

TONSEA TEXT

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The following story is in the Tonsea language of Minahasa, North Sulawesi. The story was related by Mr. Christian L. Lewan from the village of Kauditan in the east of the Tonsea region. Although a few Tonsea texts were published last century they were from the western dialect and nothing from the eastern dialect has previously appeared. A word-for-word translation accompanies the text and a free translation into English follows.

The story describes the origin of the bird called by the Tonseans kokokuk because of its call. In the story a young boy, Sumuruk, grieves over his lost rooster, which has been cooked by his parents to feed the 'mapalus' workers. 'Mapalus' is a Minahasan custom whereby a group of landholders join together to work each member's fields in turn at planting and harvest time. Each person is obliged to feed the other members of the group while they work his land. Since Sumuruk's parents are out of provisions they decide to kill his pet rooster to feed the workers. Seeking his rooster Sumuruk cries si kogkoqku, si kogkoqku, which is rendered in the free translation as "my rooster, my rooster." Kogkoq actually means "fowl, chicken" and although it usually refers to a hen it here denotes the rooster, being a reduction of kogkoq dakaq "male fowl". The particle si is the animate noun marker and enclitic -ku is the possessive "my". Eventually Sumuruk turns into a bird and his cry si kogkoqku changes to the bird's call kokokuk.

Some explanation of the word-for-word translation is required. An attempt has been made to give a meaning for each word but obviously some glosses are only rough approximations. A few particles are not translatable. The most frequent of these are si marking singular animate nouns and se' marking plural animate nouns. When a Tonsea word contains a number of morphemes which are separately translatable or when one morpheme must be translated by more than one English word then the English words are linked by hyphens. Verbs in Tonsea are morphologically complex and although markers of tense and aspect are not indicated they are reflected in the free translation. Verb reduplication, indicating continuation or repetition of action, is indicated by repetition of the English gloss. Object and referent focus verbs are translated by English passives.

No punctuation is provided for the Tonsea text except that direct speech is placed in quotation marks. Each Tonsea sentence is separately numbered and the same number is used for the English translation although this sometimes requires more than one sentence.

The letter q represents glottal stop, e represents the mid central vowel [ə] and é represents the mid front vowel [e].

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si teloikiq sumuruk minawaduy tetéléwen  
young-boy Sumuruk change-into bird

1 umpuqna puqna rumaé nenaqan kinéqé sé  
previous previous very there-was it-is-said

mbudwudna burik parundangan wo naran rumaé  
feathers-his speckled reddish and tame very

dua senaqawu mekengaran tanod wo si dumpoq  
two one-kitchen have-name Tanod and Dumpoq

6 si dakaq yaqay rendemen rumaéraé ni teloikiq  
rooster this loved exceedingly by young-boy

2 mekarintéq séra si esa kampé tuama nginarananéra  
have-child they one just male named-by-them

tiqi nu ketaré  
that because first

sia si sumuruk  
he Sumuruk

si dakaq yaqay wangun umbudwudna kadua sia  
rooster this beautiful feathers-its second he

3 unumurna takad niqtu epat kampé netaqun  
age-his time that four just years

naraman unketedu  
tame third

4 sé teranak yaqay nenaqan si kogkoq dakaq  
family this have fowl male

si dakaq yaqay sondolman mengokungokuk unendo  
rooster this always crow-crow day

paringatenéra si esa udit  
reared-by-them one indeed

kaqapa mbengi  
or night

5 si kogkoq dakaq tiqi wangun rumaé nu  
fowl male that beautiful very because

7 niqtumo sia karetukan rumaéraé ni teloikiq  
thus he loved exceedingly by young-boy

