

Neo-Aramaic and Kurdish Folklore from Northern Iraq

A Comparative Anthology with a Sample of Glossed Texts

VOLUME 2



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34. MIRZA MUHAMMAD'S ADVENTURES¹

Masoud Mohammadirad

Speaker: Viyan Ramazan (NK. Duhok)

Recording: Bayda Mustafa

Audio: <https://kurdic.ames.cam.ac.uk/audio/241/>

Summary

Mirza Muhammad was the youngest of three princes. After their father's death, they lost their castle to their uncle. Mirza Muhammad set off with his wife to another land. On their way, they arrived at a citadel, which was inhabited by a kind old woman. The sultan of another city abducted Mirza's wife and intended to marry her to his son. The old woman had her friend help Mirza Muhammad bring back his wife and also gave him her treasure. Later, Mirza Muhammad joined his brothers, who had now become poor. The brothers were re-united and took back the castle from their uncle. Eventually, Mirza Muhammad was chosen as his father's successor and inherited the throne.

¹ This tale was kindly provided to us by Bayda Mustafa, PhD researcher in General Linguistics at Bamberg University. Bayda is currently separately processing the same tale in the framework of WOWA (cf. <https://multicast.aspra.uni-bamberg.de/resources/wowa/>).

(1) *ha-bū nā-bū* | čə š *xudē mastər nā-bū*. | čīrokək *ha-bū bə nāvē Mīrzā Məhamadī*. | *Mīrzā Məhaməd ū du bərā būn*. | əl-gal *Mīrzā Məhamadī t-bən-a sē bərā*. | *kuřēt sułtānakī bon*. |

(2) *sułtānək yē məzən bo*. | *məzənē mantāqə xo bo*. | *o inā řožakē ž rožā* | *kuřēt xo l xo kom kərən* | *o řīništn-a xārē t-gal kuřēt xo*. |

(3) *got-ē*, 'kūřēt mən | *dənyā-ya*. | *av dənyāya bo kasē nā-mīnētən*. | *dənyā-ya hāt-o čo* | *o às a mərəm*. | *hīn hār sē l-gal zī əl-gal jənāzē mən nā-ʿēn-a sar zəyāratē mən*. ʾ |

(4) 'bālā ēk əš *hawa=w əl-gal hənda załāmā bə-mīnt-a l bar qal* 'ē | *ū bālā dū š hawa əl-gal mən bēn*. | čāvē *māmē hawa yē l kursikā mən*. | *həşyārī xo bən*! | *nā-hēln-ā ... mālē nā-hēln-ā bē-xodān*! ʾ |

(5) *inā řož hātən-o řož čòn-o* | *bābē wān sāx bo*. | *bābē wā* 'amrē *xodē kər-o* | *o aw žī na-mā ... əš xāmēt bābē xo dā* | *nā-mān-a l bīrā wāne* | *ku bābē wān af wasiyàta yā lə wā kərī*. |

(1) There was and was there was not. Once there was a story called Mirza Muhammad. [Once] there was [a prince called] Mirza Muhammad and two brothers.² Together with Mirza Muhammad they were three brothers. They were the sons of the Sultan.

(2) The sultan was powerful.³ [He was] the [most] powerful in his region. One day,⁴ he gathered his sons and sat with them.

(3) [The father] said, 'My sons! The world is [such]. It does not last for anyone. The world is ephemeral,⁵ and I am dying. Do not accompany my corpse [to the cemetery] all three of you [together].'

(4) [The father continued], 'One of you must guard the citadel together with some men, and the two others should accompany me [at my funeral]. Your uncle covets my throne.⁶ Be vigilant! Do not leave the citadel⁷ without a master.'

(5) The days went by and their father was healthy. [But later,] their father passed away. Because of the sorrow [of his death], They (i.e., the sons) forgot that their father had given them his [last] will.

² Lit. Mirza Muhammad and two brothers were.

³ Lit. big.

⁴ Lit. S/he, it brought.

⁵ Lit. The world is [the one] which came and went.

⁶ Lit. Your uncle's eye is at my throne.

⁷ Lit. house.

(6) *hàr sē bārā pēkva¹ t-gal bābē xo t-čən=a sar muqbarē=o¹ bābē xo va-t-šērən.¹ o waxtē dē zəvərən¹ qasdā mālē¹ kan¹ māmē wā yā bə sar qasrē dā-gərti¹ o jəhē bābē wa yē gərti.¹ o zaḷāmēt xo xəř-ēt dūr mān dūrē, qasrē kərin [yē] harəs¹ ū yēt bābē wī hamī yēt darē xəstīn.¹*

(7) *inā hāndi t-hēn dē qasdā xāniyē xo kən¹ zaḷāmēt māmē wī nā-hēlən.¹ xəḷəs!¹ qasr šə wā sətānd=ū¹ ū àw bün=a xodānēt mulkē ū qasrē.¹*

(8) *inā goti, ‘pā as am’ ... žənkēt wā ha ēt žūr-va¹ got-ē, ‘pā am dē čāwā?¹ am dē čə kəyn?¹ čə nā-kayn?¹ inā got-ē, ‘hàr ēkē¹ hàspē wī=o¹ širē wī=o¹ matālā wī=o¹ žənkēt wā bə-dan=a bē.¹*

(9) *har ēkē žənkā wī=o¹ hàspē wī=o¹ šir=o matālēt wā zēdatər¹ čə dī na-dā bē=ū¹ hānda xārən tērā čand řožakā bə řēva bə-xon=o va-xon dā bē¹ o dārē xəstən=a š jəhē wāna.¹*

(10) *dē čə kan har sē bārā?¹ aw ži čon dar-kātən=o.¹ dar-kātən=o har ēt čən=o čən=o.¹ čon bə řēkakē čon¹ čon waki mērgakē=ya.¹ waki dār=o bārakī=ya.¹*

(6) All the three brothers accompanied the father[’s body] to the cemetery and buried their father. When they returned and were heading home, [they noticed that] their uncle had taken over the palace and had usurped their father’s place. He had installed his men to guard all around the palace and had expelled their father’s men.

