' lao' yež qui gw dixjue'ine'  
 cui y= e= yej -e' 95. nach b= tobə -e' beŋə' lao' yež qui gw  
 NEG P= REP= go -3r 95. then C= gather -3r person in town these C=  
 to return home. 95. Then he gathered these people of the village

lega'aque' šə no beŋə' zoe' latjə yesyə'əzi'e  
 dixjue'i -ne' le -ga'ac -e' šə no beŋə' zo -e' latjə y= esyə'ə=  
 announce -3r X -PL -3r if any person S/be -3r place P= PL/REP=  
 and told them if anyone was so disposed, they could

šinlaze' de'e de, de'e yega'an de'e cui  
 zi' -e' šinlaz -e' de'e de de'e y= e= ga'an  
 buy -3r POS/belongings -3r thing S/be thing P= REP= remain  
 buy his belongings which were there, things which would

žjəya'aquən. 96. Na' bžag beŋə' besyə'əzi'e  
 de'e cui ž= jə= ya'ac -ən 96. na' b= žag beŋə' b= esyə'ə=  
 thing NEG P= C/MA= return/PL -3i 96. and C= meet person C= PL/REP=  
 remain that would not go with him. 96. And people gathered and bought

šinlaze' ca', beŋə' gwxaque'e.  
 zi' -e' šinlaz -e' ca' beŋə' gw= xaquə' -e'  
 buy -3r POS/belongings -3r those person C= be.able -3r  
 his belongings, people who were able to.

97. Beyote'e siy, beyote'e mes, beyote'e  
 97. b= e= y= otə' -e' siy b= e= y= otə' -e' mes b= e=  
 97. C= REP= TR= sell -3r chair(S) C= REP= TR= sell -3r table(S) C= REP=  
 97. He sold chairs, he sold tables, he sold

victrola, na' beyote'e no tas p̄lat,  
 y= otə' -e' victrola na' b= e= y= otə' -e' no tas  
 TR= sell -3r victrola(S) and C= REP= TR= sell -3r some cups(S)  
 a victrola, and he sold cups and dishes,

beyote'e zan de'e chon žin lo'o cwsin.  
 p̄lat b= e= y= otə' -e' zan de'e ch= on žin lo'o cwsin  
 dishes(S) C= REP= TR= sell -3r many thing H= do work in kitchen(S)  
 he sold many things which are used in the kitchen.

HL1. WHEN THE MISSIONARIES FIRST CAME

98. Na' de'e bega'an de'e cuich beda'o, nach  
 98. na' de'e b= e= ga'an de'e cui -ch b= e= da'o nach  
 98. and thing C= REP= remain thing NEG -more C= REP= be.sold then  
 98. *And what remained which did not sell, then*

bene'en, gwlo'en gon yo'olao' par justis.  
 b= en -e' -e -n gw= lo'o -e' -n gon yo'olao' par  
 C= give -3r -TR -3i C= put -3r -3i donation townhall for(S)  
*he gave them, he made them a donation to the town hall for the*

99. Bnežjue' to escritorio de'e chchin tesorero municipal.  
 justis 99. b= nežjw -e' to escritorio de'e ch= chin tesorero  
 official(S) 99. C= give -3r one desk(S) thing H= use treasurer(S)  
*officials. 99. He gave a desk which the town treasurer uses.*

100. Na' yegaljə libr de'e lsaque'e, bene'en  
 municipal 100. na' ye= galjə libr de'e lsaque'e b= en  
 municipal(S) 100. and another twenty books(S) thing valuable C= give  
 100. *And twenty valuable books, he gave*

lao na' justis par niħ na' yoso'ogüia bi'i xcuidə' bi'i ze'e  
 -e' -e -n lao na' justis par niħ na' y=  
 -3r -TR -3i in hand oficial(S) in.order(S) so.that there P=  
*them into the hands of the officials so the children of the*

za'ac. 101. Libr ca'  
 oso'o= güia bi'i xcuidə' bi'i ze'e za'ac 101. libr  
 PL= look child young child about.to S/come/PL 101. books(S)  
*future could look at them. 101. Those*

zjänzi'in Tesoro de la Juventud, galj  
 ca' zjə= n= zi' -i -n tesoro de la juventud  
 those S/PL= S= be.called -TR -3i Treasure(S) of(S) the(S) Youth(S)  
*books are called The Treasury of Youth, twenty*

cue'enə'. 102. Na' yeto manual, libr  
 galj cue' -e -nə' 102. na' ye= to manual libr  
 20 parts -TR -DEM 102. and another= one manual(S) book(S)  
 volumes. 102. *And another manual, a book*

de'en nzi' diccionario, lecə bcua'ane'en par gonən žin  
 de'e -n n= zi' diccionario lecə b= cua'an -e' -e -n  
 thing -DEM S= be.called dictionary(S) likewise C= leave -3r -TR -3i  
*called a dictionary, he likewise left it to be used*

yo'olao'. 103. Nyašə'əlazlə goquə ħhe  
 par g= on -ən žin yo'olao' 103. nyašə'əlaz -lə g=  
 in.order.to(S) P= do -3i work townhall 103. very.sad -ADV C=  
*in the town hall. 103. It was very sad what*

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šinlaze'enə' catə' beze'e.

oquə qhe šinlaz -e' -e -nə' catə' b= e= za' -e'  
happen to POS/belongings -3r -TR -DEM when C= REP= leave -3r  
*happened to his things when he left.*

104. Goc ca do ga got benə', gwlejyichje' benə' ža'  
104. g= oc ca do ga g= ot benə' gw= lejyichj -e' benə'  
104. C= happen like around where C= die person C= forsake -3r person  
104. *It happened like where a person died, he left these people*

lao' yež qui. 105. Izən' beze'e nga, do bio'  
ža' lao' yež qui 105. iz -ən' b= e= za' -e' nga do  
S/be in town these 105. year -DEM C= REP= leave -3r DEM around  
*who were in town. 105. The year he left here, it was*

juny to mil ga gueyoa gachoa iz. 106. Ca'  
bio' juny to mil ga gueyoa gachoa iz 106. ca'  
month June(S) one thousand(S) nine hundred twenty-nine year 106. thus  
*around June of 1929. 106. That*

naquə beyož bedo qhe misioneron',  
n= aquə b= eyož b= edo qhe misionero -n'  
S= be C= be.finished C= be.finished about missionary(S) -DEM  
*is how the story of the missionary Lawrence P. Van Slyke ended.*

Laurenzo P. Van Slyke.  
laurenzo p van slyke  
Lawrence(S) P Van Slyke

JV49. THE WORK OF EACH SEASON

Given by Juan Vicente Hernández, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca,  
July, 1955.

1. Tiempo ghecho ni.

1. tiempo ghe -cho ni

1. season(S) POS -lpi DEM

1. *This season of ours.*

2. Na'a chac go'on yel dao' cheto'onə'.

2. na'a ch= ac g= o'on yel dao' ghe -to' -o  
2. now H= be INF= cultivate corn.plant little POS -lpe -TR

2. *Now there is cultivation of our little corn plants.*

3. Na' catə' bağ goquən çhopə bio' cana' ba zon

-nə' 3. na' catə' bağ g= oc -n çhopə bio' cana'

-DEM 3. and when already C= pass -3i two months at.that.time

3. *And when they are two months old, then they have*

yele' dao'.

ba zo -n yele' dao'

already S/be -3i unripe.corn little

*already formed little ears.*

4. Gaquən šone bio' bağ naquən

4. g= aquə -n šone bio'

4. P= pass -3i three months

4. *After three months they are*

za'a.

bağ n= aquə -n za'a

already S= be -3i fresh.ears.of.corn

*already ears of fresh corn.*

5. Gaquən tap bio' ba naquən

5. g= aquə -n tap bio'

5. P= pass -3i four months

5. *After four months they*

yez.

ba n= aquə -n yez

already S= be -3i dry.ears.of.corn

*are already dried ears of corn.*

6. Nach šejto' gwlap.

6. nach šej -to' gw= lap

6. then P/go -lpe INF= harvest

6. *Then we will go harvesting.*

7. Na' žjəya'ato'on.

7. na' ž= jə= ya' -a -to' -o -n

7. and P= MA= carry -TR -lpe -TR -3i

7. *And we will go bring it in.*

8. Nach yela'an ližto'.

8. nach y= e= la' -a

8. then P= REP= arrive -TR

8. *Then it will arrive here*

9. Nach əchoxə'əto'onə',

nach

-n liž -to' 9. nach əchoxə' -ə -to' -o -n -nə' nach

-3i POS/house -lpe 9. then P/husk -TR -lpe -TR -3i -DEM then

*at our house.*

9. *Then we will husk it,*

*then*

xobə'əto'onə'.

xobə' -ə -to' -o -n -nə'

P/shell -TR -lpe -TR -3i -DEM

*we will shell it.*

10. Nachən' ba naquən güen.

10. nach -ən' ba n= aquə -n

10. then -DEM already S= be -3i

10. *Then finally it is good.*

11. Ca'anə' gaquən,

güen 11. ca' -a -nə' g=

good(S) 11. thus -TR -DEM P=

11. *Thus it will be,*

nachən' ba naquən güen par

nach -ən' ba n= aquə -n

then -DEM already S= be -3i

*then it is in good condition*



JV49. THE WORK OF EACH SEASON

gauto'onə'. 12. Le'ezelaozə de'e  
 güen par gao -to' -o -n -nə' 12. le'ezelaozə de'e  
 good(S) in.order.to(S) P/eat -lpe -TR -3i -DEM 12. principally thing  
 for us to eat it. 12. That is the major

na' de'e de yixə' cheto' ni de'e che'ej chaoto'.  
 na' de'e de yixə' che -to' ni de'e ch= e'ej ch= ao -to'  
 that thing S/be wilds POS -lpe DEM thing H= drink H= eat -lpe  
 thing there is here in our fields which we drink and eat.

13. Na' tiemp na'a de mancw, na' chla' yixo.  
 13. na' tiemp na'a de mancw na' ch= la' yixo  
 13. and time(S) now S/be mangos(S) and H= arrive avocados  
 13. Now at this season there are mangos and avocados come in.

14. Chopə cuen naquə yixonə'. 15. Ton naquən de'e yelə na'  
 14. chopə cuen n= aquə yixo -nə' 15. to -n n= aquə -n de'e  
 14. two kinds S= be avocados -DEM 15. one -3i S= be -3i thing  
 14. There are two kinds of avocados. 15. One is large and is called

ne'en yix do'ožə'. 16. Yetcuenən na' ne'en  
 yelə na' na -e' -e -n yix do'ožə' 16. ye= t= cuen  
 large and S/say -3r -TR -3i avocado rotten 16. another= one= kind  
 rotten avocado. 16. Another kind is

yix mix, na' yeton ne' yix lao'.  
 -ən na' na -e' -e -n yix mix na' ye= to -n na  
 -3i and S/say -3r -TR -3i avocado Mixe(S) and another= one -3i S/say  
 called Mixe avocado, and another is called

17. Na' yeto frutən' de'e ne' tlas.  
 -e' yix lao' 17. na' ye= to frut -ən' de'e na  
 -3r avocado small 17. and another= one fruit(S) -DEM thing S/say  
 tiny avocado. 17. And another fruit is called peaches.

18. Na' tiemp na'a na' chla' yin' ya'a.  
 -e' tlas 18. na' tiemp na'a na' ch= la' yin' ya'a  
 -3r peaches(S) 18. and time(S) now and H= arrive chile fresh  
 18. And this season now fresh green chiles come in.

19. De'e na'an chsa'ogüe' gan' chja'aque' go'onə' na'a.  
 19. de'e na' -a -n ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' ga -n' ch= ja'ac -e'  
 19. thing that -TR -DEM H= PL= eat -TR -3r where -DEM H= go/PL -3r  
 19. That is what they eat where they go hoeing now.

20. Na' beyožən, na' beyož  
 g= o'on -nə' na'a 20. na' b= eyož -ən na' b=  
 INF= cultivate -DEM now 20. and C= be.finished -3i and C=  
 20. And it is finished, the season

JV49. THE WORK OF EACH SEASON

tiemp na'a.  
eyož            tiemp na'a  
be.finished time(S) now  
*is finished now.*

JV52. THE WORK WE DO HERE IN OUR FIELDS

Given by Juan Vicente Hernández, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, in 1955.

1. Na' te go'oŋ cheto' ni na' yesyə'əzolaogüe' yoso'oŋoe' par  
 1. na' te g= o'oŋ che -to' ni na' y= esyə'ə= zolao  
 1. and P/pass INF= cultivate POS -1pe DEM and P= PL/REP= begin  
 1. *After our hoeing has passed here then they begin again to*

so'one' na' go'ožə'  
 -gw -e' y= oso'o= ŋoa -e' par so'= on -e'  
 -TR -3r P= PL= clear -3r in.order.to(S) P/PL= make -3r  
*clear the brush in order to cultivate the damp fields*

par əsa'aze' yetgüiz.  
 na' go'ožə' par əsa'= az -e' ye= t=  
 plowed.field damp in.order.to(S) P/PL= plant -3r another= one=  
*to plant the next year.*

2. Na' yosyo'ozoe' no yag yin' na' no yag bež.  
 gw= iz 2. na' y= osyo'o= zo -e' no yag yin' na' no yag  
 TR= year 2. and P= REP/PL= put -3r some plant chili and some plant  
 2. *And they put out chili plants and tomato plants.*

3. Do abril, mey, cana' ba de yin' ya'a,  
 bež 3. do abril mey cana' ba de  
 tomato 3. around April(S) May(S) at.that.time already S/be  
 3. *About April or May, at that time there are fresh*

cana' ba de bež. 4. Na' cheyož  
 yin' ya'a cana' ba de bež 4. na' ch=  
 chili.pepper fresh at.that.time already S/be tomato 4. and H=  
*chili peppers (and) then there are tomatoes. 4. And at the*

- abril na' sa'aze' xoa'. 5. Ca'azən' naquə  
 eyož abril na' sa'= az -e' xoa' 5. ca' -a -zə  
 be.finished April(S) and P/PL= plant -3r corn 5. thus -TR -DE  
*end of April they will plant corn. 5. The simple work*

- žin dao' de'e chso'one'. 6. Na' chəsə'əbeje'  
 -n' n= aquə žin dao' de'e ch= so'= on -e' 6. na' ch= əsə'ə=  
 -DEM S= be work little thing H= PL= do -3r 6. and H= PL=  
*they do is just like that. 6. And they extract*

- yež, na' chəsə'əbeje' mescal. 7. Žin  
 bej -e' yež na' ch= əsə'ə= bej -e' mescal 7. žin  
 remove -3r cactus.fibre and H= PL= remove -3r mescal(S) 7. work  
*cactus fiber, and they distill liquor. 7. Those*

dao' nan' chso'one' cuent chsa'aque' mantener.  
 dao' na' -n' ch= so'= on -e' cuent ch= sa'= ac -e' mantener  
 little that -DEM H= PL= do -3r in.order.to H= PL= be -3r maintain(S)  
*are the simple tasks they do to support themselves.*

JV52. THE WORK WE DO HERE IN OUR FIELDS

8. Na' tǵüejə catə' chso'one' no yo'o scuel,  
 8. na' tǵüejə catə' ch= so'= on -e' no yo'o scuel  
 8. and sometimes when H= PL= make -3r some house school(S)  
 8. *And there are times when they build a school building,*

na' lezə chsa'aze' yel par chso'one' mantener scuel.  
 na' lezə ch= sa'= az -e' yel par ch= so'= on  
 and likewise H= PL= plant -3r corn.plant in.order.to(S) H= PL= do  
*and likewise they plant corn to support the school.*

9. Chso'ote'e xoa'anə' par chac mantener  
 -e' mantener scuel 9. ch= so'= otə' -e' xoa' -a -nə'  
 -3r maintain(S) school(S) 9. H= PL= sell -3r corn -TR -DEM  
 9. *They sell the corn to support the*

scuel. 10. Na' zjənyixjue'  
 par ch= ac mantener scuel 10. na' zjə= n= yixjw  
 in.order.to(S) H= be maintain(S) school(S) 10. and S/PL= S= pay  
*school. 10. And they have paid*

ayudante ǵhe scuel, na' partlə beṇə' chyixjw gobiern.  
 -e' ayudante ǵhe scuel na' partlə beṇə' ch= yixjw  
 -3r helper(S) POS school(S) and separately(S) person H= pay  
*for the school helper, and apart from him is the person the*

11. Na' chja'ac bi'i scuel dao' ca',  
 gobiern 11. na' ch= ja'ac bi'i scuel dao' ca'  
 government(S) 11. and H= go/PL child school(S) little those  
*government pays. 11. And the little school children go,*

xaxna'aczbə' chǵüe'ej chǵuaogüe'ebə'.  
 xaxna' -a -cz -bə' ch= gw= e'ej ch= gw= ao -gw -e' -e  
 POS/parents -TR -INT -3f H= CA= drink H= CA= eat -TR -3r -TR  
*(and) their parents are the ones who give them food and drink.*

12. Na' leczə le' chzi'e xala'ambə' na' chzi'e  
 -bə' 12. na' leczə le -e' ch= zi' -e' xala'an -bə' na' ch=  
 -3f 12. and likewise X -3r H= buy -3r POS/clothes -3f and H=  
 12. *And likewise they buy their clothes, and they*

libr ǵhebə', na' chzi'e lapiz ǵhebə', na'  
 zi' -e' libr ǵhe -bə' na' ch= zi' -e' lapiz ǵhe -bə' na'  
 buy -3r books(S) POS -3f and H= buy -3r pencils(S) POS -3f and  
*buy their books, and they buy their pencils, and*

chzi'e cuadern ǵhebə', con yoguə'əloṽte gast ǵhebə'  
 ch= zi' -e' cuadern ǵhe -bə' con yoguə' -ə -loṽ -te  
 H= buy -3r notebooks(S) POS -3f just every -TR -INT -INT  
*they buy their notebooks, just all of their many expenses*

de'e chejbə' scuel. 13. Catə'əch  
 gast ǵhe -bə' de'e ch= ej -bə' scuel 13. catə' -ə  
 expense(S) POS -3f because H= go -3f school(S) 13. when -TR  
*for going to school. 13. After they*



C7. FIELD WORK

Given by Crescencia Enríquez in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, in March, 1954.

1. Na' pur güen žin yoba naquæn chso'one' yež,  
 1. na' pur gw= en žin yoba n= aquæ -n ch= so'= on -e'  
 1. and only(S) INF= do work fields S= be -3i H= PL= do -3r  
 1. *It is pure field work that they do here in the village,*
- na' chso'one' mescal.                      2. Na' beṇə' cui chone'en,  
 yež na' ch= so'= on -e' mescal      2. na' beṇə' cui ch= on -e'  
 town and H= PL= make -3r mescal(S)      2. and person NEG H= do -3r  
*and they distill liquor.                      2. And a person who doesn't make*
- chone' güen žin che beṇə'.  
 -e -n ch= on -e' gw= en žin che beṇə'  
 -TR -3i H= make -3r INF= do work POS person  
*that, he does day labor for other people.*
3. Catə' chone' žin che mescalən',                      na' gone' do xop  
 3. catə' ch= on -e' žin che mescal -ən' na' g= on -e'  
 3. when H= do -3r work of mescal(S) -DEM and P= make -3r  
 3. *When one distills liquor,                      he makes about six*
- garafon.                      4. Šə bene' do xop,                      na' le'ine' šonə  
 do xop garafon      4. šə b= en -e' do xop na' le'i -ne' šonə  
 around six jugs(S)      4. if C= make -3r around six and P/see -3r three  
 jugs.                      4. *If he made about six,                      then he will get three*
- gueyoa.      5. De'e na'aga žin de'e yo'o mech de'e le'ine',  
 gueyoa      5. de'e na' -a -ga žin de'e yo'o mech de'e le'i  
 hundred      5. thing that -TR -DE work thing S/have money(S) thing P/see  
 hundred.      5. *That is the only work that brings money that he will get,*
- mech cha'o.  
 -ne' mech cha'o  
 -3r money(S) big  
*a lot of money.*
6. Doa' na' choeye'e lo'o horn,                      chbeque' yi' lo'o horn.  
 6. doa' na' ch= oeyə' -e' lo'o horn ch= bec -e' yi' lo'o  
 6. maguey that H= cook -3r in oven(S) H= put -3r fire in  
 6. *He cooks the maguey in an oven,                      he makes a fire in the*
7. Chche'ene' lo'o yolə na' chguaque'en,  
 horn      7. ch= che'en -e' lo'o yo -lə na' ch= gw= ac -e' -e -n  
 oven(S)      7. H= dig -3r in ground -DIR and H= CA= cover -3r -TR -3i  
 oven.      7. *He digs in the ground and covers it,*
- nach catə' cheche'ene'en,                      nach ba naquæn güen.  
 nach catə' ch= e= che'en -e' -e -n nach ba n= aquæ -n güen  
 then when H= REP= dig -3r -TR -3i then already S= be -3i good(S)  
 then when he digs it up again,                      then it is already good.