- sumuruk tiqi  
Sumuruk that
- 8 unsusud mapolonaé minatekel woqndo kampé  
every-time wake sleep morning only
- runaé maqan sia makisuq kampé mberen pewééwéé  
very although he rub just eyes directly
- si koqkoq tiqi si pengélekena akad sia  
fowl that sought-by-him until he
- kéilekana  
found-by-him
- 9 sia kinéilekanamo rawakenamo sia wo sia  
he found-by-him embraced-by-him he and he
- pakanena untéindéi kaqpa kan kaqpa nuwi kayu  
fed-by-him corn or rice or cassava
- tinoktok rininterintek wo doud elepen  
chopped fine-fine and water drink
- 10 sa sia wesuumo sia, rawakenamo sumoup wo  
if he satisfied he embraced-by-him again and
- sia peméoméosena wo ipapurépurengkéyna  
he stroke-stroked-by-him and danced-with-by-him
- wo penarenarendemana wo penioniongana  
and talk-talked-to-by-him and kiss-kissed-by-him
- 11 sa sia sensoqmo meléoléong karia ni dakaq tiqi  
if he enough play-play with rooster that
- taré sia ipidoqna wo taré sia mangé  
just he released-by-him and just he go
- luméong karia né rintéq né karéndé  
play with children of neighbours
- sé kaléongna  
playmates-his
- 2 witu maléoléongnéra sanalian sia méqan narem  
at play-play-their after-a-while he feel hungry
- kaqpa maréqomo taré sia mawuri ki walénéra  
or thirsty just he return to house-their
- mangé kumaan  
go eat
- 3 sia minakasuayo mangémo mengélek si koqkoqna  
he eat-finish go search fowl-his
- dakaq tiqi  
male that
- 4 sia kinéilekanamo rawakenamo kasiqna sia wo  
he found-by-him embraced-by-him again he and
- pakanena wo peléoléongena  
fed-by-him and play-played-with-by-him
- 15 téintumoangé unpepaqyana unsusud nendo  
this work-his every day
- 16 potona si koqkoq dakaq tiqi si talos  
short fowl male that exceeding
- rendemena lumébée sé kalo kaléongna  
loved-by-him exceed friends play-mates-his
- 17 wo makasaqangé si memana wo si pepana  
and one-day mother-his and father-his
- angéano né mapalus mangé maqayang uuumanéra  
come-to by workers go work field-their
- mangé tumudaq kan  
go plant rice
- 18 unuma tiqi déqi talos douq wo mbalénéra yo toro  
field that not too far with house-their about
- tedu natus dedaésen douq numa tiqi wo  
three hundred pace far field that with
- mbalénéra  
house-their
- 19 yo koudit nendo tiqi séra angéan né mapalus  
chance day that they come-to by workers
- kinaperaqan déqimo si wadun péqén maqan  
dried-out not provisions eat even
- teri déqimo siapa  
small-fish not anything
- 20 niqtumo séra si memana wo si pepana ni  
thus they mother-his and father-his of
- sumuruk yaqay maqesaqesagan sa kuramo mengélek  
Sumuruk this come-together if how get
- nepéqén né mapalus minangé wia nséra sé tow  
food of workers come to them people
- dima  
five
- 21 witu séra maqesaqesagan koudit si teloikiq  
when they come-together chance young-boy
- sumuruk yaqay déqi witu minangémo luméong karia  
Sumuruk this not there gone play with
- né kalona  
friends-his
- 22 nu si teloikiq tiqi déqi witu kumuqayo  
because young-boy that not there say
- si pepana wia si memana 'kura inaqa sa  
father-his to mother-his how mother if
- si koqkoq dakaq tiqi si epéqénta'  
fowl male this eaten-by-us

