

The Story of Ho Writing

dzoarge hon-ko
greetings child-PL
'Greetings children!'

enredo abu abu-e? ho hayam-te ho bhasa-te ho language-te tisiŋ
ok we we-GEN ho language-ABL ho O.language-ABL ho E.language-ABL today
'OK today we are going to (talk) about our Ho language'

tfiliken lipi-ko mena? -a
what.kind letter-PL COP-FIN
'what kinds of letters there are'

ondo?o tfilike-ko pala-o?-iy-a
and how-PL read-PSSV/ITR-FUT-FIN
'and how they are read'

ena-ko ape-ko samay-re=liŋ dʒagar-iy-a
that-PL you.PL-PL front-LOC=1PL speak-FUT-FIN
'I (POL) will speak about these in front of you'

enage saben etoi-ek-a bugile-kate ondo?o desum-re nitir-e=pe
that-FOC all learn-PSSV/ITR-FIN do.well-GER/DS and country-LOC spread-FUT:FIN=2PL
'(so that) it will all have been learned well and you will spread it out in the country'

ayum-ke-ɖ-a=pe ondo?o maj-ta-ko babu-ta-ko
listen-T/A-TR-FIN=2PL and girl-EMPH-PL boy-EMPH-PL
'did you listen girls and boys?'

tisiŋ aliŋ kadʒi tej-a?-a-do nen tfiti-do-ko meta-?-a waraŋ tfiti lipi
today we say AUX-ITR/PSSV-FIN-EMPH this writing-EMPH-PL say-ITR/PSSV-FIN waraŋ tfiti
letter
'today we will speak about these ways of writing, that are called the Warang Chiti letters'

1:30

ne-ja-do Pandit Lako Bod[o]ra tikiŋ nen lipi-do=kij olen=taiken-a
this-FOC-EMPH Pandit Lako Bodra himself this letter-EMPH=3DL write=PROG.PST-FIN
'this Pandit Lako Bodra himself produced in writing these letters'

nen tfiti-re-?a nutumdo tfikana-?-a waraŋ tfiti
this writing-LOC-GEN name-EMPH call-PSSV/ITR-FIN waraŋ tfiti
'this way of writing is called the Warang Chiti'

1:42

tfinakana-ʔ-a waray tfiti

call-RFLXV-T/A-ITR-FIN *waray tfiti*

‘was called Warang Chiti

nente saben=ko ajaraj-te nen-do-ko meta-ʔ-a omm

this-FOC/EMPH all=PL come.first-T/A that-EMPH-PL say-PSSV/ITR-FIN *Om*

‘that one there, the ones that always come first, those are said “Om”

tfinaka-a meta-ʔ-a omm

call-PSSV/ITR-FIN say-PSSV/ITR-FIN *Om*

‘how is it called? it is said Om’

ena tʃana^ʔp-te ne-ja-do siʃie-ko raʔaj-e-ko-leka wã tʃenaʔa-ko kadzi-e wã

that finish-ABL that-FOC-EMPH small.child-PL cry-FUT-PL-PP *wã* what-3PL say-FUT:FIN *wã*

‘that next one there, that one is like as babies cry, *wã*, what do they say, *wã*’

saben-ko ajte ajar-re siʃi-eʔ jonom-eja-n-[d]re wã mente raʔaj atfi bano

all-PL first come.first-LOC small.child-3 be.born-T/S-ITR-LOC *wã* like cry-FUT:FIN or not

‘when all of them first come out, when a small child is born, (he) cries *wã*, isn’t it so?’

manoa jonom-re ratom kadzi eʃeʔ -ti-a-do

human birth-LOC just.at?? speak AUX-T/A-FIN-EMPH

‘just when a human is born, [s]he starts to speak’

wã mente ma mente kaʔ-eʔ kadzi-e wã mente kadzi-e[ʔ]

wã like *ma* like NEG-3 speak-FUT *wã* like say-FUT-?

