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A-yeu Hai, A-yeu Hxe, A-yeu Dao.

Written by Wang Jian-guo.

They say, concerning the old folk, that,
in times past, when sky and earth came into being,
there were three men.

5 One was A-yeu Hai, who was Hmao-ndlw A-yeu,
then A-yeu Hxe, who was Hmao-chi A-yeu,
and A-yeu Dao, who was Hmao-dang A-yeu. (His son was called "za dao", "the
able one").

At that time
the Miao all lived in the Tracts of Mi-li and the Plains of Li-mo,
but had not yet reached Lao-gu and Lao-u.
10 Though their fathers had died, these were three closely related kinsmen.
Together they followed the game to the River A-na and the River Na-lu.
Hmao-ndlw, A-yeu Hai and A-yeu Hxe
could both handle the crossbow,
A-yeu Dao could not handle the crossbow,
15 but carried a club, made of copper and very heavy,
for he was a man of great strength.

At that time the Race came from the Race's land, so the Race came,
The Rulers came from the Rulers' land, so the Rulers came,
the Chinese robbers came to to A-yeu Hai's, and carried off
the whole group of women and children.
20 All the things,
including strings for the crossbows were carried away.

When A-yeu Hai and the others returned from hunting,
the Chinese had collected the crossbow strings with a
basket of sour cabbage, and carried them off.
A-yeu Hai followed after the Chinese and shouted to them,
25 "Take what you will of the things and the people,
but this evening we have not yet had our evening meal.
I wonder whether you will agree?
If so, then throw us the basket of sour cabbage
to carry back and cook for our evening meal".
30 So the Chinese gave the bundle of sour cabbage in the basket to A-yeu Hai.

Having carried it away, they took the bundle of sour cabbage and spread it out.
Taking it to pieces they retrieved the strings for their crossbows.
Now with their crossbows properly re-strung,
they went to shoot and kill the Chinese, in fact to wipe them out.
35 At this the Chinese let the group of women and children go, left the things, and
fled,
so at last they brought the group of women and children back again.