C7. FIELD WORK

8. **Zix** ba naquən catə' ba goye'en. 9. **Nach**  
 8. zix ba n= aquə -n catə' ba g= oyə' -e' -n 9. nach ch=  
 8. sweet already S= be -3i when already C= cook -3r -3i 9. then H=  
 8. *It is sweet after he has cooked it.* 9. *Then he*

**chheghe'en lo'o pil mortera.** 10. **Nach chheghe'en len maz.**  
 chegh -e' -e -n lo'o pil mortera 10. nach ch= chegh -e' -e -n  
 pound -3r -TR -3i in tank(S) mortar(S) 10. then H= pound -3r -TR -3i  
 pounds it in a tank of water. 10. *Then he pounds it with a*

11. **Na' nitə' yeso' mix** na' chgüe'en lo'in.  
 len maz 11. na' nitə' yeso' mix na' ch= go'o -e' -n lo'o  
 mallet(S) 11. and S/be pot Mixe(S) and H= put.in -3r -3i in  
 mallet. 11. *And there are big Mixe pots and he puts it in them.*

12. **Nach catə' bağ goquən par gaquən mescal,**  
 -in 12. nach catə' bağ g= oc -ən par g= aquə -n  
 -3i 12. then when already C= be -3i in.order.to(S) P= be -3i  
 12. *Then when it has already finished so it will become mescal,*

**lecze lo'o yeso' mix chgüe'en.** 13. **Nach**  
 mescal lecze lo'o yeso' mix ch= go'o -e' -n 13. nach  
 mescal(S) likewise in pot Mixe(S) H= put.in -3r -3i 13. then  
 likewise he puts it into the Mixe pots. 13. *Then*

**goye'en de'e yoblə.** 14. **Cana' bağ beyož xšineinə'.**  
 g= oeyə' -e -n de'e yoblə 14. cana' bağ b= eyož  
 P= cook -TR -3i thing other 14. at.that.time already C= be.finished  
 he will cook it again. 14. *Then its work is already finished.*

15. **Bağ naquən par ye'eje'en,**  
 x= šin -ei -nə' 15. bağ n= aquə -n par  
 POS= work -3ind -DEM 15. already S= be -DEM in.order.to(S)  
 15. *It is ready for him to drink,*

**nach chzožene'.**  
 y= e'ej -e' -n nach ch= zože -ne'  
 P= drink -3r -3i then H= be.drunk -3r  
 then he gets drunk.

16. **Tiemp na'a beṇə' mix ba chzeye' beb de'e chtope' lao yo,**  
 16. tiemp na'a beṇə' mix ba ch= z= ey -e' beb  
 16. time(S) now person Mixe(S) already H= CA= burn -3r trash  
 16. *At this time now the Mixes are burning brush that they*

**na' lažga'aque'enə' naquə ya'adao'**  
 de'e ch= tope -e' lao yo na' laž -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' n=  
 thing H= gather -3r on ground and POS/town -PL -3r -TR -DEM S=  
 gather on the ground, and their homeland is a great forest,

**xen, nach cheyən, cheyən.** 17. **Na' zda yi',**  
 aquə ya'adao' xen nach ch= ey -ən ch= ey -ən 17. na' z= da yi'  
 be forest big then H= burn -3i H= burn -3i 17. and S= go fire  
 so it burns and burns. 17. *And the fire*

C7. FIELD WORK

zda yi', cheyən. 18. Catə' yela' yejw, .  
 z= da yi' ch= ey -ən 18. catə' y= e= la' yejw  
 S= go fire H= burn -3i 18. when P= REP= arrive rain  
*spreads and spreads, burning. 18. When the rain arrives,*

cana'ach nla'. 19. Na'a nyeš mbižən,  
 cana' -a -ch n= la' 19. na'a n= yeš m= biž -ən  
 at.that.time -TR -more S= be.seen 19. now S= be.toasted S= dry -3i  
*then there will be visibility. 19. Now it is dry and toasted,*

nachən' cheyən. 20. Neto' chzeyto' latə' dao' güejə.  
 nach -ən' ch= ey -ən 20. neto' ch= z= ey -to' latə' dao' güejə  
 then -DEM H= burn -3i 20. lpe H= CA= burn -lpe some little each  
*so it burns. 20. We each burn just a little.*

21. Cui naquə che neto' ya'adao'. 22. Marz na'a chsa'az beṇə' o do  
 21. cui n=aquə che neto' ya'adao' 22. marz na'a ch= sa'= az  
 21. NEG S=be POS lpe forest 22. March(S) now H= PL= plant  
 21. *Ours (land) isn't a forest. 22. People plant now in March or*

primer abril, beṇə' gaze' primer.  
 beṇə' o do primer abril beṇə' g= az -e' primer  
 person or(S) around first(S) April(S) person P plant -3r first(S)  
*at the beginning of April, people who plant first.*

23. Nach gaze' do gašjo bio' abril, nach chsa'aze'  
 23. nach g= az -e' do gašjo bio' abril nach ch= sa'= az  
 23. then P= plant -3r around half month April(S) then H= PL= plant  
 23. *Then they plant around mid April, then they plant*

Žinte mey, nach chsa'aze' žinte juny.  
 -e' žin -te mey nach ch= sa'= az -e' žin -te  
 -3r P/arrive -also May(S) then H= PL= plant -3r P/arrive -also  
*when May comes, then they plant when June comes.*

24. Bio' july, cana' zelao gaze'.  
 juny 24. bio' july cana' zelao g= az -e'  
 June(S) 24. month July(S) at.that.time last P= plant -3r  
 24. *In July, then they do the last planting.*



C3. OUR CORN

Given by Crescencia Enríquez in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, in February, 1954.

1. Chyiljto' yag goz gheto' na' chejto' goz xoa'.

1. ch= yilj -to' yag|goz ghe -to' na' ch= ej -to'  
 1. H= look.for -lpe planting.stick POS -lpe and H= go -lpe  
 1. *We look for our planting stick and we go to plant corn.*

2. Nach catə' ne': "Yo'o go'oon",  
 g= oz xoa' 2. nach catə' na -e' yo'o g= o'on  
 INF= plant corn 2. then when P/say -3r IMP/come INF= cultivate  
 2. *Then when he will say, "Come to hoe",*

nach əne': "¿Ecabi sa'o go'oon ghia'?"  
 nach əna -e' ə= cabi sa' -o' g= o'on ghe -a'  
 then P/say -3r Q= NEG P/accompany -2s INF= cultivate POS -1s  
 then he will say, "Won't you come along to hoe for me?"

əne', "Nach gona' laxjo'," ne'.  
əna -e' nach g= on -a' laxjw -o' na -e'  
 P/say -3r then P= give -1s POS/wages -2s P/say -3r  
 he will say, "Then I will give your wages," he will say.

3. Nach šejto' go'oon. 4. Benə' zan naquəto' chejto'  
 3. nach šej -to' g= o'on 4. benə' zan n= aquə -to' ch=  
 3. then P/go -lpe INF= cultivate 4. person many S= be -lpe H=  
 3. *Then we will go hoeing.* 4. *We are many (when) we go hoeing.*

go'oon. 5. Nach catə' baĥ go'oonto' yelən',  
 ej -to' g= o'on 5. nach catə' baĥ g= o'on -to'  
 go -lpe INF= cultivate 5. then when already C= cultivate -lpe  
 5. *Then when we have already hoed the corn,*

baĥ chbižən', chaquən yez.  
 yel -ən' baĥ ch= biž -ən -n' ch= ac -ən yez  
 corn.plant -DEM already C= dry -3i -DEM P= be -3i dry.ears.of.corn  
*it dries, it becomes dry corn.*

6. Nach catə' baĥ naquən yez, nach yelapto'.  
 6. nach catə' baĥ n= ac -ən yez nach y= e= lap  
 6. then when already S= be -3i dry.ears.of.corn then P= REP= harvest  
 6. *Then when it is already dry ears of corn, then we will harvest.*

7. Nach choxə'əto'on, xobə'əto'on, gaquən  
 -to' 7. nach choxə' -ə -to' -o -n xobə' -ə -to' -o -n g= ac  
 -lpe 7. then P/husk -TR -lpe -TR -3i P/shell -TR -lpe -TR -3i P= be  
 7. *Then we will husk it, we will shell it, it will*

xoa'. 8. Nach chzoto' niḷə. 9. Nach catə' baĥ  
 -ən xoa' 8. nach ch= zo -to' niḷə 9. nach catə' baĥ  
 -3i corn 8. then H= put -lpe nixtamal 9. then when already  
 be grain. 8. *Then we put on nixtamal (to cook).* 9. *Then when it is*

C3. OUR CORN

naquən ni<sub>l</sub>ə, chotton'. 10. Nach ch<sub>x</sub>oato' yet  
 n= aquə -n ni<sub>l</sub>ə ch= ot -to' -n 10. nach ch= xoa -to'  
 S= be -3i nixtamal H= grind -lpe -3i 10. then H= spread.out -lpe  
 already nixtamal, we grind it. 10. Then we pat out tortillas

gato'on. 11. Nach gonto' žin yoblə.  
 yet nach gao -to' -o -n 11. nach g= on -to' žin yoblə  
 tortilla then P/eat -lpe -TR -3i 11. then P= do -lpe work other  
 (and) we will eat them. 11. Then we will do other work.

12. Na' catə' chzoto' ni<sub>l</sub>ə, xoa' na' šo'on yo'o,  
 12. na' catə' ch= zo -to' ni<sub>l</sub>ə xoa' na' šo'o  
 12. and when H= put -lpe nixtamal corn and P/be.put.into  
 12. And when we put on nixtamal, the corn will have lime mixed

nach əgwzochon lao yi'. 13. Nach yeyə'ən.  
 -n yo'o nach əgw= zo -cho -n lao yi' 13. nach y= eyə' -ə -n  
 -3i lime then P= put -lpi -3i on fire 13. then P= cook -TR -3i  
 into it, then we will put in on the fire. 13. Then it will cook.

14. Nach catə' ba<sub>h</sub> naquən ni<sub>l</sub>ə, na' gotchon.  
 14. nach catə' ba<sub>h</sub> n= aquə -n ni<sub>l</sub>ə na' g= ot -cho -n  
 14. then when already S= be -3i nixtamal and P= grind -lpi -3i  
 14. Then when it is already nixtamal, then we will grind it.

15. Nach catə' yeyo<sub>ž</sub> gwšo<sub>š</sub>jchon, nach əgwš'i'icho  
 15. nach catə' y= eyo<sub>ž</sub> gw= šošj -cho -n nach əgw=  
 15. then when P= be.finished P= crush -lpi -3i then P=  
 15. Then when we will finish crushing it, then we will

cua. 16. Nach cueccho yi' xan žil,  
 ši'i -cho cua 16. nach cuec -cho yi' xan žil  
 grind.fine -lpi corn.dough 16. then P/put -lpi fire under griddle  
 grind the dough fine. 16. Then we will build a fire under the

nach əxoacho yet len la<sub>g</sub>uə' ye<sub>l</sub>ə'. 17. Nach  
 nach əxoa -cho yet len la<sub>g</sub>uə' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' 17. nach  
 then P/spread.out -lpi tortilla with leaf banana 17. then  
 griddle, then we will spread out tortillas on a banana leaf. 17. Then

catə' yeyo<sub>ž</sub> yedotcho, nach gw<sub>l</sub>oacho  
 catə' y= eyo<sub>ž</sub> y= e= d= ot -cho nach gw= loa  
 when P= be.finished P= REP= be.done= grind -lpi then P= sweep  
 when we will finish grinding again, then we will

cwsin. 18. Nach šə ba bedotcho,  
 -cho cwsin 18. nach šə ba b= e= d= ot -cho  
 -lpi kitchen(S) 18. then if already C= REP= be.done= grind -lpi  
 sweep the kitchen. 18. Then if we are already done grinding,

nach šejcho bej, nach ghibcho lachə'. 19. Nach  
 nach šej -cho bej nach ghib -cho lachə' 19. nach  
 then P/go -lpi spring then P/wash -lpi cloth 19. then  
 then we will go to the spring, then we will wash clothes. 19. Then

C3. OUR CORN

catə' yežincho bej,                      nach gaocho xgüe.                      20. Nach  
 catə' y= e= žin      -cho bej              nach gao      -cho xgüe              20. nach  
 when P= REP= arrive -1pi spring      then P/eat -1pi lunch      20. then  
*when we arrive back from the spring, then we will eat lunch. 20. Then*

goncho mendad checho catə' te yedaocho xgüe.  
 g= on -cho mendad      che -cho catə' te      y= e=      d=              ao -cho  
 P= do -1pi chores(S) POS -1pi when P/pass P= REP= be.done= eat -1pi  
*we will do our errands after we finish eating lunch.*

21. Nach ga<sub>1</sub>,                      nach yezaocho xše'.  
 xgüe 21. nach g=      a<sub>1</sub>                      nach y= ez=      ao -cho xše'  
 lunch 21. then P=      get.dark              then P= REP= eat -1pi supper  
 21. *Then it will get dark, then we will eat supper again.*

22. Nach tascho,                      nach zjəyeda ža yoblə.  
 22. nach tas      -cho      nach z= jə=      ye=      da      ža      yoblə  
 22. then P/sleep -1pi      then S= MA=      REP= go      day other  
 22. *Then we will sleep, then another day has gone by.*

AV1. BEAN TAMALES

Given by Agostina Vicente, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, in 1955.

1. Na' chšošjto' niḷə' cuent ni che gonto' yetgo' za.  
 1. na' ch= šošj -to' niḷə -nə' cuent ni|che  
 1. and H= mash -lpe nixtamal -DEM in.order.to for.the.sake.of  
 1. We mash up the nixtamal in order to make bean tamales.
2. Te yeyož əgwšošjto'onḅə',  
 g= on -to' yetgo' za 2. te y= eyož əgw= šošj  
 P= make -lpe tamales beans 2. P/pass P= be.finished P= mash  
 2. After we finish mashing it up,
- nach əgwži'ito' cuanə'. 3. Yeyož  
 -to' -o -n -ḅə' nach əgw= ži'i -to' cua -nə' 3. y=  
 -lpe -TR -3i -DEM then P= grind.fine -lpe corn.dough -DEM 3. P=  
 then we will grind the corn dough fine. 3. When
- əgwži'ito' cuanə', nach solao  
 eyož əgw= ži'i -to' cua -nə' nach solao  
 be.finished P= grind.fine -lpe corn.dough -DEM then P/begin  
 we finish grinding the dough fine, then we will
- capə'əto'on. 4. Nach yeyož capə'əto'on,  
 capə' -ə -to' -o -n 4. nach y= eyož capə' -ə  
 P/pat.out -TR -lpe -TR -3i 4. then P= be.finished P/pat.out -TR  
 begin to pat it out. 4. Then when we finish patting it out,
- nach chebto' cua zanə' laogüen'.  
 -to' -o -n nach cheb -to' cua|za -nə' lao -gw -en -n'  
 -lpe -TR -3i then P/spread -lpe bean.paste -DEM on -TR -3i -DEM  
 then we will spread bean paste on its surface.
5. Yeyož chebto' cua zanə' laogüennə',  
 5. y= eyož cheb -to' cua|za -nə' lao -gw -en -ḅə'  
 5. P= be.finished P/spread -lpe bean.paste -DEM on -TR -3i -DEM  
 5. After we spread bean paste on its surface,
- nach əgwtoḅəto'on, nach gwda'ato'on ḷaguə' yixlao'.  
 nach əgw= toḅə -to' -o -n nach gw= da' -a -to' -o -n  
 then P= roll.up -lpe -TR -3i then P= stick.to -TR -lpe -TR -3i  
 then we will roll it up, then we will stick leaves of the tiny
6. Yeyož əgwda'ato'on ḷaguə' yixonə',  
 ḷaguə' yixlao' 6. y= eyož əgw= da' -a -to' -o -n  
 leaf tiny.avocado 6. P= be.finished P= stick.on -TR -lpe -TR -3i  
 avocado on it. 6. After we finish sticking on the avocado leaves,
- nach gwlažə'əton' yixən'.  
 ḷaguə' yixo -nə' nach gw= lažə' -ə -to' -n yix -ən'  
 leaf avocado -DEM then P= wrap -TR -lpe -3i corn.leaves -DEM  
 then we will wrap it in corn leaves.

AV1. BEAN TAMALES

7. Nach yebejto' lao cua yoblə. 8. Yeyož yebejto'  
 7. nach y= e= bej -to' lao cua yoblə 8. y= eyož  
 7. then P= REP= remove -1pe from corn.dough other 8. P= be.finished  
 7. Then we will take another chunk of dough. 8. After we take

lao cua yoblə, na' yegapə'əto' de'e  
 y= e= bej -to' lao cua yoblə na' y= e= gapə'  
 P= REP= remove -1pe from corn.dough other and P= REP= pat.out  
 another chunk of dough, then we will pat it

yoblə. 9. Yeyož yezgapə'əton',  
 -ə -to' de'e yoblə 9. y= eyož y= ez= gapə' -ə -to'  
 -TR -1pe thing other 9. P= be.finished P= REP= pat.out -TR -1pe  
 out again. 9. After we again pat it out,

nach yezyebto' cua za laogüennə'. 10. Nach  
 -n nach y= ez= y= eb -to' cua'za lao -gw -en -nə' 10. nach  
 -3i then P= REP= TR= spread -1pe bean.paste on -TR -3i -DEM 10. then  
 then we will again spread bean paste on its surface. 10. Then

yeyož na', nach yeztobəton' na' yosda'aton' laɣuə'  
 y= eyož na' nach y= ez= tobə -to' -n na' y= os=  
 P= be.finished that then P= REP= roll.up -1pe -3i and P= REP=  
 after that, then again we will roll it up and again will

yixəne', na' yoslažə'əton' yixən'  
 da' -a -to' -n laɣuə' yixə -nə' na' y= os= lažə' -ə -to'  
 stick.to -TR -1pe -3i leaf avocado -DEM and P= REP= wrap.up -TR -1pe  
 stick avocado leaves on it, and again we will wrap it in

de'e yoblə. 11. Yeyož na', nach  
 -n yix -ən' de'e yoblə 11. y= eyož na' nach  
 -3i corn.leaves -DEM thing other 11. P= be.finished that then  
 corn leaves. 11. After that, then

əgwzoto' yeso' ɕheinə' lao yi'inə', ca'ato'on latə'  
 əgw= zo -to' yeso' ɕhe -ei -nə' lao yi' -i -nə' ca'a -to' -o  
 P= put -1pe pot POS -3ind -DEM on fire -TR -DEM P/put.in -1pe -TR  
 we will put its pot on the fire, and we will put in

nis. 12. Catə' ba chžia nisən', nach chyixjwto'  
 -n latə' nis 12. catə' ba ch= žia nis -ən' nach ch= yixjw  
 -3i some water 12. when already H= boil water -DEM then H= put  
 some water. 12. When the water is already boiling, then we lay in

šxonj yan. 13. Nach co'oto' yetgo',  
 -to' š= xonj yan 13. nach co'o -to'  
 -1pe one= group corn.cobs 13. then P/put.in -1pe  
 a few corn cobs (under the tamales). 13. Then we will put in the

nach chža'ato' yetgo'onə' lo'o yeso'onə'.  
 yetgo' nach ch= ža' -a -to' yetgo' -o -nə' lo'o yeso' -o -nə'  
 tamales then H= fill -TR -1pe tamales -TR -DEM in pot -TR -DEM  
 tamales, then we fill the pot with the tamales.

AV1. BEAN TAMALES

14. Yeyož əgwža'ato'on, nach əgwseyjwto'  
 14. y= eyož əgw= ža' -a -to' -o -n nach əgw= seyjw  
 14. P= be.finished P= fill -TR -lpe -TR -3i then P= close  
 14. *After we finish filling it, then we will cover*

cho'a yeso'onə'. 15. Nach əgwxento' xaneinə' cuent yeyə'an.  
 -to' cho'a yeso' -o -nə' 15. nach əgw= xen -to' xan -ei -nə'  
 -lpe mouth pot -TR -DEM 15. then P= light -lpe under -3ind -DEM  
 the top of the pot. 15. *Then we will light (a fire) under it so*

16. Yeyož əgwxento' xaneinə',  
 cuent y= eyə' -ə -n 16. y= eyož əgw= xen -to'  
 in.order.to P= cook -TR -3i 16. P= be.finished P= light -lpe  
 it will cook. 16. *After we light (the fire) under it,*

nach gonto' bichlə mendad šlac yeyə'ənnə'.  
 xan -ei -nə' nach g= on -to' bi -ch -lə mendad šlac y=  
 under -3ind -DEM then P= do -lpe any -more -ADV chores(S) while P=  
 then we will do any other chores while it cooks.

