

GUINAANG BONTOK TEXTS

The Dokodok Prayer¹ (Text K4)

1. **San sin-agi ay ipogaw, inanapdas indalewda.** 1. The two brothers hunted for something to sustain them.
2. **Mamibiligda, maidaldaldas natimodan nan danom.** 2. They climbed the mountains, and reached the gathering of the waters.
3. **Danena ya pad-ananda nan tapan nan kal-atab² ay pagey, nan owak nan tongango,³ nan okit nan aggong.** 3. Suddenly they came upon the husks of newly harvested rice, the sheaths of corn and the shells of field snails.
4. **"Sino nan ninlatab si sa? Entat sa wanden."** 4. "Who harvested that? Let's go and trace him."
5. **Omalidad Baliwen.** 5. They came to Faliwen.
6. **Omalidas nan iBaliwen, "Bakenkamis ninlatab."** 6. They came to the people of Faliwen, "It wasn't us who harvested."
7. **Omalidad Gawa.** 7. They came to Cawa.
8. **Ibagadas nan iGawa, "Bakenkamis nas nan ninlatab."** 8. They asked the people of Cawa, "It wasn't us here who harvested."
9. **Omalidad Paling.** 9. They came to Paling.
10. **Ibagadas nan iPaling, "Bakenkamis nan ninlatab."** 10. They asked the people of Paling, "It wasn't us who harvested."
11. **Osaolenda nan Dekaal, tay insinidaol⁴ nan Makonano.** 11. They followed a stream to Chekaar, because they visited with the people of Makonano.
12. **"Into nan malpos ili ay Lige?"** 12. "Where is the one (stream) starting from the village of Lige?"
13. **"Nan pet malpos ilis Lidem. Naay bolingling nan mangil-ilpowanas nan tapan nan pagey, nan okit nan aggong, ya nan owak nan tongango, ya nan okis nan itab."** 13. "It is the one starting from the village of Liche. This clear water is what is bringing down the husks of rice, the shells of field snails, the sheaths of corn and the shells of beans."
14. **Omeydad Langtagan.** 14. They went to Langtagan.
15. **Sagsagangendad Pak-et, et kait-itet.** 15. They looked ahead to Pak-et, it just became quiet.
16. **Komay-at si nan Dagodog, inkanatey si nan Atiwelwel.** 16. He climbed up to Chacocho, and went straight on to Atiwelwel.

17. **Osodongana nan Alimegmegan si nan Yommad.** 17. He looked down at the descendants of Alimegmeg at Yommad.
18. **Kankanan nan iYommad, "Baken nan malpos Lidem, deey ay Botiwtey nan mangil-ilpowanas nan tapan nan pagey ay kal-atab, okis nan tongango, ya nan okis nan itab."** 18. The people of Yommad were saying, "It's not the stream that comes from Lidem, it is the Botiwtey stream that is bringing down the husks of newly harvested rice, sheaths of corn, and shells of beans."
19. **Komay-ataad Giwang.** 19. They climbed to Ciwang.
20. **"Nan pet pay iLitangban nan ninlatab."** 20. "So it's the Litangfan people who have started harvesting."
21. **Esadat katkataw-an nan gaeb nan dokodok.** 21. They said the *dokodok* prayer.
22. **Kanenda nan kal-atab ay pagey ya adida kayawyawan.⁵** 22. They eat the newly harvested rice and they don't get sick from it.
23. **Okitanda nan aggong ya adida kadawes.** 23. They shell the field snails and do not get sick.
24. **Kanenda nan tongangoda ya adida kayawyawan.** 24. They eat their corn and don't get sick.
25. **Pakdelmis nan Paliwak ay kegsel ya sikal, somikal nan latabenmis na, ya inkekegselkami ay mangan si nan linatab ya mangokit si nan aggong.** 25. Our *pakdel* spirit at Paliwak who is resistant and gives increase, may what we harvest here increase, and may we who eat the harvested rice and the shelled field snails be resistant.
26. **Pakdelmis nan Baang ay tengnen, intetengnenkami, tay naay ay iyal-alawagko sik-as nan dokodok.** 26. Our *pakdel* spirit at Faang who is cool, may we be cool, because here we are mentioning you in the *dokodok*.
27. **Adikami kayawyawan si nan kanenmi, ay kal-atabay pagey, ya nan okitanmi ay aggong, ya nan tongango.** 27. May we not get sick from what we eat, the newly harvested rice, the snails we shell, and the corn.

NOTES

¹ This prayer is said during a ceremony of the same name which is performed on the first day of harvest, when a woman from each family goes to the fields to collect a bundle of unripe rice (also called *dokodok*). It is made that night into a confectionary called doom, this ritual prayer is said over it and it is then hung in the house until the following morning when it can be eaten by children. The purpose of the ceremony is to prevent a sickness called *madawes* which can affect people who eat newly harvested rice. It is also said during the *ketketad* ceremonies which are part of the *bayas* marriage ceremonies, following the removal of the *bansal* structures from which the heads of sacrificed water buffalo are hung (see Text C11).

² *latab* "the first rice harvested after dokodok"

³ The term presently used for corn in Guinaang is *tongnga*.

⁴ *asidaol* "to visit each other"

⁵ *iyawyaw* "to wash clean by pushing in and out of water", *mayawyawan* "to have a washed out feeling, following an attack of diarrhoea"