(7) Well,⁸ when they (i.e., the brothers) attempted to go to the palace, their uncle’s men did not let them. It was over! They took control of the palace and he became the master of the palace and [its] property.

(8) Well, they (i.e., Mirza Muhammad and his two brothers) said, ‘So we...’ Their wives were [still] in the [palace] rooms. They said, ‘We, how? What should we do? What should we not do?’ Then he (i.e., the uncle) said, ‘Give each of them his horse, sword, shield and wife.’

(9) They did not give them (i.e., the brothers) [anything] more than their horses, swords, shields, and wives. They gave them some food and drinks to consume on the way and threw them out of their place.

(10) What did the three brothers do? They left [the palace]. They left and kept going.⁹ They followed a road. They went on, [and arrived at a place,] it was like a meadow. It was like a garden.¹⁰

⁸ Lit. S/he, it brought.

⁹ Lit. They keep going, they keep going.

¹⁰ Lit. It was trees and rocks.

(11) *inā^l bəṛāyē wā yē m̄āzən goti^l, ‘am dē av šava lə vērē bēhnā xo va-dāyn.^l mā am dē čāwā dar-kavīn?^{’l} har ēkē hāndāk təštē l-gal hayn.^l har ēkē dastakē kā nāvīnā=yā=o^l təštakī=yā=w.^l*

(12) *wəḷā lə wē rē dā-dān=o řā ...^l hāndi bəṛāyē bəčīk bo^l got-ē, ‘av řēka pičakē yā bə-ṭərs=a^l hāndē jārā řēgəṛ də vē rē řā t-ēn=o čən.^{’l}*

(13) *got-ē, ‘māḷā tā!^l tu mərovakē ṭərs ṭərsòk-ī.^l mā xo na čə haya?^{’l} andē bəṛāyē m̄azən got-ē,^l ‘hūn bə xo bənvən^l àz dē bəm=a haras.^{’l}*

(14) *wəḷā har du bəṛāyē bəčīk^l Mīrzā Məhamād=o^l žənkā xo=o^l čūn=a^l bu xo wakī xībatākā bəčīk kā ləgal wā bo.^l bu xo va-dān təštāk^l čūn=a t-bən vē.^l har ēk-ū čū t-bən xīvatā xo va=ū.^l*

(15) *bəṛāyē m̄azən ‘āl’asās^l aw dē bət=a nūbadār-ū^l dē hatā bət=a spē ... bət=a səpē da.^l inā Mīrzā Məhamad har ət-hēt-ū ət-čī-tən^l bēhnā wī nā-ētən^l ū həzr ēt sarē wī dā.^l*

(11) Then the elder brother said, 'Let us rest¹¹ here tonight. How are we supposed to leave [this place]?' Each had something with him. Each had a bundle of¹²—let's say—bed linen or something like that.

(12) Indeed, they settled there. The one who was the younger brother (i.e., Mirza Muhammad) said. 'This road is a little scary [and] bandits sometimes pass through here.'¹³

(13) [The elder brother] said, 'For heaven's sake!¹⁴ You are a coward. What is [going on here]?' The elder brother said this much to them, 'You just sleep, I'll keep watch.'

(14) Indeed, both younger brothers—Mirza Muhammad and his wife [and his brother and his wife] went to [the tent]. They had a small tent with them. They set up [the tents]. They went inside.¹⁵ Each [couple] went into their tent.

(15) The older brother was supposed to keep watch until dawn.¹⁶ Mirza Muhammad kept walking around. He was not relaxed.¹⁷ He was preoccupied.¹⁸

¹¹ Lit. stretch out our breath.

¹² Lit. a hand of.

¹³ Lit. come and go in here.

¹⁴ Lit. your house!

¹⁵ Lit. under.

¹⁶ Lit. It became next morning.

¹⁷ Lit. His breath did not come.

¹⁸ Lit. Thoughts were in his head.

(16) wàxtakî sah tə-kat-ē¹ bəṛāyē wī hatā nīvaḵā šavē yē hāt-o čo¹
pəštī hīngē aw žī čū sar jəhē xo¹ ū nəvəst.¹

(17) Mīrzā Məhamadī šīr-ū matālēt xo inān-a darē.¹ o əš ... pičakē
š wān dūr kat-o¹ lə wārā har hāt-o čo.¹

(18) dīt du sē sīyārakē t-ēn-o.¹ yē b-sar t-ēn.¹ o ... o āgərē wānē həl-
hapānē¹ qasdā āgərē wā tə-kan¹ ū dē bə sar wān dā-gərən.¹

(19) inā šarē ... av mərūvēt ha řēgər-ən¹ hamā hār čiyē dītən dē¹
kūžən-o¹ həsp-ū təštēt wā-w¹ žənkēt wā žə stīnən-ū¹ dē bāt¹ əw tə-
zānən av mərova řēgər-ən.¹

(20) inā řā-t-bət šarī t-kat-ū šarī t-kat-ū¹ Mīrzā Məhamad fārəsakē
zīrāk-a¹ bū šarī-ū¹ wuḷā kā ēk-a du-a wā tə-košetən¹ o hatā t-bēt-a řožā
dī səpē dē.¹

(21) řožā dī səpē dē¹ bəṛāyē wī t-bēžt-ē,¹ 'hā Mīrzā Məhamad!¹ mā
mən na-got-a ta, 'čə nī-na!¹ hatā səbē dē az mām-a həšyār.¹ mən
təštāk nā-dīt.¹

(16) At one moment he realised that his brother had kept watch¹⁹ [only] until midnight, [and] after that had gone to bed and slept.

