The 'Lord's Prayer' in Ayeri: An Updated Translation

כיווחצל ל לכוניול

1 The Text

Natran na Nahang

Badan nana lenoya Ang mya hangyo ternu garan vana Ang mya sahayo lagasim vana Ang mya amangyo nōn vana

Avanya ku-lenoya.

Le ilu dabas vadisān diyan nana nyam Nay tatamu semānjas nana Ku-tatamnang adayam Si ang semayan nya ran

Nay lantoyu nas nembangya Nārya na madu nas nerau.

Yanoyam vana lagasimas Nay litās nay vomayas asayam.

Amen.

2 Some Notes

The first time I translated the *Lord's Prayer* was in 2008 (see Becker 2008), and the version then contained a few errors in hindsight: for example, I had translated ll. 3–4 with patient topics when there are no patients there, according to Ayeri's grammar. I have now updated the vocabulary in places, as well as the spelling, e.g. I changed : yeas '-PL-P' to -jas to better reflect actual pronunciation (l. 7). I also simplified phrasings in a few places, e.g. in 22 is to be avanya ku-lenoya 'on earth as in heaven' instead of the wordier is the contained at the vocabulary in the same way as well on Earth' (l. 5).¹ Curiously, I had earlier treated

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¹ The word for 'earth' has also since changed from ລັກວະ Areka to ລັກ ຂຸ່ avan, which simply means 'bottom; ground, soil', cf. German Erde or French terre.

nż ran 'against' like a preposition with a patient NP dependent; custom has changed it into a postposition since then, with regular locative marking on the postpositional object (l. 9). It used to be nż zṛ ran nas 'against us.p', but it is 22 nż nya ran 'us.Loc against' now.

Moreover, I have made efforts to digitalize Tahano Hikamu since my original translation of the *Lord's Prayer* seven years ago, so the text in Ayeri can be presented here in its native script.

3 Interlinear Glossing

(1) Badan nana lenoya

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badan nana leno -ya
father IPL.GEN heaven -LOC
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'Our father in heaven'

(2) Ang mya hangyo ternu garan vana

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ang mya hang -yo ternu garan -Ø vana

AT shall remain -3sg.N holy name -TOP 2sg.GEN

'Thy name remain holy'
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(3) Ang mya sahayo lagasim vana

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ang mya saha -yo lagasim -Ø vana
AT shall come -3sg.N kingdom -TOP 2sg.GEN
'Thy kingdom come'
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(4) Ang mya amangyo non vana

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ang mya amang -yo nōn -Ø vana

AT shall happen -3sg.N will -TOP 2sg.GEN

'Thy will happen'
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(5) Avanya ku-lenoya

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avan -ya ku= leno -ya
earth -Loc like= heaven -Loc
'On earth as in heaven'
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(6) Le ilu dabas vadisān diyan nana nyam

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le il -u dabas vadisān -Ø diyan nana nyam
PT.INAN give -IMP today bread -TOP daily IPL.GEN IPL.DAT
'Our daily bread give us today'
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(7) Nay tatamu semānjas nana

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nay tatam -u semān -j -as nana
and forgive -IMP failure -PL -P IPL.GEN
'And forgive our failures'
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(8) Ku-tatamnang adayam

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ku= tatam -nang ada -yamlike= forgive -IPL.A those -DAT'As we forgive those'
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(9) Si ang semayan nya ran

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si ang sema -yan -\varnothing nya ran REL AT fail -3PL.M -TOP IPL.LOC against 'Who fail against us'
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(10) Nay lantoyu nas nembangya

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nay lant -oy -u nas nembang -ya and lead -NEG -IMP IPL.P temptation -LOC 'And do not lead us into temptation'
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(11) Nārya na madu nas nerau

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n\bar{a}rya na mad -u nas nerau -\emptyset but GENT save -IMP IPL.P evil -TOP 'But from evil save us'
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And since I grew up in the Protestant (that is, Lutheran) tradition and am thus used to adding the doxology at the end:

(12) Yanoyam vana lagasimas

Yanoyam vana lagasim -a. because 2sG.GEN kingdom -P 'For thine is the kingdom'

(13) Nay litās nay vomayas asayam

nay lita -as nay vomay -as asayam and might -P and glory -P forever 'And the might and the glory forever'

Abbreviations

I	First person	GENT	Genitive topic	P	Patient
2	Second person	IMP	Imperative	PL	Plural
3	Third person	INAN	Inanimate	PT	Patient topic
Α	Agent	LOC	Locative	REL	Relative
AT	Agent topic	M	Masculine	SG	Singular
DAT	Dative	N	Neuter	TOP	Topic
GEN	Genitive	NEG	Negative		

References

Becker, Carsten. 2008. The Lord's Prayer. *Benung. The Ayeri Language Resource* (July 5). Accessed June 29, 2015. http://benung.nfshost.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/xmp_lordsprayer. pdf.