Fourth Language Creation Conference

May 14–15, 2011 ❧ Groningen, The Netherlands

≡ LCC4 Relay: Ayeri Torch ≡

Habas Atay

Ang saraye envan veno
manga luga satiruya,
nāry' ang raypaya habas
envanas takamenya, nay
naraya habasang atay:

"Ah! vāng veno-ing ikan!
Sa silvyang va, ang tavyon deng
nivaye nā palay'ri.
Sa kamavāng ven' kolun.
Ang no may kanāy vās."

Sa tangyeng narānye nay
cunye apayam envanang:
"Ang no kan'va yas sinyisa?
Sa koronoyvāng-nyama
garan nā. Ningu yām!"

"Garanas van'? Vāng tangkay?
Na kəprantoyyang adanya;
narayang, da-koronvāng:
'Ang no may kanāy vās!'
Sinya guratanley vana?"

"Dareng guratanley nā,"
naraye envanang nay sa
visyeng devo habasena
singeri yena seri kang
nay para, tenyisa naynay.

Luga sa hemis'yeng devo
tipuyya nasay malingya,
ang naraya takamenya
devo habasena atay:
"Sining… guratanley vana

'may'?"

1 Philip Newton's Torch in *Engadinese*

To trach garmà

Maia günäca oräa ippebe gia maia gefra an, pot oz en trach tschi etsch chatengmeni airi. To trach etsch lelalimen: "Ti oräa oz sü is! Sü m'ares-chis poglü! Eu baul se giamì." Ti günäca etsch gegelimen. "Prostì baulis me giamì? Sü au gignuos-chis gnanc t'onum mu!" To trach etsch erutimen: "T'onum su? Eu auk etsch erutimen pri t'onum su; eu etsch ätimen par sai giamì mai. Ti i t'apocrisi su?" — "Tuti i t'apocrisi mu," etsch ti günäca lelalimen, tschä tschaini etsch apotetmimen ti tschefali par to trach sün to xaif tschis. Stuora etsch ti tschefali par to trach o etsch tschetschimen is to edaf par ti ochi an lelalimen: "Pia... i t'apocrisi su 'nä'?"

2 My Translation of it into English

The Audacious He-Goat

A beautiful woman rode over a bridge, when a he-goat prevented her from going on. The he-goat said, "How beautiful you are! You look very pleasing to me! I want to marry you." The woman laughed. "Why do you want to marry me? You don't even know my name!" The he-goat asked: "Your name? I didn't ask about your name; I asked you to marry me. What is your reply?" — "This is my reply," said the woman, and she cut off the head of the he-goat with her sword. There the head of the goat, which had been laid onto the ground by the river bank, said, "So... is your reply 'yes'?"

3 Morpheme Analysis of the Ayeri Translation

1, 2, 3	- 1st, 2nd, 3rd person	IMP	- imperative mood	P	- patient case; plural (in pronouns, e.g. 3PM = 3rd pl. masc.)	
Ø	- covert morpheme	INAN	- inanimate			
A	- agent case	INS	- instrumental case			
AF	- agent focus	INT	- intensifying particle	PF	- patient focus	
COP	- copula	LOC	- locative case	PL	- plural	
F	- feminine	M	- masculine	PTCP	- participle	
FOC	- focus	MOT	- motive particle	REL	- relative pronoun	
GEN	- genitive case	NPST	- near past	S	- singular	

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Habas Atay                          envan-as takamenya, nay
goat   cheeky                       woman-P  suddenly, and
The Cheeky Goat                     the woman suddenly, and

Ang sara-ye envan-Ø  veno           nara-ya    habas-ang atay:
AF  go-3SF woman-FOC pretty         speak-3SM goat-A    cheeky
A pretty woman went                 the cheeky goat said:

manga luga    satiru-ya,            "Ah! Ø   vāng veno=ing  ikan!
MOT   through bridge-LOC,           "Ah! COP 2S.A pretty=so much!
over a bridge,                      "Oh, you're so beautiful!