17. Yeyož yeyə'an na', nach  
 eyə' -ə -n -nə' 17. y= eyož y= eyə' -ə -n na' nach  
 cook -TR -3i -DEM 17. P= be.finished P= cook -TR -3i there then  
 17. *After it cooks there, then*

yebejto' yetgo'onə' par gaochonə'.  
 y= e= bej -to' yetgo' -o -nə' par gao -cho -n -nə'  
 P= REP= remove -lpe tamales -TR -DEM in.order.to(S) P/eat -lpi -3i -DEM  
 we will take out the tamales in order to eat them.



C4. BIRTHS AND DEATHS

9. Nach catə' zobə' xop iz na' chejbə' scuel.

9. nach catə' zo -bə' xop iz na' ch= ej -bə' scuel  
 9. then when S/be -3f six year and H= go -3f school(S)  
 9. Then when it is six years old it goes to school.

10. Cana'ach baĉh bchojbə' lao na' xna'abə'.

10. cana' -a -ch baĉh b= choj -bə' lao na'  
 10. at.that.time -TR -more already C= leave -3f from POS/hand  
 10. At that time it has left the hands of its mother.

11. Bitoch bi zed chombə' chejbə' scuelən'.

xna' -a -bə' 11. bito -ch bi zed ch= on -bə' ch= ej  
 POS/mother -TR -3f 11. NEG -more any nuisance H= make -3f H= go  
 11. It is no longer making any nuisance when it

-bə' scuel -ən'  
 -3f school(S) -DEM  
 goes to school.

12. Na' catə' chat beŋə' na' choso'ocuaše'ene' lo'o ba.

12. na' catə' ch= at beŋə' na' ch= oso'o= cuašə' -e' -ne'  
 12. and when H= die person and H= PL= bury -3r -3r  
 12. And when a person dies they bury him in a grave.

13. Chche'ene' lo'o ba chcuaše'e le'.

lo'o ba 13. ch= che'en -e' lo'o ba ch= cuašə' -e' le -e'  
 in grave 13. H= dig -3r in grave H= bury -3r X -3r  
 13. They dig a grave and bury him.

14. Nach beŋə' zan chcuaše'e le' capsant.

14. nach beŋə' zan ch= cuašə' -e' le -e' capsant  
 14. then person many H= bury -3r X -3r cemetery(S)  
 14. Then many people bury him in the cemetery.

15. Chone'

15. ch= on  
 15. H= make  
 15. They make

yelə' guao chao beŋə' chjəcuaše'e le'.

-e' yelə' gw= ao ch= ao beŋə' ch= jə= cuašə' -e' le -e'  
 -3r NOM INF= eat H= eat person H= MA= bury -3r X -3r  
 food for people to eat who go bury him.

16. Chzoe' za len roz chguaogüe' beŋə' chjəcuaše'e le'.

16. ch= zo -e' za len roz ch= gw= ao -gw -e' beŋə' ch=  
 16. H= put -3r beans with rice(S) H= CA= eat -TR -3r person H=  
 16. They put on beans and rice (to cook) to feed the people who go to

17. Nach chde' na' zo family che' trist

jə= cuašə' -e' le -e' 17. nach ch= da -e' na' zo family che'  
 MA= bury -3r X -3r 17. then H= go -3r and S/be family(S) POS  
 bury him. 17. Then he goes and his family is sad going

chjəcuaše'e le'.

-e' trist ch= jə= cuašə' -e' le -e' 18. per nac gone',  
 -3r sad(S) H= MA= bury -TR X -3r 18. per nac g= on -e'  
 to bury him. 18. but(S) Q/how P= do -3r  
 18. But what can they do,



C4. BIRTHS AND DEATHS

la' yelə' got de'e gwlec Dios. 19. Dios gwleque' yelə'  
 la' yelə' g= ot de'e gw= lec dios 19. dios gw= lec -e'  
 because NOM INF= die thing C= put God(S) 19. God(S) C= put -3r  
*because it is death that God ordained. 19. God ordained death*

got chate'. 20. La'ašazə chŽa'ayičj family che',  
 yelə' g= ot ch= at -e' 20. la' -a -šazə ch=  
 NOM INF= die H= die -3r 20. although -TR -unhappily H=  
*and he dies. 20. Even though his family is sad,*

de'e gwna Dios goquə.  
 Ža'ayičj family che -e' de'e gw= na dios g= oquə  
 be.sad family(S) POS -3r thing C= say God(S) C= happen  
*what God said happened.*

21. Chcuaše'e le' len gocuež. 22. Chja'aque' yo'odao' len  
 21. ch= cuašə' -e' le -e' len go= cuež 22. ch= ja'ac -e' yo'odao'  
 21. H= bury -3r X -3r with INF= play 22. H= go/PL -3r church  
*21. They bury him with band (music). 22. They go to the church*

benə' guat, len benə' gocuež, len yoguə' benə' ca'  
 len benə' gw= at len benə' go= cuež len yoguə' benə' ca'  
 with person INF= die with person INF= play with all person those  
*with the dead person, with the band, with all the people who are*

chjəcuaše'e le'.  
 ch= jə= cuašə' -e' le -e'  
 H= MA= bury -3r X -3r  
*going to bury him.*

AM4. FUNERALS

Given by Amalia Martínez of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in Mexico City, in October, 1953.

1. Ca naquə costumbr ċhe beṇə' gwlaž ċhia' ca',  
 1. ca n= aquə costumbr ċhe beṇə' gwlaž ċhe -a' ca'  
 1. like S= be custom(S) POS person homeland POS -ls those  
 1. *As for the customs of my fellow villagers,*

catə' žaclə chat to beṇə' na' chəsə'əgošə' chəsə'əguazje'ene',  
 catə' žaclə ch= at to beṇə' na' ch= əsə'ə= g= ošə' ch=  
 when H= die one person and H= PL= CA= shampoo H=  
*when it happens that a person dies then they shampoo and bathe him,*

na' choso'oguacue'ene' lachə' cobə,  
 əsə'ə= gw= azj -e' -e -ne' na' ch= oso'o= gw= acw -e' -e -ne'  
 PL= CA= bathe -3r -TR -3r and H= PL= CA= dress -3r -TR -3r  
*and they dress him in new clothes,*

na' chəsə'əyixjue'ene' lao yo o to lao mes.  
 lachə' cobə na' ch= əsə'ə= yixjw -e' -e -ne' lao yo o to  
 cloth new and H= PL= lay.down -3r -TR -3r on ground or(S) one  
*and they lay him out on the ground or on a table.*

2. Na' chdobə beṇə' chjəlane'e beṇə' guatən',  
 lao mes 2. na' ch= dobə beṇə' ch= jə= lanə' -e' beṇə' gw=  
 on table(S) 2. and H= gather person H= MA= visit -3r person INF=  
 2. *And people gather to visit the dead person,*

na' šə nape' gust na' choxe'e latə' biga de'e chone' regular,  
 at -ən' na' šə n= apə -e' gust na' ch= oxə' -e' latə' bi  
 die -DEM and if S= have -3r pleasure(S) and H= hold -3r some what  
*and if they want to they bring a little something to give as*

no panel, no xoa', no.  
 -ga de'e ch= on -e' regular no panel no xoa' no  
 -DE thing H= make -3r give(S) any brown.sugar(S) any corn any  
*a gift, some brown sugar, some corn, etc.*

3. Na' šə cui bi de goxe'e, na' con cheje' chjəlane'e  
 3. na' šə cui bi de g= oxə' -e' na' con ch= ej -e' ch= jə= lanə'  
 3. and if NEG any S/be P= hold -3r and just H= go -3r H= MA= visit  
 3. *And if there is nothing to bring, then they just go and visit*

o chjene' mendar ċhe beṇə' ca' par niċh chso'one'  
 -e' o ch= j= en -e' mendar ċhe beṇə' ca' par  
 -3r or(S) H= MA= do -3r chores(S) POS person those in.order.to(S)  
*or they do chores for those people in order for them*

yeḷə' guao de'e chsa'o beṇə' ca' chəsə'əžag par niċh  
 niċh ch= so'= on -e' yeḷə' gw= ao de'e ch= sa'= ao  
 in.order.to H= PL= make -3r NOM INF= eat thing H= PL= eat  
*to make food for the people to eat who gather to bury him.*

AM4. FUNERALS

chjəsə'əcuəše'ene'.

benə' ca' ch= əsə'ə= žag par niçh ch= j=  
 person those H= PL= meet in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= MA=

4. Na' ca' naquən, chja'aque'  
 əsə'ə= cuəšə' -e' -ne' 4. na' ca' n= aquə -n ch= ja'ac -e'  
 PL= bury -3r -3r 4. and thus S= be -3i H= go/PL -3r  
 4. *And this having happened, they go and*

chjəsə'ədaogüe' xya yo'olao' de que baçh got ben',  
 ch= j= əsə'ə= dao -gw -e'|xya yo'olao' de|que baçh g= ot  
 H= MA= PL= give.notice -TR -3r townhall that(S) already C= die  
*they give notice at the town hall that the person has died,*

na' chja'ac polosia chəsə'əçhe'ene' ba çhe'  
 ben' na' ch= ja'ac polosia ch= əsə'ə= çhe'en -e' ba çhe  
 person/DEM and H= go/PL police(S) H= PL= dig -3r grave POS  
*and the police go and dig his grave*

par niçh ca' chəsə'əcuəše'ene'.

-e' par niçh ca' ch= əsə'ə= cuəšə' -e' -ne'  
 -3r in.order.to(S) in.order.to thus H= PL= bury -3r -3r  
*so that they bury him.*

5. Na' chja'ac gocuežən' liže'ene' chjəsə'əcueže'.

5. na' ch= ja'ac go= cuež -ən' liž -e' -e -nə' ch= j=  
 5. and H= go/PL INF= play -DEM POS/house -3r -TR -DEM H= MA=  
 5. *And the brass band goes to his house and they play.*

6. Do yel chnite'e chəsə'əcueže'. 7. Na'  
 əsə'ə= cuež -e' 6. do yel ch= nitə' -e' ch= əsə'ə= cuež -e' 7. na'  
 PL= play -3r 6. all night H= be -3r H= PL= play -3r 7. and  
 6. *They are there all night playing.* 7. *And*

catə' che'eni' cheteyon', cana'ach chəsə'əçhe'ene' ba  
 catə' ch= e'eni' ch= eteyo -n' cana' -a -ch ch=  
 when H= dawn H= be.next.day -DEM at.that.time -TR -more H=  
*when it dawns the next day, then they dig his grave,*

çhen', na' chəsə'əcuəše'ene' do chde  
 əsə'ə= çhe'en -e' ba çhe -e' -n' na' ch= əsə'ə= cuəšə' -e' -ne'  
 PL= dig -3r grave POS -3r -DEM and H= PL= bury -3r -3r  
*and they bury him some time after*

xgüe catə' žaclə ba besyə'ədaogüe' de'e ca'  
 do ch= de xgüe catə'|žaclə ba b= esyə'ə= dao -gw -e'  
 around H= pass lunchtime when already C= PL/REP= eat -TR -3r  
*lunch time when people have already eaten the things*

gwso'one' liž benə' guatən' par niçh chsa'ogüe'.

de'e ca' gw= so'= on -e' liž benə' gw= at -ən'  
 thing those C= PL= make -3r POS/house person INF= die -DEM  
*they made at the dead man's house to eat.*

**AM4. FUNERALS**

par            nigh            ch= sa'= ao -gw -e'  
in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= PL= eat -TR -3r

C1. WHEN PEOPLE MARRY

Given by Crescencia Enríquez in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, February 17, 1954.

A. MARRIAGES

1. *benə' byon' cheje' chjənbə' no'olən' par si'e le',*  
 1. *benə' byo -n' ch= ej -e' ch= j= n̄ab -e' no'olə -n'*  
 1. person male -DEM H= go -3r H= MA= ask -3r woman -DEM  
 1. *The man goes and asks for the woman in order to take (marry)*

*nach chja'aque' gošagna'. 2. Nach*  
*par si' -e' le -e' nach ch= ej -e' go= šagna' 2. nach*  
*in.order.to(S) P/get -3r X -3r then H= go -3r INF= marry 2. then*  
*her, then they go to the wedding. 2. Then*

*no'olən' cheje' liž benə' byon'. 3. Nach benə' chone'*  
*no'olə -n' ch= ej -e' liž benə' byo -n' 3. nach benə' ch=*  
*woman -DEM H= go -3r POS/house person male -DEM 3. then person H=*  
*the woman goes to the home of the man. 3. Then a person who*

*fandangw, len gocuež chzi'e le'.*  
*on -e' fandangw len go= cuež ch= zi' -e' le -e'*  
*make -3r wedding.celebration(S) with INF= play H= get -3r X -3r*  
*makes a wedding celebration, he takes her accompanied by the band.*

4. *Nach gote' bechjw gao xaxna' no'olə na' len family che',*  
 4. *nach g= ot -e' bechjw gao xaxna' no'olə na' len family*  
 4. *then P= kill -3r turkey P/eat POS/parents woman and with family(S)*  
 4. *Then he will kill turkeys for the woman's parents and family to eat,*

*benə' diaža che'. 5. Gwtobe' le' gaogüe' bechjw,*  
*che -e' benə' diaža che -e' 5. gw= tobə -e' le -e' gao -gw*  
 POS -3r person relatives POS -3r 5. P= gather -3r X -3r P/eat -TR  
*relatives of hers. 5. He gathers them to eat turkey,*

*nach chone' yetxtil, chone' šcwlat che'ej chaogüe'.*  
*-e' bechjw nach ch= on -e' yetxtil ch= on -e' šcwlat ch=*  
*-3r turkey then H= make -3r bread H= make -3r chocolate.drink H=*  
*then he makes bread, he makes chocolate for them to*

6. *Nach cho'elaogüe'e xaxna' no'olə.*  
*e'ej ch= ao -gw -e' 6. nach ch= o'elao' -gw -e' xaxna' no'olə*  
*drink H= eat -TR -3r 6. then H= honor -TR -3r POS/parents woman*  
*drink and eat. 6. Then he honors the woman's parents.*

7. *Nach catə'əczə chał hor ba zoe' liž benə' byonə',*  
 7. *nach catə' -ə -czə ch= ał hor ba zo -e' liž*  
 7. *then when -TR -INT H= arrive hour(S) already S/be -3r POS/house*  
 7. *Then when the time comes she lives at the man's house,*

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nach family zan che', bi'i zan bi'i che', chac.  
 beŋə' byo -nə' nach family zan che -e' bi'i zan bi'i che -e'  
 person male -DEM then family(S) many POS -3r child many child POS -3r  
*then she has a big family, she has many children.*

8. Nach chso'one' žin che'ej chao xi'ine' ca' cuent  
 ch= ac 8. nach ch= so'= on -e' žin ch= e'ej ch= ao xi'in -e'  
 H= be 8. then H= PL= do -3r work H= drink H= eat POS/child -3r  
 8. *Then they work for their children to drink and eat so they*

chəse'əcha'obə'.  
 ca' cuent ch= əse'ə= cha'o -bə'  
 those so.that H= PL= grow -3f  
*grow.*

B. MORE ABOUT MARRIAGES

9. Beŋə' cui de liže' na' šeje' na' che'e:  
 9. beŋə' cui de liž -e' na' šej -e' na' ch= e' -e'  
 9. person NEG S/be POS/house -3r and P/go -3r and H= say -3r  
 9. *A person who doesn't have a house will go and say:*

--Che'enda' si'a le' --che'e.  
 ch= e'ene -da' si' -a' le' ch= e' -e'  
 H= want -1s P/get -1s 2s H= say -3r  
*"I want to take (marry) you," he says.*

10. No'olə šə zo xe', šə zo xne'e, nach  
 10. no'olə šə zo xa -e' šə zo xna' -e' nach  
 10. woman if S/be POS/father -3r if S/be POS/mother -3r then  
 10. *A woman, if she has a father, if she has a mother, then*

ne':  
 na -e'  
 S/say -3r  
*she says:*

--iBi na xaxna'a? --che'e. 11. --Na' yido' deyo'  
 bi na xaxna' -a' ch= e' -e' 11. na' y= idə -o'  
 what P/say POS/parents -1s H= say -3r 11. and P= come -2s  
*"What will my parents say?" she says. 11. "You come ask my*

xaxna'a --che'e.  
 de= ye' -o' xaxna' -a' ch= e' -e'  
 P/MT= speak.to -2s POS/parents -1s H= say -3r  
*parents," she says.*

12. Nach šej xaxna' beŋə' byonə'. 13. Na' beŋə' naquə  
 12. nach šej xaxna' beŋə' byo -nə' 13. na' beŋə' n=  
 12. then P/go POS/parents person male -DEM 13. and person S=  
 12. *Then the man's parents will go. 13. And a person who*

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capriḡh na' ye'e:

aque capriḡh na' y= e' -e'  
 be willful(S) and P= say -3r  
 is willful will say:

--Yo'o len nadə' liža' --ye'e.  
 yo'o len nadə' liž -a' y= e' -e'  
 IMP/come with 1s POS/house -1s P= say -3r  
 "Come along with me to my house," he will say.

14. Na' no'olə che'e: "Ya'o", catə' che'ene': "Yo'o",  
 14. na' no'olə ch= e' -e' ya'o catə' ch= e' -e' -ne'  
 14. and woman H= say -3r okay when H= tell -3r -3r  
 14. And the woman who says, "Yes", when he says, "Come",

na' cui neze xaxne'e, con chchoje' zde'.  
 yo'o na' cui neze xaxna' -e' con ch= choj -e' z= da  
 IMP/come and NEG S/know POS/parents -3r just H= leave -3r S= go  
 her parents don't know, she just slips out and goes.

15. Benə' zoe' sujet xaxne'e na' ye'e:  
 -e' 15. benə' zo -e' sujet xaxna' -e' na' y= e' -e'  
 -3r 15. person S/be -3r subject.to(S) POS/parents -3r and P= say -3r  
 15. A person who is submissive to her parents will say:

--Deyo'o xaxna'a --che'e.  
 de= ye' -o' xaxna' -a' ch= e' -e'  
 P/MT= speak.to -2s POS/parents -1s H= say -3r  
 "Come ask my parents," she says.

16. Nach šeje' žjəye'e. 17. Nach əgwnežjue'  
 16. nach šej -e' ž= jə= ya -e' 17. nach əgw= nežjw -e'  
 16. then P/go -3r P= MA= speak.to -3r 17. then P= give -3r  
 16. Then he will go ask. 17. Then they will give

no'olə, nach si' benə' byon' no'olə. 18. Nachən' šej  
 no'olə nach si' benə' byo -n' no'olə 18. nach -ən' šej  
 woman then P/get person male -DEM woman 18. then -DEM P/go  
 the woman, then the man will take the woman. 18. Then the man's

xaxna' benə' byonə', nach žjue'e bechjw, na' gone'  
 xaxna' benə' byo -nə' nach ž= j= oa' -e' bechjw na' g= on  
 POS/parents person male -DEM then P= MA= take -3r turkey and P= make  
 parents will go, then they will deliver turkeys, and they

yele' guao che no'olə. 19. Nach əgwto be' benə' diaža che'.  
 -e' yele' gw= ao che no'olə 19. nach əgw= tobə -e' benə'  
 -3r NOM INF= eat for woman 19. then P= gather -3r person  
 will make food for the woman. 19. Then they will gather her

20. Nach gone' güil goya'a, na' gone'  
 diaža che -e' 20. nach g= on -e' gw= il go= ya'a na' g=  
 relatives POS -3r 20. then P= do -3r INF= sing INF= dance and P=  
 relatives. 20. Then they will do singing and dancing and will

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fandangw. 21. Nach goc güen šə ba gweje'  
 on -e' fandangw 21. nach g= oc güen šə  
 make -3r wedding.dance(S) 21. then C= happen good(S) if  
 put on the wedding dance. 21. Then it turned out well if

fandangw. 22. Nach žjəya'aque'  
 ba gw= yej -e' fandangw 22. nach ž= jə= y=  
 already C= go -3r wedding.dance(S) 22. then P= MA= TR=  
 they put on a wedding dance. 22. Then they will go

yo'olao', nach əgwšagne'e de'e yoblə. 23. Nach  
 a'ac -e' yo'olao' nach əgw= šagna' -e' de'e yoblə 23. nach ch=  
 go/PL -3r town hall then P= marry -3r thing other 23. then H=  
 back to the town hall, then they will marry again. 23. Then they

chone' yiš, nach cheyejən lao gobiern. 24. Nachən'  
 on -e' yiš nach ch= e= yej -ən lao gobiern 24. nach  
 make -3r paper then H= REP= go -3i before government(S) 24. then  
 write a paper, then it goes back to the government. 24. Then

ba naquən güennə', baħ bene' de'e güen,  
 -ən' ba n= aquə -n güen -nə' baħ b= en -e' de'e güen  
 -DEM already S= be -3i good(S) -DEM already C= do -3r thing good(S)  
 it is really good, he did well,

ne'.  
 na -e'  
 Sšay -3r  
 they say.