(17) Mirza Muhammad took out his sword and shield. He went some distance from them and kept walking around²⁰ there.

(18) He saw that two or three riders came. They came to him. Their fire was extinguished. They planned to catch Mirza Muhammad and his brothers'²¹ fire and attack them.

(19) Then a fight—these men over here were bandits. Whomever they came across,²² they would seize their wives, horses, and things, and take them. People²³ know that these people were bandits.

(20) [Mirza Muhammad] rose [and] fought. Mirza Muhammad was a skilful knight when it came to fighting. Whether they were one or two [bandits], he killed them before dawn broke.²⁴

(21) The next morning, his brother said to him, 'Well Mirza Muhammad! Didn't I tell you, "Nothing is going to happen!"'²⁵ I remained vigilant until morning. I didn't notice²⁶ anything.'

¹⁹ Lit. came and go.

²⁰ Lit. He came and went.

²¹ Lit. their.

²² Lit. see.

²³ Lit. they.

²⁴ Lit. it became the next day, the next morning.

²⁵ Lit. There is nothing.

²⁶ Lit. see.

(22) *ət-bēšt=ē, 'bārā dā bə-čîn!| av jēha na yē bə-ʾamānāt=a. | ava yā řēkā řēgərān=a. | af ... ava nà jəhak yē bāš=a am lē řīnəštīn!|*

(23) *gotē, 'təštək nī-na| am dē av šàva žī lə vē rē nəvīn. | av šava dūrā/ harasī dūrā bərayē nāvè=ya. |*

(24) *inā řožā žī t-bīt=a/ t-bīt=a šàv dīsā. | Mīrzā Məhamad bo xo bə řožē t-nēvətən. | zānūtən šav dā bə sar dā hēt=o xawā wī nā-ʾētən. |*

(25) *jārākā dī| sah tə-kat=ē bərayē wī yē š nāvè wī žī| aw žī t-mīnt=a həšyār. | ʾalʾasās harasīyā wī=ya. | ət-hēt=o čīt=o t-hēt=o čītən. | pəštī hūngē àw žī xawā wī t-hēt=o čīt ət-nəvət. |*

(26) *jārākā dī Mīrzā Məhamàd ət-hēt řā-t-bət| šīr=o matālēt xo řā-t-kāt=ū| čət=a sara řēkē. |*

(27) *har ət-hēt=o čīt=o. | dīsā sah ət-kat=ē həndakē dī| av, avēt řēgər| tēn bə sar wā dā t-gərən. |*

(28) *dīsā šàřē xo t-katən| hatā kā èk=a| dū=a| sè=nā| Mīrzā Məhamad yē zīrək=a. | dīsā wā t-kožətən| o vē naqlē| gohēt wā žē va-t-kat| kat=a ət barīkā xo dā. |*

(22) [Mirza Muhammad] said, 'Brother, let's go! This place is not safe. This is the bandits' road. This is not a good place, where we have camped.'

(23) [The elder brother] said, 'Nothing is going to happen! We are going to sleep tonight here as well.' That night, it was the middle brother's turn to keep watch.

(24) Again, the day became night. Mirza Muhammad had slept during the day. He knew that when the night came,²⁷ he would not fall sleep.

(25) [On the second night] again, he looked around [and noticed that] his brother, the middle one, was vigilant. Supposedly, it was his turn to keep watch. [The middle brother] walked around²⁸ [while on watch]. Then he felt sleepy²⁹ and went to sleep.

(26) Again, Mirza Muhammad came, took his sword and shield and went on the road.

(27) He walked around. Again, he noticed others, [that is] bandits, coming to attack them.

(28) Again, he fought [them]. Whether they were one, two [or] three, Mirza Muhammad was skilful. He killed them too. This time he cut off their ears [and] put them into his pocket.

²⁷ Lit. The night came on his head.

²⁸ Lit. He came and went. He came and went.

²⁹ Lit. His slept came.

(29) *o hatā t-bīt=a barī səpē dē^l ko dā bəṛāyē wī šarm žə xo nā-
kat^l ət-čīt=a sar jəhē xo t-nəvət^l ʾalʾasās ko ʾmən hā ž čā nī-na.^{ʾl}*

(30) *səpēdē ṛā-t-bət disā t-bēžt=a bəṛāyēt xo,^l ʾdā ṛā-bīn žə vē rē bə-
čīn!^l ava na jəhaka bə-amānat=a.^{ʾl}*

(31) *pē t-kan=a kanī^l har du t-bēžn=ē, ʾtu mərovakē ṭərs ṭərsək=ī.^l
tu yē b xo nəvəstī hatā səpēdē^l ū mā harasīyā gərtī^l təštək nī-na.^l*

(32) *inā ṛā-t-bətən^l gohē wā mərovā t-ʾīnt=a dār^l awēt žē va-kəṛīn^l
t-bēžt=ē, ʾpā ava gohēt kē=na?^l pānē hīn hatā nīvā šavē t-mān=ū^l hīn
tə-nəvəstən=ū^l əz ət-būm=a haras hatā səpēdē!^l haga àv ṛēgəra bə sar
ma dā gəṛən^l ū dā ma kožən=ū^l dā žənk=ēt ma=w həspēt ma bə xo ban.^{ʾl}*

