

M160
How the spotted dog obtained seed.

Sung by Yang Xiu.

Notes

This song is printed in Document N (no.10, page 370).

Title. Here, and throughout the song, the expression translated "spotted", is printed "pyub gik zail", but in all the earlier documents the initial of the first word is "b" not "p".

Line 1. The word "box", meaning "woman", is printed in this song sometimes with the usual tone letter "x", but sometimes with the letter "b". In transcription, "x" has been used throughout. In this line the tone letter of "nghwl" is wrongly printed "d".

Lines 5, 6 and 7. These lines are printed as one continuous piece without punctuation.

Line 6. The expression "ghak niangl" when applied to troops means ranks and columns, and is used to indicate a large army. Here it implies row on row of springing corn, and signifies abundance.

Lines 8 and 9. These are printed as a single long line. The same is true of Lines 10 and 11, and Lines 17 and 18.

Line 10. A foot-note explains that "bib gangb tlaob laob" is "bib gangb ghad nbat", that is a flying beetle. This insect seems to have difficulty in avoiding objects in its flight path, but, having a hard outer case seems to be undamaged either by the impact in flight, or its subsequent fall to the ground.