

Kofzar kofzar,

古早古早,

(Long time ago,)

In'ui toaxpoxhun ee laang tviaxtvia bqexkietid kaki si ti tqf'cidnii zhutsix`ee.

因為大部分的人定定未記得家己是在哪一年出世的.

(Because most people always forgot in which year they were born.)

Ma tviaxtvia sngx bqz zhengzhqr taotqea kaki si kuyhqex`aq?

亦定定算未清楚到底家己是幾歲呀?

(Also could not always figure out exactly how old they were?)

Sofie, Gioghoong Taixtex sviu zhutlaai cidee paxnhoad:

所以, 玉皇大帝想出來一個辦法:

(So, the Jade Emperor came up an idea.)

Y jixm'ui na bqeq kiongkix kinnii si tqf'cidnii, hef si u khaq khurnlaan,

他認為若要強記今年是哪一年, 那是有較困難,

(He felt that it is too difficult to remember which year this year is,)

Taxnsi, na iong toxngbut ee miaa laai kix tq kef ciog kafntafn.

但是, 若用動物的名來記就加足簡單.

(But, it would be easier for us to call out by the names of animals.)

Afnny, cyiaux zhqexzhud zabjixee toxngbut laai taixpiao bqkaang ee nii,

安呢, 只要尋出十二個動物來代表無同的年,

(Then, only have to pick up 12 animals to represent the different years,)

Tq Qexsae laq.

就能使啦.

(It will take care of the problems.)

Gioghoong Taixtex tq thongty Thoftixkofng khix kongpox cidee siausid,

玉皇大帝就通知土地公去公佈一個消息,

(The Jade Emperor asked the Earth God to inform all the animals about this news,)

Korng y sviuxbqeq kwheeng cidee pysaix,

講伊想欲舉行一個比賽,

(That, there will be a contest,)

Ti cit'ee pysaix tiofng bqeq soar zabji ee toxngbut zhud`laai.

在這個比賽中欲選十二個動物出來.

(In this contest, 12 animals will be picked for the twelve signs of the zodiac.)

Cit'ee siausid si afnny siar`ee:

這個消息是安呢寫的"

(The news posted as :)

“Hoangeeng sofu ee toxngbut lorng laai zhamkaf cit’ee pysaix.

“歡迎所有的動物攏來參加這個比賽。

(“All animals are welcomed to compete.”)

Theqtiqh thauzeeng zabji miaa ee toxngbut, yn tq si zabji svisviux.”

提著頭前十二名的動物，他們就是十二生肖。”

(The first twelve across the finish line will be chosen as the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac.)

Siausid cide kongpox, sofu ee toxngbut lorng kafmkag cviaa henghuxn.

消息一下公佈，所有的動物攏感覺很興奮。

(After the announcement was made, all the animals got very excited.)

Ar ti hiaf thqflun kaq lauxjiet kwnkurn.

而在那裡討論甲鬧熱滾滾。

(Everybody all noisily discussed this event.)

Niawzhuo kab niaw pwnlai si cyn hqr ee lau peng’iuo.

老鼠和貓本來是真好的老朋友。

(The rat and the cat were very good old friends.)

Sofie yn ma zqrhQea teq thqflun cit’hang taixcix.

所以他們亦做夥在討論這項代誌。

(So they met to discuss this event.)

Niawzhuo korng: “Larn boexhiao siuzuie, afnny larn si bQeq afnzvoar kQeahQo neq?”

老鼠講：“咱未曉泗水，安呢咱是欲按怎過河呢？”

(The rat said: “We can’t swim. How are we going to cross the river?”)

Niaw tq korng: “Larn laikhix kab guu habzog.

貓就講：“咱來去和牛合作。

(The cat said: “Let work together with the ox.”)

Larn ka y pqrlo, ar y ka larn zaix kQeahQo.”

咱給伊報路，而伊給咱載過河。”

(We can point the way for him, and he can carry us across.”)

Niaw kab niawzhuo tq taotin khix zhQe guu,

貓和老鼠就鬥陣去尋牛，

(The cat and the rat went to ox together,)

Guu thvialiao ma mafsiong tq tap’exng.

牛聽了亦馬上就答應。

(After listened, the ox agreed to do so right away.)

Pysaix hitkafng ee thaozar, thvy iawbQe kngf,

比賽彼工的透早，天猶未光，

(The very early morning of the day of contest,)

Guu, niaw kab niawzhuo tQ ykefng laikaux hQpvy aq.

牛，貓和老鼠就已經來到河邊呀。

(The ox, the cat, and the rat were already on the bank of the river.)

Guu khuu`lQqlaai, ho niaw kab niawzhuo peq khylix y ee khaciahphviaf,

牛踞落來，乎貓和老鼠爬上去伊的腳脊骹。

(The ox stooped down to let the cat and the rat climb onto his back,)

Jien'au yn tQ khaisie kQeahQo.