(33) *inā həndī t-bēžn=ē^l ət-bēžt=ē, ʾava az dē žənkā xò bəm=ū čəm.^l
əz gal hawa nā-bəm^l hīndē/ həndī t-bēžn=ē, ʾbərə dē am dē gal èk
bīn!^l*

(34) *ət-bēžt=ē, ʾàs^{ʾl} šə wān ʾājəz tə-bīt=ən=o^l žənkā xo t-batən^l o
haspē xo sīyār ət-bīt o^l žənkā xo l pəšt xo sīyār ət-kat=o^l ət-bēžt=ē, ʾaz
gal hawa nā-bəm^{ʾl} aw də ṛəkē ṛā t-čən^l aw də ṛəkakā dī ṛā t-čīt.^l*

(29) Before dawn,³⁰ in order not to make his brother feel ashamed, Mirza Muhammad went to his bed and slept, supposedly, 'I don't have a clue about anything.'

(30) The next morning, he rose [and] said to his brothers again, 'Let us rise and leave this place! It is not a safe place here.'

(31) They both started laughing at him [and] said to him, 'You are a coward. You had simply slept [the last two night] and we kept watch. Nothing is going to happen.'

(32) [Mirza Muhammad] rose, took out those men's ears [from his pocket], those which he had cut off, [and] said to them, 'Whose ears are these then? Isn't it the case that you would keep watch until midnight and then would go to sleep and I would keep watch until the next morning!? And these bandits intended to attack [and] kill us and take our wives and horses for themselves.'

(33) Then they said this to him, ['stay with us'], but [Mirza Muhammad] said, 'I will take my wife and leave. I won't stay with you.' They said to him, 'Brother, let us be together!'

(34) He said, 'I [won't stay with you].' He was angry with them. He took his wife, mounted his horse, seated his wife on the same horse behind himself³¹ and said, 'I won't be staying with you.' They went on a road; he went on another road.

³⁰ Lit. Until it became morning.

³¹ Lit. mounted his wife on his own back.

(35) o aw ži har ət-čīt=o ət-čīt=o ət-čītən[|] hatā bə sar/ ət-čīt=a gundakî.[|] wəsā ət-čīt=a wī gundî.[|] kàs lə wī gundī na-māya[|] gundak yē bē-dang=a[|] nà dang=a[|] nà dūr=a.[|]

(36) inā ət-čītən qasdā xānīyakî t-kat[|] sah ət-kat=e žənkàk=o[|] o dū kàčēt xo yēt tē-va.[|] dū kəč=ən[|] sē=na[|] mən husā ya‘nī yā go lē boyt[|] yēt tē-va.[|]

(37) inā ət-bēšt=e, ‘ava hīn čə t-kan=a l vē dərke?[|] ət-bēšt=e, ‘wulā![|] ava yē b-sar ma dā-gərtīn[|] mīrē ‘ajamē əb-sar ma dā-gərtī=ū.[|] zaḷāmēt ma xəř=ēt koštīn=o[|] žənkēt ma yēt bərtīn=ū.[|] hamā am ... am ži yēt māyīn=a l-vērē.[|] ma xo va-šārtəbū.[|] kasē am nà-dūtīna.[|]

(38) ət-bēšt=e, ‘həlū řā-bən[|] gal mən warən dā bə-čīn.[|] mā hīn dē lə vē rē bə-tanē čə kan?[|] ava jəhakē əb-tərs=a.[|] lə vē rē nà-mīnən![|]

(39) tə-bēžn=e, ‘mā am dē čāwā ‘ēyn?[|] mā amē l hīvīyā/ az=a lə hīvīyā zaḷāmē xo.[|]

(40) got=e, ‘aw zaḷāmē ta čū.[|] kā dē, kā mā=ya nà-mā=ya.[|] as hawa lə vē rē nà-hēlm=a b-tənē[|] ū ava jəhak / mə ži čə jəh nī=nən[|] bas dē čīn bə xo sah kayn=e jəhēkē əb-‘amānət bītən.[|]

(35) [Mirza Muhammad] kept going³² until he arrived at a village. So, he went to that village. No one was left in that village. It was a silent village. It was not full of sound, nor was it remote (from civilization).

(36) [Mirza Muhammad] went towards a house. He noticed [that] a woman and her two daughters were there. They were two, [or rather] three girls—this is what I've heard³³—in there.

(37) [Mirza Muhammad] said to them, 'What are you doing here?' They said, 'By God, they attacked us. The prince of Persia attacked us. He killed all of our men. He abducted our women. Only us,³⁴ we have remained here. We had hidden. Nobody saw us.

(38) [Mirza Muhammad] said, 'Get up, come with me. Let us go. What are you going to do here all alone? It's a scary place here. Don't stay here!'

(39) [The woman] said, 'How is it possible for us to come [with you]? We're waiting... I'm waiting for my husband.'

(40) [Mirza Muhammad] said, 'Your husband is gone. [It is not clear] whether he is alive³⁵ or not. I won't leave you alone here. It's a [scary] place. We have no place [to live] either. Let's just go to a place, inspect it, [and see] if it's safe.'

³² Lit. he went and went and went.

³³ Lit. I have heard such.

³⁴ The use of the oblique pronoun in the Kurdish is replicated in the English translation.

³⁵ Lit. remained.