- 23 sunawaté si inaḡna 'si koo wéṭaq io'  
reply mother-his it is up to you  
si pepana déqi kiḡtu  
father-his not there
- 24 tumarendemé sumoup si pepana 'yoo sa téintu  
say further father-his weli if so  
si koḡkoḡ dakaḡ tiqi si éndonta wo péḡén  
fowl male that taken-by-us and eaten  
nu déqimo si giogion epéḡén'  
because not else eaten
- 25 déqimo dinambodamboḡnéra unḡḡinenangnéra  
not made-long-long-by-them thoughts-their  
pewééwéé minangé ingkaḡan ni pepana si koḡkoḡ  
direct go caught by father-his fowl  
dakaḡ tiqi wo sia rataḡana wo  
male that and he throat-cut-by-him and  
ḡutuḡnéra mamuali péḡén  
cooked-by-them become food
- 26 déqi ketaḡan ni sumuruk rintéḡnéra tiqi sa  
not known by Sumuruk child-their that that  
si koḡkoḡ dakaḡ rendemena tiqi rinataḡnéramo  
fowl male loved-by-him that throat-cut-by-them  
siniwonéra wo péḡén  
prepared-by-them and made-food
- 27 umbudwud ni koḡkoḡ tiqi nangéidomḡoḡ ni pepana  
feathers of fowl that taken-thrown by father-his  
aki sendii unḡkintalnéra witu padomḡoḡan 'noo  
at corner yard-their at place-throw rubbish
- 28 makadutuḡangé séra ewanéramo unḡkanen yaḡay  
finish-cock they carried-by-them food this  
aki uma witu nenaḡan né mapalus tiqi  
at field where there-were workers that
- 29 kéiwianéralako aki uma nu matoḡodo si endo  
on-their-arrival at field because stand-up sun  
pewééwéé tewaanéra sé mapalus tiqi wo séra  
direct called-by-them workers that and they  
kumaano marengan  
eat together
- 30 ikaéndomolako si sumuruk yaḡay nu sia  
take-again Sumuruk this because he  
maaremo sia mawuri aki walénéra mangé kumaan  
hungry he return to house-their go eat
- 31 taḡan kéiwianalako aki walé élekena déqi  
but on-his-arrival at house seen-by-him not  
siapa tow aki walé si memana wo  
any person at house mother-his and
- 32 déḡikan uré keḡenanganamo séra inangéan né  
not long remembered-by-him they come-to by  
mapalus aki umanéra niḡtumo sia maḡéndo  
workers to field-their thus he decide  
tumunduu aki uma  
follow to field
- 33 maotéctémo sia maḡangé ki uma keḡenganana  
prepared he go to field remembered-by-him  
kasiḡna si koḡkoḡna  
again fowl-his
- 34 niḡtumo sia pengélekena  
thus he sought-by-him
- 35 taḡan wayamokan pinengélekana wo  
but everywhere looked-by-him and  
pengerengerekena déqimo kéilekana si koḡkoḡ tiqi  
call-called-by-him not found-by-him fowl that
- 36 taḡan déqi mentoḡ sia mepengélek medipudiput  
but not stop he seek go-around-around  
unḡkintalnéra  
yard-their
- 37 urémo sia mapengélek katoromolako sia aki sendii  
long he search until he at corner  
unḡkintalnéra witu padomḡoḡanéra noo  
yard-their where place-throw-their rubbish
- 38 witumo sia wo mélek umbudwud ni koḡkoḡ burik  
there he and see feathers of fowl dappled  
perundangan tiqi  
reddish that
- 39 witu roro naténa koanamo 'tantumo umbudwud  
at inside heart-his said-by-him certain feathers  
yaḡay budwudo ni koḡkoḡku'  
this feathers of fowl-my
- 40 witumo sia mulayo maméḡ wo medakuḡakut  
then he begin cry and utter-utter  
'si koḡkoḡku si koḡkoḡku si koḡkoḡku'  
fowl-my fowl-my fowl-my
- 41 witu mengaméngaméḡna sia kumélang matutud matoro  
when cry-cry-his he walk follow towards  
aki umanéra wo déqi mentoḡ mengaméngaméḡ wo  
to field-their and not stop cry-cry and  
medakudakutman 'si koḡkoḡku si koḡkoḡku samo  
utter-utter fowl-my fowl-my where