然後他們就開始過河。

(After that, they started across the river.)

Pengsionsi'ar niaw tQ ciog aix tokkw, jichviar hitkafng y cviaa zar y tQ khie`laai,

平常時仔貓就足愛琢龜，而且彼工伊很早就起來，

(The cat liked to take a nap, on top of that, he also got up very early that morning.)

Sofie, bQo joaxkuo, y tQ phag ti guu ee khaciahphviaf khuxn`khix laq.

所以，無多久，伊就仆在牛的腳脊骹去啦。

(So, the cat fell to asleep as soon as he got to the back of ox.)

Niawzhuo ittit sviuxbQq theh tQexid miaa.

老鼠一直想要提第一名。

(The rat was very eager to win the first place.)

Ti guu titbQeq kaux hitpeeng hvoa sii, niawzhuo tQ ka niaw sag lQqkhix zuie`nih.

在牛得欲到那旁岸時，老鼠就把貓推落去水裡。

(When the ox was a few seconds away from the opposite bank of the river, the rat shoved the cat into the water.)

Liawau, kaki tQ zngx jibkhix guu ee hvi'ar lai.

了後，家己就鑽入去牛的耳仔內。

(Then scampered himself into one of the ox's ears.)

Guu pviarmia teq siuzuie, bQo zu'ietiqh hoatsefng sviafmih taixcix,

牛拚命在泅水，無注意著發生甚麼代誌，

(The ox worked very hard of swimming, did not pay attention to what happened,)

Y kantvaf thviatiqh niawzhuo ti y ee hvi'ar lai hoahkorng:

伊干單聽著老鼠在伊的耳仔內喝講：

(He just heard the rat's hollering:

“Guu toaxkQf, ka'iuu! Ka'iuu! Larn titbQeq kaux laq.”

“牛大哥，加油！加油！咱得欲到啦。”

(“Big brother Ox, Go! Go! We are almost there!”)

Cide cviuxhvoa, guu si ciog hvoahie`ee, y hioxng ciongtiarm chiofng`khix.

一下上岸，牛是足歡喜的，伊向終點衝去。

(As soon as the ox climbed up the shore, he gleefully advanced toward the finish line.)

Cit`ee sizun, niawzhuo hionghioong tuy guu ee hvi`ar lai zao`zhutlaai,

這個時陣，老鼠雄雄從牛的耳仔內走出來，

(At that moment, the rat run out of the ox's ear suddenly,)

Chvuo ti siong thauzeeng kaux ciongtiarm, tqexid miaa tq ho niawzhuo chvuo`khix laq.

搶在尙頭前到終點，第一名就乎老鼠搶去啦。

(The rat rushed to the finish line to win the first place.)

Ar sinkhor kuipvoarkafng ee guu, tientqr soaq theqtiqh tqexji miaa.

而辛苦歸半工的牛，顛倒煞提著第二名。

(The ox, after worked so hard, only got the second place.)

Biefnkornng ma zaiviar, guu tongjieen si ciog siuxkhix`ee.

免講亦知影，牛當然是足受氣的。

(Did not have to say it, of course, the ox was very furious.)

Tq si afnny, guu na khvoartiqh niawzhuo tq ka y ee bagciw tiern kaq ciog toaxluie`ee.

就是安呢，牛若看著老鼠就把伊的目矚展甲足大蕾的。

(This is why the ox has glared at the rat with his enormous eyes.)

Kengkqex cidtiap`ar kuo, kuisengkhw taam-kokoo ee hor kaux`aq.

經過一會兒久，歸身軀濕糊糊的虎到呀。

(After a while, the tiger who was soaking wet all over arrived.)

Y ciog u zuxsxn hoahkorng: “Goar si tqexid miaa!”

伊足有自信喝講：“我是第一名！”

(He said with confidence: “I’m the first!”)

Gioghoong Taixtex korng: “Mxsi laq, lie si tqexsvaf miaa`ee.”

玉皇大帝講：“不是啦，你是第三名的。”

(“No, you are the third,” proclaimed the Jade Emperor.)

Citzun, khongtiofng hutjienkafn kngflaai cidzun kngflqe`ar hofng,

這陣，空中忽然間捲來一陣龍捲風。

(At that moment, a whirlwind twisted in the sky,)

Si leeng tuy thviterng kaxng`lqqlaai, hioxng ciongtiarm pqef`khix.

是龍從天頂降落來，向終點飛去。

(It is the dragon descended toward the finish line.)

Citzun thofar thiaux kao`ui, ka tqexsix miaa taixsefng chvuo`khix laq.

這陣兔仔跳到位，把第四名代先搶去啦。

(At this moment, the rabbit jumped ahead and took the fourth place.)