(41) *inā àw žī čīrokā xo bo t-bēžətən[|] Mīrzā Muhamad tə-bēžt-ē, 'hāl-o mālēt ma žī avà-na.[|] 'rā-t-bən wulā awān žī[|] awā žī ḥaspēt xo yēt hayn.[|] dayk-ū har du kəč əl ... sē kəč-ən.[|] ḥaspā sīyār ət-bən[|] ū lə-gal Mīrzā Məhamadī t-čən.[|] ū aw žī žənkā xo əl-pəšt xo sīyār ət-katən.[|] ū pēk-và t-čən.[|]*

(42) *ū wā ət-čən hatā[|] hār ət-čən[|] hār ət-čən[|] Mīrzā Məhamad sah tə-kat-ē waxtakī t-bīnūtən[|] təštək ē səpī ət-kat žə dīr-va[|] sarē gərakī[|] lə-bar cāvēt wī wak hēkākā səpī dīyār tə-katən.[|]*

(43) *inā tə-bēšt-a žənkā xo[|] o dāykā har sē kəčkā[|] təbēšt-ē, 'kā hīn əl vē rē bən.[|] as hawa lə-gal xo nā-bəm[|] naka ava jəhakē əb-ṭərs bītən[|] əz dē čəm qasdā wī jəhī kəm.[|] haka mən dīt yē əb-ʾamānāt-a[|] a dē 'ēm dīf hawā žī řā.[|] haka hawa dīt a zīkà na-hātəm[|] hīn dīf mə řā warən.[|]*

(44) *inā řā-t-bitən[|] ət-čətən o čət[|] har čət-o čət-o čət xo nēzīk ət-kat[|] sah tə-kat-ē qal'ək-a[|] qasrakā səpī-ya[|] ū galak hadīq-ēt jān ēt tē dā.[|] ū yā yā yā hamā žə dīr va dīyār ət-kat galak ā xòš-a.[|]*

(45) *wulā aw žī bə sar ət-kavīt-ū čīt-a wērē.[|] har sah tə-kat-a vē gurfē yā xālī-ya=w.[|] sah tə-kat-a awā ha yā xālī-ya=w.[|] ū lə wān t-hēt-ū ət-čīt.[|] ət-garīyētən.[|]*

(46) *dumāhikē sah tə-kat-ē pīražənakā řāwastīyā-ya[|] yā əl gurfayākē-va əb-tənē[|] inā ət-čīt-ē ət-bēžt-ē səlān ət-kat-ē[|] o ət-bēžt-ē, 'harē pīrē tu čə t-kay lə vē dērəkē?[|]*

(41) He too told them his story. Mirza Muhammad said, 'Our story is thus.'³⁶ They had their own horses. The mother and both [her] daughters.... there are three daughters. They mounted their horses and set off with Mirza Muhammad. He seated his wife on the same horse behind himself. They left together.

(42) They went until... They kept going. At one point Mirza Muhammad looked around and saw a white thing in the distance, on the top of a hill. It seems to him like a white egg.³⁷

(43) He said to his wife and the mother of the three daughters, 'You stay here. I am not going to take you with me lest that³⁸ place turns out to be scary. I will go ahead towards that place. If I see that it is safe, I'll be back to look for you. If you see that I haven't come back, you should come after me.'

(44) He rose [and] went. He went and went [until] he approached [that place]. He saw that it was a white palace and there were many beautiful gardens around³⁹ it. It was evident from afar that [the place] was very pleasant.

(45) He went up [the hill] and went there. He looked at this room. It was empty. He looked at that one—it was empty. He went back and forth between those [rooms]. He walked [in the palace].

(46) Eventually, he noticed an old woman standing in a room alone. Then he went to her and said; he greeted her and said, 'O old lady, what are you doing here?'

³⁶ Lit. our state and such.

³⁷ Lit. in front of his eyes it seemed like a white egg.

³⁸ Lit. this.

³⁹ Lit. in.

(47) *ət-bēžt-ē, 'harē tu čə kàs=i?| tu hâtī=ya vērē čə?| inā ət-bēžt-ē, 'as Mīrzā Muhamàd-əm| kuřē fəḷān sultānī=ma. ' | ət-bēžt-ē, 'pā tu čə t-kay lə vērē pîrē?|*

(48) *ət-bēžt-ē, 'ava mīrē 'ajamē bə-sar ma dā-gərtī. | o har sē kuřēt mən jī yēt koštīn=o. | har sē bīk-ēt mə žī yēt bərin=o. | bo šār nābaynā ma=w wā=w| kàs na-māya=w| às tənē yā māym=a l-vē rē. |*

(49) *ət-bēžt-ē, 'pā hamā wara!| tū žī kuřē mən=i=w| àz daykā ta=ma. ' | ət-bēžt-ē, 'pā žənkā mən=ū| ū žənkakā dī=ya. | həndī dāykā mən=a=w| sē kəčēt wē yēt lə-gal. |*

(50) *tə-bēžt-ē, 'hařā wā žī bīna=w. ' | ū čət wā žī t-īnət=ū| t-ēt=a qasrē=w| pēk-va t-bən=a hamā wakī xēzānakē=w| o Mīrzā Muhamàd ət-čətən=ū| šūl tə-kat lə wē rē=w. | pā 'àrd dē hay=ū| ū hamā husā pēk-va xo xodān tə-kan. |*

(51) *inā řožakē| wakī bərkakē yā hay| žə qàsrā wān wē-va=ya| ət-čən=a sar wē bərkē sarēt xo t-šon žənkēt wāna. |*

(52) *inā pîrē tə-bēžt-a žənā Mīrzā Muhamādi| tə-bēžt-ē, 'kàčā mən| hako tu sarē xo t-šöy'|—žənā Mīrzā Muhamādi nāvē wē Gulizār=a| žənkakā jānīyā wē yā bə nāv=ū dāng=a| yā l mantaqē jānīyā wē| yā ... nāvē wē əb jānīyē čūy lə mantaqē xəřakē. |*

(47) She said, 'Oh what person are you? What have you come here for?' He said, 'I am Mirza Muhammad. I am the son of such-and-such sultan.' He said, 'What are you doing here, old lady?'