‘like *wã* s/he speaks not *ma*, s/he speaks like *wã*’

2:22

ne-ja-do maray tfiti ne-ja-do huriŋ

this-FOC-EMPH big case this-FOC-EMPH small

‘this one is the upper case and this one is the lower’

2:30

enete ena tʃana^ʔp-te siʃie-do-ko=eʔ maray-ja-n-[d]re/te tʃinaʔ men-ij-a

then that finish-ABL little.child-EMPH-PL=3 grow-T/A-ITR-LOC/ABL what say-FUT-FIN

‘then this next one, little children, when they grow up, what do (they) say’

eŋga-do aʔaj-taj-e ka=ko men-ij-a

mother-EMPH set.free-T/A-3:FIN NEG=3PL say-FUT-FIN
'the mother sets them free, isn't it so'

enleka ne-ja=ko men-ij-a a? tʃilike kadzi-re
like.that this-EMPH=3PL say-FUT-FIN set.free how say-LOC
'it's like that, how they will say it, like a?'

siʃi=e? aʔa-k-i-redo iniʔi-do sen-ij-a
child=3 set.free-PSSV/ITR-FUT-COND those-EMPH go-FUT-FIN
'when the child is set free, those ones will go'

ban-ta-redo ijuʔe juʔe ijuʔe ban-ta-re juwe parkom-ete ijuʔ-e
not-EMPH-COND jump.up (3x) not-EMPH-LOC jump.up-fut:fin bed-ABL jump.up-
FUT:FIN
if not, (s/he will) jump up, if not, (s/he) will jump up from the bed'

ente ni-ja-do=ko men-ij-a ujʔ
then this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FUT-FIN *ujʔ*
'then this is how they say this one *ujʔ*'

tʃinaʔ =ko men-ij-a ujʔ
what=3PL say-FUT-FIN *ujʔ*
'what do they say? *ujʔ*'

3:00

enleka ujʔ-ke-redo juw-e
like.that jump.up-T/A-COND fall.down-FUT:FIN
'(and) if (s/he) jumps up like that, (then) she will fall down'

ena tʃinaʔ ne-ja tʃinaʔ =ko meta juʔ
that what this-FOC what=3PL say *juʔ*
'what's that?, this one they pronounce *juʔ*'

enajte neʔe ne-ja-do aʔe
then this this-FOC-EMPH *aʔe*
'then this one here, this one is *aʔe*'

tʃina=ko mena-je aʔe
what=3PL say-FUT:FIN *aʔe*
'what they call this is *aʔe*'

ondo ne-ja-do o?
and this-FOC-EMPH *o?*
'and this one is *o?*'

tfina=bu meta o?
what=1PL say *o?*
what we call this one is *o?*'

3:30
ena-do ne-ja-do mis-ete ule-tan-re
that-EMPH this-FOC-EMPH throat-ABL vomit-PROG-LOC

jantan-ko-re ka=bu men-ij-a
different.places-PL-LOC NEG=1PL say-FUT-FIN
'that's not what we call that one, this is when vomit comes out all over out'

ija? o? ka=bu men-ij-a
ija? o? NEG-=1PL say-FUT-FIN
'*ija?* (we say) we don't say *o?*'

heja? tfina?-ko-ta
heja? what-PL-T/A:FIN
'*heja?* is what they (say)'

ente ne-ja-do=ko meta?-a hejo?
then this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FIN *hejo?*
'then this one here they pronounce *hejo?*'

tfina?=ko meta?-[a] hejo?
what=3PL say-FIN *hejo?*
'what do they say, *hejo?*'

ena tsana²p-te ne-ja-do i
that finish-ABL this-FOC-EMPH i
'that next one, this is i'

tfenaka=ko men-ij-a i
what=3PL say-FUT-FIN i
'waht they call this is i'

ondo?o ne-ja-do tfina-bu men-ij-a u

and this-FOC-EMPH what-1PL say-FUT-FIN u
'and this one here what we call it is u'

ne-te enajte nen ajer-te ko nen-ta-re
this-ABL then this come.first-ABL they?? this-EMPH-LOC
after this then, starting from the beginning here'

