

M131
The song of the Flood.

Sung by Yang Zhi.

From out of scattered sky material came the dome,
For the Woman Nca-so to come and live.
Woven from scattered earth material came the ranges,
For the Forefather Dlao-jiao to come and dwell.

5 The Woman Nca-so was beautiful,
The Forefather Dlao-jiao soon came to know.
The Woman Nca-so together with,
With the Forefather Dlao-jiao made a family and dwelt.

10 The Woman Nca-so and the Forefather Dlao-jiao begot,
Begot two brothers only.
Having no special name for the elder,
The elder was called Ndrao-yiu,
Having no special name for the younger,
Let the younger be called Ndrao-ya.
15 So these two only were the brothers, Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya.

One day when Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya set out to dig their land,
The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu went to reveal himself.
The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu,
Carrying his slender staff, persistently trampled down,
20 And re-set the sods Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya had dug, not letting them be raised.
Ndrao-yiu was heavy hearted,
Ndrao-ya was sad at heart.

Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya returned to dig their land,
The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu went to show himself.
25 The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
Carrying his slender staff, persistently turned over,
And re-set the sods Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya had dug, not letting them be dug
out.
Ndrao-yiu was heavy hearted,
Ndrao-ya was sad at heart.

30 Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya went and built a booth,
Built a hide, built a green booth and waited,
Waited for the Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
At the edge of Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya's land.

Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya laid,
35 Laid hold of the Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu.
Ndrao-yiu spoke out,
"Hold the Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu, let us beat him!"
But Ndrao-ya spoke out,
"Do not beat the Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu!"

40 Hold the Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu for me to question".

The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
Told Ndrao-yiu things of many kinds,
Told Ndrao-ya things of many kinds.

"Let not the people waste their strength farming,
45 Let not the people waste their strength tilling!
Ndrao-yiu, Ndrao-ya, do not expend your strength digging the land,
For this year the water will rise to a flood".

The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
Taught Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya to go and build boats.
50 Ndrao-ya built a boat of planks which floated lightly,
But Ndrao-yiu built an iron boat which would sink heavily.

On reaching Snake-month or Horse-month,
The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
Caused Ndrao-yiu and Ndrao-ya to go aboard their boats.
55 The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu
Placed Ndrao-ya in the boat of wooden planks,
And placed Ndrao-yiu in the iron boat.

The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu gave,
Gave Ndrao-ya a white, hen's egg to carry in his arm-pit,
60 And he gave an iron claw-bar to Ndrao-ya to carry in his hand.

The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu spoke:
"One day the white, hen's egg will chirp, 'zi-zi',
Then take the wrought iron claw-bar,
Prise a peep-hole in the boat and have a look.
65 You will see the water all level covering the people,
But the sky above will be azure blue".

The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu spoke:
"One day the cockerel will crow 'sang-sang',
Then take the wrought iron claw-bar,
70 Open the door and have a look,
The people are destroyed, all laid flat by the water".

When Ndrao-ya came outside,
Then Ndrao-ya spoke:

"This year the water has risen to a flood,
75 The water has risen and the water has drowned,
Has drowned the people and they are dead.
This year the water has risen to a flood,
The water has risen and the water has taken,
Has taken the people and they are lifeless".

80 Then Ndrao-ya saw,
Saw the people's deer jumping about,

- Saw tigers and lions bounding away,
And in the sky above eagles flying to and fro.
Then Ndrao-ya spoke,
85 "In the future will there ever be so great a flood?"
The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu spoke:
Telling Ndrao-ya things of many kinds.
- "In the future there will never be so great a flood,
But one day I will cause the enchanter to come to earth
90 And it will be exactly the same as the flood is now.
The people's solid rocks will be reduced to dust,
And the green forests to snow white ash."
Ndrao-ya listened, nodding his head.
- On reaching Rat-month or Horse-month,
95 The calling of martins tell of fine, warm weather.
Now the martins were calling "zi-zi",
But cold was Ndrao-ya by day
And cold was Ndrao-ya by night.
So Ndrao-ya took the wrought iron claw-bar and struck at the martins.
- 100 The martins were not hit,
For the martins hopped away into the cliff,
But sparks flew out and set fire,
Set fire as they caught on the tinder moss.
Thus Ndrao-ya kindled a fire with smoke and sat beside it,
105 Kindled a fire with flames and warmed himself by it.
- The Glorious King Shi-tru, the Man Dlang-hnu spoke,
Telling Ndrao-ya things of many kinds.
- "On reaching Dog-month or Pig-month,
From south to north, Thunder will roar, 'go-go'!
110 Do not let your children stay out when it is overcast,
For fear that Thunder, drawing his shining sword, lightning, should strike them.
Do not let your children stay out when it is dull,
For fear that Thunder, drawing his shining sword, lightning, should slash them.
- On reaching Dragon-month or Rabbit month,
115 Thunder, folding his arms and legs into a ball, will sleep,
And water from Thunder's mouth and nose will change to snow, frozen and
glistening.
- On reaching Snake-month or Horse-month,
Water from Thunder's mouth and nose will change to rain, water to nourish the
growing leaves,
It will change to rain at the season to nourish the springing leaves.
- 120 When the leaves grow big, a shade from the heat,
And needles on the pines grow big and cast shadows,
People will know it is the season to raise yarn,
People will know it is the season to raise crops".

Thus it is ended.