(48) She said, 'The prince of Persia attacked us. All the three of my sons were killed. My daughters-in-law were abducted. A war broke⁴⁰ between us and them. Nobody is left here; I have remained here alone.'

(49) She said, 'Simply come [here]! You are [like] my [own] son and I am your mother.' He said, 'There is [also] my wife and another woman with her. She is like my mother, and her three daughters are with her [too].'

(50) She said, 'Go bring them.' He went and brought them to the palace. They became like a family. Mirza Muhammad went [around]. He worked there. There was a land there [on which he worked]. They made a living together.

(51) Once... There was something like a lake next to their palace. The women [of the palace] went to the lake to wash their hair.

(52) The old woman said to Mirza Muhammad's wife, 'My daughter! When you wash your hair'—Mirza Muhammad's wife was called Gulizar, she was famous for her beauty in the region. Because of her beauty, [the fame of] her name had spread across all the regions.

⁴⁰ Lit. It became war.

(53) *inā tə-bēžt-ē, 'hako tu sarē xo t-šōy[|] pərčā xo əb dārkakē bə-
'ālīnā[|] čunko pərčā wē galak ā zar=a-w yā jān=a[|] tə-bēžt-ē, 'pərčā xo
əb dārkakē bə-'ālīnā=w[|] pərčā xo gal xò b-ina.[|] nà-hēlē-ya l wē rē![|]*

(54) *aw žī řožakē ət-čən.[|] čən=a sar bərkē ku dē jəlkēt xo šon=o.[|]
sārē xo t-šot=o[|] pərčā xo dārkakē də-'ālīnən dānt-a wērē.[|] ū danyā ət-
bət-a 'awr-ū bārān[|] ū bə lās zəvəřən[|] žə bīrā wē t-čət ku pərčā xo b-
inət.[|]*

(55) *inā ət-gəht-a mālē[|] tə-bēžt-ē, 'kəčā mən[|] ta pərčā xo inā?[|] awā
ta š pərčā ta awā žə sarē ta və-būy[|] ta čə lē kər?[|] tə-bēžt-ē, 'wulā mə
š bīr kər[|] əž lazā dā=w as hātəm-avā.[|]*

(56) *tə-bēšt-a Mīrzā Muhamādī[|] 'həlū[|] dəf řā hařà![|] Mīrzā
Muhamād řā-t-bītən[|] dif řā t-čət həndī sah ət-kat-a wārā.[|] bārānē aw
... yā bəri=ya jūkē dā=w.[|] yā čūy nà-māya.[|]*

(53) [The old woman] said to her, 'When you take your bath,⁴¹ twist [the strands of] your hair [which fall out while taking a bath and would float away] to a stick'—because her hair was very golden and beautiful—'tie your hair [which falls out while taking a bath] to a stick and bring it back with you. Don't leave it (i.e. your hair strands) there!'

(54) One day, [Gulizar and the other girls] set off. They went to the lake to wash themselves and their clothes. She (Gulizar) washed herself. She twisted her hair strands [which had fallen out] to a stick [and] put it (the stick) there (next to the lake). It started to rain⁴² and they returned quickly. She forgot to bring [back] her hair strands.

(55) She arrived home. The old woman⁴³ said, 'My daughter, have you brought your hair strands back? The ones which fell out of your hair, what did you do with them? Gulizar⁴⁴ said, 'Indeed, I forgot [them] because of the hurry. I came back [home].'

(56) [The old woman] said to Mirza Muhammad, 'Go after it!' Mirza Muhammad rose and went after the hair. He looked around a lot. The rain had taken it (the hair) to a stream. It was gone. It was not there.

⁴¹ Lit. wash your hair.

⁴² Lit. The world became cloud and rain.

⁴³ Lit. she.

⁴⁴ Lit. she.

(57) *inā zəvəřət-avà ət-bēžt-ē, 'mən nà-dit. | bārānē yā bəri. ' inā dālē pīrē ət-ṭərsətən=o | pīrē řā-t-bīt=o | o tēt=o čitən | galāk ət-ṭərsitən. |*

(58) *inā řā-t-bītən | ... ət-bēžt-a Mīrzā Muhamādī, 'avrūka tu š māl nà-dar-kavī. | ū az galak ā nasàx-əm | pīrē dālē wē šahādà ət-datən | zānītən ko dē hənd | əb-sār qasrā wē dā gərn-ava. |*

(59) *inā ət-bēžt-ē, ta čī-ya? | ət-bēžt-ē, 'pařasiyēt mən ēt dēšən. ' hatā řā-t-bītən | wakī av nānē qalāndī | řaq dā-nt-a bən tanəšt-ēt xò | xo dərēž ət-kāt. | ət-bīt-a qəř qəřā wē. |*

(60) *ət-bēžt-ē, 'aw čə qəř qəř-ā? | ət-bēžt-ē, 'ava tanəštēt mən-ən. | zər tanəštēt mən galāk ət-dēšən. | pařasiyēt mən ēt dā-ēšən. ' wē řožē nà-hēlēt Mīrzā Məhamād əš māl dar-kavət. |*

(61) *inā aw pəřčā wē | aw ā dārkē ālāndī | āv ət-bat ət-bat ət-bàaat | ət-bat ət-čət-a bərkā sultānakī dā | bāžēřakē dī wī sultānī | xulāmē wī | du ḥəspēt hayn. | ḥəspēt wī ḥəspakē wī yē əb čāvaki-ya | ḥəspē dī har du čāvēt wī dərəst-ən. |*

(62) *har řò ət-bat-a sar bərkē | wān ḥəspā āvē žə bərkē va ət-xon | ū t-zəvəřint-avà. | həndī ḥəspē bə har du čāvē wī dərəst-ən | čət-a sar bərkē | tēr āvē va-t-xòt. |*

(57) He came back [and] said, 'I did not find⁴⁵ it. The rain has carried it away.' The old woman was scared.⁴⁶ She rose and started walking to and from. She was very scared.

