

SIMANJAS

Sa pengalyang asano / similena tado, ang
naraya: Namāng sam / kāryo nay taryankay
bengyon adāhalya. / Ya hemayong kiyisa
nasay adany', ahalya, / marinas avanu-ngas.

Ang ningyon igān nay / nanding dijisu yona
nosānas kilisarya / nay sagoyamanas:
Sa layaya ban-ikan / tiyanyāng da-dikun
si telugtong tarela, / ya sapratos linyaye:
sapayas si sagoyong; / padangas si kondis'yong.

Nay sa tahanyo eda- / narān bengyamanya:
“Garanang nā SIMANJAS, / bayhiang bayhiyena:

Sa silvu gumo nā, / nay prisu, vāng si lita!”

Hangara ranyareng palung. / Le apanisareng
ahal-nama kebay, pray, / soya, litoya kayvay,
miday nernanyēa / eda-kiyanena nake.

Persi Bis Seli

Analysis

Sa pengal-yang asano-Ø simil-ena tado, ang
 PF meet-1S.A traveler-FOC country-GEN old, AF

I met a traveler of an old country,

nara-ya-Ø: Nama-ang sam kāryo nay taryan-kay
 say-3SM-FOC: leg-A two big and torso-less

he said: Two big and torso-less legs

beng-yon ada=ahal-ya. Ya hema-yong kiyisa
 stand-3SN that=desert-LOC. LOCF lie-3SN.A shattered

stand in the desert. It lies shattered

nasay adanya-Ø, ahal-ya, marin-as avanu=ngas.
 near_of that-FOC, sand-LOC, face-P sunken=almost.

in the near of that, in the sand, a face almost sunken.

Ang ning-yon igān-Ø nay nanding-Ø dijisu yona
 AF tell-3PN frown-FOC and lips-FOC twisted 3SN.GEN

Its frown and twisted lips tell

nosān-as kilisarya nay sago-yam-an-as:
 command-P strict and mock-PTCP-NMLZ-P:

of strict command and mockery:

Sa laya-ya ban=ikan tiyanya-ang da=dikun-Ø
 PF read-3SM good=very creator-A such=passion-FOC

Very well read the creator such passion,

si telug-tong tarela, ya sapra-tos linya-ye-Ø:¹
 REL survive-3PN.A still, LOCF stamp-3PN.P thing-PL-FOC

which survives still, stamped on the things:

sapay-as si sago-yong; pandang-as si kondisa-yong.
 hand-P REL mock-3SN.A; heart-P REL feed-3SN.A

the hand that mocks; the heart that feeds.

Nay sa tahan-yo eda=narān-Ø beng-yam-an-ya:
 and PF write-3SN this=word-FOC stand-PTCP-NMLZ-LOC:

and these words are written on the pedestal:

¹ si tenarya
 REL unalive
which are unalive

"Garan-ang nā SIMANJAS, bayhi-ang bayhi-ye-na:
 "name-A 1S.GEN OZYMANDIAS, ruler-A ruler-PL-GEN:
 "My name is OZYMANDIAS, king of kings:

Sa silv-u gumo-Ø nā, nay pris-u, vāng si lita!"
 PF see-IMP work-FOC 1S.GEN, and tremble-IMP, 2S.A REL mighty!"
 Behold my work, and tremble, who art mighty!"

Hang-ara ranya-reng palung. Le apanisa-reng
 remain-3S.INAN nothing-A.INAN else. PF.INAN stretch-3S.INAN.A
 Nothing else remains. It stretches

ahal-Ø=nama kebak, pray, soya, lito-ya kayvay,
 sand-FOC=just lonely, smooth, empty, border-LOC without,
 only the lonely, smooth, empty, borderless sand

miday nernan-ye-eda=kiyan-ena nake.
 around part-PL-LOC this=wreckage-GEN large.
 around the pieces of this large wreckage.

Form of the Translation

The original poem, "Ozymandias," by Percy Bysshe Shelley (1817), is a sonnet: It has 14 lines which mostly consist of iambic pentameter, with end-rhymes *abab acdc ede fef*. This sonnet form, however, could not be kept in Ayeri because the language differs too much in word structure from English. Thus, I took inspiration from early German sonnets, which were often written in alexandrines, that is, a verse of twice six syllables with a cesura in the middle of the line. Here, though, lines mostly contain twice seven syllables with a cesura in between – which, however, is covered up in line 10 out of necessity: "Nay sa tahanyo eda- / narān bengyamanya". Long vowels count two syllables. The line "Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things" ("Ozymandias" 7) from the original poem had to be shortened to exclude "lifeless", as I could not make it fit. While translating I have not cared about rhymes or syllable patterns. Where there are such structures this is by accident. Also I would consider it bad style to rhyme suffixes, because they are more prominent in Ayeri than for example in German or in English.

☞ 9 MARCH 2011.

Works Cited

Shelley, Percy Bysshe. "Ozymandias." *Representative Poetry Online*. Ed. Ian Lancashire. 3rd ed. U Toronto, 2009. Web. 8 Mar. 2011.