25. Nach catə' chela'a beṇə', nach gon gobiern yeḷə'  
 25. nach catə' ch= e= la'a beṇə' nach g= on gobiern  
 25. then when H= REP= split person then P= do government(S)  
 25. Then when people separate, then the government will

justis šə beṇə' chene'ene'. 26. Šə no'olən' cheze'e  
 yeḷə' justis šə beṇə' ch= ene'e -ne' 26. šə no'olə -n' ch= e=  
 NOM judgment if person H= want -3r 26. if woman -DEM H= REP=  
 make a judgment if people want. 26. If a woman leaves

na' bi chejle'e ċhe gobiern, ċhe justis,  
 za' -e' na' bi ch= ejle' -e' ċhe gobiern ċhe  
 leave -3r and NEG H= believe -3r G government(S) G  
 and doesn't heed the government, the local

nach šə beṇə' justis gone'en reclamar,  
 justis nach šə beṇə' justis g= on -e' -e -n reclamar  
 official(S) then if person official(S) P= do -3r -TR -3i demand(s)  
 officials, then if the officials will demand it,



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nach chixjue' le' ližya.                    27. Nach gone' le' castigw  
 nach chixjo                    -e' le -e' ližya 27. nach g= on    -e' le -e'  
 then P/incarcerate -3r X -3r jail 27. then P= make -3r X -3r  
 then they will put her in jail.            27. Then they will punish her

ližya,                    la' gwchebe' gwxi'e benə' byonə'.  
 castigw                    ližya la'                    gw= cheb -e' gw= xi' -e' benə' byo  
 punishment(S) jail because C= agree -3r C= get -3r person male  
 in jail,                    because she agreed to take (marry) the man.

28. De'ena' gone' le' castigw.  
 -nə' 28. de'ena' g= on    -e' le -e' castigw  
 -DEM 28. therefore P= make -3r X -3r punishment(S)  
 28. Therefore they will punish her.

HP1. WEDDINGS

Given by Hermila Pilar of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in Mitla, Oaxaca, March 10, 1971.

1. Catə'ən chəsə'ənabe' no'olən', le'e  
 1. catə' -ə -n ch= əsə'ə= nab -e' no'olə -n' le'e  
 1. when -TR -DEM H= PL= ask -3r woman -DEM immediately  
 1. *When they go ask for the girl, they take*

chso'oxe'e mescal, pero šə zjənezene' bito chse'eje' mescal,  
 ch= so'= oxə' -e' mescal pero šə zjə= neze -ne' bito ch= s=  
 H= PL= hold -3r mescal(S) but(S) if S/PL= know -3r NEG H= PL=  
*along mescal right away, but if they know they don't drink mescal,*

na' chso'oxe'e refresc. 2. Catə'ən  
 e'ej -e' mescal na' ch= so'= oxə' -e' refresc 2. catə' -ə  
 drink -3r mescal(S) and H= PL= hold -3r soft.drink(S) 2. when -TR  
*then they take along soft drinks. 2. When they*

gosə'ənabe' nada', primer bla'abo' len xabo'onə',  
 -n g= osə'ə= nab -e' nada' primer b= la' -a -bo' len  
 -DEM C= PL= ask -3r 1s first(S) C= arrive -TR -3f with  
*asked for me, first he came with his father,*

na' zjənoxe'e refresc len gallet.  
 xa -bo' -o -nə' na' zjə= n= oxə' -e' refresc len  
 POS/father -3f -TR -DEM and S/PL= S= hold -3r soft.drink(S) with  
*and he brought soft drinks and cookies.*

3. Nach gwse'e xaxna'a šə gwse'ene'ene' par nich gaca'  
 gallet 3. nach gw= s= e' -e' xaxna' -a' šə gw= se'=  
 cookies(S) 3. then C= PL= tell -3r POS/parents -1s if D= PL=  
 3. *Then they asked my parents if they would like for me*

no'ol chebo'.  
 ene'e -ne' par nich g= ac -a' no'ol che -bo'  
 want -3r in.order.to(S) in.order.to P= be -1s woman POS -3f  
*to be his wife.*

4. Na' gwse'ene' so'oncze' to lni. 5. Na'  
 4. na' gw= s= e' -e' -ne' so'= on -cz -e' to lni 5. na'  
 4. and C= PL= tell -3r -3r P/PL= make -INT -3r one fiesta 5. and  
 4. *And they said they would put on a fiesta. 5. And*

catə' bla'aque' yeto na' zjənoxe'e bel.  
 catə' b= la'ac -e' ye= to na' zjə= n= oxə' -e' bel  
 when C= arrive/PL -3r another= one and S/PL= S= hold -3r fish  
*when they came again they brought fish.*

6. Catə' beyož gotə'əbia' de que ca'aczə ljuežto',  
 6. catə' b= eyož g= otə'əbia' de|que ca'a -czə ljuež  
 6. when C= be.finished C= be.apparent that(S) P/take -INT POS/fellow  
 6. *When it was definite that we would take one another (in marriage),*

HP1. WEDDINGS

nach bedəsə'əgü'e bechjw. 7. Na' catə'ən  
 -to' nach b= edə= sə'ə= gua' -e' bechjw 7. na' catə' -ə  
 -lpe then C= MT= PL= bring -3r turkey 7. and when -TR  
 then they brought turkeys. 7. And when the

goc lni par gwcua'a ljuežjto',  
 -n g= oc lni par gw= cua'a ljuežj -to'  
 -DEM C= happen fiesta in.order.to(S) C= take POS/fellow -lpe  
 fiesta was put on for us to take one another,

xaxna' beṇə' byo nan' ben lni'. 8. Lega'aquen'  
 xaxna' beṇə' byo na' -n' b= en lni -n' 8. le -ga'ac  
 POS/parents person male there -DEM C= make fiesta -DEM 8. X -PL  
 the man's parents put on the fiesta. 8. They killed

gwso'ote' coš ca' na' bosso'otobe' gocuež.  
 -e' -n' gw= so'= ot -e' coš ca' na' b= oso'o= tobə -e'  
 -3r -DEM C= PL= kill -3r pig(S) those and C= PL= gather -3r  
 pigs and they gathered the band members.

9. Leczə btobe' beṇə' ben mendad che'.  
 go= cuež 9. leczə b= tobə -e' beṇə' b= en mendad che -e'  
 INF= play 9. likewise C= gather -3r person C= do chores(S) POS -3r  
 9. Likewise they gathered the people who did their work.

10. Nach bechop ža chso'otcze' bechjw šə catə' cui goque belə' coš  
 10. nach b= e= chop ža ch= so'= ot -cz -e' bechjw šə  
 10. then C= REP= be.second day H= PL= kill -INT -3r turkey if  
 10. Then the second day they kill turkeys if their pork was not

cheqa'aque', na' chyise' latə'  
 catə' cui g= oque belə' coš che -ga'ac -e' na' ch= yis  
 when NEG C= be.enough meat pig(S) POS -PL -3r and H= distribute  
 sufficient, and they distribute

güejə che beṇə' family che no'olən', na' leczə  
 -e' latə' güejə che beṇə' family che no'olə -n' na' leczə  
 -3r some each to person family(S) POS woman -DEM and likewise  
 a little to each of the relatives of the girl, and likewise

chnežjue' che beṇə' güen mendad ca'. 11. Catə'ən chao  
 ch= nežjw -e' che beṇə' gw= en mendad ca' 11. catə' -ə -n'  
 H= give -3r to person INF= do chores(S) those 11. when -TR -DEM  
 they give to the people who do the work. 11. When the girl's

xna' no'olən' bechjon', nach chsele'e to beṇə'  
 ch= ao xna' no'olə -n' bechjw -n' nach ch= sele' -e' to  
 H= eat POS/mother woman -DEM turkey -DEM then H= send -3r one  
 mother eats the turkey, then they send an old

golə par nič chjəzenene' family che no'olən'  
 beṇə' golə par nič ch= jə= z= ene -ne'  
 person old in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= MA= CA= hear -3r  
 person to notify the girl's family

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par əʒja'aque' žjəsə'əsi'ini'e bechjw par  
 family ghe no'olə -n' par əʒ= ja'ac -e' ž= jə= sə'ə=  
 family(S) POS woman -DEM so.that(S) P= go/PL -3r P= MA= PL=  
*so they will go and prepare the turkeys to*

nigh əsa'ogüe'eb.

si'ini'a -e' bechjw par nigh əsa'= ao -gw -e' -e  
 prepare -3r turkey so.that(S) so.that P/PL= eat -TR -3r -TR  
*eat.*

12. Na' lega'acze' chsa'ogüe'eb, caguə  
 -b 12. na' le -ga'ac -z -e' ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' -e -b caguə  
 -3a 12. and X -PL -DE -3r H= PL= eat -TR -3r -TR -3a NEG  
 12. *And they alone eat it,* *not the*

len family ghe beṇə' byon'. 13. Do yegošyi yesə'əšagne'e  
 len family ghe beṇə' byo -n' 13. do ye= gošyi y=  
 with family(S) POS person male -DEM 13. about another= week P=  
*family of the man.* 13. *They eat the turkey about*

chsa'ogüe' bechjon'. 14. Na' catə'  
 esə'ə= šagna' -e' ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' bechjw -n' 14. na' catə'  
 PL= marry -3r H= PL= eat -TR -3r turkey -DEM 14. and when  
*a week before they get married.* 14. *And when*

ba zon chjəyesane' no'olə liž be'en ghe',  
 ba zon ch= jə= ye= san -e' no'olə liž  
 already S/be.about.time H= MA= REP= deliver -3r woman POS/house  
*they are about to take the girl to her husband's house,*

na' lecə beṇə' golə che'ene' par nigh  
 be'en ghe -e' na' lecə beṇə' golə ch= e' -e' -ne'  
 person/DEM POS -3r and likewise person old H= tell -3r -3r  
*then also they tell an old person to go notify*

chjətixjue'ine' beṇə' ca' chja'aclen no'olən' liž be'en ghe'.  
 par nigh ch= jə= tixjue'i -ne' beṇə' ca' ch=  
 in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= MA= announce -3r person those H=  
*the people who go with the girl to her husband's house.*

ja'ac -len no'olə -n' liž be'en ghe -e'  
 go/PL -with woman -DEM POS/house person/DEM POS -3r

15. Chəsyə'ədaogüe' xsil, cana'achən' chjəsoe'  
 15. ch= əsyə'ə= d= ao -gw -e' xsil cana' -a -ch  
 15. H= PL/REP= be.done= eat -TR -3r breakfast at.that.time -TR -more  
 15. *After they have eaten breakfast,* *at that time they go*

no'olən' len be'en ghe'

-ən' ch= jə= s= zo -e' no'ol -ən' len be'en ghe -e'  
 -DEM H= MA= PL= put -3r woman -DEM with person/DEM POS -3r  
*take the girl and her husband*

HP1. WEDDINGS

par ničh ca' gwnežjue' yelə' gošagna' čhega'aque'enə' yo'olao'.  
 par ničh ca' gw= nežjw -e' yelə' go= šagna' čhe  
 so.that(S) so.that thus P= give -3r NOM INF= marry POS  
 so the authorities will perform their marriage at the town hall.

16. Čežaše' yo'ola'onə',  
 -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' yo'olao' 16. ch= e= žaš -e' yo'olao' -nə'  
 -PL -3r -TR -DEM townhall 16. H= REP= leave -3r townhall -DEM  
 16. When they leave the town hall,

nach chjəya'aque' liž no'olən'. 17. xaxna' no'olən'  
 nach ch= jə= ya'ac -e' liž no'olə -n' 17. xaxna'  
 then H= MA= return/PL -3r POS/house woman -DEM 17. POS/parents  
 then they go the the girl's home. 17. The girl's

chone' cua zgüia' par chse'eje'.  
 no'olə -n' ch= on -e' cua|zgüia' par ch= s= e'ej  
 woman -DEM H= make -3r chocolate.drink so.that(S) H= PL= drink  
 parents make raw chocolate drink for them to drink.

18. Čhde cheyož chse'eje'en, na'  
 -e' 18. ch= de ch= eyož ch= s= e'ej -e' -e -n na'  
 -3r 18. H= pass H= be.finished H= PL= drink -3r -TR -3i and  
 18. After they finish drinking it, then

chesa'aque' chjəya'aque' liž beṇə' byon'.  
 ch= e= sa'ac -e' ch= jə= ya'ac -e' liž beṇə' byo -n'  
 H= REP= leave/PL -3r H= MA= return/PL -3r POS/house person male -DEM  
 they leave (and) they go back to the man's home.

19. Na' chsa'ogüe' xgüen'. 20. Chesyə'ədaogüe',  
 19. na' ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' xgüe -n' 20. ch= esyə'ə= d= ao  
 19. and H= PL= eat -TR -3r lunch -DEM 20. H= PL/REP= be.done= eat  
 19. And they eat dinner. 20. After they finish eating,

čhəsə'əya'a family čhe no'olən'. 21. Catə' ba  
 -gw -e' ch= əsə'ə= ya'a family čhe no'olə -n' 21. catə' ba  
 -TR -3r H= PL= dance family(S) POS woman -DEM 21. when already  
 the girl's family dances. 21. When all of

beya family čhe no'olən' čhəsə'əya'a, nach čhəsə'əde  
 b= eya family čhe no'olə -n' ch= əsə'ə= ya'a nach ch= əsə'ə=  
 C= be.finished family(S) POS woman DEM H= PL= dance then H= PL=  
 the girl's family has finished dancing, then the

xaxna' beṇə' ca' bosə'ošagna'. 22. Čhdetech,  
 de xaxna' beṇə' ca' b= osə'o= šagna' 22. ch= de -te -ch  
 pass POS/parents person those C= PL= marry 22. H= pass -also -more  
 parents of the people getting married come dance. 22. After all of that,

na' choso'oya'a beṇə' ca' čhəsə'əšagna'.  
 na' ch= osə'o= ya'a beṇə' ca' ch= əsə'ə= šagna'  
 and H= PL= dance person those H= PL= marry  
 then the people getting married dance.

**CR1. WHEN PEOPLE GET MARRIED**

Given by Carmela Rodríguez of Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca, in Mexico City, in January, 1953.

- |  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| 1. Primer žjanabe' no'olə.   | 2. Cheje' liž xe'.                        |                    |
| 1. primer ž= jə= nab -e' no'olə  | 2. ch= ej -e' liž                         |                    |
| 1. first(S) P= MA= ask -3r woman   | 2. H= go -3r POS/house                    |                    |
| 1. <i>First he will go ask for a girl.</i> 2. <i>He goes to her father's</i>     |   |                    |
| 3. Mescal noxe'e.  | 4. Še'elə cheje'.                         |                    |
| xa -e' 3. mescal n= oxə' -e'   | 4. še'elə ch= ej -e'                      |                    |
| POS/father -3r 3. mescal(S) S= hold -3r  | 4. at.night H= go -3r                     |                    |
| house. 3. <i>He takes mescal.</i>  | 4. <i>He goes at night.</i>               |                    |
| 5. Cheje' len xe', len xne'e.  | 6. Catə' chnabe'                          |                    |
| 5. ch= ej -e' len xa -e' len xna' -e'  | 6. catə' ch= nab                          |                    |
| 5. H= go -3r with POS/father -3r with POS/mother -3r                             | 6. when H= ask                            |                    |
| 5. <i>He goes with his father, (and) with his mother.</i> 6. <i>When he asks</i> |   |                    |
| le', len xe', len xne'e, len le' chnabe' no'olə.                                 |   |                    |
| -e' le -e' len xa -e' len xna' -e' len le -e' ch=                                |   |                    |
| -3r X -3r with POS/father -3r with POS/mother -3r with X -3r H=                  |   |                    |
| <i>for her, he goes with his father and his mother to ask for the</i>            |   |                    |
| nab -e' no'olə   | 7. Noxe'e mescal len yez.                 | 8. Cho'elene'      |
| ask -3r woman  | 7. n= oxə' -e' mescal len yez             | 8. ch=             |
| girl.  | 7. S= hold -3r mescal(S) with cigarettes  | 8. H=              |
|  | 7. <i>He takes mescal and cigarettes.</i> | 8. <i>He talks</i> |
| dižə' xaxna' no'olə šə chene'ebə' gwšagna'abə',                                  |   |                    |
| oe' -len -e' dižə' xaxna' no'olə šə ch= ene'e -bə' gw=                           |   |                    |
| speak -with -3r word POS/parents woman if H= want -3f P=                         |   |                    |
| <i>to the parents of the girl (asking) if she wants to get married,</i>          |   |                    |
| šə cui chene'ebə'.   | 9. Bitə chso'one' byen                    |                    |
| šagna' -a -bə' šə cui ch= ene'e -bə'   | 9. bitə ch= so'= on -e'                   |                    |
| marry -TR -3f if NEG H= want -3f   | 9. NEG H= PL= make -3r                    |                    |
| <i>or if she doesn't want to.</i> 9. <i>They don't insist that</i>               |   |                    |
| gwšagna'abə'.  | 10. Bitobi bi chəsə'əna                   |                    |
| byen gw= šagna' -a -bə'  | 10. bitə -bi bi ch= əsə'ə= na             |                    |
| necessary P= marry -TR -3f   | 10. NEG -any NEG H= PL= say               |                    |
| <i>she marry.</i> 10. <i>Their parents say nothing if she</i>                    |   |                    |
| xaxna'aga'acbə' šə cui chene'ebə' gwšagna'abə'.                                  |   |                    |
| xaxna' -a -ga'ac -bə' šə cui ch= ene'e -bə' gw= šagna' -a                        |   |                    |
| POS/parents -TR -PL -3f if NEG H= want -3f P= marry -TR                          |   |                    |
| <i>doesn't want to get married.</i>  |   |                    |
| 11. Šə chene'ebə', na' bač chnežjue'ebə'.  |   |                    |
| -bə' 11. šə ch= ene'e -bə' na' bač ch= nežjw -e' -e -bə'                         |   |                    |
| -3f 11. if H= want -3f and already H= give -3r -TR -3f                           |   |                    |
| 11. <i>If she wants to, then they give her.</i>                                  |   |                    |

**CR1. WHEN PEOPLE GET MARRIED**

12. Chəsyə'aque', nach chden chso'one' l̥ni.  
 12. ch= əs= ya'ac -e' nach ch= de -n ch= so'= on -e' l̥ni  
 12. H= REP= return/PL -3r then H= pass -3i H= PL= make -3r fiesta  
 12. *They return home, then later they make a fiesta.*
13. Chac do t̥bio' chso'on xaxna' beṇə' byo l̥ni.  
 13. ch= ac do t= bio' ch= so'= on xaxna' beṇə'  
 13. H= pass about one= month H= PL= make POS/parents person  
 13. *When about a month has passed, the man's parents put on a*
14. Primer chja'aque' yo'odao' chəsə'əšagne'e lao b̥xoz.  
 byo l̥ni 14. primer ch= ja'ac -e' yo'odao' ch= əsə'ə= šagna'  
 male fiesta 14. first(S) H= go/PL -3r church H= PL= marry  
 fiesta. 14. *First they go to the church and they are married*
15. Na' chəsyə'aque', nach chse'eje'  
 -e' lao b̥xoz 15. na' ch= əs= ya'ac -e' nach ch= s= e'ej  
 -3r before priest 15. and H= REP= return/PL -3r then H= PL= drink  
 before the priest. 15. *And they return home, then they drink*
- niseyə'. 16. Nach chsa'ogüe' beḷ. 17. Nach chso'one'  
 -e' niseyə' 16. nach ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' beḷ 17. nach ch= so'=  
 -3r atole 16. then H= PL= eat -TR -3r fish 17. then H= PL=  
 atole\*. 16. *Then they eat fish.* 17. *Then they put*
- fandangw. 18. Nach chsa'ogüe' bechjw, šə coš.  
 on -e' fandangw 18. nach ch= sa'= ao -gw -e' bechjw  
 make -3r wedding.dance(S) 18. then H= PL= eat -TR -3r turkey  
 on the wedding dance. 18. *Then they eat turkey or pork.*
19. Niseyə' chse'eje' silən'.  
 šə coš 19. niseyə' ch= s= e'ej -e' sil -ən'  
 if pig(S) 19. atole H= PL= drink -3r breakfast.time -DEM  
 19. *They drink atole at breakfast time.*
20. Mescal chse'eje' do žaczə. 21. Chse'eje' nis cua  
 20. mescal ch= s= e'ej -e' do ža -czə 21. ch= s= e'ej -e'  
 20. mescal(S) H= PL= drink -3r all day -INT 21. H= PL= drink -3r  
 20. *They drink mescal all day long.* 21. *They drink raw*
- zgüi'a gobiž. 22. Na' chosə'əye'e len gocuež.  
 nis cua|zgüi'a gobiž 22. na' ch= osə'ə= ya'a -e' len  
 water chocolate.drink noon 22. and H= PL= dance -3r with  
 chocolate drink at noon. 22. *And they dance to band music.*
- go= cuež  
 INF= play

\*Atole is a cooked cornstarch drink.