(58) She rose [and] said to Mirza Muhammad, 'You shall not leave the house today. I am very ill.' The old woman's heart told her⁴⁷ and she knew that others would attack the palace.

(59) [Mirza Muhammad] said to her, 'What is wrong with you?'⁴⁸ She said, 'My ribs ache.' She even put something like fried bread under her flank and lay down. [Her bones] started to make a crunching noise.⁴⁹

(60) He said, 'What is that cracking [noise]?' She said, 'That [comes from] my ribs. My side ribs ache a lot. My ribs ache.' That day, she did not let Mirza Muhammad leave the house.

(61) Her (Gulizar's) hair—the one which was twisted onto the stick—the water took it away and took it away, took it all the way to the lake of a sultan in another city. The sultan, his servant, had two horses. One of his horses was one-eyed; the other had healthy eyes.⁵⁰

(62) Every day, [the servant] would take them (the horses) to the shore of the lake. The horses would drink water and [then] he would bring them back. The horse with healthy eyes went to the edge of the lake and drank its fill of water.

⁴⁵ Lit. see.

⁴⁶ Lit. The old woman's heart was scared.

⁴⁷ Lit. The old woman, her heart gave testimony.

⁴⁸ Lit. You, what is?

⁴⁹ Lit. It became her crunching voice.

⁵⁰ Lit. Both her eyes were correct.

(63) *həndi ɣaspē dī avē bə čāvakī=ya | pānē hatāv lē ət-datən. | āwā zalāl=a=w | hatāv lē ət-dat-ən. | ē pərčā wē ət-tāysət əb dārki va | ət-bənē āvē dā. | aw haspē xo dē bələnd kət=o | dē pəšt-o pəšt zəvəřət. | āvē nā-va-xot.*

(64) *inā řožakē duā hār av hāla bo. | inā sułtāni aw ɣaspē sułtāni=ya. | inā sułtān ət-bēžt=ē, ‘būčī av ɣaspa yē lāwāz=a=w | yē bē-xòlk=a=w?’*

(65) *ət-bēžt=ē, mā dē bo ta čə bēžəm! | hāl=ū mālēt wi ɣaspī avà-na. | ava sē řòžə āv na-va-xāriya.’*

(66) *inā gāzi ət-kat=a wān | avēt bərkē pāqəž ət-kan. | ət-bēžn=ē, ‘kā hařn=a ət bərkē dā pāqəž kàn | kā ava būčī | čə ət vē bərkē dā haya?’*

(67) *inā waxtē dār-tē-xan | wi dārki ko pərčā Gulizārē yā pē-va, | wusā yā zār ət-kat ət bərkē dā | waki zērī. | inā ət-bēžt=ē, ‘av āv əš ki rē t-hēt=a də vē bərkē dā?’*

(68) *ət-bēžn=ē ava ət qasrā pīrē ət-hētən. | av āva əš qasrā pīrē ət-hēt=a ət vē bərkē dā.’*

(63) The other horse, the one which was one-eyed—naturally, the sun shone through it (the water). The sun shone through the clean water. Her (Gulizar's) hair was shining on the stick under the water. [On seeing the hair,] the horse rose to his feet and reared up. It did not drink the water.

(64) Then, for one or two days went on like this. Then the sultan... the [one-eyed] horse belonged to him. Then the sultan said to him (to the servant), 'Why is this horse weak and [left] without care?'

(65) [The servant] said, 'How should I tell you! The story is such with that horse. It's been three days [that] he hasn't drunk water.'

(66) [The sultan] summoned them, those who cleaned the lake. He⁵¹ told them, 'Go and clean the lake! Why, what is there in the lake water?'

(67) When they took out the stick, the one onto which Gulizar's hair strands were tied, it was so golden that it turned the lake gold. [The sultan] said, 'Where is the water [in this lake] coming from?'

(68) [The servants] said, 'It comes from the old woman's palace. This water comes from the old woman's palace to this lake.'

⁵¹ Lit. they.

(69) *aw ži mārūvakē ya'nī yē zālām=a | aw ži yē zālām=a. | inā řā-t-bīt ət-bēšt-ē, 'řā-bən | hařən | xodānā vē pərčē bo kuřē mən b-inən. ' | zālāmēt xo fə řē ət-kat-ū. | hamī bə šir-ū matāl-ū | ū b sār qasrē dā d-gər-ən. |*

(70) *ət-bēžt-ē, 'Mīrzā Məhamād! ' | pīrē ət-bēžt=a Mīrzā Məhamadī, 'kā hařà dawr-ū barē qasrē! | warà=w hařà! | kā čà ha-ya? | čà nī-na? ' |*

(71) *Mīrzā Məhamād sah tə-kāt-ē əž dīr va | həsp ē t-hēn-o. | řəp řəpā haspən=a-w. | inā ət-hēt bə lās | ət-bēžt, 'ava həndakà bə sar mā dā gərt | ət-bēžt-ē, 'kārē xò yē šaři bə-kan. ' |*

(72) *inā Mīrzā Məhamād šir-o matāl-ēt xo řā-t-kat=o | lə həspē xo sīyār ət-bət=o | har sē xəšk ži ... əl həspēt xo=w | aw ži jəlkēt zālāmà ət-kan=a bar xo | ū šir-ū matālēt xo řā-t-kan. |*

(73) *inā pīrē t-bēžt-ē, | 'dargahē pəštē | bəlā ēk əl bar bətən. | nà-hēln=a bē-xodān. ' |*

(74) *inā dāykā wā ət-čət=a dargahē pəšta | ū har sē xəškē əl-gal Mīrzā Məhamadī | ət-čən=az mādānā šaři. |*

(69) The sultan⁵² was, let's say⁵³, a cruel man. He was cruel. He rose, said to them (to his man), 'Get up, go and bring the owner of this hair for my son.' He sent his men, all [equipped] with swords and shields, to attack the palace.

