

## 053. NOTES ON A MARRIAGE PAYMENT VISIT

Taken down by Alex Thomas, Feb 3, 1914; ms. 50bb, pp. 55-58, June 12, 1916

Notes regarding a marriage proposal by the Tsishaath at Ucluelet to pay for Edward Bill's wife, Feb. 3, 1914.

53.1

On arriving at Ucluelet, Capt. Bill bought one box of apples, payed two and a half (dollars) and passed it all around to each of his crew on the wharf. After we had eaten the apples, we went onto the beach right close to the wharf and started practising the following songs, led by *tuutasi?i*. pg. 55 begins here

53.2

The following songs were practised:

53.3 *čičihinkýak* .  
*čičihinkýak<sup>w</sup>*  
 spirit song  
 spirit song

1. A spirit song with the following words:

53.4	<i>hayuqumłacištuksiš</i>		<i>susmałni</i>
	<i>hayu -qimł -acišt -uk -siš</i>		<i>susmałni</i>
	ten ... unit on the sea POSS 1s.INF		swim about on water
	mine are ten on the sea		they were swimming about on the water

<i>?aniłiis</i>	<i>sasimłnaks</i>			
<i>?anił -(y)iis</i>	DUP- sa		<i>-małni</i>	<i>-ak -sasa</i>
so that 1s.INDF.REL	SUF crawl on all fours		out on water POSS	only [L]
so that I might	crawl on all fours			

"I have ten round things swimming about on the sea, I have them crawling about."

53.5

is sung and while practising a *hiitaquu?ayak* song specially for Thunder ... dancing.

53.6 *hiitaquu?ayak* .  
*hiitaquu?ayak<sup>w</sup>*  
 song for rounding the point  
 song for rounding the point

2. Song for rounding the point.

53.7	<i>tutuutš</i>	<i>yaaha</i>	<i>tutuutš</i>	<i>ya</i>	<i>hiiyaa</i>	<i>hiiyee</i> .
	<i>tutuutš</i>		<i>tutuutš</i>	<i>yaa<sub>1</sub></i>		
	Thundering-now-and-then		Thundering-now-and-then	that		
	Thundering-now-and-then		Thundering-now-and-then	that		

"Thunder, thunder."

53.8

sung third while practising *yatýak*:

53.9 yatʔak  
yatʔak<sup>w</sup>  
jolt dance song  
jolt dance song

3. A jolt-dance song:

53.10	ʔiʔčisamaʔeeʔe	meeʔiʔaʔi		q <sup>w</sup> iimaqisuusi
	Beach-Dog	meeʔiʔ -ʔaʔ -ʔi		q <sup>w</sup> i(q) -m̄aʔ -ʔis -(w)uusi
		bite away NOW 2s>3.IMPER		REL as far as on the beach 3.RelDub
		seize them		the ones who are far of on the beach

hiʔsuuʔisʔi  
hiʔsuuʔis =ʔi  
out to sea =DEF  
out to sea

"Beach-dog, seize those on the beach far off."

53.11 yatʔak  
yatʔak<sup>w</sup>  
jolt dance song  
jolt dance song

4. A jolt-dance song:

53.12	nuumisaʔetχ	načičaʔis	hiitaqaaʔuks	suwaayuk
			-uk -sasa	suwaayuk
			POSS only [L]	thunder
				thunder

"People of different tribes watch me, my thunderbird comes down."

53.13	yatʔak	ʔimtʔimta
	yatʔak <sup>w</sup>	ʔimtʔimta
	jolt dance song	singing words
	jolt dance song	singing the words

single beating sung fifth yatʔak song ʔimtʔimta being: 5. A jolt-dance song; singing the words:

53.14	wiikqaawaaʔs	yaaʔqawaaʔs	nuumisaatχ
	wik -ʔaʔ -sasa		
	not NOW only [L]		

"I have none coming round the point there of all the tribes."

53.15	čičihink	ʔimtʔimta
	čičihink	ʔimtʔimta
	pray	singing words
	pray	singing the words

sung sixth čičihink<sup>w</sup> song ʔimtʔimta being 6. A spirit song; the words:

53.16	hayiiwiiʔiʔeeksʔaʔuu	ʔašk <sup>w</sup> aaʔiʔiʔeeksʔaʔuu	naʔuupčnupčeeks	ʔašii
				ʔašii
				door
				door

"I do not know again and have lost the road, my road is lightning."

