

M482
Song of Ndrao-ntlai and Hmao-chi's youngest daughter.

Collected by Wang Ming-ji.

Notes.

This song is recorded in Document C (no. 16, page 27).

The following pairs of lines are written as single long lines in the Miao manuscript. 57 and 58, 60 and 61, 64 and 65, 71 and 72, 73 and 74, 77 and 78, 79 and 80, 88 and 89, 99 and 100, 120 and 121, 141 and 142, 143 and 144, 149 and 150, 163 and 164, 165 and 166, 167 and 168, 169 and 170, 171 and 172, 173 and 174, 176 and 177, 179 and 180, 184 and 185, 187 and 188.

Line 6. A note in the text explains that the conventional expression “practically sixteen years” means in fact, “nearly a year”, but the note does not explain why this should be.

Line 21. The expression 𑏃𑏄𑏅𑏆𑏇𑏈𑏉𑏊𑏋 is not one which is in common use. A note in the text gives its meaning as “an old skirt”.

Line 69. In this and the succeeding line the expression 𑏌𑏍𑏎𑏏𑏐𑏑 simply means the Miao country, but it is used here as an alternative to the proper name 𑏒𑏓𑏔𑏕𑏖𑏗.

Line 95. In this line the word 𑏘𑏙 which normally means “thin” must be translated “shallow”. The shelf was fixed high up, near the roof of the cave, where the tigers would not notice it.