Thofar bQexhiao siuzuie, sofie, cidlo y lorng si iong thiaux`ee,

兔仔未曉泗水, 所以, 一路伊攏是用跳的

(The rabbit could not swim but to jump all the way down.)

Y ti kithvaf toxngbut ee khaciahphviaf thiaolaai-thiaokhix, iong afnny laai kqehQo`ee.

伊在其他的動物的腳脊跳來跳去, 用安呢來過河的.

(He had to across the river by jumping on the backs of the other animals.)

Gioghoong Taixtex mng leeng korng:

玉皇大帝問龍講:

(The Jade Emperor asked the dragon:

“Lie si iong pqef ee. Afnzvoar lie nar Qe ciahniq`voax ciah kao`ui neq?”

“你是用飛的. 按怎你怎會這麼晏才到呢?”

(“You flew. Why did you arrive so late?”)

Goanlaai leeng si sefng khix iau`oarn ee Laam Hae zwchii cidee lqgho ee tiefnlea,

原來龍是先去遙遠的南海主持一個落兩個典禮,

(The dragon had gone to the South China Sea to host a rainmaking ceremony,)

Liawau ciah tuy hiaf kvoar`laai, tq si afnny, y ciah Qe bQexhux laq.

才從那裡趕來, 就是安呢, 伊才會未赴啦.

(After that, he rushed back in a hurry from there, that was why he was late.)

Hngxhng u befsviaf thooan`laai, ma khvoartiQH thohurn pqef kaq moar siekQex.

遠遠有馬聲傳來, 亦看著土粉飛甲滿四界.

(The pounding of hoarse was heard, and the sky was filled with flying dust.)

Taixkef khvoartiQH bea zao ti siong thauzaeeng, y titbQeq kaux laq.

大家看著馬走在尙頭前, 伊得欲到啦.

(It was the horse running at the front and was just about to cross the finish line.)

Hutjienkafn, zaaa tuy zhawpof`nih zngx`zhutlaai, y chviwtiQH tqexlak miaa.

忽然間, 蛇從草埔裡鑽出來, 伊搶著第六名.

(Suddenly, the snake shot through the thick patches of grass, and got the sixth.)

Zaaa pwnlaai si u khaf ee.

蛇本來是有腳的.

(The snake had legs originally.)

Taxnsi in`ui zao cide sviw zhutlat, soaq ka sofu ee khaf lorng zawtng`khix laq.

但是因為走一下(太)出力, 煞把所有的腳攏走斷去啦.

(But because he raced so hard this time, he ran his legs off.)

Goanpurn bea si cviaa iofngkarm`ee,

原本馬是很勇敢的.

(Originally, the horse was very bold and brave.)

Citpae khix ho zoa zhoa`cide, soaq phoartvar`khix laq.

這次去乎蛇掇一下，煞破膽去啦。

(Being frightened by the snake this time, he became very timid.)

Viuu, kaau kab kqef zqrhoea khiqtiqh cidky zhakhof,

羊，猴和雞做夥拾著一支柴籬。

(The goat, the monkey, and the rooster found a log together.)

Yn taixkef taotin habzog, ho yn theqtiqh tqexpqeq, tqexkao kab tqexzap miaa.

他們大家門陣合作，乎他們提著第八，第九和第十名。

(They worked together, rowed ashore on the log. As a result, they got the eighth, ninth and tenth place respectively.)

Viuu ze ti zhakhof ee siong thauzeeng, y si pqrlo`ee.

羊坐在柴籬的尙頭前，伊是報路的。

(The goat sat at the front of the log to guide them.)

In`ui sviw jixncyn khvoax lo, soaq piernseeng cidee toa kixnsi`ee.

因爲(大)認真看路，煞變成一個大近視的。

(Because he strained his eyes for the direction, his eyesight became quite nearsighted.)

Kaau ti zhakhof-terng ze sviw kuo`khix, y ee khazhngf soaq piexn kaq aang kqz zerng.

猴在柴籬頂坐一下(太)久去，伊的腳瘡煞變甲紅攞腫。

(The monkey sat on top of the log too long, that his buttocks were swollen and red.)

Kqef pwnlaai u sieky khaf`ee.

本來雞有四支腳的。

(The rooster had four legs originally.)

Ti cviuxhvoa ee sii, kitiofng ee nngxky khaf khix ho zhakhof korngtng`khix.

在上岸的時，其中的兩支腳去乎柴籬損斷去。

(But when he was climbing ashore, two of his legs were broken off by the log.)

Sofie, citmar kqef zhwn nngxky khaf niaxnia.

所以，這碼雞剩兩支腳而已。

(That is why the rooster has only two legs now.)

Kao laai`aq.

狗來呀。

(Here came the dog.)

