

M114

The wild goose and the crane distinguish Winter and Summer.

Sung by a man from Hmao-go-ndlao, in the congregation at Hmao-a-dyu.

When the scent of Spring was in the air,
The wild goose and the crane grew restless at heart.
The wild goose and the crane looked round and about,
Looked at Cai-sie-mi-fu-di.

5 At Cai-sie-mi-fu-di there stood,
Stood together, sprouting like bristles on a pig,
Sprouting fir-trees, fir-trees everywhere.
An excellent place for the wild goose to build its nest,
An ideal place for the crane to lay its eggs.

10 The wild goose looked round and about,
Looked at the water with its nine river bends,
Far enough for the wild goose to come in half a night.
The crane looked round and about,
Looked at the water with its nine river curves,
15 Far enough for the crane to go in half a day.

On reaching Pig-month or Rat-month,
Fearing the great snows,
The wild goose and the crane could stay no longer.
The wild goose sought a way to return,
20 The crane sought a way to come back.

The wild goose and the crane looked round and about,
Looked at Nbw-sie-mi-fu-ndrang,
And at the sun shining brightly.
The wild goose and the crane crossed over and around to this side,
25 Collecting the rich young woman's rice gleanings beyond the pass,
Collecting the rich young woman's rice gleanings in the midst of the plain.

Thus it is ended.

The insertion in the text following line 15.

What sort of a limit do they say is the limit of the sky?
They say that the limit of the sky resembles,
Resembles an eye that is weeping.

5 What sort of an end do they say is the end of the earth?
They say that the end of the earth resembles,
Resembles an eye that is closed.