nārya ang raypa-ya habas-Ø          Sa silv-yang va-Ø,   ang tav-yon    deng
but   AF  stop-3SM goat-FOC         PF see-1S.A 2S-FOC, AF  become-3PN full
but a goat stopped                  (If) I see you, (then) become full
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niva-ye-Ø  nā      palay-eri.
eye-PL-FOC 1S.GEN joy-INS.
my eyes with joy.
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Sa kama-vāng     veno   kolun-Ø.
PF be_like-2S.A pretty moon-FOC.
You are as beautiful as the moon.
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Ang no   may kana-ay-Ø   vās."
AF  want INT marry-1S.FOC 2S.P."
I want to marry you."
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Sa tang-yeng  narān-ye-Ø  nay
PF hear-3SF.A word-PL-FOC and
The words she heard and
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cun-ye     apa-yam    envan-ang:
begin-3SF laugh-PTCP woman-A:
the woman began to laugh:
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"Ang no   kana-va-Ø    yas sinyisa?
"AF  want marry-2S.FOC 1S.P why?
Why do you want to marry me?
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Sa koron-oy-vāng=nyama
PF know-NEG-2S.A=even
You don't even know
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garan-Ø  nā.      Ning-u   yām!"
name-FOC 1S.GEN. tell-IMP 1S.DAT!"
my name. Tell me!"
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"Garan-as vana?  Ø   Vāng tangkay?
"name-P   2S.GEN? COP 2S.A deaf?
"Your name? Are you deaf?
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Na   kə-prant-oy-yang  adanya-Ø;
GENF NPST-ask-NEG-1S.A that-FOC;
I didn't ask for that;
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nara-yang,  da=koron-vāng:
speak-1S.A, such=know-2S.A:
I say/said, so you know:
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'Ang no may kanāy vās!'
'AF  want INT marry-1S.FOC 2S.P.'
'I want to marry you.'
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Ø   sinya guratan-ley   vana?"
COP what  answer-P.INAN 2S.GEN?"
What is your answer?"
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"Ø   da-reng      guratan-ley   nā,"
"COP such-A.INAN answer-P.INAN 1S.GEN,"
"Such is my answer,"
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nara-ye    envan-ang nay sa
speak-3SF woman-AF  and PF
said the woman and
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vis-yeng  devo-Ø    habas-ena
cut-3SF.A head-FOC goat-GEN
cut (off) the head of the goat
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sing-eri  yena     s-eri   Ø    kang
sword-INS 3SF.GEN REL-INS COP sharp
with her sword that is sharp
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nay para,   tenyisa naynay.
and quick, deadly  also.
and quick, and also deadly.
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Luga  sa hemisa-yeng devo-Ø
While PF lay-3SF.A    head-FOC
While she laid the head
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tipuy-ya  nasay maling-ya,
grass-LOC near  shore-LOC,
into the grass near the river bank,
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ang nara-ya    takamenya
AF  speak-3SM suddenly
suddenly spoke
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devo-Ø    habas-ena atay:
head-FOC goat-GEN   cheeky:
the head of the cheeky goat:
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"Sining…     Ø   guratan-ley   vana
"that_means… COP answer-P.INAN 2S.GEN
"Does that mean… your answer is
```

```
'may'?"
'yes'?"
'yes'?"
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4   Smooth Retranslation into English

The Audacious Goat

A beautiful woman went over a bridge, when a goat suddenly stopped her and said audaciously: "Oh, you're so beautiful. If I see you, my eyes are filled with joy! You are as beautiful as the moon. I want to marry you." The woman heard the words and began to laugh: "Why do you want to marry me? You don't even know my name. Do tell!" — "Your name? Are you deaf? That I didn't ask for; I said, just so you know: 'I want to marry you.' Now, what is your answer?" — "This is my answer," said the woman and cut off the head of the goat with her sharp, quick, and deadly sword. While she laid the head into the grass by the river bank, the head of the audacious goat suddenly spoke: "Does that mean... your answer is 'yes'?"

5   Word List

ADJ	- adjective	IN	- inanimate	PREP	- preposition
ADV	- adverb	INT	- interjection	PRON	- pronoun
ANI	- animate	N	- noun	Q	- question word, wh-word
CONJ	- conjunction	PART	- particle	V	- verb

adanya (PRON): that (one), it

ah (INT): Oh!, Ah!, …

ang / -ang (PART): anim. AGT case marker

apa- (V): to laugh

-as / sa (PART): anim. PAT case marker

atay (ADJ): audacious, cheeky; witty

-ay (PRON): 1st SG (agr. / foc.)

cun- (V): to begin

da- (PART): such, so that/as + verb

dareng (PRON): such (one)

deng (ADJ): full

devo (N ANI): head

-(e)na / na (PART): GEN case marker

envan (N ANI): woman

-(e)ri / ri (PART): INS case marker

garan (N ANI): name

guratan (N IN): answer, reply

habas (N ANI): goat; here: he-goat

hemisa- (V): to lay

-ikan (ADV): many, much; very

-ing (ADV): so + adj

kama- (V): to be like, to be as … as

kana- (V): to marry

kang (ADJ): sharp(-edged)

