

M386
A song about head-shaving.

Sung by Zhang De-jiu from Hmao-lo.

- The sun was shining brightly,
And the sunshine was good,
Good for the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, to plant their
buckwheat early.
- 5 The growing buckwheat showed dark on the ground,
And the ripened buckwheat would provide food.
- The woman, the mother, and the man, the father, were the first to take,
Take their curved sickles, carrying them to reap,
To reap the buckwheat and clear the ground,
And they set up the sheaves like a flock of pigeons feeding.
- 10 With the arrival of the next day, as it came,
Early at dawn, with the breaking of the day,
The sun came shining brightly,
And the sunshine was good,
Good for the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, to thresh their
buckwheat early.
- 15 The man, the father, levelled,
Levelled the threshing floor, flat and smooth.
The woman, the mother, came and took,
Took a rope, and coming to the thirty rows,
Gathered the buckwheat and cleared the ground.
- 20 So the man, the father was the first to thresh,
To thresh the rows of buckwheat.
This year has been a good season, a good year.
The woman, the mother, and the man, the father, were first to gather,
And they gathered buckwheat enough to fill the building.
- 25 But the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, were uncertain in mind,
So the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, arranged,
Arranged for all the relatives to come,
To come and shave the naked one's head.
- 30 Then the naked one grew,
Grew steadily and vigorously,
Grew like the rising sun.
- The sun was shining brightly
And the sunshine was good,
Good for the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, to plant their barley
early.
- 35 The growing barley filled the ground,
And the ripened barley was like a flock of flying birds.

The woman, the mother and the man, the father, were the first to take,
Take their curved sickles in their hands,
And they came, the first to reap,
40 To reap the barley and clear the ground,
And they set up the sheaves like a flock of cranes feeding.

With the arrival of the next day, as it came,
Early at dawn, with the breaking of the day,
The sun came shining brightly,
45 And the sunshine was good,
Good for the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, to gather their barley
early.

The woman, the mother, and the man, the father, were the first to come and
take,
To take a rope, and coming to the forty rows,
To carry the barley and clear the ground

50 The woman, the mother, and the man, the father, threshed,
Threshed the rows of barley.
This year has been a good season, a good year.
The woman, the mother, and the man, the father, were the first to gather,
And they gathered barley enough to fill the house.

55 But the woman, the mother, and the man, the father, could not settle down,
So the woman, the mother, and the man, the father were the first to arrange,
Arrange for all the relatives to come,
To come and shave the head of the daughter, the adult young woman.

60 Then the daughter, the adult young woman, grew,
Grew steadily like the full moon.

Thus it is ended.