

M120
A hunting song. (1)

Collected by Wang Ming-ji

- Who was it reared a black dog?
The great Du-gha-njia reared a black dog.
The great Du-gha-njia ate,
Ate from a well filled table,
5 Feeding the spotted dog well with his hand.
- At the time when the people's cock crowed,
Crowed loudly to cheer earth people's heart,
The great Du-gha-njia rose promptly and bound on his sandals,
And the Master's daughter Nggu-gu rose promptly and put on her sandals.
- 10 The great Du-gha-njia sought a way, a way to find game.
Where then did he find the game?
At the gathering place in the great Master's green forest.
- Where the game was, the dog knew,
And where the game lay, the dog saw.
15 The game, it fled from the dog,
And the dog, it chased the game.
- So, chasing and fleeing, the great Du-gha-njia dropped down,
Dropped right down on to the Zhaotung plain, that wide plain.
- 20 The great Du-gha-njia caught,
Caught a beast he did not recognise.
It had hind and fore hooves rounded like an ox,
And its black ears were as big as fans.
- The great Du-gha-njia called,
Called the earth people to come and look,
25 But it was no domestic animal of the earth people.
He called the sky people to come and look,
But it was no domestic animal of the travelling sky people.
- Whom did he call to remove the skin?
He called the earth people to remove the skin.
- 30 Whom did he call to cut up the meat?
He called a big man to cut up the meat.
It made ninety-nine portions of meat,
And it made ninety-nine flasks of blood.
- Whom did he call to divide the meat?
He called the old folk to divide the meat.
They divided it so that none went short,
They divided it so that none had too much.

Where did they take the meat to be sun-dried?
They sun-dried it on the fence of the great Master's garden.
40 Where did they take the skin to be sun-dried ?
They sun-dried it on the fence of the great Master's plot.

In nine days the meat was dry,
And in nine nights the skin had dried out,
Dried out, until it was like,
45 Like the great-Master's tiger skin.

They called the earth people to come and wear it,
And the people gathered and arrived,
But the earth people could not wear it.

They called the sky-people to come and wear it ,
50 And the sky people all came and gathered,
But the sky people could not stand up in it.

When the great Du-gha-njia came and arrived,
They gave it to the great Du-gha-njia to wear,
And it fitted the great Du-gha-njia exactly.

55 When he was wearing it, what did they call him?
They called him "The man in the striped skin".