kə- (PART): near past marker

kolun (N ANI): moon

koron- (V): to know

-ley / le (PART): inanim. PAT case marker

luga (PREP): among, between; while, during;
    manga ~: through

maling (N IN): bank, shore

manga (PART): motion and progressive aspect

may, māy (PART): intensifier (with verbs)

may (INT): yes

na (PART): see '-(e)na'

nā (PRON): 1st SG GEN, 'my'

nara- (V): to say, to speak

narān (N ANI): word; language, speech

nārya (CONJ): but, however, though

nasay (PREP): in the near of

nay (CONJ): and

naynay (CONJ): also, as well, too; and so on,
    furthermore

ning- (V): to tell

niva (N ANI): eye

no- (V): to want

-nyama (ADV): even

-oy (PART): negation marker

palay (N ANI): joy, fun

para (ADJ): fast, quick

prant- (V): to ask (s.o. sth.)

raypa- (V): to stop

ri (PART): see '-(e)ri'

sa (PART): see '-as'

sara- (V): to go (to)

satiru (N IN): bridge

s(i)- (PRON): relative pronoun

silv- (V): to see

sing (N IN): large knife, sword

sining (CONJ): that means

sinya (Q): what?, which?, who?

sinyisa (Q): why?, because of what/who?, what
    for?

takamenya (ADV): suddenly

tang- (V): to hear

tangkay (ADJ): deaf (cf. *tang* 'ear; to hear' + *kayvay* 'without')

tav- (V): to become, to get

tenyisa (ADJ): deadly, lethal

tipuy (N ANI): grass

-u (PART): imperative marker

-va (PRON): 2nd SG/PL (agr. / foc.)

vana (PRON): 2nd SG/PL GEN, 'your'

vāng (PRON): 2nd SG/PL AGT, 'you'

vās (PRON): 2nd SG/PL PAT, 'you'

veno (ADJ): beautiful, handsome, pretty

vis- (V): to cut (off)

-ya, -ea / ya (PART): LOC case marker

-ya (PRON): 3rd SG masculine (agr. / foc.)

-yam / yam (PART): DAT case marker

yām (PRON): 1st SG DAT, '(to/for) me'

yang (PRON): 1st SG AGT, 'I'

yas (PRON): 1st SG PAT, 'me'

-ye (PART): PL marker

-ye (PRON): 3rd SG feminine (agr. / foc.)

yena (PRON): 3rd SG feminine GEN, 'her'

yeng (PRON): 3rd SG feminine AGT, 'she'

-yon (PRON): 3rd PL neuter (agr. / foc.)

6   Grammar Notes

Allophony

Two same vowels colliding result in a long vowel, e.g. [a]# + #[a] results in [aː] <ā>. A combination of [t, k] + [j] <y> results in [tʃ] <c>; likewise [d, g] + [j] <y> results in [dʒ] <j>.

Word order

Word order is usually *V A P O*, where *O* is any of the oblique arguments (here: *genitive, locative, instrumental*). Modifiers generally follow their heads, and this also goes for possessive constructions, where the order is possessee-possessor. Even noun-noun compounds take this order. Question words usually take the position of the phrase they replace.

Nouns

Nouns are either animate or inanimate, also they may differ in number between singular and plural. They take case markers as suffixes, or a zero suffix when being focussed, i.e. when made definite and the kind-of-subject of the sentence.

Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns are marked for gender, number and case. They may also be focussed, in which case the case marker is split off, resulting in the same form as the verb agreement. If the Agent NP only consists of a pronoun, this pronoun replaces verb agreement and thus becomes cliticized to the verb stem.

Relative Pronouns

The relative pronoun, if not marked for case, refers to the immediately preceding NP. Otherwise, e.g. if it is separated from the noun it refers to by a modifying adjective, it agrees with its head-NP in case.

Verbs

Verbs usually agree with the Agent of the sentence in person and number. If the Agent NP only consists of a pronoun, this pronoun replaces verb agreement. Verbs can be negated as well. Also, they are frequently preceded by the case marker of the focussed noun phrase (which in turn becomes zero-marked) in its unbound (i.e. non-suffixed) form, e.g. NOUN-*as* → *sa* VERB NOUN-ø. The copula is a zero-morpheme, so predicative adjectives or phrases appear juxtaposed to verbs. If a verb has another verb as a complement, this complement will be a participle. A few verbs, like *no-*, are an exception to this, however, since the bare stem (i.e. *no*) is used as a kind of modal particle in this case, and the complement verb carries all inflection instead.

Adjectives and (Descriptive) Adverbs

Adjectives and adverbs are not inflected. They always follow their heads. Adjectives may function as descriptive adverbs also. Quantifying adverbs are usually expressed as suffixes to conjugated verbs.