The Sheep and the Horses – Schleicher's Fable

1. The text

1.1. Schleicher's fable

The text quoted below is the German one as it was published in Schleicher's article in *Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sprachforschung auf dem Gebiete der arischen, celtischen und slawischen Sprachen* in 1868:

[Das] schaf und [die] rosse.

[Ein] schaf, [auf] welchem wolle nicht war (ein geschorenes schaf) sah rosse, das [einen] schweren wagen fahrend, das [eine] große last, das [einen] menschen schnell tragend. [Das] schaf sprach [zu den] rossen: [Das] herz wird beengt [in] mir (es thut mir herzlich leid), sehend [den] menschen [die] rosse treibend.

   [Die] rosse sprachen: Höre schaf, [das] herz wird beengt [in den] gesehen-habenden (es thut uns herzlich leid, da wir wissen): [der] mensch, [der] herr macht [die] wolle [der] schafe [zu einem] warmen kleide [für] sich und [den] schafen ist nicht wolle (die schafe aber haben keine wolle mehr, sie werden geschoren; es geht ihnen noch schlechter als den rossen).

   Dies gehört-habend bog (entwich) [das] schaf [auf das] feld (es machte sich aus dem staube).

The Ayeri translation below, however, is based on the translation into English as given on Wikipedia, which is very close to but not exactly the same as the German text:[1]

The Sheep and the Horses

[On a hill,] a sheep that had no wool saw horses, one of them pulling a heavy wagon, one carrying a big load, and one carrying a man quickly. The sheep said to the horses: "My heart pains me, seeing a man driving horses." The horses said: "Listen, sheep, our hearts pain us when we see this: a man, the master, makes the wool of the sheep into a warm garment for himself. And the sheep has no wool." Having heard this, the sheep fled into the plain.

1.2. ꯑ꯭꯮ ꯱ ꯃꯤꯠꯕ

ꯁ꯭꯮ ꯀ꯭꯮꯫ ꯀꯤꯟꯄ ꯃꯤꯟꯄ ꯑꯤꯔꯕ ꯅ꯭꯮ꯈꯅꯥꯗ꯭꯮꯫ ꯅ꯭꯮ꯁ꯭꯮ꯀꯤꯠꯕ ꯖꯥꯕ ꯁ꯭꯮ꯀꯟꯗ꯭꯮ ꯁꯤꯅꯥꯗ꯭꯮ꯁ꯭꯮ꯅꯤꯀ꯭꯮ꯖ꯭꯮꯫꯫ ꯁꯥꯔ ꯅ꯭꯮ꯀꯟꯄꯟꯗꯥꯁ꯭꯮ ꯁꯤꯀꯅꯅꯅꯥꯕꯖ꯭꯮꯫ ꯁ꯭꯮ ꯅ꯭꯮ꯁꯟꯄ꯭꯮ꯗ꯭꯮ꯀ꯭꯮ꯖ꯭꯮꯫

   —ꯁꯥꯔ ꯃꯤꯟ ꯀꯅꯅ꯭꯮ꯕꯔ ꯖꯤꯀꯅ꯭꯮ꯁꯟ ꯁꯥꯔ ꯀꯅ꯭꯮ꯁꯟꯁ꯭꯮ꯖ꯭꯮ꯅꯤꯠꯕꯥ꯫

   ꯁꯥꯔ ꯖꯟꯁ꯭꯮ꯖ꯭꯮ꯅꯤꯠ

—ᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ—ᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ‖
ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ‖
ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫ ᤕᤫᤧ ᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧᤕᤫᤧ ‖

1.3. Mavi nay Pelye

Ang silvyo peljas turayya mavi si sapaya kayvay. Na kacyong pelye men savaley hagin, ang ninyo saman disyanley kāryo, nay ang ninyo para kayan ayonas. Ya narayo maviang pelye:

"Ang manga sikupyo padang nā, da-silvyang, ang lanca ayon peljas."

Ang narayon pelye:

"Tangu, mavi, ang manga sikupyon padangye nana, da-silvnang: Ang tiyaya ayon, si baykanas, dayungley mato sitang-yayam sapari maviyena. Nay mavijang sapaya kayvay."

Ang da-tangyo epang mavi, ya danguyong prihin.

2. Morphemic breakdown

Mavi nay Pel-ye

sheep and   horse-PL

(The) Sheep and (the) Horses

Ang silv-yo pel-ye-as turay-ya mavi-Ø si sapa-ya kayvay.

AT   see-3SN   horse-PL-P hill-LOC   sheep.T REL wool-LOC without.

The sheep, which was without wool, saw horses on a hill.

Na   kat-yong pel-ye-Ø men sava-ley   hagin, ang nin-yo   sam-an-Ø disyan-ley

GENT pull-3SN.A horse-PL-T one wagon-P.INAN heavy, AT   carry-3SN two-NMLZ-T bundle-P.INAN

    kāryo, nay ang nin-yo   para kay-an-Ø   ayon-as.

    large,   and   AT   carry-3SN quick three-NMLZ-T man-P.

One of the horses pulled a heavy wagon, the other carried a large bundle, and the third swiftly carried a man.

Ya   nara-yo mavi-ang pel-ye-Ø:

LOCT speak-3SN sheep-A   horse-PL-T:

(The) sheep said to the horses:

"Ang manga sikup-yo   padang-Ø nā,   da=silv-yang,   ang   lant-ya ayon-Ø

"AT   PROG   ache-3SN   heart.T   1S.GEN, such=see-1S.A,   AT   drive-3SM man.T

    pel-ye-as."

    horse-PL-P."

"My heart aches as I see that a man is driving horses."

Ang   nara-yon   pel-ye-Ø:

AT   speak-3PN   horse-PL-T:

The horses said:

"Tang-u, mavi,   ang   manga sikup-yon padang-ye-Ø nana,   da=silv-nang:

"hear-IMP, sheep, AT   PROG   ache-3PN   heart-PL-T   1P.GEN, such=see-1P.A:

"Listen, sheep, our hearts pain us as we see this:

Ang   tiya-ya   ayon-Ø, si baykan-as, dayung-ley   mato sitang=yayam sapa-ri

AT   make-3SM man.T,   REL master-P,   garment-P.INAN warm self=3SM.DAT   wool-INS

    mavi-ye-na.

    sheep-PL-GEN.

The man, who is the master, makes a warm garment for himself from (the) wool of (the) sheep.

Nay mavi-ye-ang   sapa-ya kayvay."

and   sheep-PL-A   wool-LOC without."

And the sheep are left without wool."

Ang da=tang-yo epang mavi-Ø, ya   dangu-yong   prihin-Ø.

AT   such=hear-3SN after   sheep.T, LOCT flee-3SN.A   plain.T.

After the sheep heard this, it fled into the plain.

3. Works Cited

Schleicher, August. "Eine fabel in indogermanischer ursprache." *Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sprachforschung auf dem Gebiete der arischen, celtischen und slawischen Sprachen* 5 (1868): 206–208. Google Books. Google, 2012. Web. 20 Dec. 2012. ‹ *http://books.google. com/books?id=7khKAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA206#v=onepage*›

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