4:15

ena ete nen wã a[ʔ] ujʔ juʔ aʔe oʔ i u hejoʔ hejaʔ
that begin:FUT:FIN this wã a[ʔ] ujʔjuʔ aʔe oʔ i u hejoʔ hejaʔ
'that begins like this wã a uj ju aʔe oʔ i u hejoʔ hejaʔ'

neʔen ne-ja-do-ko metaʔ-a bowels bowels
this:EMPH this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FIN vowels vowels
'these ones here they call bowels'

bowel english-te vowel tfiti=ko metaʔ-a ho-te-do...
bowel English-ABL vowel word=3PL say-FIN ho-ABL-EMPH
'bowel (we say) in Ho, from the English word vowel'

ija enlekan doburi tfiti-te=ko metaʔ-a
disc like.that double/diphthongs letter-ABL=3PL say-FIN
'those ones like that they call doburi (diphthongs)'

4:30

enajte abu naʔ-do nen-ta-ete=bu eʔeʔ -ej-a
then we now-EMPH this-EMPH-ABL=1PL start-FUT-FIN
'Now then we will start with these here'

ne-ja tfina=ko menaʔ-a oʔ
this-FOC what=3PL say-FIN oʔ
'this one is what the call oʔ'

tfenaʔ=ko menaʔ-a oʔ
what=3PL say-FIN oʔ
'what do they call it? oʔ'

tfenaʔ=ko men-ej-a gojʔ
what=PL say-FUT-FIN gojʔ
'what they call (this) is gojʔ'

tfinaʔ=ko men-ij-a ko
what=3PL say-FUT-FIN *ko*
'what they call (this) is *ko*'

ena-ja-ko meta wij
that-FOC=3PL say:FIN *wij*
'that one they call *wij*'

kadzi-pe siʔie-ko bij wij
say-2PL child-PL *bij wij*
'say it children, *bij, wij*'

enete naʔ-ja-do=ko meta widʒ
then this!-FOC-EMPH=3PL say *widʒ*
'this this one here they call *widʒ*'

tfena=ko meta widʒ
what=3PL say *widʒ*
'what they call it is *widʒ*'

enate tfanaʔp-te tfena=ko metaʔ-a witʃ
then finish-ABL what=3PL say-FIN *witʃ*
'then the next one is what they call *witʃ*'

ena tfanaʔp-te nen-ta=bu nele-tan-a
that finish-ABL this-EMPH=1PL see:3?-PROG-FIN
'the next one we see'

ne-ja-do=ko meta eŋ
this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say:FIN *eŋ*
'this one they call e⁻'

eŋ kadzi-pe
eŋ say-2PL
'say *eŋ*'

enajte ne-ja-do daru oq-ia-n-a ka=ko metaʔ-a
then this-FOC-EMPH tree cut.down-t/A-ITR-FIN NEG=3PL say-FIN
then this next one here, trees are cut down, don't they say'

daru nen-ta oḍ-ia-n-a rapuḍ-ija-n-[a]

tree this-FOC cut.down.by.person-T/A-ITR-FIN cut.down.by.nature-T/A-ITR-FIN
'a tree is (/may be) cut down'

nen lipi=ko meta?-a oḍ

this letter=3PL say-FIN oḍ
'this letter they call oḍ'

tʃina=ko meta?-a oḍ

what=3PL say-FIN oḍ
'what do they call this. oḍ'

5:45

ena tʃana¹p-te ne-ja-do dzana iju?-je-n-dre

that finish-ABL this-FOC-EMPH side fall-T/A-ITR-LOC
'the next one, this is when (something) falls on its side'

tʃitana-ete latar otere ju-jen-re tɛʔe mente kasar-ije

up-ABL down ground-LOC fall-T/A-ITR-LOC tɛʔe like sound-FUT:FIN
'when from up above it falls and hits the ground, it sounds like tɛʔe'

enleka uru?-i-pe ondo kadzi-pe

like.that think-FUT-2PL and speak-FUT-2PL
'think about it like that and say it'

6:00

en tʃina=ko kadzi-je

that what=3PL say-FUT:FIN
'that one is what they call'

enajte ho ungur-e-n-re tʃilike naɲnuɲ ba:n-tan-a ka=ko men-ij-a

then person bend.forward-T/A-ITR-LOC person back.and.forth AUX-PROG-FIN NEG=3PL
say-FUT-FIN
'when a person bends forward, they rock back and forth so (naNnuN) don't they say'

ne-ja-do tʃina=ko kadzi-je nuɲ

this-FOC-EMPH what=3PL speak-FUT-FIN nuɲ
'this one is what they call nuɲ'

ajum-ke-ḍ-a-pe saben

hear-t/A-TR-FIN-2PL all
'did you all hear (that)?'