AM2. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION

Given by Amalia Martínez of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in Mexico City, in October, 1953.

1. **Catə' chso'one' Tsant,** **benə' zan chja'ac lo'o**  
 1. catə' ch= so'= on -e' tsant **benə' zan ch= ja'ac**  
 1. when H= PL= make -3r All.Saints(S) person many H= go/PL  
 1. *When they celebrate All Saints, many people go into the*

**capsant ca', chjsoe' yej lao ba che benə' guat ca'.**  
 lo'o capsant ca' ch= j= s= zo -e' yej lao ba che  
 in cemetery(S) those H= MA= PL= put -3r flower on grave POS  
*cemeteries, they go put flowers on the graves of the*

- 2. Chej bꞄozən' chjenle'eye' benə' guat ca'**  
 benə' gw= at ca' 2. ch= ej bꞄoz -ən' ch= j= enle'ey -e'  
 person INF= die those 2. H= go priest -DEM H= MA= bless -3r  
*dead people. 2. The priest goes and blesses the dead people,*

- na' chzi' laxjue'. 3. Chjsoe' candelən'**  
 benə' gw= at ca' na' ch= zi' POS/laxjw -e' 3. ch= j= s= zo  
 person INF= die those and H= get wages -3r 3. H= MA= PL= put  
*and he gets wages. 3. They go put*

**capsantən' lao ba che benə' guat ca',**  
 -e' candel -ən' capsant -ən' lao ba che benə' gw= at ca'  
 -3r candle(S) -DEM cemetery(S) -DEM on grave POS person INF= die those  
*candles in the cemetery on the graves of the dead people,*

**na' chsoe'en chalə'ənnə' xte ca yedonnə'.**  
 na' ch= s= zo -e' -e -n ch= alə' -ə -n -nə' xte ca y=  
 and H= PL= put -3r -TR -3i H= burn -TR -3i -DEM until when P=  
*and they put them there burning until they are gone.i*

- 4. Na' leczə chja'ac gocuež ca' ža chopə**  
 edo -n -nə' 4. na' leczə ch= ja'ac go= cuež ca' ža  
 be.finished -3i -DEM 4. and likewise H= go/PL INF= play those day  
*4. And likewise the brass band goes on November*

**noviembrən' chjəsə'əcueže' march che benə' guatən'.**  
 chopə noviembr -ən' ch= j= əsə'ə= cuež -e' march che benə' gw=  
 two November(S) -DEM H= MA= PL= play -3r march(S) POS person INF=  
*second playing marches for the dead people.*

- 5. Chəsə'əžeb family che benə' guat, na'**  
 at -ən' 5. ch= əsə'ə= žeb family che benə' gw= at na' ch= s=  
 die -DEM 5. H= PL= fear family(S) POS person INF= die and H= PL=  
*5. The family of the dead people are frightened and they*

**chsejle'e de que benə' guatən' chone' zešni'.**  
 ejle' -e' de|que benə' gw= at -ən' ch= on -e' zešni'  
 believe -3r that(S) person INF= die -DEM H= make -3r unexplained.noises  
*believe that the dead people cause unexplained noises.*



GL10. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION IN YATZACHI

Written by Gregorio M. López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in 1950.

1. Tgüiz tgüiz chalə' l̄ni de'en ne' Tsant,

1. t= gw= iz|t= gw= iz ch= a|ə' l̄ni de'e -n  
 1. one= TR= year|one= TR= year H= take.place fiesta thing -DEM  
 1. *Each year the fiesta called All Saints takes place,*

na -e' tsant na' chəsə'əne' cana' chela'ac yoguə'ə|lə| benə'  
 Sšay -3r All.Saints(S) and H= PL= say -3r at.that.time H= REP=  
*and they say at that time all the dead people*

guat.

la'ac yoguə' -ə -|lə| benə' gw= at 2. Na' to to family  
 arrive/PL all -TR -INT person INF= die 2. na' to|to family ch=  
*arrive back. 2. and each family(S) H= 2. And each family*

chosə'əsi'ini'e de'e sa'ogüe'.

osə'ə= si'ini'a -e' de'e sa'= ao -gw -e' 3. Chso'one' no šcwlat  
 PL= prepare -3r thing P/PL= eat -TR -3r 3. ch= so'= on -e' no  
*prepares things to eat. 3. H= PL= make -3r some 3. They make things like*

na' yetxtil

šcwlat na' yetxtil na' chso'ote' bechjw. 4. Chso'one'  
 chocolate.drink and bread and H= PL= kill -3r turkey 4. ch= so'=  
*chocolate atole and bread and they kill turkeys. 4. H= PL= 4. They make*

yetgo' belə', yetgo' za.

on -e' yetgo' belə' yetgo' za 5. Na' chəsə'əzi'e no güi, no  
 make -3r tamales meat tamales beans 5. na' ch= əsə'ə= zi' -e' no  
*meat tamales (and) bean tamales. 5. and H= PL= buy -3r some 5. And they buy some oranges,*

ye|ə'.

güi no ye|ə' 6. Yoguə'ə|lə| de'e quinga choso'ozi'en do lao  
 oranges some banana 6. yoguə' -ə -|lə| de'e quinga ch= oso'o= žia  
*some bananas, etc. 6. They set all these things on a plank that*

yagla' de'e chosə'əze' l̄gua'a mes.

-e' -n do lao yagla' de'e ch= osə'ə= ze -e' l̄gua'a  
 -3r -3i about on plank thing H= PL= hang -3r instead.of  
*they hang in place of a table.*

7. Na' zjənone' de que na' əsa'o benə' guat ca' catə'

mes 7. na' zjə= n= on -e' de|que na' əsa'= ao benə'  
 table(S) 7. and S/PL= S= make -3r that(S) there P/PL= eat person  
 7. *And they claim that the dead people will eat there*

GL10. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION IN YATZACHI

yesyə'əžine'enə'.

gw= at ca' catə' y= esyə'ə= žin -e' -e -nə' 8. Na' de'e  
 INF= die those when P= PL/REP= arrive -3r -TR -DEM 8. na' de'e  
 when they return. 8. and thing  
 8. And it is

žialaotec choso'ozoe' to lmet mescal na' to ċhop caj yez par əse'eje'  
 žialao -tec ch= oso'o= zo -e' to lmet mescal na' to;ċhop  
 important -INT H= PL= put -3r one bottle(S) mescal(S) and a.few  
 of utmost importance that they put a bottle of mescal and a few

na' yesə'əgiə' yezən'.

caj yez par əs= e'ej -e' na' y= esə'ə= gua  
 box(S) cigarettes in.order.to(S) P/PL= drink -3r and P= PL= smoke  
 packs of cigarettes for them to drink and smoke.

9. Na' leczə choso'ode'e to ċhopə šonə yetj.

-e' yez -ən' 9. na' leczə ch= oso'o= da' -e'  
 -3r cigarette -DEM 9. and likewise H= PL= stick.up -3r  
 9. And likewise they prop up a few stalks of

10. Chəsə'əne' par catə' yeza'ac beṇə'

to;ċhopə;šonə yetj 10. ch= əsə'ə= na -e' par  
 one;two;three sugar.canes 10. H= PL= say -3r in.order.to(S)  
 sugar cane. 10. They say (they do it) so when the dead

guat ca' na' yosyə'əçhiše'en lgua'a garot.

catə' y= e= za'ac beṇə' gw= at ca' na' y= osyə'ə= çhiše' -e'  
 when P= REP= come/PL person INF= die those and P= REP/PL= press -3r  
 people come back they will lean on them in place of walking sticks.

11. Per na' chso'one' to,

-n lgua'a garot 11. per;na' ch= so'= on -e' to  
 -3i instead.of walking.stick(S) 11. but(S) H= PL= do -3r one  
 11. But they do one thing,

bitobi no siy, no bancw chəsə'ənite'e ga yesə'ədīe'.

bito -bi no siy no bancw ch= əsə'ə= nitə' -e' ga y=  
 NEG -any any chair(S) any bench(S) H= PL= put -3r where P=  
 they don't put any chairs or benches where they will pass.

12. Na' chəsə'ənalje' caguə gwaquə sa'ogüe' ža lṇinə'

esə'ə= de -e' 12. na' ch= əsə'ə= na -lja -e' caguə gw= aquə  
 PL= pass -3r 12. and H= PL= say -perhaps -3r NEG D= be.able  
 12. And they perhaps say they will not be able to eat

de'en yosə'əžie' par beṇə' guat ca'.

sa'= ao -gw -e' ža lṇi -nə' de'e -n y= osə'ə= žia -e'  
 P/PL= eat -TR -3r dav fiesta -DEM thing -DEM P= PL= put -3r  
 on the fiesta day what they will put out for the dead people.

GL10. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION IN YATZACHI

13. Šə sa'ogüe'en  
 par beṇə' gw= at ca' 13. šə sa'= ao -gw -e' -e -n  
 for(S) person INF= die those 13. if P/PL= eat -TR -3r -TR -3i  
 13. *If they eat it*

na' yesə'əche'e lega'aque'. 14. Na' šə beṇə' cui  
 na' y= esə'ə= qhe' -e' le -ga'ac -e' 14. na' šə beṇə' cui  
 and P= PL= take.along -3r X -PL -3r 14. and if person NEG  
 then they will take them along. 14. *And if a person*

bibi güe'eni'e par Tsantən', na' so'on beṇə'  
 bi -bi gw= e'eni'a -e' par tsant -ən' na' so'= on  
 any -any P= prepare -3r for(S) All.Saints(S) -DEM and P/PL= do  
 doesn't prepare anything for All Saints, then the dead

guat ca' par niç gate' lgüegwə.  
 beṇə' gw= at ca' par niç g= at -e'  
 person INF= die those in.order.to(S) in.order.to P= die -3r  
 people will cause him to die right away.

15. Na' lecə con zjänsi'e beṇə' guat ca' beṇə' golə.  
 lgüegwə 15. na' lecə con zjä= n= si' -e' beṇə'  
 right.away(S) 15. and likewise just S/PL= S= give.name -3r person  
 15. *And likewise they just call the dead people old*

gw= at ca' beṇə' golə  
 INF= die those person old  
 people.

16. Na' yel Tsantən' chaš beṇə' byo na' len bi'i xcuidə' to to  
 16. na' yel tsant -ən' ch= aš beṇə' byo na'  
 16. and night All.Saints(S) -DEM H= come.out person male and  
 16. *And the nights of All Saints the men and boys of each house*

yo'o, na' catə' chəsə'əžine' to to liž beṇə'  
 len bi'i xcuidə' to to yo'o na' catə' ch= əsə'ə= žin -e' to to  
 with child young each house and when H= PL= arrive -3r each  
 go about, and when they arrive at the house of

ca' chəsə'əne' zižjo chəsə'əguape' beṇə' diox,  
 liž beṇə' ca' ch= əsə'ə= ne -e' zižjo ch= əsə'ə= guap  
 POS/house person those H= PL= speak -3r loudly H= PL= greet  
 each person they speak loudly greeting people,

na' chse'ene':  
 -e' beṇə' diox na' ch= s= e' -e' -ne'  
 -3r person greeting and H= PL= tell -3r -3r  
 and they say:

--Si'ixenšga, baçh bela'ac beṇə' gol quinga.  
 si'ixen -šga baçh b= e= la'ac beṇə' gol quinga  
 P/forgive -POL already C= REP= arrive/PL person old these  
 "Forgive, please, (that) these old people have come back."

GL10. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION IN YATZACHI

17. Na' ba<sub>le</sub>' chosə'əža' xe'enə' na'  
 17. na' ba<sub>le</sub> -e' ch= osə'ə= ža' xa -e' -e -nə' na'  
 17. and some -3r H= PL= change POS/clothes -3r -TR -DEM and  
 17. And some of them change their clothing and

chse'e be'enə' gan' yesə'əžine'enə',  
 ch= s= e' -e' be'enə' ga -n' y= esə'ə= žin -e' -e -nə'  
 H= PL= tell -3r person/DEM where -DEM P= PL= arrive -3r -TR -DEM  
 tell the people where they will arrive,

əse'ene':  
 əs= e' -e' -ne'  
 P/PL= tell -3r -3r  
 they will tell them:

--ǀEzo' nan' xi'in? 18. Ba bela' xao' nga,  
 ə= zo -o' na' -n' xi'in 18. ba b= e= la'  
 Q= S/be -2s there -DEM POS/child 18. already C= REP= arrive  
 "Are you there my child? 18. Your father here has

--o --Ba bela' xagolo' nga.  
 xa -o' nga o ba b= e= la' xagolə  
 POS/father -2s DEM or(S) already C= REP= arrive POS/grandfather  
 already come back," or "Your grandfather here has already come

19. Gwasšazə, ben to yez dao' xoa don' cue',  
 -o' nga 19. gw= yas -šazə b= e<sub>n</sub> to yez dao'  
 -2s DEM 19. IMP= get.up -reluctantly IMP= give one cigarette little  
 back. 19. Get up, though reluctantly, (and) give a little

o ben latə' mescal dao'  
 xoa do -n' cua -e' o b= e<sub>n</sub> latə'  
 S/be.laid around -DEM P/smoke -3r or(S) IMP give some  
 cigarette lying over there for him to smoke, or give some of the

yožə don' ye'eje'.  
 mescal dao' yožə do -n' y= e'ej -e'  
 mescal(S) little P/contain.liquid around DEM P= drink -3r  
 little mescal over there for him to drink."

20. Nach be'en chase' chise' tgüejə xez be<sub>nə</sub>' ca'.  
 20. nach be'en chas -e' chis -e' t= güejə  
 20. then person/DEM P/get.up -3r P/distribute -3r one= each  
 20. Then the person will get up and distribute a cigarette to

21. Na' šə de mescal che' na' güe'e latə'  
 xez be<sub>nə</sub>' ca' 21. na' šə de mescal che -e' na' gw=  
 cigarette person those 21. and if S/be mescal(S) POS -3r and C=  
 each of those people. 21. And if he has mescal then he will give

güejə se'eje'. 22. Na' yosə'əye'e to chopə son  
 oe' -e' latə' güejə s= e'ej -e' 22. na' y= osə'ə= ya'a -e'  
 give -3r some each P/PL= drink -3r 22. and P= PL= dance -3r  
 a little each for them to drink. 22. And they will dance a few

GL10. THE ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION IN YATZACHI

len flaut, nach yeza'aque' əžja'aque' yo'o yoblə.  
 to|çhope son len flaut nach y= e= za'ac -e' əž= ja'ac  
 a.few tune(S) with flute(S) then P= REP= leave/PL -3r P= go/PL  
*tunes with the flute, then they will leave and go to another*

23. Ca' chəsə'ələže'e çhop že'ete.  
 -e' yo'o yoblə 23. ca' ch= əsə'ə= lažə' -e' çhop že' -e -te  
 -3r house other 23. thus H= PL= roam -3r two night -TR -INT  
*house. 23. They roam about like that both nights.*

24. Na' chəsə'əžinle' ga cui chase'.  
 24. na' ch= əsə'ə= žin -l -e' ga cui ch= as -e'  
 24. and H= PL= arrive -surprisingly -3r where NEG H= get.up -3r  
 24. *And, surprisingly, they arrive where people don't get up.*

25. Nach chesa'aque', chəsə'əne' çhe be'enə':  
 25. nach ch= e= sa'ac -e' ch= əsə'ə= na -e' çhe be'enə'  
 25. then H= REP= leave/PL -3r H= PL= say -3r about person/DEM  
 25. *Then they leave, saying about the person:*

--Yeza'alənšaze' chio'o o gatšaze'.  
 y= e= za' -a -len -šazə -e' chio'o o g= at  
 P= REP= leave -TR -with -unhappily -3r lpi or(S) P die  
 "He will, unhappily, come along with us or he will, unhappily, die."

-šazə -e'  
 -unhappily -3r

ML3. WHEN THEY ASK FOR RAIN

Given by Micaela López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, to Otis M. Leal and Mary Carter Leal, sometime during the 1940's.

1. Catə' cabi bi yejw chac nach chja'ac beṇə' gol ca' len chopə  
 1. catə' cabi bi yejw ch= ac nach ch= ja'ac beṇə' gol ca'  
 1. when NEG any rain H= be then H= go/PL person old those  
 1. *When it doesn't rain then the old people go with two well*

bi'i šao' dao' par chjəsə'əṇabe' yejw lao Ya'a Xinadjo.  
 len chopə bi'i šao' dao' par ch= j= əsə'ə= ṇab  
 with two child excellent little in.order.to(S) H= MA= PL= ask  
*behaved little children to ask for rain on Pierced Nose Mountain.*

2. Na' chjso'e to csad bechjw na'  
 -e' yejw lao ya'a xinadjo 2. na' ch= j= so'= oa' -e' to  
 -3r rain on mountain pierced.nose 2. and H= MA= PL= take -3r one  
 2. *And they take along a pair of*

len yetgo' za, len yej sosen, ser candel,  
 csad bechjw na' len yetgo' za len yej|sosen ser  
 pair(S) turkey and with tamales beans with lilies(S) wax.candle(S)  
*turkeys and bean tamales, and lilies, candles, five egg*

gueyə' bescwžit, cua zgüia', to csad lecw dao'.  
 candel gueyə' bescwžit cua|zgüia' to csad  
 parafin.candles(S) five egg.breads chocolate.drink one pair(S)  
*breads, raw chocolate drink, (and) a pair of little roosters.*

3. Nach chjəsə'əsi'ini'a chja'aque' na',  
 lecw dao' 3. nach ch= j= əsə'ə= si'ini'a ch= ja'ac -e' na'  
 rooster little 3. then H= MA= PL= prepare H= go/PL -3r there  
 3. *Then they go prepare and go there,*

nach chosə'əzale'e nisən', gueyə' catə'ətə' chse'ene'ene'  
 nach ch= osə'ə= zaḷə' -e' nis -ən' gueyə' catə'ətə' ch= se'=  
 then H= PL= throw -3r water -DEM five however.much H= PL=  
*then they throw the water, they want there to be five times*

- žiannə'. 4. Nach chso'one'en gašjlə, gašjlən  
 ene'e -ne' žia -n -ṇə' 4. nach ch= so'= on -e' -e -n gašjə  
 want -3r P/sit -3i -DEM 4. then H= PL= make -3r -TR -3i half  
*that much. 4. Then they divide it in half, half of*

chso'e bi'i byo da'onə' na' gašjlən  
 -lə gašjə -lə -n ch= so'= oe' -e' bi'i byo dao' -nə' na' gašjə  
 -ADV half -ADV -3i H= PL= give -3r child male little -DEM and half  
*it they give to the little boy, and half of*

- chso'e bi'i no'ol da'onə'. 5. Nach chso'olbo'  
 -lə -n ch= so'= oe' -e' bi'i no'ol dao' -nə' 5. nach ch= so'=  
 -ADV -3i H= PL= give -3r child woman little -DEM 5. then H= PL=  
*it they give to the little girl. 5. Then they sing*

ML3. WHEN THEY ASK FOR RAIN

yejon',                    nach chosə'əzə<sub>l</sub>ə'əbo' nisən',                    nach  
 o<sub>l</sub> -bo' yejw -n' nach ch= osə'ə= zə<sub>l</sub>ə' -ə -bo' nis -ən' nach  
 sing -3f rain -DEM then H= PL= throw -TR -3f water -DEM then  
*for the rain,                    then they throw the water,                    then*

chəsə'ənabo':

ch= əsə'ə= na -bo'  
 H= PL= say -3f  
*they say:*

--Yejw, yejw chonto' na'a,                    chaclento' Diozən'  
 yejw yejw ch= on -to' na'a                    ch= aclen -to' dioz -ən'  
 rain rain H= make -lpe now                    H= help -lpe God(S) -DEM  
*"Rain, we are making rain now, we are helping God,"*

--chəsə'ənabo'.

ch= əsə'ə= na -bo'  
 H= PL= say -3f  
*they say.*

GL11. THE ANIMAL COMPANION A CHILD IS BORN WITH

Written by Gregorio M. López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in 1949.