53.17	yatʔak	ʔimtʔimta
	yatʔak <sup>w</sup>	ʔimtʔimta
	jolt dance song	singing words
	jolt dance song	singing the words

beating sung seventh a yatʔak song single beats 7. A jolt-dance song; the words:

53.18 nuupčaxuwistatuuks nuumisaatχ .  
"I sound before all the different tribes."

53.19

After going over the preceding we boarded three canoes. One canoe in the middle, one at each side. Then all got aboard and we set off for the Indian village. Then Tolmish Maatk<sup>w</sup>a and Jacob Shewish put on their thunderbird regalia which consisted of two thunderbird hinkiicim and two black blankets. [pg. 56 begins above](#)

53.20 ɬuutasiʔii čiiqaa ʔimtʔimta .  
ɬuutasiʔii čiiqaa ʔimtʔimta  
Klutasee sing secret chant singing words  
Klutasee sing secret chant singing the words

Just as we got close to the village, ɬuutasiʔii sang the following čiiqaa song. Its ʔimtʔimta being thus:

53.21 λuuk<sup>w</sup>aanaʔaaqλweʔisi ʔanis λuuk<sup>w</sup>aanaʔat ʔuuñakʔaaqλweʔisi  
λuuk<sup>w</sup>aana -ʔaaqλ -waʔisi ʔanis λuuk<sup>w</sup>aana -ʔap -ʔat ʔuuñak<sup>w</sup> -ʔaaqλ -waʔisi  
Wolf Ritual INTENT 1s.QT 1s.SUB Wolf Ritual CAUS PASS dance INTENT 1s.QT  
I will be Wolf Ritual that I the Wolf Ritual I would be imitating

ʔanis λuuk<sup>w</sup>aanaʔat ʔuhʔat wiihiʔuʔʔi maafuuʔ  
ʔanis λuuk<sup>w</sup>aana -ʔap -ʔat ʔuhʔat wihii -ʔuʔ<sup>w</sup> =ʔi mat -ʔuʔ<sup>w</sup>  
1s.SUB Wolf Ritual CAUS PASS by on dry land ... place DEF fly ... place  
that I the Wolf Ritual by fly

tutuutš ʔanis ʔuhʔat λuuk<sup>w</sup>aanaʔat nuuččiniʔi maafuuʔ  
tutuutš ʔanis ʔuhʔat λuuk<sup>w</sup>aana -ʔap -ʔat nuči =ʔi mat -iiʔ<sub>2</sub>  
Thundering-now-and-then 1s.SUB by Wolf Ritual CAUS PASS mountain DEF fly ITER  
Thundering-now-and-then that I by the Wolf Ritual

tutuutš  
tutuutš  
Thundering-now-and-then  
Thundering-now-and-then

"They say I shall be tlokwala, for I am caused to do an imitative dance by the Thunder that flies to the rocky shore from time to time, I am caused to be tlokwala by the Thunder that lights on the rocky shore from time to time".

53.22 čiiqaa ʔimtʔimta  
čiiqaa ʔimtʔimta  
sing secret chant singing words  
sing secret chant singing the words

Sang same song twice then Mr. Bill sang the following čiiqaa song its ʔimtʔimts being thus:

53.23 ʔickaaʔaksiš ʔaas naʔaatahʔis .  
ʔickaa -ʔak -siš ʔaas naʔaatah -ʔiʔ<sub>2</sub>  
drum POSS 1s.INF day listen 2s>1.IMP  
drum day listen to me!

"My Day is thundering, listen to me".

53.24

Sang same song twice by this time secure then close to the beach about one hundred feet away. Again ɬuutasiʔii sang the same čiiqaa song. As soon as he got through the ʔimtʔimta, the two dressed up like thunderbird who all this time had been squatting arose to standing position and started imitating Thunderbird. [57] The two were in motion for about two or three minutes then went back to their old position squatting on the boarded three canoes. Then we sang the čičihinkýak song number one (see page one) in accompaniment with drumming and nasqnasqa with sticks. Sang same song twice then sang song number two (see page one). Sang same song twice then again the two dressed up Thunderbirds got in motion posturing imitating Thunderbird in accompaniment with rapid beating with sticks and drums. [pg. 57 begins above](#)

53.25 čičihinkýak naasqnaasqa .  
 čičihinkýak<sup>w</sup> naasqnaasqa  
 spirit song beating time  
 spirit song beating time  
 beating time to a spirit song.