Y si ciog aix snggr`ee.

伊是足愛玩的。

(He was a playful fellow.)

Ti kqeahqo ee sii, y ti hqo`nih sngfzuie, snggr kaq soaq ka sikafn bqexkix`tid khix.

在過河的時，伊在河裡玩水，玩甲煞把時間未記得去。

(As he crossed the river, he had such a good time in the water that he forgot about the time.)

Citmar, zabji svisviux kantvaf zhwn cidee miagiah.

這碼十二生肖干單剩一個名額。

(*Now, there was only one opening left.*)

Taixkef lorng ka axmkurn zhwn kaq tnggr'tng'tngg, zuo'ix teq khvoax.

大家攏把額頸伸甲長長，注意在看。

(*All the animals stretched their necks to see who was coming.*)

Ty laai`aq.

豬來呀。

(*Here came the pig.*)

Y kuisengkhw lorng si kvoa, toaxsviaf korng:

伊歸身軀攏是汗，大聲講：

(*He arrived covered with sweat from head to toes. Loudly said:*

“Goar iaw kaq kiongkioong bQeq sie`khix.

“我飢甲強強欲死去。

(*“I’m starving. I’m dying because that.*)

Ciaf u sviafmih hQfciah ee miqkvia`bQo?”

此有甚麼好食的物件無?”

(*Is there anything good to eat?”*)

Pysaix ykefng kietsog aq, Gioghoong Taixtex soanpox zabji svisviux ee miatvoaf:

比賽已經結束呀，玉皇大帝宣佈十二生肖的名單：

(*The race was over. The Jade Emperor announced the 12 animals in the zodiac.*)

Zhuo, guu, hor, thox, leeng, zoaa, bea, viuu, kaau, kQef, kao, kab ty.

鼠，牛，虎，兔，龍，蛇，馬，羊，猴，雞，狗，豬。

(*The rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, and pig.*)

Citzun, taam-kokoo ee niaw ciao kvoar`laai.

這陣，濕糊糊的貓才趕來。

(*At that moment, the dripping wet cat finally arrived.*)

Y kvoafkirn mng: “Goar si tQexkuie miaa?”

伊趕緊問：“我是第幾名?”

(*He asked in a hurry: “What is my place?”*)

Gioghoong Taixtex hoetab korng: “TQexzabsvaf miaa.”

玉皇大帝回答講：“第十三名。”

(*“You came in the thirteenth.” replied the Jade Emperor.*)

Niaw si khix kaq tagky zhuiechiw lorng khiao`khiaokhiaux.

貓是氣甲逐支嘴鬚攏翹翹。

(*The cat was very angry. Every one of his whiskers stood up.*)

Y korng: “Khqfvox ee niawzhuo! Goar zoadtuix m paxng y soaq!”

伊講: “可惡的老鼠! 我絕對不放伊息!”

(He said: “How dare you are, the rat! I won’t let you go for sure!”)

Korng soaq, niaw tq cviaa siuxkhix, ar hioxng niawzhuo zoong`khix.

講息, 貓就很受氣, 而向老鼠奔去.

(After he said so, he ran toward the rat madly.)

Niawzhuo si kviaf kaq bQeq sie`khix, tuix Gioghoong Taixtex ee y’ar khaf zngx`khix.

老鼠是驚甲欲死, 對玉皇大帝的椅仔腳鑽去.

(The rat was so scared and ran under the Jade Emperor’s throne.)

Mxkuo ma si khix ho niaw siexn`cide, sofu ee zhuiekhie soaq lorng laklaq`khix.

不過亦是去乎貓擱一下, 所有的嘴齒煞攏落去.

(But the cat slapped the rat across the face and knocked out all of his teeth.)

Peng’iuo aq, niawzhuo sui jieen si theqtiqh tqexid miaa,

朋友呀, 老鼠雖然是提著第一名,

(Although the rat won the first place,)

Taxnsi, tuy hitkafng khaisie, niawzhuo muykafng lorng tiqh theqsym-tiaotvar,

但是, 從彼工開始, 老鼠每工攏須提心吊膽,

(But from that day, the rat had been scared day and night.)

Ciog kviaf niaw qe laai zhqe y pqrsiuu.

足驚貓會來尋伊報仇.

(Afraid of the cat will find him.)

Kaotvaf, niawzhuo na si khvoartiqh niaw ee viar, tq kvoafkirn pviarmia zao.

到今, 老鼠若是看著貓的影, 就趕緊拚命走.

(Till now, as soon as sees the cat’s shadow, the rat runs like mad.)

Lien ti jit`sii, ma tiqh biq ti tong`nih, mxkvar zhud`laai neq!

連在日時, 亦須匿在洞裡, 不敢出來呢!

(Even in the daylight, he hides in a hole, not daring to show his face.)