1. Chəsə'əne', dižə' golə, šə beṇə' chene'ene' əneze'ne'  
 1. ch= əsə'ə= na -e' dižə' golə šə beṇə' ch= ene'e -ne'  
 1. H= PL= say -3r word old if person H= want -3r  
 1. *They say, in old sayings, if a person wants to know*

no nalje bi'i che'enə' dezd catə' galjbo',  
 əneze -ne' no n= aljə -e bi'i che -e' -nə' dezd catə'  
 P/know -3r Q/who S= be.born -CM child POS -3r -DEM since(S) when  
*what his child is born to be from the time he is born,*

na' gone' xtobo' ga šo'obo'.  
 g= aljə -bo' na' g= on -e' x= to -bo' ga šo' -o  
 P= be.born -3f and P= make -3r POS= hammock -3f where P/enter -TR  
*then he will make his (the child's) hammock where it*

2. Na' gose' de xaneinə', na'  
 -bo' 2. na' g= os -e' de xan e-ei -nə' na'  
 -3f 2. and P= scatter -3r ashes under -3ind -DEM and  
*will enter. 2. And he will scatter ashes under it, and*

gaquə šlož əggüie' šə no ni'a bia yixə' nyišə' lao denə'.  
 g= aquə šlož əg= güia -e' šə no ni'a bia'yixə' n=  
 P= be little.while P= look -3r if which POS/footprint animal S=  
*after a while he will look to see what animal footprint is pressed*

3. Na' ba gwəze'ne' no bia naljebo',  
 yišə' lao de -nə' 3. na' ba gw= neze -ne' -e -nə' no  
 press in ashes -DEM 3. and already C= know -3r -TR -DEM which  
*into the ashes. 3. When he has come to know what animal the child*

nach solao gwche'elažə'e chebo'.  
 bia n= aljə -e -bo' nach solao gw= che'elažə' -e' che  
 animal S= be.born -CM -3f then P/begin P= be.concerned -3r about  
*has been born as, then he will begin to be concerned about*

4. Na' nabəhcze' rson len beṇə' yoblə, beṇə'  
 -bo' 4. na' nab -əch -cz -e' rson len beṇə' yoblə beṇə'  
 -3f 4. and P/ask -more -INT -3r news(S) with person other person  
*him. 4. And he will inquire of another person, a person*

nezeche. 5. Be'ena' ye'ene' šə bin' cheyaḷə' gone'  
 neze -ch -e 5. be'ena' y= e' -e' -ne' šə bi -n' ch=  
 S/know -more -CM 5. person/DEM P= tell -3r -3r if Q/what -DEM H=  
*who knows more. 5. That person will tell him what he must do*

par niç gacxe gaquəsil bi'i che'enə',  
 e= y= alə' g= on -e' par niç g= acxe g=  
 REP= TR= must P= do -3r in.order.to(S) in.order.to P= originate P=  
*in order for his child to get started,*



GL11. THE ANIMAL COMPANION A CHILD IS BORN WITH

aquəsil bi'i ɕhe -e' -nə' əban -bo' na' g= ac -bo'  
 come.into.being child POS -3r -DEM P/live -3f and P= become -3f  
*he will live and will become the*

naljebo'onə'. 6. Ca naquə de'en güe'elaže'enə',  
 bia n= aljə -e -bo' -o -nə' 6. ca n= aquə de'e -n gw=  
 animal S= be.born -CM -3f -TR -DEM 6. as S= be thing -DEM P=  
*animal he has been born as. 6. As for the things he will be*

naquən šjeje' bałtezə yo'odao' ye' ben' le'  
 e'elažə' -e' -nə' n= aquə -n šej -e' bał -tezə  
 be.dedicated.to -3r -DEM S= be -3i P/go -3r how.many -ever  
*concerned to do, it is that he will go to as many churches*

na' bałtezə capsant lao coroz na'  
 yo'odao' y= e' ben' le -e' na' bał -tezə capsant  
 church P= tell person/DEM X -3r and how.many -ever cemetery(S)  
*as the person will tell him, and as many cemeteries in front of the*

ya'alašə' de'e ye'ene' šjeje'.  
 lao coroz na' ya'alašə' de'e y= e' -e' -ne' šej -e'  
 at cross(S) and enchanted.place thing P= tell -3r -3r P/go -3r  
*crosses and to the enchanted places where he will tell him to go.*

7. De'e ca' de'e gone' par niçh na' so xi'ine'enə'  
 7. de'e ca' de'e g= on -e' par niçh;na' so  
 7. thing those thing P= do -3r in.order.to(S) in.order.to P/be  
*7. Those are things he will do so his child will live*

na' gac gacbo' bian' naljebo'onə'.  
 xi'in -e' -e -nə' na' g= ac g= ac -bo' bia -n' n=  
 POS/child -3r -TR -DEM and P= be.able P= become -3f animal -DEM S=  
*and will be able to be the animal he has been*

aljə -e -bo' -o -nə'  
 be.born -CM -3f -TR -DEM  
*born as.*

JV28. TALKING TO THE MOUNTAIN

Given by Juan Vicente Hernández, in Yatzachi el Alto, Oaxaca,  
June, 1958.

1. De to dižə' che beŋə' golə, chəsə'one' chəsə'anelene' ya'a  
 1. de to dižə' che beŋə' golə ch= əsə'ə= na -e' ch= əsə'ə=  
 1. S/be one word POS person old H= PL= say -3r H= PL=  
 1. *The old people report that people used to talk to the*

yao, beŋə' ba gwnitə' cani'ite,  
 ŋe -len -e' ya'a yao beŋə' ba gw= nitə' cani' -i  
 speak -with -3r mountain river person already C= be long.ago -TR  
*mountains and rivers, people who lived long ago,*

na' ja'aque' to ya'a jəsə'anelene'en yoguə' las catə' cui  
 -te na' ja'ac -e' to ya'a j= əsə'ə= ŋe -len -e'  
 -INT and C/go/PL -3r one mountain C/MA= PL= speak -with -3r  
*and they went to a mountain and talked to it every time*

chac yejw. 2. Na' chəsə'one' na'  
 -e -n yoguə' las catə' cui ch= ac yejw 2. na' ch= əsə'ə= na -e'  
 -TR -3i every time when NEG H= be rain 2. and H= PL= say -3r  
*when it didn't rain. 2. And they say they would*

chja'aque' chjəsə'anelene' ya'a yaonə' par niç gaquə yejon'.  
 na' ch= ja'ac -e' ch= j= əsə'ə= ŋe -len -e' ya'a yao  
 there H= go/PL -3r H= MA= PL= speak -with -3r mountain river  
*go there and talk to the mountain and river so it would rain.*

-nə' par niç g= aquə yejw -n' 3. Na' chso'ote'  
 -DEM in.order.to(S) in.order.to P= be rain -DEM 3. na' ch= so'=  
 3. and H= PL=  
*3. And they would*

bechjw na' chso'one' yetgo'. 4. Na' naquə to paraj  
 ot -e' bechjw na' ch= so'=' on -e' yetgo' 4. na' n= aquə to  
 kill -3r turkey and H= PL= make -3r tamales 4. and S= be one  
*kill turkeys and make tamales. 4. And there is a little*

dao' chega'aque' gan' chja'aque'enə'.  
 paraj dao' che -ga'ac -e' ga -n' ch= ja'ac -e' -e -nə'  
 spot(S) little POS -PL -3r where -DEM H= go/PL -3r -TR -DEM  
*spot where they would go.*

5. Na' gwnitə' beŋə' gwni'a gual, gwsa'ape' burr bžin'  
 5. na' gw= nitə' beŋə' gwni'a gual gw= sa'=' apə -e'  
 5. and C= be person rich strong C= PL= have -3r  
 5. *And there were very rich people, they had donkeys and*

na' gwsa'ape' mech. 6. Cajon gwsə'one'  
 burr bžin' na' gw= sa'=' apə -e' mech 6. cajon gw= so'=  
 donkey(S) mule and C= PL= have -3r money(S) 6. box(S) C= PL=  
*mules and they had money. 6. They made boxes*

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gosə'əgüe'e mechən'. 7. Na' catə' əžin  
 on -e' g= osə'ə= go'o -e' mech -ən' 7. na' catə' əzin  
 make -3r C= PL= put.in -3r money(S) -DEM 7. and when P/arrive  
 to put the money in. 7. And when people

beṇə' leyo'o liž beṇə' gwni'a ca' ben' gwɛlen ya'a yaonə',  
 beṇə' leyo'o liž beṇə' gwni'a ca' ben' gw= ne  
 person inside POS/house person rich those person/DEM C= speak  
 would arrive inside the houses of the rich people who talked to the

na' nabene' le' mech na'  
 -len ya'a yao -nə' na' nab -e -ne' le -e' mech na' gw=  
 -with mountain river -DEM and ask -CM -3r X -3r money(S) and P=  
 mountain and river and they would ask them for money, then

gwnežjue'en ben' chyažjen na' gwchixene'en yagarm.  
 nežjw -e' -e -n ben' ch= yažje -n na' gw= chixə -e -ne'  
 give -3r -TR -3i person/DEM H= need -3i and C= measure -CM -3r  
 they would give it to the people in need and they would measure it

-e -n yagarm  
 -TR -3i wooden.measure  
 with a wooden measure.

8. Na' yoguə' yel Nošə Güen chja'aque' chjso'e to de'e  
 8. na' yoguə' yel nošə'güen ch= ja'ac -e' ch= j=  
 8. and every night Christmas.eve H= go/PL -3r H= MA=  
 8. And every Christmas Eve they would go and take fine

naquə mejor para ya'a yaonə',  
 so'= oe' -e' to de'e n= aquə mejor para ya'a yao  
 PL= give -3r one thing S= be excellent(S) for(S) mountain river  
 gifts for the mountain and river,

len Yel Zcobə. 9. Na' lez ca' gašjo marz,  
 -nə' len yel'zcbə 9. na' lez ca' gašjo marz  
 -DEM with New.Year's.eve 9. and likewise thus half March(S)  
 and also on New Year's eve. 9. And likewise the middle of March,

cana'ach chjso'e de'e šao' de'e güen che ya'a yaonə'  
 cana' -a -ch ch= j= so'= oe' -e' de'e šao' de'e  
 at.that.time -TR -more H= MA= PL= give -3r thing excellent thing  
 at that time also they would go take good things to the mountain and

par niçh chmežjon ca de'en  
 güen che ya'a yao -nə' par niçh ch= nežjo  
 good(S) for mountain river -DEM in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= give  
 river so it would give what they asked.

chəsə'anabe'enə'.  
 -n ca de'e -n' ch= əsə'ə= nab -e' -e -nə'  
 -3i as thing -DEM H= PL= ask -3r -TR -DEM

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10. Na' de to dižə', latjə de'e gate' na' əžin to ža  
 10. na' de to dižə' latjə;de'e g= at -e' na' əžin to  
 10. and S/be one word instead.of P= die -3r and P/arrive one  
 10. And there is a saying, instead of dying a day would come (when)

con yeze'e leyo'o liže'enə' cuejyichje'  
 ža con y= e= za' -e' leyo'o liž -e' -e -nə' cuejyichj  
 day just P= REP= leave -3r inside POS/house -3r -TR -DEM P/forsake  
 he (the rich person) would just leave his house, he would

family che'enə' na' yeyeje' ya'a yaonə' gan' zo de'en  
 -e' family che -e' -e -nə' na' y= e= yej -e' ya'a yao  
 -3r family(S) POS -3r -TR -DEM and P= REP= go -3r mountain river  
 forsake his family and he would return to the mountain and

gwnele' par goque' beṇə' gwni'anə'.  
 -nə' ga -n' zo de'e -n' gw= ne -len -e' par g=  
 -DEM where -DEM S/be thing -DEM C= speak -with -3r in.order.to(S) C=  
 river where the thing (spirit) lives that he talked to in order to be

11. Yežlyo ni gwxi'e banez na'  
 oc -e' beṇə' gwni'a -nə' 11. yežlyo ni gw= xi' -e' banez na'  
 be -3r person rich -DEM 11. world DEM C= get -3r benefit and  
 wealthy. 11. They got benefit here on earth and

chesyə'əžine' gan' zo ya'anə', ya'a yaon' de'en  
 ch= esyə'ə= žin -e' ga -n' zo ya'a -nə' ya'a yao  
 H= REP/PL= arrive -3r where -DEM S/be mountain -DEM mountain river  
 they arrive back where the mountain is, the mountain and

chəsə'ənele'ene'. 12. Nachən'  
 -n' de'e -n' ch= əsə'ə= ne -len -e' -e -nə' 12. nach -ən'  
 -DEM thing -DEM H= PL= speak -with -3r -TR -DEM 12. then -DEM  
 river which they talked to. 12. Then they

gaque' castigon', la' bačczə non Diozən' beṇə'  
 g= ac -e' castigw -n' la' bačh -czə n= on dioz  
 P= happen -3r punishment(S) -DEM because already -INT S= make God(S)  
 will have punishment, for God has already ordained which

əgwnežjue'ene' to banez de'en si'e yežlyo ni.  
 -ən' beṇə' əgw= nežjw -e' -e -ne' to banez de'e -n' si' -e'  
 -DEM person P= give -3r -TR -3r one benefit thing -DEM P/get -3r  
 people to give a benefit that they will receive here on earth.

13. Na' nitə'əczə beṇə' cui bi banez əgwnežjue' le' par  
 yežlyo ni 13. na' nitə' -ə -czə beṇə' cui bi banez əgw=  
 world DEM 13. and S/be -TR -INT person NEG any benefit P=  
 13. And there are people he will not give benefit to here

yežlyo ni pero na' gwnežjue'ene'  
 nežjw -e' le -e' par yežlyo ni pero;na' gw= nežjw -e'  
 give -3r X -3r for(S) world DEM but(S) P= give -3r  
 on earth but he will give them as

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to banez de'e si'e zejlicane catə' gate'.

-e -ne' to banez de'e si' -e' zejlicane catə' g= at -e'  
-TR -3r one benefit thing P/get -3r forever when P= die -3r  
*benefit that they will receive forever when they die.*

LG1. GIFTS TO THE MOUNTAIN AND SORCERY

Given by Librado Guzmán of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, to Otis M. Leal and Mary Carter Leal, sometime during the 1940's.

1. Zo to **benə'** **chejni'** **alaže'e** **ya'a** **yao,** **nach**  
 1. zo to **benə'** **ch= ejni'** **alažə'** **-e'** **ya'a** **yao** **nach ch=**  
 1. S/be one person H= worship -3r mountain river then H=  
 1. *There was a man who worshipped the mountains and rivers and*

**chjue'e regalo** **chei.** 2. **Nach chžine'** **ga chi'** **to rey.**  
 j= oa' -e' regalo **che** -i 2. nach ch= žin -e' ga chi'  
 MA= take -3r gift(S) for -3ind 2. then H= arrive -3r where S/sit  
*he would go take gifts to them. 2. Then he would arrive where a king*

3. **Chopə ser nitə'** **cuite'enə'.**  
 to rey 3. **chopə ser** **nitə'** **cuit** **-e'** **-e** **-nə'**  
 one king(S) 3. two wax.candle(S) S/be POS/side -3r -TR -DEM  
*sat. 3. There were two wax candles beside him.*

4. **Na' cho'e jeid** **bia chjene'** **regalar** **lao ya'a** **yao.**  
 4. na' ch= oa' -e' jeid **bia** **ch= j= en** **-e'** **regalar** **lao ya'a**  
 4. and H= carry -3r chicken animal H= MA= do -3r give(S) to mountain  
 4. *And he would carry a chicken he would go give to the mountain and*

5. **Catə'** **cui de jeid** **na' chone'** **to yech ya,**  
 yao 5. **catə'** **cui de jeid** **na' ch= on** **-e'** **to yech|ya**  
 river 5. when NEG S/be chicken and H= make -3r one cane.tube  
*river. 5. When there was no chicken then he would make a bamboo tube,*

**nach chi'e squin** **yo'onə'** **zo yech ya cho'enə',**  
 nach chi' -e' squin **yo'o** **-nə'** **zo yech|ya** **-n'** **cho'a** **-e'**  
 then S/sit -3r corner(S) house -DEM S/be cane.tube -DEM POS/mouth -3r  
*then he would sit at the corner of the house with the tube at his*

**na' chxope'** **xchen** **bidao'** **güe'enən'.** 6. **Nach**  
 -nə' na' ch= xop -e' x= **chen** **bidao'** **güe'en** **-ən'** 6. nach ch= jə=  
 -DEM and H= suck -3r POS= blood child young -DEM 6. then H= MA=  
*mouth, and he would suck the blood of a young baby. 6. Then he*

**chjəyesane'en** **lao xaxna'** **ya'a yaonə'** **nich**  
 ye= san -e' -e -n lao **xaxna'** **ya'a** **yao** **-nə'** **nich**  
 REP= deliver -3r -TR -3i to POS/parents mountain river -DEM in.order  
*would go deliver it to the parents of the mountain and river so it*

**chnežjue'ene'** **de'e chyažjene'.**  
 ch= nežjw -e' -e -ne' de'e **ch= yažje** **-ne'**  
 H= give -3r -TR -3r thing H= need -3r  
*would give him what he needed.*

7. **Ca' ben** **to benə'** **Xšil.** 8. **Na' zo** **to bi'i** **mos che'.**  
 7. ca' b= en **to benə'** **xšil** 8. na' zo **to bi'i**  
 7. thus C= do one person Zochila 8. and S/be one child  
 7. *That is what a Zochila man did. 8. And he had a servant boy.*

LG1. GIFTS TO THE MOUNTAIN AND SORCERY

9. Na' gwze'e bžine' Jseš Lao Ya'a,  
 mos ghe -e' 9. na' gw= za' -e' b= žin -e' jseš lao  
 worker(S) POS -3r 9. and C= leave -3r C= arrive -3r Yatzachi on  
 9. *And he left and arrived in Yatzachi el Alto,*

na' cui goquə xope' bidao' Jseš Lao Ya'anə',  
 ya'a na' cui g= oquə xop -e' bidao' jseš lao ya'a  
 mountain and NEG C= be.able P/suck -3r child Yatzachi on mountain  
*and he wasn't able to suck the blood of a Yatzachi el Alto*

nach gwdie' ble'e xte lbajw. 10. Na' gwxope'  
 -nə' nach gw= de -e' b= la' -e' xte lbajw 10. na' gw=  
 -DEM then C= pass -3r C= arrive -3r until El.Bajo(S) 10. and C=  
*child, so he passed on and arrived in El Bajo. 10. And he*

bida'onə' jəyesane'ebo' lao xaxna' ya'a yao beṇə' Yej Exna.  
 xop -e' bidao' -nə' jə= ye= san -e' -e -bo' lao xaxna'  
 suck -3r child -DEM C/MA= REP= deliver -3r -TR -3f to POS/parents  
*sucked the child and delivered it to the parents of the mountain and*

11. Naque' becu'a'sj,  
 ya'a yao beṇə' yej əxṇa 11. n= ac -e' becu'a'sj  
 mountain river person rock red 11. S= be -3r enchanted.black.dog  
*river, the people at Red Rock. 11. He was an enchanted black dog,*

na' jəyesane' xchen bida'onə' lo'o Ya'a Yej Exna,  
 na' jə= ye= san -e' x= chen bidao' -nə' lo'o ya'a yej  
 and C/MA= REP= deliver -3r POS= blood child -DEM in mountain rock  
*and he went and delivered the child's blood into Mt. Red Rock,*

na' bnežjw de'en chi' lo'o ya'anə' xmeche'.  
 əxṇa na' b= nežjw de'e -n chi' lo'o ya'a -nə' x= mech  
 red and C= give thing -DEM S/sit in mountain -DEM POS= money(S)  
*and the being that sits in the mountain gave him money.*

12. Catə' beze'e zenche'e bi'i mošaš che',  
 -e' 12. catə' b= e= za' -e' ze= n= che' bi'i mošaš  
 -3r 12. when C= REP= leave -3r S/MT= S= take.along child boy(S)  
 12. *When he left taking along with him his servant boy,*

zjədatie' tsoyaolə, bežintie' lao'  
 ghe -e' z= jə= da -te -e' tso|yao -lə b= e= žin  
 POS -3r S= MA= go -INT -3r by.way.of.river -DIR C= REP= arrive  
*he was going home by the river, and he arrived*

yež xšilə gan' zo liže'enə'.  
 -te -e' lao' yež xšilə ga -n' zo liž -e' -e -nə'  
 -INT -3r in town Zochila(S) where -DEM S/be POS/house -3r -TR -DEM  
*back at Zochila where his home was.*

13. Na' bebi'i mošaš che' len to beṇə' yoblə.  
 13. na' b= e= bi'i mošaš che -e' len to beṇə' yoblə  
 13. and C= REP= turn.back boy(S) POS -3r with one person other  
 13. *And his servant boy returned to work for another person.*

LG1. GIFTS TO THE MOUNTAIN AND SORCERY

14. --Quinga chon xana' --che'ebo'  
 14. quinga ch= on xan -a' ch= e' -e -bo'  
 14. these.things H= do POS/boss -1s H= say -TR -3f  
 14. "This is what my boss does," he said,

--gwche'e nda' gweyto' Jseš lbajw naque' becu'asj.  
 gw= che' -e' nda' gw= yej -to' jseš lbajw n= ac -e'  
 C= take.along -3r 1s C= go -1pe Yatzachi El.Bajo(S) S= be -3r  
 "he took me along and we went to Yatzachi el Bajo, he was an enchanted

15. Catə' bžinto' na' gwlope' xchen bidao'.  
 becu'asj 15. catə' b= žin -to' na' gw= xop -e' x=  
 enchanted.black.dog 15. when C= arrive -1pe and C= suck -3r POS=  
 black dog. 15. When we arrived then he sucked a child's

16. Nach beca'atie' lom che'eļə zenche'e nada'  
 chen bidao' 16. nach b= e= ca'a -te -e' lom che'eļə  
 blood child 16. then C= REP= take.off -INT -3r hill(S) down.below  
 blood. 16. Then he took off on the slope down below taking me

--che'ebo' be'ena'.  
 ze= n= che' -e' nada' ch= e' -e -bo' be'ena'  
 S/MT= S= take.along -3r 1s H= tell -TR -3f person/DEM  
 along," he told the man.