- si koqkoqku si koqkoqku'  
fowl-my fowl-my
- 42 niqtuman umpemurimurina wo sia  
thus repeat-repeated-by-him and he  
mawiamolako aki umanéra  
arrive at field-their
- 43 kéiwianalako méimo sungkuden ni memana wo  
on-his-arrival come met by mother-his and  
ni pepana sia wo sia diwaganéra 'taqan ko  
by father-his he and he asked-by-them why you  
maaméq'  
cry
- 44 wo pegenongenowenéra sia taqan soqo  
then sooth-soothed-by-them he but not-want  
sumawat sia wo mengaméngaméqman  
answer he and cry-cry
- 45 enowen ni memana sia ungkuman taqan kasa  
coaxed by mother-his he eat but very  
soqo maqan ungkuman  
not-want even eat
- 46 sumawat sia soqo unsawatna maméq wo  
answer he not-want answer-his cry and  
medakudakutman 'si koqkoqku samo si koqkoqku  
utter-utter fowl-my where fowl-my  
si koqkoqku'  
fowl-my
- 47 kiok si memana maragoso uduéq minéqano  
pity mother-his fall tears feel  
sumalaqmo  
do-wrong
- 48 si inaq wo si rintéq marawakanokan wo  
mother and child embrace-each-other and  
mengaméngaméq  
cry-cry
- 49 si inaq mengaméq wo menginegenow si rintéq  
mother cry and coax-coax child  
mengaméq wo medakudakut 'si koqkoqku si koqkoqku  
cry and utter-utter fowl-my fowl-my  
samo si koqkoqku si koqkoqku'  
where fowl-my fowl-my
- 0 nu uréqmo rumæé si rintéq yaqay  
because long very child this  
mengaméngaméq akad kimuntélo umberena téintumo  
cry-cry until swell eyes-his thus
- si memana maqan si pepana yaqay mulayo  
mother-his even father-his this begin  
maragos uduéqna  
fall tears-his
- 51 kéindomolako sé mapalus tiqi terangenéraé maqan  
return workers that heard-by-them even  
si mama si sumuruk maméqmo séra mentoqpe  
mother of Sumuruk cry they stop  
mapaqyang wo méi aki terung  
work and come to shack
- 52 méi méqlek si mama wo si rintéq yaqay  
come see mother and child this  
mengaméngaméq maqan taré si pepana  
cry-cry even just father-his  
meragoragosokan uduéq  
fall-fall tears
- 53 se mapalus yaqay méqlekangé sé seneteranak  
workers this see whole-family  
yaqay mengaméngaméq  
this cry-cry
- 54 nu séra nenaqan né dua wewéné pewéwéé  
because they have two women direct  
tumunduu maméq  
follow cry
- 55 éleken né tuama tedu karianéra mapalus  
seen by men three companion-their work-together  
yaqay séra wayamo maméq maqan séra tumunduu  
this they all cry even they follow  
maméq sedang déqi katuduqnéra nepa umpaaméq  
cry while not known-by-them what cried-about  
né seneteranak yaqay  
by family this
- 56 meneranerangman si sumuruk medakudakut  
hear-hear-only Sumuruk utter-utter  
'si koqkoqku samo si koqkoqku si koqkoqku'  
fowl-my where fowl-my fowl-my
- 57 witu mbayanéra maaméq tiqi tangkompoq  
while all-of-them cry that startled  
mbayanéra mélek si sumuruk yaqay minalaéngo  
all-of-them see Sumuruk this become-different  
mulayo patowan wudwud unawakna  
begin grown-on feathers body-his
- 58 kaélekan rumæé nu sia déqi dimambung maqan  
visible very that he not clothed even

