

M103
Song of the creation of the world.

Sung by Tao Zi-gai.

Four companies of copper smiths came from four localities,
Four companies of copper smiths, four beaters of copper.
They beat the copper and shaped the copper till they had shaped the sky,
The rounded sky above.

5 They made the sky polished above,
They made the sky extremely smooth,
For Sun-maid and Moon-youth to circle through its midst.

Four companies of copper smiths came from four places,
Four companies of copper smiths, four beaters of iron.
10 They beat the copper and shaped the iron till they had shaped the earth,
The earth spread out into all the world.

They made the rocks and cliffs of the world's mountains,
The mountains of Gi-njio in ranges rising upward,
And the world's valleys sinking downward.
15 They made the world's deep valleys clear away into the distance,
Deep enough for the winding River Shi, the River Gi-bang to flow.

Where the River Shi, the River Gi-bang flowed on its way,
Its valley through the people's Njio mountains
Became a deep valley, a cliff lined gorge,
20 And the winding River Shi, the River Gi-bang was held back,
So that the River Shi, the River Gi-bang flowed smoothly where it divided,
Divided the people's land.

The Nine Lakes of Gi-nzyu,
Nine, set in nine localities,
25 Nine, set in nine places,
This was where the River Shi, the River Gi-bang was gathered at last.

The sky above was exceedingly smooth,
Where Sun-maid and Moon-youth found paths for their travels.
While Sun-maid went circling through the midst of the sky,
30 Moon-youth went in circles through the clear, clear sky.

On reaching Snake-month or Horse-month,
Sun-maid and Moon-youth's roads divide.
While Sun-maid goes by the far road,
Moon youth goes by the near road.

35 Having reached Ox-month or Rat-month,
Sun-maid and Moon-youth's paths divide.
While Moon-youth goes by the far road,
Sun-maid goes by the near road.

40 Sun-maid said her road was purposeful,
So with confidence Sun-maid travels each day.
Each day Sun-maid plants her feet firmly,
And each year her size is the same.

45 Moon-youth said his road was lazy,
So Moon-youth one day goes on tip-toe,
And this is what is called "New Moon".
Moon-youth on another day plants his feet firmly,
And this is what is called "Full Moon".

Thus it is ended.