17. --Nalje xana'anə' becu'asj.  
 17. n= aljə -e xan -a' -a -nə' becu'asj  
 17. S= be.born -CM POS/boss -1s -TR -DEM enchanted.black.dog  
 17. "My boss was born with ability to become an enchanted black dog.

18. Catə' ne': "Da, yo'o yeto gan' gweycho," che'e nada',  
 18. catə' na -e' da yo'o ye= to ga -n' gw=  
 18. when S/say -3r IMP/come IMP/come another= one where -DEM C=  
 18. Later he said, 'Come, let's go again where we went', he told me,

pero bitoch gwa'alena'ane'.  
 yej -cho ch= e' -e' nada' pero bito -ch gw= yej -len -a' -a  
 go -1pi H= tell -3r 1s but(S) NEG -more C= go -with -1s -TR  
 but I didn't go with him any more."

-ne'  
 -3r



ML4. CURING SICK CHILDREN and WITCHCRAFT

Given by Micaela López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, to Otis M. Leal and Mary Carter Leal, sometime during the 1940's.

A. CURING SICK CHILDREN

1. *Catə' chsa'acšene bidao' ca' nach chjəsə'əye'*  
 1. *catə' ch= sa'= acšene bidao' ca' nach ch= j= əsə'ə=*  
 1. *when H= PL= be.sick child those then H= MA= PL=*  
 1. *When children are sick then their parents*

*xaxna'abo'onə' Lia Gustinə'*  
*ye' xaxna' -a -bo' -o -nə' lia gustin -nə'*  
 speak.to POS/parents -TR -3f -TR -DEM Maria(S) Agustina(S) -DEM  
*go speak to Maria Augustina*

*par niçh chja'aque' Yišbianə',*  
*par niçh ch= ja'ac -e' yišbia -nə'*  
 in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= go/PL -3r Yišbia -DEM  
*so they can go to the place called Yišbia',*

*par chəsə'əneze' de'e li šə guat bidao' chęga'aque'enə'*  
*par ch= əsə'ə= neze -ne' de'e li šə gw= at bidao' che*  
 in.order.to(S) H= PL= know -3r thing true if D= die child POS  
*to find out whether their child will die*

*o šə goyaquebo'.* 2. *Na' chso'oxe'e*  
*-ga'ac -e' -e -nə' o šə g= o= yaque -bo' 2. na' ch= so'=*  
 -PL -3r -TR -DEM or(S) if D= REP= get.well -3f 2. *and H= PL=*  
*or if he will get well. 2. And they*

*to xguaguə cobə len nis bso golə,* *nach chəsə'əgüe'e to*  
*oxə' -e' to xguaguə cobə len nis bso golə nach ch= əsə'ə=*  
 hold -3r one pitcher new with water adobes old then H= PL=  
*carry a new pitcher of old adobe water, then they put a peso*

*pes lo'inə'.* 3. *Na' chso'oxe'e txozə' yag*  
*go'o -e' to pes lo'o -i -nə' 3. na' ch= so'= oxə' -e' t=*  
 put.in -3r one peso(S) in -3ind -DEM 3. *and H= PL= hold -3r one=*  
*in it. 3. And they carry a branch of*

*yešə' šyiš na' len to žit bechjw* *na' len yeto ser*  
*xozə' yag yešə' šyiš na' len to žit bechjw na' len ye=*  
 POS/branch plant thorn white and with one egg turkey and with another=  
*a plant with white thorns and a turkey egg and a commercially*

*na' len yeto ser de mech.* 4. *Nach catə' chəsə'əžine'enə'*  
*to ser de|mech 4. nach catə' ch= əsə'ə= žin -e' -e*  
 one wax.candle(S) purchased(S) 4. *then when H= PL= arrive -3r -TR*  
*made wax candle. 4. Then when they arrive*

ML4. CURING SICK CHILDREN and WITCHCRAFT

nach chza<sub>l</sub>ə' Lia Gustinə' žitən' lo'o yechən',  
 -nə' nach ch= za<sub>l</sub>ə' lia gustin -nə' žit -ən' lo'o yech -ən'  
 -DEM then H= throw Maria(S) Agustina(S) -DEM egg -DEM in hole -DEM  
*then Maria Agustina throws the egg into the hole,*

nach ne':  
 nach na -e'  
 then Sšay -3r  
*then she says:*

--šə žit nga la'an na'a gwzala'an de'e nech, la'  
 šə žit nga la'a -n na'a gw= za<sub>l</sub>ə' -a' -n de'e nech la'  
 if egg DEM P/break -3i now C= throw -1s -3i thing first why  
*"If this egg breaks now when I throw it the first time, why*

cabi yeyaque bidao' chele, pero šə žit nga cui la'an na'a,  
 cabi y= e= yaque bidao' che -le pero šə žit nga cui la'a -n  
 NEG P= REP= get.well child POS -2p but(S) if egg DEM NEG P/break -3i  
*your child will not get well, but if this egg does not break*

la' goyaquebo' --ne'.  
 na'a la' g= o= yaque -bo' na -e'  
 now why D= REP= get.well -3f S/say -3r  
*now, why he will get well," she says.*

B. WITCHCRAFT

5. Catə' nitə' chopə be<sub>n</sub>ə' chsa'acxi'i ljuežje',  
 5. catə' nitə' chopə be<sub>n</sub>ə' ch= sa'= acxi'i ljuežj -e'  
 5. when S/be two person H= PL= hate POS/fellow -3r  
 5. *When there are two people who hate each other,*

nach šə be'en to deine' mech, nach cheje' chjəye'  
 nach šə be'en to de -i -ne' mech nach ch= ej -e' ch=  
 then if person/DEM one S/be -CM -3r money(S) then H= go -3r H=  
*then if the one person has money, then he goes and*

Xegua Vsentən' o šə Luis Masə'  
 jə= ye -e' xegua vsent -ən' o šə luis  
 MA= speak.to -3r Juan(S) Vicente(S) -DEM or(S) if Louis(S)  
*speaks to Juan Vicente or Louis Macedonio*

par nigh chjəye' lo'o Ya'a Xinadjon',  
 masə' par nigh ch= jə= ye -e' lo'o  
 Macedonio(S) in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= MA= speak.to -3r in  
*so he goes to speak inside Mt. Xinadjo,*

chjəye' be<sub>l</sub> gaž yichjən'  
 ya'a xinadjo -n' ch= jə= ye -e' be<sub>l</sub> gaž yichj -ən'  
 mountain Xinadjo -DEM H= MA= speak.to -3r snake seven POS/head -DEM  
*he goes and speaks to the seven headed snake*

ML4. CURING SICK CHILDREN and WITCHCRAFT

par nigh catə' chtas be'en yeto  
 par nigh catə' ch= tas be'en ye= to  
 so.that(S) so.that when H= sleep person/DEM another= one  
 so that when the other person is sleeping

nach chej belən' chje'ejəb x̄hene'enə'.  
 nach ch= ej bel -ən' ch= j= e'ej -əb x= ghen -e' -e -nə'  
 then H= go snake -DEM H= MA= drink -3a POS= blood -3r -TR -DEM  
 then the snake goes and drinks his blood.

6. Nach catə' chebane'enə', ga'ada' naquə ga  
 6. nach catə' ch= e= ban -e' -e -nə' ga' -a -da' n= aquə ga  
 6. then when H= REP= live -3r -TR -DEM green -TR -INT S= be where  
 6. Then when he wakes up, it is very green where it

gwdi'inəbən'. 7. Nach par nigh ch̄zezene' no ben ca'anə',  
 -n' gw= di'in -əb -ən' 7. nach par nigh ch= zeze  
 -DEM C= bite -3a -DEM 7. then in.order.to(S) in.order.to H= know  
 bit. 7. Then in order to know who did that,

nach chzi'e to yag yi'  
 -ne' no b= en ca' -a -nə' nach ch= zi' -e' to yag'yi'  
 -3r Q/who C= do thus -TR -DEM then H= get -3r one burning.stick  
 he gets a burning stick

nach chzeye' gan' naquə ga', nach catə' chatə'əbia'anə',  
 nach ch= z= ey -e' ga -n' n= aquə ga' nach catə' ch= atə'əbia'  
 then H= CA= burn -3r where -DEM S= be green then when H= be.apparent  
 and he burns where it is green, then when it is apparent,

nyey cho'a be'en gwejən', nach ch̄zezene'  
 -a -nə' n= yey cho'a be'en gw= yej -ən' nach ch= zeze  
 -TR -DEM S= burn POS/mouth person/DEM C= go -DEM then H= know  
 the mouth of the person who went is burned, then he knows

de que le'.  
 -ne' de;que le -e'  
 -3r that(S) X -3r  
 that it is he.

GL12. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO A CAT

Written by Gregorio M. López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in 1950.

1. Cague batteclə gwzo to beṇə' golə gwle Julian Dor,  
 1. cague bat -tec -lə gw= zo to beṇə' golə gw= le  
 1. NEG when -INT -ADV C= be one person old C= be.named  
 1. *Not so very long ago there was an old man named Julian*

na' chəsə'əne' dezd bgüego'ote' chaque'  
 -e' julian dor na' ch= əsə'ə= na -e' dezd b=  
 -3r Julian(S) Salvador(S) and H= PL= say -3r since(S) C=  
*Salvador, and they say since his youth he could*

- biz. 2. Na' casi pur  
 güego' -o -te -e' ch= ac -e' biz 2. na' casi  
 young.person -TR -INT -3r H= become -3r cat(A) 2. and almost(S)  
*become a cat. 2. And they say*

de'e na'azəczə chəsə'əne' gwdalene'.  
 pur de'e na' -a -zə -czə ch= əsə'ə= na -e' gw= da -len -e'  
 only(S) thing that -TR -DE -INT H= PL= say -3r C= go -with -3r  
*he devoted himself almost entirely to that pursuit.*

3. Goque' bizən' na' gweje' to liž beṇə' par niç gwleque' no  
 3. g= oc -e' biz -ən' na' gw= yej -e' to liž beṇə'  
 3. C= became -3r cat(A) -DEM and C= go -3r one POS/house person  
 3. *He became a cat and he went to a person's house in order to*

yižgüe'. 4. Bene' ca'  
 par niç gw= lec -e' no yižgüe' 4. b= en -e'  
 in.order.to(S) in.order.to C= put -3r some sickness 4. C= do -3r  
*cause some sickness. 4. He did that*

len no beṇə' žiague'ine' o žiague'i le', o bichclə  
 ca' len no beṇə' žiague'i -ne' o žiague'i le -e' o  
 thus with any person S/hate -3r or(S) S/hate X -3r or(S)  
*to people he hated or who hated him, or if there*

despresy de'e bene to beṇə' le'. 5. Na'  
 bi -ch -clə despresy de'e b= en -e to beṇə' le -e' 5. na'  
 any more INT contempt(S) thing C do -CM one person X -3r 5. and  
*was some other scornful thing a person did to him. 5. And*

šəghje' gongože'e be'enə'. 6. Ca' gwnezene'  
 šəghj -e' g= ongoža' -e' be'enə' 6. ca' gw= neze -ne'  
 P/turn.around -3r C= bewitch -3r person/DEM 6. thus C= know -3r  
*he would turn and bewitch the person. 6. Thus he knew how to*

gone' mal len yeziquə'əchlə beṇə'. 7. Leczə ca' gwnezene'  
 g= on -e' mal len yeziquə'əchlə beṇə' 7. leczə ca' gw=  
 P= do -3r bad(S) with other person 7. likewise thus C=  
*do evil to other people. 7. Likewise he knew (how*

GL12. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO A CAT

gaquəlene' šə no beŋə' de yižgüe', no bi'i xcuidə'.  
 neze -ne' g= aquəlen -e' šə no beŋə' de yižgüe' no bi'i  
 know -3r P= help -3r if any person S/be sickness any child  
 to) help if any person was sick or any child.

8. Na' žjəsə'əne'ene' nič žjögüie' beŋə' güe'enə'.  
 xcuidə' 8. na' ž= j= əsə'ə= ne -e' -e -ne' nič ž= jə=  
 young 8. and P= MA= PL= speak -3r -TR -3r in.order.to P= MA=  
 8. And they would go call him in order that he would go look

9. Na' ne' yelə' neze che'enə' šə  
 güia -e' beŋə' güe' -e -nə' 9. na' ne -e' yelə' neze che  
 look -3r person sick -TR -DEM 9. and P/speak -3r NOM S/know POS  
 at the sick person. 9. And he would declare by his knowledge

yižgüe' de'e cheyalə' gue'icə beŋə'anə' che'ine',  
 -e' -e -nə' šə yižgüe' de'e ch= e= y= alə' g= e'i -czə  
 -3r -TR -DEM if sickness thing H= REP= TR= must P= be.sick -INT  
 if it was a sickness which that sick person ought to have,

o šə noncəne beŋə' xi'a o šə  
 be'ena' -a -nə' ch= e'i -ne' o šə n= oncəne beŋə'  
 person/DEM -TR -DEM H= be.sick -3r or(S) if S= curse person  
 or if a malevolent person was

nochlə beŋə' goža'. 10. Lao chgan chtobe'  
 xi'a o šə no -ch -lə beŋə' goža' 10. lao ch= gan ch=  
 hateful or(S) if any -more -ADV person shaman 10. while H= touch H=  
 cursing him or some other shaman. 10. While he was

beŋə' güe'enə' chol chne'. 11. Can'  
 tobə -e' beŋə' güe' -e -nə' ch= ol ch= ne -e' 11. ca  
 roll.up -3r person sick -TR -DEM H= sing H= speak -3r 11. when  
 massaging the sick person he would be chanting. 11. When

yeyožən', nach ye'e family che be'enə' šə bi  
 -n' y= eyož -ən' nach y= e' -e' family che  
 -DEM P= be.finished -DEM then P= tell -3r family(S) POS  
 it would finish, then he would tell the person's family

yižgüe' che'ine' na' gan' cheyalə' šej ser  
 be'enə' šə bi yižgüe' ch= e'i -ne' na' ga -n' ch=  
 person/DEM if what sickness H= be.sick -3r and where -DEM H=  
 what sickness he had and where candles would

par nič yeyaquene'.  
 e= y= alə' šej ser par nič y= e=  
 REP= TR= must P/go wax.candle(S) so.that(S) so.that P= REP=  
 have to go in order for him to get well.

GL12. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO A CAT

12. Šə xoe' ya'alašə', na' nabe'  
 yaque -ne' 12. šə xoa -e' ya'alašə' na' nab  
 get.well -3r 12. if S/be.laid -3r enchanted.place and P/ask  
 12. *If he was lying in some enchanted place, then he*

no žit ya'a, yez, mescal, latə' no nis zgüi'a,  
 -e' no žit ya'a yez mescal latə' no nis zgüi'a  
 -3r some egg raw cigarette mescal(S) some any water cocoa.beans  
*would ask for some raw eggs, cigarettes, mescal, or chocolate water,*

par ničh šeje' žjəyexi'ene'.  
 par ničh šej -e' ž= jə= ye= xi' -e' -ne'  
 in.order.to(S) in.order.to P/go -3r P= MA= REP= get -3r -3r  
*in order to go bring him back.*

13. Na' šə zjəxo'ene' do lao coroz, zjənone'ene' to  
 13. na' šə zjə= xoa -e' -ne' do lao coroz zjə= n= on -e'  
 13. and if S/PL= S/put -3r -3r around at cross(S) S/PL= S= make -3r  
 13. *And if they had put him in front of some cross, they had made him*

muñec de xon' na' zjənaze'ene' yeža'aguə  
 -e -ne' to muñec de xon' na' zjə= n= az -e' -e -ne'  
 -TR -3r one doll(S) of(S) rags and S/PL= S= insert -3r -TR -3r  
*into a doll of rags and they had inserted in him cactus*

na' zjəži'ene' to yej do xni'a corozən',  
 yeža'aguə na' zjə= žia -e' -ne' to yej do xni'a coroz  
 cactus.spines and S/PL= S/put -3r -3r one rock around at.foot.of cross  
*spines and they had put a rock on him at the foot of some cross,*

na' leczə šeje' žjəyedilje' gan' xoe'.  
 -ən' na' leczə šej -e' ž= jə= ye= dilj -e' ga -n'  
 -DEM and likewise P/go -3r P= MA= REP= hunt.for -3r where -DEM  
*then likewise he would go hunt for where he was lying.*

14. Na' goxe'e candel žjəzoe' gan' yežele'ene'.  
 xoa -e' 14. na' g= oxə' -e' candel ž= jə= zo -e'  
 S/be.laid -3r 14. and P= hold -3r parafin.candle(S) P= MA= put -3r  
 14. *And he would carry a candle to go put where he*

15. Na' šə naque' šeb o  
 ga -n' y= e= žel -e' -e -nə' 15. na' šə n= ac -e' šeb  
 where -DEM P= REP= be.found -3r -TR -DEM 15. and if S= be -3r fright  
*would find him. 15. And if he had fright*

bega'ane' šeb, lecz le' žjəyexi'ene',  
 o b= e= ga'an -e' šeb lecz le -e' ž= jə= ye= xi' -e'  
 or(S) C= REP= remain -3r fright likewise X -3r P= MA= REP= get -3r  
*sickness or was left with fright, likewise he would go get him,*

na' leczə nabe' no yez, no mescal, žit ya'a.  
 -e -ne' na' leczə nab -e' no yez no mescal žit  
 -TR -3r and likewise P/ask -3r some cigarette some mescal(S) egg  
*and likewise he would ask for some cigarettes, mescal or raw*

GL12. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO A CAT

16. Na' che'e to chopə bišə' ljuežj beŋə' güe'enə'  
 ya'a 16. na' che' -e' to|chopə bišə'|ljuežj beŋə' güe' -e  
 raw 16. and P/take.along -3r a.few POS/relative person sick -TR  
 eggs. 16. And he would take along a few of the relatives of the sick

nich chesa'aclene'. 17. Na' šə che'iczene'  
 -nə' nich ch= e= sa'ac -len -e' 17. na' šə ch= e'i  
 -DEM in.order.to H= REP= leave/PL -with -3r 17. and if H= be.sick  
 person so they would go with him. 17. And if he had a

yižgüe' de'e bselə' Dios, nach šeje' yo'odao',  
 -cz -e -ne' yižgüe' de'e b= selə' dios nach šej -e' yo'odao'  
 -INT -CM -3r sickness thing C= send God(S) then P/go -3r church  
 sickness which God sent, then he would go to the

goxe'e ser len laguə' güi na' latə' no set,  
 g= oxə' -e ser len laguə' güi na' latə' no set  
 P= hold -TR wax.candle(S) with leaf orange and some any oil(S)  
 church carrying wax candles, leaves from the orange tree and some oil

par nich ənabe' lao santən' gone' clen  
 par nich ənab -e' lao sant -ən' g= on -e'  
 in.order.to(S) so.that Pask -3r before saint(S) -DEM P= do -3r  
 in order to ask the saint if he would do

yeque'e yižgüe' de'en che'i be'enə'.  
 clen y= e= ca'a -e' yižgüe' de'e -n ch= e'i be'enə'  
 help P= REP= take.away -3r sickness thing -DEM H= be.sick person/DEM  
 the kindness of taking away the sickness that the person suffered.

18. Yoguə'əloḷ de'e quinga chəsə'əne' bene', na'  
 18. yoguə' -ə -loḷ de'e quinga ch= əsə'ə= na -e' b= en -e' na'  
 18. every -TR -INT thing these H= PL= say -3r C= do -3r and  
 18. All of these things they say he did, and

chəsə'əne' balə beŋə' besə'əle'ine' clar catə' chaque' bizən'.  
 ch= əsə'ə= na -e' balə beŋə' b= esə'ə= le'i -ne' clar catə'  
 H= PL= say -3r some person C= PL= see -3r clearly(S) when  
 they say some people saw clearly when he would become the cat.

19. Na' chosya'acze' ca chosya'a biz.  
 ch= ac -e' biz -ən' 19. na' ch= osya'a -cz -e' ca ch=  
 H= become -3r cat(A) -DEM 19. and H= cry.out -INT -3r like H=  
 19. And he would cry like a cat meows.

20. De'ena' boso'osi'icze'ene' Julián Biz.  
 osya'a biz 20. de'ena' b= oso'o= si' -i -cz -e' -e -ne'  
 cry.out cat(A) 20. therefore C= PL= get -TR -INT -3r -TR -3r  
 20. Therefore they called him Julián Cat.