- kaqwet déqimo witu ngkatuamaqana  
loin-cloth not-longer at manliness-his
- 59 kaéleknéra untéintu minawaduyo wia  
could-be-seen-by-them thus change to
- si sumuruk tiqi  
Sumuruk that
- 60 kumuqayo si esaqan wia sé tuama tumuqatuqa wia  
say one among men oldest to
- nséra 'nu sia minawaduyo téintu si esa  
them because he change thus one
- tumangkaso kewéiten mangé na mbanua mangé  
hurry now go to village go
- tumewaa tonaqas tumuwar tetengaqaan paéndon  
call shaman offer betel-preparation so-that
- sia ikawuri duqan ketaré'  
he return like first
- 61 déqikan uré mawiamolako aki kinamualian tiqi  
not long arrive at place-happen that
- si niaker mawadi si tonaqas  
sent accompany shaman
- 62 kéiwianéralako élekeno ni tonaqas si sumuruk tiqi  
on-their-arrival seen by shaman Sumuruk that
- makasioqnamokan umbudwudna  
become-many feathers-his
- 63 niqtumo sia pewééwéé mator untetengaqaan wo  
thus he direct arrange betel-preparation and
- sia mulayo maputung wo tuwaranamo  
he begin chant and offered-by-him
- tetengaqaan  
betel-preparation
- 64 taqan witu kampé ni tonaqas yaqay mator  
but while just shaman this arrange
- untetengaqaan kéicélekanéra si sumuruk tiqi  
betel-preparation observed-by-them Sumuruk that
- mulayo makoki q wo mawesokan makoki q  
begin become-small and increase become-small
- wo minawaduyo tetéléwen wo sia tumekaqmolako  
and change bird and he alight
- witu réén mbaléan  
on fence hut
- 65 ketetekaqnalako witu réén sia  
time-perched-on-by-him at fence he
- péqingkaqenéra wo patuwaran karia  
intend-caught-by-them and offered with
- tetengaqaan wo déqi mentoq si tonaqas yaqay  
betel-preparation and not stop shaman this
- mamutumutung  
chant-chant
- 66 taqan déqi kinéingkaqenéra sia taqan simendowolako  
but not caught-by-them he but fly
- witu ntuqud ngkepaya mawuaqmo mekarakéknamokan  
to tree papaw fruiting go-higher-he
- 67 si tonaqas yaqay déqi mentoq mamutumutung wo  
shaman this not stop chant-chant and
- déqi mentoq manuwanuwar untetengaqaan wo  
not stop offer-offer betel-preparation and
- memalamalad dengena  
hold-up-palms hands-his
- 68 déqikan uré tuqu si tetéléwen tiqi sumuwamo  
not long indeed bird this swoop
- wia nséra merémorémong wo tumekaqé witu mpalad  
to them gather and perch at palm
- dengen ni tonaqas  
hand of shaman
- 69 taqan taré déqi kampé kinéingkaqana sia sia  
but just before caught-by-him he he
- sumendowolako aki ntuqud selaa wo rakék  
fly to tree big and high
- 70 untuqud tiqi rumakék rumaé wo witu mulayo sia  
tree that high very and there begin he
- kumokuk 'si koqkoqku si koqkoqku si koqkoqku'  
crow fowl-my fowl-my fowl-my
- 71 nendo tiqi rapamo rumaé toromo tumingting pitu  
day that dark very about o'clock seven
- wo senewengi tiqi sia déqi mentoq mengokungokuk  
and whole-night that he not stop crow-crow
- 'kokokuk kokokuk kokokuk'  
kokokuk kokokuk kokokuk
- 72 yo si memana wo si pepana déqi mentoq  
mother-his and father-his not stop
- mengaméngaméq wo menewanewaa 'sumuruk o  
cry-cry and call-call Sumuruk oh
- sumuruk méimo télé kita mawurimo ki walé'  
Sumuruk come boy we return to house
- 73 pasawatenmané ni sumuruk si minawaduyo kokokuk  
replied by Sumuruk change kokokuk
- ungkokukna 'kokokuk kokokuk'  
crow-his kokokuk kokokuk

- 74 niqlumo séra mangé mawes tumewaa tonaqas  
thus they go extra call shaman  
mapasondol  
continue
- se' dua akad sé tonaqas tiqi minatedumo  
two so that shaman that become-three
- 75 sé tedu tonaqas yaqay mesesawango muwar  
three shaman this help-each-other offer  
se' tetéléwen akad kewéiten yaqay  
bird until time this
- untetengaqaan wo maputung wo pakaondolnéramo  
betel-preparation and chant and brought-out-by-them
- 81 téintu unesaqsaren ni teloikiq minawaduy kokokuk  
thus story of young-boy become kokokuk
- mbaya ngkeketaquanéra  
all knowledge-their
- 82 mekaéringen si kokokuk yaqay senetaqun sia taré  
cause-amazement kokokuk this once-year he just
- 76 taqan si kokokuk masuwaman wia séra taqan  
but kokokuk fly-down to them but  
tumambak kaqapa kumokuk unkokokukna 'kokokuk  
sing or crow cry-his kokokuk
- soqo tumekaqé witu udengen pemalamaladnéra  
not-want alight in hand palm-held-up-by-them
- 83 wo kumokukman sia sa oraso tumudaq ngkan  
and crow-only he if season plant rice
- 77 akad ayaamo sa ayaamo si kokokuk soqomo  
until dawn when dawn kokokuk not-want  
ketanaqaan wo sé totiq rémong matoqod sa  
dry-field and star cluster stand-up when
- kumokuk  
crow
- 84 sa sia kumokuk pasondolena mulai  
when he call continued-by-him begin
- 78 taqan sé tedu tonaqas yaqay sa endo séra mawuri  
but three shaman this when day they return  
merapamoangé  
become-dark
- ki walé  
to house
- 79 taqan sa wengimo séra méi tumuwar  
but when night they come offer  
untetengaqaan akad tedu né wengi  
betel-preparation until three of night  
untuningting pity mbengi akad ntuningting epat  
o'clock seven night until o'clock four
- tawi maqayaa  
near dawn

