

M221
When the Miao lived on the Tracts of Mi-li
and the Plains of Li-mo.

Sung by Tao Zi-gai.

Notes

This song is recorded in Document M (no. 3, page 10).

Line 6. The Miao text has omitted the second name $\text{CT}_z \text{L}^n \text{D}_o$, "The Plains of Li-mo", but the context requires that it should be there.

Double lines. At the following points throughout the song pairs of lines are run together as single long lines in Document M: 13 and 14, 16 and 17, 42 and 43, 63 and 64, 78 and 79, 85 and 86.

Line 15. In the Miao text the first of the two names given is $\text{CT}_z \text{CT}^r \text{L}_n$, but this is the contracted form of a combination of the two names. When used with the second name $\text{CT}_z \text{L}^n \text{D}_o$, the first name should read $\text{CT}^r \text{D}_n \text{L}_n$.

Line 19. The word E^u , "to build" is incorrectly written CE^u .

Line 34. In Document M line 35 is joined to this line, resulting in a very long line (34 + 35) followed by a very short line, 36. This obscures the exact parallelism between lines 35 and 36.

Line 45. The word J^u means "horn", and hence "corner". Applied to the ancient homeland it means "square", an abbreviation of the often-used expression $\text{T}^n \text{A}^n \text{J}^u$, "to four corners".

Lines 51 to 53. In Document M a number of words in these three lines are so indistinct that they cannot be read with any degree of certainty. However, the general meaning of the lines is not in doubt.

Line 75. In the text the word CT^p is missing.

Line 107. In Document M the last three words of this line, $\text{J}^r \text{CT}_s \text{T}^n$, have been detached, and written as a separate line.