GL12. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO A CAT

21. Na' catə' gote',      nitə' benə' chəsə'əne'  
 julián    biz    21. na' catə' g= ot -e' nitə' benə' ch= əsə'ə=  
 Julián(S) cat(A) 21. and when C= die -3r S/be person H= PL=  
                   21. *And when he died,      there are people who say*

**de que besə'əle'ine' zoczə xbane'.**  
 na -e' de|que b= esə'ə= le'i -ne' zo -czə xban -e'  
 say -3r that(S) C= PL=    see -3r S/be -INT POS/tail -3r  
*that they saw he had a tail.*



GL13. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO THE BLACK DOG

Written by Gregorio M. López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in 1950.

1. To **benə'** gwzoe' cani'ite na' gwle' Lbin Yacw.  
 1. to **benə'** gw= zo -e' cani' -i -te na' gw= le -e'  
 1. one person C= be -3r long.ago -TR -INT and C= be.named -3r  
 1. *There was a person a long time ago and he was named*
- lbin yacw 2. Na' de rson de que goque' becuasj.  
 Alvino(S) Yacw 2. na' de rson de|que g= oc -e'  
 Alvin Yacw. 2. and S/be news(S) that(S) C= become -3r  
 2. *And there was information that he was the*
- becuasj 3. To šlas bchoje' laže'e lao' yežən' chel  
 enchanted.black.dog 3. to š= las b= choj -e' lažə' -e' lao'  
 enchanted black dog. 3. one one= time C= leave -3r S/roam -3r in  
 3. *One time he went out and was going around*
- yež -ən' chel naque' becuasjən'.  
 town -DEM midnight n= ac -e' becuasj -ən'  
 town at midnight S= be -3r enchanted.black.dog -DEM  
 as the enchanted black dog.
4. Bixa na', gwsa'acbe'i polosia ca' na' jəsə'əleze'eb paraj  
 4. bixa|na' gw= sa'= acbe'i polosia ca' na' j= əsə'ə=  
 4. what.do.you.know C= PL= realize police(S) those and C/MA= PL=  
 4. *Well, the police realized and waited for it at the place*
- gan' ne' Lao Coroz Xan Bibə',  
 lez -e' -e -b paraj ga -n' na -e' lao coroz xan  
 wait -3r -TR -3a spot(S) where -DEM S/say -3r before cross(S) under  
 where it is called Before the Cross Under the Soap Tree,
- bibə' na' ba zjənite'e catə' bežimb.  
 soap.tree(S) na' ba zjə= nitə' -e' catə' b= e= žin -b  
 and already S/PL= be -3r when C= REP= arrive -3a  
 and they were already there when it arrived.
5. Nach beza'asesəb che'eļələ, na' zja'aque'  
 5. nach b= e= za' -a -ses -əb che'eļə -lə na' zj= a'ac  
 5. then C= REP= leave -TR -quickly -3a down.below -DIR and S/MA= go/PL  
 5. *Then it quickly fled down below, and they were*
- zjanlagdoe'eb, choso'ošiže'eb lao yej.  
 -e' zjə= n= lag -do -e' -b ch= oso'o= šižə' -e' -b lao yej  
 -3r S/PL= S= chase -quickly -3r -3a H= PL= pelt -3r -3a in rock  
 going chasing it, they were throwing stones at it.
6. Na' zjanaļe'e no mšet na' yag polosia čhega'aque'enə'  
 6. na' zjə= n= aļə' -e' no mšet na' yag|polosia čhe -ga'ac  
 6. and S/PL= S= hang -3r some machete(S) and billy.club POS -PL  
 6. *And they had their machetes and billy clubs*

GL13. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO THE BLACK DOG

par yesə'əyine'eb šə baçh bedolə'əb.  
 -e' -e -nə' par y= esyə'ə= yin -e' -e -b šə baçh b=  
 -3r -TR -DEM in.order.to(S) P= PL/REP= beat -3r -TR -3a if already C=  
*in order to beat it if it was caught.*

7. Ca' naquən bosə'ədalene'eb sša xen  
 e= dolə'  
 REP= get.caught -TR -3a 7. ca' n= aquə -n b= osə'ə= da -len -e'  
 thus S= be -3i C= PL= go -with -3r  
 7. *Thus is was that they ran with it a long*

catə' gwzolaə bedolažə'əb  
 -e -b sša xen catə' gw= zolaə b= e= dolažə' -ə -b  
 -TR -3a long.time big when C= begin C= REP= be.out.of.breath -TR -3a  
*time when it began to be out of breath*

na' caguə goquəch sa'adob. 8. Nach jəyeyo'ob  
 na' caguə g= oquə -ch sa' -a -do -b 8. nach jə=  
 and NEG C= be.able -more P/walk -TR -quickly -3a 8. then C/MA=  
*and it could not run any more. 8. Then it went*

to lo'o pil de'e chəsə'əne' gwžia gan' nzi' Yao Mont.  
 ye= yo'o -b to lo'o pil de'e ch= əsə'ə= na -e' gw= žia  
 REP= enter -3a one in tank(S) thing H= PL= say -3r C= sit  
*and got into a water tank that they say there was where it is named*

9. Na' yo'ob catə' besə'əžin  
 ga -n' n= zi' yao mont 9. na' yo'o -b catə' b=  
 where -DEM S= be.called river Montes 9. and S/be.inside -3a when C=  
*Montes Creek. 9. And it was in there when the*

polosia ca'. 10. Nach gosə'əguaogüe'eb yag polosia  
 esə'ə= žin polosia ca' 10. nach g= osə'ə= gw= ao -gw -e'  
 PL= arrive police(S) those 10. then C= PL= CA= eat -TR -3r  
*police arrived. 10. Then they beat it with their billy*

çhega'aque'enə' na' len mšet de'e  
 -e -b yag|polosia çhe -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' na' len mšet  
 -TR -3a billy.club(S) POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM and with machete(S)  
*clubs and with the machetes*

zjanəle'enə'. 11. Gosə'əxenləžə'ətecze' gotəb,  
 de'e zjə= n= alə' -e' -nə' 11. g= osə'ə= xenləžə' -ə -te -cz  
 thing S/PL= S= hang -3r -DEM 11. C= PL= patient -TR -INT -INT  
*they carried. 11. They were thoroughly satisfied that*

nach besa'aque'. 12. Pero gwdezə besa'aque'enə'  
 -e' g= ot -əb nach b= e= sa'ac -e' 12. pero gw= de -zə b=  
 -3r C= die -3a then C= REP= leave/PL -3r 12. but(S) C= pass -DE C=  
*it had died, then they left. 12. But just after they left*

beyasəb, na' beza'ab bežin ližəb.  
 e= sa'ac -e' -e -nə' b= e= yas -əb na' b= e= za' -a  
 REP= leave/PL -3r -TR -DEM C= REP= get.up -3a and C= REP= leave -TR  
*it got up again, and it left and arrived*

GL13. A MAN WHO COULD TURN INTO THE BLACK DOG

13. Na' bexinjcəb beyaczəb benə'  
 -b b= e= žin liž -əb 13. na' b= e= xinj -cz  
 -3a C= REP= arrive POS/house -3a 13. and C= REP= change.in.form -INT  
*back at its home. 13. And it changed back and became*

per na' chəsə'əne' gwe'eni'inə'  
 -əb b= e= y= ac -z -əb benə' per;na' ch= əsə'ə= na -e'  
 -3a C= REP= TR= become -DE -3a person but(S) H= PL= say -3r  
*a person again, but they say when it dawned (the*

de rsonnə' de que bačh got Lbinnə'.  
 gw= ye'eni' -i -nə' de rson -nə' de;que bačh g= ot  
 C= dawn -TR -DEM S/be news(S) -DEM that(S) already C= die  
*next day) there was news that Alvin had already died.*

lbin -nə'  
 Alvino(S) -DEM

GL14. THE TWELVE SORCERERS

Written by Gregorio M. López of Yatzachi el Bajo, Oaxaca, in 1950.

1. Syempr de dižə' de que can' gwłalte gwža' pur beṇə' goža'.  
 1. syempr de dižə' de|que ca -n' gwłalte gw= ža'  
 1. always(S) S/be word that(S) like -DEM long.ago C= be  
 1. *There is always the saying that a long time ago nearly all*

2. Beya no bia gwsa'aque' na' bichlə  
 pur beṇə' go= ža' 2. b= eya' no bia gw= sa'=  
 only(S) person INF= change 2. C= be.many any animal C= PL=  
*the people were sorcerers. 2. They turned into countless animals*

de'e gwsa'aque', ca no  
 ac -e' na' bi -ch -lə de'e gw= sa'= ac -e' ca  
 become -3r and what -more -ADV thing C= PL= become -3r like  
*and other things, like*

be' bdon', bejw, bejw bza na' yi' gwzio' par gwsone' mal  
 no be'|bdon' bejw bejw|bza na' yi'|gwzio' par gw=  
 any whirlwind cloud thundercap and lightning in.order.to(S) C=  
*whirlwinds, clouds, thundercaps and lightning in order to do evil*

len yeziquə'əchlə beṇə' o entr lega'acteze'.  
 so'= on -e' mal len yeziquə'əchlə beṇə' o entr le -ga'ac  
 PL= do -3r bad(S) with other person or(S) among X -PL  
*to other people or just among themselves.*

3. Na' par gwsone' cuinga'aque' defender len beṇə'  
 -tezə -e' 3. na' par gw= so'= on cuin -ga'ac -e'  
 -just -3r 3. and in.order.to(S) C= PL= do POS/self -PL -3r  
 3. *And in order to defend themselves from the people who*

zjəžiague'i lega'aque', entr beṇə' quinga  
 defender len beṇə' zjə= žiague'i le -ga'ac -e' entr beṇə'  
 defend(S) with person S/PL= S/hate X -PL -3r among person  
*hated them, among these people*

gwyas̄ xonj beṇə' boso'ozi'e Beṇə' Ši'in.  
 quinga gw= yas̄ xonj beṇə' b= oso'o= zi' -e' beṇə'  
 these C= go.about group person C= PL= be.called -3r person  
*a group of people went about whom they named The Twelve.*

4. Na' syempr gwyas̄e' do chelyanə'.  
 ši'in 4. na' syempr gw= yas̄ -e' do chel -yanə'  
 twelve 4. and always(S) C= go.about -3r around midnight -exactly  
 4. *And always they went about right around midnight.*

5. Xala'anga'aque'enə' naquən de'e šyiš xilə'.  
 5. xala'an -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' n= aquə -n de'e šyiš xilə'  
 5. POS/clothes -PL -3r -TR -DEM S= be -3i thing white cotton  
 5. *Their clothes were very white.*

GL14. THE TWELVE SORCERERS

6. Na' antzla žjəse'ene' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' goža' čhega'aque'enə',  
 6. na' antz -lə ž= jə= se'= en -e' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' go= ža' čhe  
 6. and before(S) -ADV P= MA= PL= do -3r NOM INF= change POS  
 6. *And before they would go do their sorcery,*

əžja'acgaxje' gozj šižin bej,  
 -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' əž= ja'ac -gaxjə -e' g= ozj šižin bej  
 -PL -3r -TR -DEM P= go/PL -first -3r INF= bathe twelve spring  
*they would first go to bathe at twelve springs,*

na' žja'aque' šižin lao coroz na' šižin capsant.  
 na' ž= ja'ac -e' šižin lao coroz na' šižin capsant  
 and P= go/PL -3r twelve before cross(S) and twelve cemetery(S)  
*and they would go before twelve crosses and twelve cemeteries.*

7. Na' chjəsə'əzoe' to yagant de xa go'on,  
 7. na' ch= j= əsə'ə= zo -e' to yagant  
 7. and H= MA= PL= put -3r one stretcher.for.carrying.a.corpse  
 7. *And they would carry a stretcher for the dead made of cow hide,*

nach žjse'ene' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' goža' čhega'aque'enə'.  
 de xa go'on nach ž= j= se'= en -e' ye<sub>l</sub>ə' go= ža'  
 of(S) POS/clothes ox then P= MA= PL= do -3r NOM INF= change  
*then they would do their sorcery.*

che -ga'ac -e' -e -nə'  
 POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM

8. De'e ne' reemplas zeje dižə' de que de to be<sub>n</sub>ə' chacšene,  
 8. de'e na -e' reemplas zeje|dižə' de|que de to  
 8. thing S/say -3r replacement(S) it.means that(S) S/be one  
 8. *The thing called replacement means that a person is sick,*

per na' lega'aque', ya sea naquə be<sub>n</sub>ə' güe'enə'  
 be<sub>n</sub>ə' ch= acšene per|na' le -ga'ac -e' ya|sea n= aquə be<sub>n</sub>ə'  
 person H= be.sick but(S) X -PL -3r whether(S) S= be person  
*but they, whether the sick person is a relative of*

parient čhega'aque' o migw čhega'aque',  
 güe' -e -nə' parient che -ga'ac -e' o migw che -ga'ac  
 sick -TR -DEM relative(S) POS -PL -3r or(S) friend(S) POS PL  
*theirs or a friend of theirs,*

yesə'əzi'icle' mech par nič so'one' cui gat be<sub>n</sub>ə'.  
 -e' y= esə'ə= zi' -i -clə -e' mech par nič  
 3r P PL= get -TR -INT -3r money(S) in.order.to(S) in.order.to  
*they will receive money in order to cause that the person won't*

9. Na' chəsyə'əyilje' to be<sub>n</sub>ə' gat  
 so'= on -e' cui g= at be<sub>n</sub>ə' 9. na' ch= əsyə'ə= yilj -e' to  
 P/PL= do -3r NEG P= die person 9. and H= PL/REP= look.for -3r one  
 die. 9. *And they will hunt for a person*

GL14. THE TWELVE SORCERERS

lgü'e o no bdao'.  
 beṇə' g= at lgua'a -e' o no bdao'  
 person P= die instead.of -3r or(S) some baby  
 who will die in place of him, or for some baby.

10. Na' par niḥ gaquə can' yesə'əḥoglaogü'e'ənə',  
 10. na' par niḥ g= aquə ca -n' y= esə'ə=  
 10. and in.order.to(S) in.order.to P= be like -DEM P= PL=  
 10. And in order for it to happen as they have determined,

na' yesə'əžine' liž beṇə'  
 ḥoglaog -gw -e' -e -nə' na' y= esə'ə= žin -e' liž beṇə'  
 determine -TR -3r -TR -DEM and P= PL= arrive -3r POS/house person  
 then they will arrive at a person's house

na' yesə'əyixjue' yagantən' ḥyo'o ḥe be'ənə',  
 na' y= esə'ə= yixjw -e' yagant -ən' ḥyo'o ḥe be'ənə'  
 and P= PL= lay.down -3r stretcher -DEM front.yard POS person/DEM  
 and they will lay down the stretcher in the person's front yard,

na' to ḥope' nitə' cho'a puertən'. 11. Na' yebale' so'one' ca  
 na' to|ḥopə -e' nitə' cho'a puert -ən' 11. na' ye= balə -e'  
 and one|two -3r P/be at door(S) -DEM 11. and another= some -3r  
 and a few of them will be at the door. 11. And some others of them

beṇə' ze'e bžinte, na' chso'olgiüiže' beṇə'  
 so'= on -e' ca beṇə' ze'e b= žin -te na' ch= so'= olgiüiž  
 P/PL= do -3r like person just C= arrive -INT and H= PL= call.to  
 will act like people who have just arrived, and they will call to

ca' nitə' cho'a puert. 12. Primertec yesə'əguape'ene'  
 -e' beṇə' ca' nitə' cho'a puert 12. primer -tec y= esə'ə=  
 -3r person those S/be at door(S) 12. first(S) -INT P= PL=  
 the people who are at the door. 12. First they will greet them,

diox, nach əse'ene':  
 guap -e' -e -ne' diox nach əs= e' -e' -ne'  
 greet -3r -TR -3r greeting then P/PL= tell -3r -3r  
 then they will ask them:

- ǀEǀe zjəyeda beṇə' probən'? 13. ǀBitec  
 ə= ǀe z= jə= ye= da beṇə' prob -ən' 13. bi -tec  
 Q= truly S= MA= REP= go person poor(S) -DEM 13. Q/what -INT  
 "Is it true the poor person has gone? 13. What on earth

can' goquene' gotteque' žalnez?  
 ca -n' g= oc -e -ne' g= ot -tec -e' žalnez  
 like -DEM C= happen -CM -3r C= die -INT -3r quickly  
 happened that he died so very quickly?"

GL14. THE TWELVE SORCERERS

14. Nach benə' ca' nitə' cho'a puertən' yesə'əghebe',  
 14. nach benə' ca' nitə' cho'a puert -ən' y= esə'ə= gheb  
 14. then person those S/be at door(S) -DEM P= PL= agree  
 14. *Then the people who are at the door will agree,*

so'one' ca' xan yo'onə', na' se'e benə' ca':  
 -e' so'= on -e' ca' xan yo'o -nə' na' s= e' -e' benə'  
 -3r P/PL= do -3r like POS/owner house -DEM and P/PL= tell -3r person  
*acting like the owner of the house, and they will tell those*

ca'  
 those  
 people:

--Zjəyeda le'enə'. 15. Žalnezdao' nga gote'.  
 z= jə= ye= da le -e' -e -nə' 15. žalnez -dao' nga  
 S= MA= REP= go X -3r -TR -DEM 15. quickly -extremely DEM  
*"He is gone. 15. He died very quickly.*

g= ot -e'  
 C= die -3r

16. Na' benə' ca' yela' yesə'əze'ene':  
 16. na' benə' ca' ye= la' y= esə'ə= z= e' -e' -ne'  
 16. and person those another= some P= PL= CA= tell -3r -3r  
 16. *And the other people will say to him:*

--iBixa zelao goncho? 17. Le'e gapəšazə yelə'  
 bi -xa zelao g= on -cho 17. le'e g= apə -šazə  
 Q/what -INT last P= do -1pi 17. IMPp P= have -reluctantly  
*"What recourse do we have? 17. Have patience in spite of it*

chxenlažə'. 18. Naquəchozən xnez yoguə'əcho.  
yelə' ch= xenlažə' 18. n= aquə -chozə -n x= nez yoguə' -ə -cho  
 NOM H= be.patient 18. S= be -only -3i POS= road all -TR -1pi  
 all. 18. *It is the way we all have to go."*

19. Na' chso'ole' rsar ghe benə' guat na'  
 19. na' ch= so'= ol -e' rsar ghe benə' gw= at na' y=  
 19. and H= PL= sing -3r rosary(S) for person INF= die and P=  
 19. *And they sing a rosary for the dead person and*

yosə'ənite'e no ser candel cuit yagant ghega'aque'enə',  
 osə'ə= nitə' -e' no ser candel cuit  
 PL= put -3r some wax.candle(S) parafin.candle(S) beside  
*they put some wax candles beside their stretcher,*

so'one'en de que nan' yo'o be'enə',  
 yagant ghe -ga'ac -e' -e -nə' so'= on -e' -e -n de|que  
 stretcher POS -PL -3r -TR -DEM P/PL= make -3r -TR -3i that(S)  
*they make out that there lies the*

GL14. THE TWELVE SORCERERS

ba gote'. 20. Nach yežaše',  
 na' -n' yo'o be'enə' ba g= ot -e' 20. nach y= e=  
 there -DEM S/be person/DEM already C= die -3r 20. then P= REP=  
 man, having already died. 20. Then they leave,

na' že' yoblə lecə ca' žjse'ene' ga yoblə.  
 žaš -e' na' že' yoblə lecə ca' ž= j= se'= en -e' ga  
 leave -3r and night other likewise thus P= MA= PL= do -3r where  
 and another night they go do the same somewhere else.

21. Na' šə gwtilən gaquəšene ben' gan' jse'ene' ca' na' gatcle'  
 yoblə 21. na' šə gw= tilə -n g= aquəšene ben' ga -n'  
 other 21. and if D= converge -3i P= get.sick person/DEM where -DEM  
 21. And if it turns out that the person gets sick where they did

to žalnez, na' family  
 j= se'= en -e' ca' na' g= at -clə -e' to žalnez na' family  
 C/MA= PL= do -3r thus and C= die -INT -3r one quickly and family(S)  
 that and he should die suddenly, then his family

che' ca' yesə'əne':  
 che -e' ca' y= esə'ə= na -e'  
 POS -3r those P= PL= say -3r  
 will say:

--Bxoe'enə'.  
 b= xoa -e' -e -nə'  
 C= be.cursed -3r -TR -DEM  
 "He was cursed."

22. Na' xte ža neža ne'e nchixəczə benə' chse'ejle'e de que  
 22. na' xte ža neža ne'e n= chixə -czə benə'  
 22. and until day today still S= be.mixed.with -INT person  
 22. And until this day there are still people who believe that

chi' de'en ne' chxo'e.  
 ch= se'= ejle' -e' de|que chi' de'e -n na -e' ch= xoa -e'  
 H= PL= believe -3r that(S) S/sit thing -DEM S/say -3r H= be.cursed -3r  
 there is what is called being cursed.