The young boy Sumuruk becomes a bird

- 1 Long, long ago, it is said, there was a married couple named Tanod and Dumpo.
- 2 They had just one child, a boy, whom they named Sumuruk.
- 3 At the time (of the story) he was just four years old.
- 4 This family had a pet rooster, just a single one.
- 5 The rooster was very beautiful because its feathers were speckled and reddish. It was also very tame.
- 6 The boy loved this rooster very much because, first, it had beautiful feathers, secondly, it was very tame and thirdly, it crowed continuously night and day.
- 7 Because of these things the boy Sumuruk felt great affection for the rooster.
- 8 Whenever he woke up in the morning, even while he was still rubbing his eyes, he would go straight away to search for the rooster until he had found it.
- 9 When he had found it he would embrace it and feed it corn or rice or cassava, chopped up finely, with water to drink.
- 10 When it had eaten its fill he would embrace it again and stroke it and dance about with it and talk to it and kiss it.
- 11 Only when he had had enough of playing with the rooster would he release it and go to play with his play-mates, the children of the neighbours.
- 12 After playing for a while, if he felt hungry or thirsty, he would go home to eat.
- 13 When he had finished eating he would go searching for

- his rooster again.
- 14 When he had found it he would embrace it again and feed it and play with it.
- 15 This is what he did every day.
- 16 In short, he loved his rooster very much, more even than he loved his play-mates.
- 17 One day it was the turn of his mother and father to receive the cooperative workers, who were to come and plant their field with rice.
- 18 The field was not far from their house, just about three hundred paces away.
- 19 It so happened that on the day they were to receive the cooperative workers they were completely out of provisions; there was nothing at all to eat, not even small fish.
- 20 Therefore Sumuruk's parents discussed means of obtaining food for the people, five in all, who were coming to work for them.
- 21 By chance, while they were having their discussion, Sumuruk was not there; he had gone to play with his friends.
- 22 Because the boy was not there his father said to his mother "How would it be, mother, if we eat that rooster?"
- 23 His mother replied "It's up to you."
- 24 His father said further "Well, if so, we will kill the rooster and eat it because we have nothing else to eat."
- 25 They did not ponder on the matter further but his father immediately went and caught the rooster. Then he slit its throat and they cooked it for food.
- 26 Their child, Sumuruk, did not know that they had killed his beloved rooster and prepared it for food.
- 27 His father took its feathers and threw them in the corner of the yard on the rubbish heap.
- 28 After they had finished cooking they took the food to the field where the workers were.
- 29 Because it was already mid-day when they arrive at the field they immediately called the workers and they ate together.
- 30 As for Sumuruk, because he was hungry he returned home to eat.
- 31 But when he arrived home he saw there was no one in the house; his mother and father were not there.
- 32 Before long he remembered that it was their turn to receive the cooperative workers, so he decided to follow them to the field.
- 33 He was about to set off when he remembered his rooster.
- 34 Straight away he began to search for it.
- 35 But although he searched everywhere and called and called he could not find the rooster.
- 36 But he didn't stop and kept going around and around in their yard searching for it.
- 37 After searching for a long time he arrived at the corner of the yard where they threw the rubbish.
- 38 When he got there he saw the reddish speckled feathers of the rooster.
- 39 He thought "These are certainly the feathers of my rooster."
- 40 At once he began to cry and call out "My rooster, my rooster, my rooster."
- 41 As he cried he set off on the road which led to their field. He cried continually and called out "My rooster, my rooster, where is my rooster, my rooster."
- 42 He just kept repeating this and nothing else until he arrived at the field.
- 43 On his arrival his parents came to meet him and they asked "Why are you crying?"
- 44 Then they soothed him and coaxed him but he wouldn't answer and just cried and cried.
- 45 His mother urged him to eat but he didn't even want to eat.
- 46 He wouldn't answer; he just answered by crying and calling over and over "My rooster, where is my rooster my rooster."
- 47 His poor mother, she began to weep because she felt she had done wrong.
- 48 Mother and child embraced each other and cried and cried.
- 49 The mother cried and soothed; the child cried and called "My rooster, my rooster, where is my rooster, my rooster . . . ."
- 50 Because the child cried and cried for such a long time his eyes became swollen and so too did his mother's. Even his father began to shed tears.
- 51 As for the workers, when they heard Sumuruk's mother crying they stopped working and came to the shack.
- 52 They came and saw that the mother and child were crying and that even the father was shedding tears.
- 53 They saw the whole family crying.
- 54 Because two of them were women they too immediately