6:20

enajte nen-ta-do tʃilike nel-oʔ-tan-a
then this-EMPH-EMPH how see-PSSV/ITR-PROG-FIN
then this one here how does it look?'

nen-ta nen-do tʃikana em-aka-n-a
this-EMPH this-EMPH what give/put-T/A-ITR-FIN
'this one here what's it give (the appearance of)?'

nemeney leka daʔa pere-jeka-n-a leka nel-oʔo-tan-a
up.to.this like water be.filled-T/A-ITR-FIN like see-PSSV/ITR-PROG-FIN
'it looks like water could be filled up to this like that'

6:30

esu rāsa-te-bu urum-ke-ɖ-a
very happy-ABL=1PL know/recognize-T/A-TR-FIN
'we very happily recognize it'

naʔa-do tʃina=bu kadzi-e menta-do
now-EMPH what-1PL say-fut:fin like-EMPH
'now what is it that we call this one like'

tʃinaʔa=ko kadzi-e daʔa
what=3PL say-FIN:FUT *daʔa* (water)
'what they call it is *daʔa*'

abu-eʔ desum-do go:lge menaʔatʃa gu:lge mena-ke-ɖ-a
we-GEN country-EMPH round COP.NFIN round[ness] say-T/A-TR-FIN
'our country is round, (they) have told (us) it is round'

6:40

ne-ja-do enleka abu desum-reʔ-aʔ desum leka nel-oʔ-tan leka ot
this-FOC-EMPH like.that we country-LOC-GEN country like see-PSSV/ITR-PROG like ot
'this one here we it looks like our country , like our world'

tʃina=bu kadzi-e ot
what=1PL say-FUT:FIN ot

‘what we call (this) is ot’

{ote-desum = world}

ne-ja-do abu tʃina=bu kadzi-e ne-ja-do-ko meta homo

this-FOC-EMPH we what=1PL say-FUT:FIN this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say:FIN homo
‘this one here, what we call this one here, they call it homo’

7:05

ado enleka-ge ne-ja-do bu tʃina=ko kadzi-e bu

it like.that-FOC this-FOC-EMPH bu what=3PL say-FUT:FIN BU
‘then that one it is like that, this one is bu, we they call this is bu’

ne-ja-do tʃilike nel-oʔ-tan-a marda miyēḍ sakam-te bai-oʔ-leka pu leka nel-oʔ-tan-a kalgi leka

this-FOC-EMPH how see-PSSV/ITR-PROG-FIN CAN.YOU.TRY one.NONHUMN leaf-ABL create-PSSV/ITR-PP leaf.cup like see-PSSV/ITR-PROG-FIN leaf.plate like
‘this one here how does it look?, come now, it looks like a leaf cup made from a single leaf, (or) like a leaf plate’

ne-ja-do=ko metaʔ -a pu

this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FIN pu
‘this one they call pu’

7:20

dijey=ko nui-ti-aʔ leka kadzi-oʔo-tan-a enleka nel-oʔ-tan-ti-aʔ esu bania-te leka-te

country.liquor=3PL drink-ABL-GEN like say-PSSV/ITR-PROG-FIN like.that see-PSSV/ITR-PROG-ABL-GEN very beautiful-ABL like-ABL