53.26 qiiwaaš k<sup>w</sup>aayimła .  
 qiiwaaš k<sup>w</sup>aayimła  
 Kiiwaash Kwayimta  
 Kiiwaash Kwayimta

Then we arrived at the beach right opposite to house belonging to qiiwaaš, which is at the place called k<sup>w</sup>aayimła at the eastern side of Ucluelet Arm. Then we sang all the songs given at page one, one after another in which order they are given. The two dressed up imitating Thunderbirds got into motion four times then took off their hinkiicim and blankets. After we had sung the last song given at page one we landed and got on to the beach. (We landed opposite the house of) Kiiwaash at Kwayimta.

53.27 łučhaa ʔuušahuʔił .  
 łučhaa ʔuušahuʔił  
 pay bride price marriage gift recipient  
 pay brideprice marriage gift recipient

Then, Mrs. Capt. Bill handed over łučhaa money to William to call out the names who were to be ʔuušahuʔił. The first to be called out was the brother of Mrs. Edward Bill. (We were) to present (money) for marriage.

53.28 łučhimʔakqacsa ʔahʔaa saaʔaahičiił hayuq<sup>w</sup>imł ʔahiqs xaχaškuk ʔiš  
 ʔahʔaa ʔahʔaa hayu -qimł ʔahiqs xaχaškuk ʔiš  
 that ten ... unit box crackers and  
 that there are ten things boxes crackers and

sučaqimł taanaa .  
 suča -qimł taanaa  
 five ... unit dollar  
 five dollars

"I think this brideprice for Albert Jackson consists of ten boxes of biscuits and five dollars."

53.29 ʔuuħuuʔiłqaccka ʔahʔaa qiiwaaš sučaqimł .  
 ʔuuħuuł -ił -qaccka ʔahʔaa qiiwaaš suča -qimł  
 be in front in the house 2s.DUB that Kiiwaash five ... unit  
 be in front that Kiiwaash five

Then we brought the boxes up into qiiwaaš's house and also the \$5 handed it over to saaʔaahičiił [58] Then qiiwaaš was being called out.(Then) "I think you, Kiiwaash, have five dollars presented to you." pg. 58 begins above

53.30

Then next Mrs qiiwaaš was also called out and she also was being given \$5. Then pałuus, an uncle of qiiwaaš, was also being called out and he too was being given \$5 and also other names were being called out, all being relatives of qiiwaaš and Mrs. qiiwaaš and the order in which they were called out and the names. I have lost the notes of them therefore I am unable to put them down and also the sum of money that was being given away. We then got through calling out names on the beach. We were then being taken up to Albert Jackson's house and food given to us to eat for we were then pretty well starved by that time. We got through eating. In the meantime the Ucluelet Indians had assembled in their potlatch hall and got their tupaati games ready for us. Then about 1 (4?) o'clock p.m. ʔanaʔa and with two others came into the house where we were singing čiiqaa song. Then took us along to the big house wherein the Ucluelets were then assembled. We went into the big house singing song number one on page one and we finished singing. Then the spokesman of the Ucluelet spoke 'now then you Tsishaath get ready. You are now to buy a woman.' First to appear was a heavy weight tupaati was a big sack full of wet sand [representing a bucket full of dried whale fat] a string tied around it. We were to use one's little finger and carry it. Tolmish got up, picked it up and carried it with ease. We then all got up and yelled to show we were there with the goods. Then next a rope was brought out tied onto a big box full of rocks also representing whale meat or fat. We all had a try at it but failed to budge it. We learned afterwards it was being nailed to the floor, the box, but they gave the prize to Tommy Bill \$9. Tolmish Maatkwa was also being given \$2. Then the Ucluelet sang two songs for

Albert Jackson haachuuła songs then passed each one of us \$1. Several others sang haachuuła songs and passed to each one of 50 cents each. Then ended our pay for woman ?? We stayed in Ucluelet several days waiting for return of S.S. Tees and nothing of importance occurred during that time, only several Indians invited us to their houses to eat at times.

53.31 pałuus .  
pałuus  
Pathluus  
Pathluus  
(Then to Mrs Kiiwaash and to) Pathluus.

53.32 łana?a .  
łana?a  
Tlana'a  
Tlana'a  
Tlana'a (later brought the visitors to the potlatch house).