- began to cry.
- 55 When the three men who were working with them saw them all crying even they joined in although they didn't know what the family were crying about.
- 56 They just heard Sumuruk calling repeatedly "My rooster, where is my rooster, my rooster....."
- 57 While they were all crying they were astonished to see Sumuruk beginning to change; he was beginning to grow feathers on his body.
- 58 He was clearly not wearing clothes any longer, not even a loin cloth to cover his private parts.
- 59 They could see Sumuruk undergoing these changes.
- 60 One of the men, the eldest, said to them "Because he has changed like this one of us should hurry to the village and summon the shaman to make an offering of betel so that he will return to what he was."
- 61 Not long afterwards the one who had been sent arrived back at the place where this had happened together with the shaman.
- 62 When they arrived the shaman saw that the number of Sumuruk's feathers was increasing.
- 63 Therefore he immediately arranged the betel preparation and then he began to chant and offer the betel (to the gods).
- 64 But even while the shaman was arranging the betel preparation they observed Sumuruk begin to grow smaller. He became increasingly smaller and then he changed into a bird and perched on the fence of the garden hut.
- 65 When he perched on the fence they tried to catch him while the shaman offered the betel preparation and continued his incantation.
- 66 But they could not catch him and he flew up higher into a fruiting papaw tree.
- 67 The shaman ceaselessly chanted and offered the betel preparation and held up his hands in supplication.
- 68 Not long afterwards the bird flew down into the group and alighted in the palms of the shaman.
- 69 But before he could catch it the bird flew off into a big tall tree.
- 70 The tree was very high and there he began to crow "My rooster, my rooster, my rooster....."
- 71 By that time it was already very dark, it was about seven o'clock, and that whole night he did not stop crowing "Kokokuk, kokokuk, kokokuk....."
- 72 His mother and father cried and cried and continued to call "Oh Sumuruk, come boy we will return home."
- 73 Because he had changed into a kokokuk bird Sumuruk's only reply was to crow "Kokokuk, kokokuk....."
- 74 So they went and called two extra shamans so that there were now three shamans.
- 75 The three shamans assisted each other in offering the betel preparation and chanting their prayers until they had drawn on all their knowledge.
- 76 But the kokokuk bird just flew down among them but wouldn't alight in their outstretched hands.
- 77 This continued until daybreak. When it was daybreak the kokokuk would not crow any more.
- 78 When it was daylight the three shamans returned home.
- 79 But when it was night they returned again to offer the betel preparation. This went on for three nights in a row.
- 80 But the kokokuk did not change again into what it was before and to this day it has remained a bird.
- 81 Such is the story of the young boy Sumuruk who changed into a kokokuk bird.
- 82 The amazing thing about this kokokuk is that only once a year does it sing or crow its cry "Kokokuk, kokokuk....."
- 83 And it only calls when it is time to plant rice in the fields, when the star cluster (Pleiades) is directly overhead at nightfall.
- 84 When it calls it does so continuously from seven o'clock at night until four o'clock when dawn is approaching.

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