‘it is said like what they drink country liquor from, it looks like that, quite beautiful[ly]’

esu anja-te jirgel eto-ja martʃi naʔa=bu kadzi-e pu

very quick-ABL be.aware learn-FUT:FIN let’s.try now=1PL say-FUT-FIN pu
‘very quickly (you) will learn it, nowlet’s have a go, let’s say pu’

ente ne-ja-do=ko metaʔ-a hojo

then this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FIN hojo
‘then this one here they call hojo’

ente=ko tʃina=ko metaʔ-a hojo

then=3PL what=3PL say-FIN hojo
‘that one they, they call it hojo’

ente enleka-ge ne-ja-do holo holo
then like.that=FOC this-FOC-EMPH *holo holo*
'then this is one like *holo holo*'

tfina? =ko meta?-a holo holo
what=3PL say-FIN *holo holo*
'what they call this one is *holo, holo*'

ondo?o ne-ja-do-ko meta?-a hoṛa
and this-FOC-EMPH=3PL say-FIN *hoṛa*
'and they call this one *hoṛa*'

tfina=bu kadzi-e ne-ja-do
what=1PL say-FIN this-FOC-EMPH
'what we call this one is'

ente ne-ja-do meta?-a=bu kadzi-e har
then this-FOC-EMPH say-FIN=1PL say-FIN *har*
'then this one is what that is called, we call it *har*'

tfina? =ko meta? -a har
what=3PL say-FIN *har*
'what they call this one is *har*'

enajte nē?e ne-ja-do su
then this:EMPH this-FOC-EMPH *su*
'then this one is *su*'

tfina=bu kadzi-e su
what=1PL say-FIN *su*
'what we call this is *su*'

ondo?o ne-ja-do esu anja-te toraṅ=bu nel urum-ej-a najele-leka nel-o?o-tan-te-a?
tfina=bu kadzi-e si
and this-FOC-EMPH very quick-ABL perhaps-1PL see+recognize-FUT-FIN plough-PP see-
PSSV/ITR-PROG-ABL-GEN what=1PL say-FIN *si*
'and this one perhaps very quickly (you) will see and recognize as because it looks like a
plough, what we call this is *si*'

ne-ja-do=bu si-ti-a
this-FOC-EMPH=1PL plough-ABL//T/A-FIN
'this is what we plough with'

enajte ne-ja-do maraŋ kero?o mena?-a kero mena?-a
then this-FOC-EMPH big case COP-FIN case COP-FIN
'then this one here is the upper case, the case'

ne-ja-do=ko huriŋ huriŋ-ti-a maraŋ-ti-a-do maraŋ-leka-ge ol-aka-n-a
this-FOC-EMPH=3PL small small-ABL//T/A-FIN big-ABL//T/A-FIN-EMPH big-PP-FOC write-
PLUP-ITR-FIN
'these ones here they smally and bigly like this big have been written'

enleka kitep-ko tŋap-aka-n-ti-a? bano-leka-te-a
like.that book-PL print-PLUP-ITR-ABL-GEN NEG.COP-PP-ABL-GEN
'because we don't any books printed with them with us'

ka=liŋ udub daie-ten-e
NEG=1DLX [make.]understand CAP-PROG-FIN
'we can't really make you understand'

uru?u-je=liŋ ape esu anjate en kitep-ko=liŋ udub-e-pi-a
think-T/A=1DL you very quickly that book-PL=1DL make.understand-FUT-2PL-FIN
'we think that we could make you understand very quickly those books'

gapa gapa tŋimite pala-o? hob-a-n-a
tomorrow tomorrow when read-PSSV/ITR AUX-T/A-ITR-FIN
'tomorrow, tomorrow when the reading continues'

*en gapa pala-o? hoba-i-redo kitep-ko tŋilike udub-kete en na? saben kadzi=liŋ udub-
e-pi-a*
that tomorrow read-PSSV/ITR AUX-FUT-COND book-PL how make.understand-DS? that now
all QUOT/COMP-1DL make.understand-FUT-2PL-FIN
'tomorrow reading will continue and we will teach you all to understand how (toread)
these books'

tisiŋ=e? pal-o?-do nen-ta-re-bu mutŋire-tan-a
today=EMPH?/3 read-PSSV/ITR-EMPH this-EMPH-LOC=1PL stop-PROG-FIN
'today we are going to stop here now'

eja marena-do tisiŋ nen-ta-re mutŋire-tan-a
yes for.now-EMPH today this-EMPH-LOC stop-PROG-FIN
'yes, today (let's) stop here for now'

as told by K C Naik Biruli 9/12/05 BBSR