(70) She said to him, 'O Mirza Muhammad!' The old woman said to Mirza Muhammad, 'Go round the palace! Keep watch!⁵⁴ See what is there, what is not there.'

(71) Mirza Muhammad noticed that horses were coming from afar. The clip-clop of horses [was audible].⁵⁵ He came quickly [and] said to her, 'Some people are [about] to attack us.' She said, 'Prepare for a war.'⁵⁶

(72) Mirza Muhammad picked up his sword and shield and mounted his horse. The three sisters too (i.e., the three daughters of the other woman) [also mounted] their horses. They wore men's clothes and picked up their swords and shields.

(73) The old woman said, 'The back gate—one should protect it.'⁵⁷ Don't leave it unmanned.'

(74) Their mother (i.e., the mother of the three girls) went to the back gate, and the three sisters went together with Mirza Muhammad to the battlefield.

⁵² Lit. he.

⁵³ Lit. meaning.

⁵⁴ Lit. Come and go!

⁵⁵ Lit. It was the clip-clop of horses.

⁵⁶ Lit. Do your fighting job.

⁵⁷ Lit. be in front of.

(75) *yā əš avē dī-va aw žī zaḷām=ən. | həndi šaṛakē lāv ət-kan=o | šārē xo t-kan=o | šārē xo t-kan=o. | wē řožē | māḷā suḷtānē šəkastənē t-
 ʿinən=o | ət-zəvřən-avā.*

(76) *inā t-bēžn=ā suḷtānē, | ət-bēžn=ē, ‘əm galak boyin | àw čār mərov
 būn. | bas aw čār zaḷām=ən | har zaḷāmakē wā bə šət zaḷāmān=a | hīndi-t
 zīrāk=ən. | am nà-šīyāyn=a wāna.*

(77) *inā řā-t-bən xəṭā xo dā-nən | tə-bēžn=ē, ‘şəbāhī | hīn nīvāk
 hařn=a bar səngē wān šaři b-kan | ū hīn sē čārakē dargahē pəštē řā
 hařən | dā hīn bə-šen Gulizārē b-inən.*

(78) *inā jārākā dī | řožā dī řā-t-bən disà t-čən=a šaři=o. | disà Mīrzā
 Məhamad=o har sē xəškēt wī | pā idī boyn=a xəškēt wī. | àw žī har
 jəlkēt zaḷāmā -t-kan=a bar xo. | šīr=o matālēt xo řā-t-kan=o | t-hēn=a
 šaře xo t-kān.*

(79) *tə-hēn=a šaři ət-kan=o | šaře xo t-kān=o. | ... ət wī šaři dā | ...
 xəškēt wī | ... t-ēn=a koštən | t-ēn=a koštən xəškēt wī. | hatā də-zəvřət=a
 qasrē | aw yē dargahē pəštē řā čoyñ. | o žənək žī kā hātiya koštən. | o
 Gulizār žī yā bəřin | o yē čoyñ.*

(80) *inā zəvəřət=a daf pīrē | ətbēžt=a pīrē, | as čà b-kampā? | pīrē tə-
 bēžt=ē, ‘həlū řā-ba hařa! | əl haspē xo sīyār ba, | hařa ... bāžēřē wī
 suḷtānē hařa!’ nāv=ū nišānēt mālakē ət-dat=ē.*

(75) The others (the sultan's men) thought that they (Mirza Muhamad and the three sister) were men too. They fought a heavy battle. They fought, they fought. That day, the sultan's men were defeated and returned.

(76) They told the sultan, 'We were many. They were four men. However, [even though] they were four men, each man equalled one hundred men, this is how skilful they were. We couldn't manage (to defeat) them.'

(77) They made a plan [and] said, 'Tomorrow, you, half of you go to them⁵⁸ and fight [them], and you (another group), three or four of you, go to the back gate, so that you can bring Gulizar.'

(78) Again, the next day, they went to fight. Again, Mirza Muhammad and his three sisters—well, they had become his sisters. They too wore men's clothes. They picked up their swords and shields and went⁵⁹ to fight.

(79) They went and fought. They fought their fight. In that battle his (Mirza Muhammad's) sisters were killed. His sisters were killed. By the time he came back to the palace, the ones from the back gate (the sultan's men) had gone away. The woman (the mother of three girls) had been killed, and they had abducted Gulizar and gone away.

(80) [Mirza Muhammad] returned to the old woman. He said to the old woman, 'What should I do then?' The old woman said to him, 'Get up [and] go! Mount your horse, go to the city of that sultan, Go!' She gave him the address of a family.

⁵⁸ Lit. Go to their chests.

⁵⁹ Lit. came.

(81) *ət-bēžt=ē*, ‘*žəkākā hay¹ kəčāk ā hay¹ aw žənkak ā əb-wəždān=a¹ o na-haqiyē qabil nā-katən¹ o wī sułtānī¹ ta‘[da], zaḷāmē wī yē koštī¹ aw galak ā ‘ājəz-a əž sułtānī¹ hařa xo bə-āvēžə sar baxtē wē¹ aw dē hārikāriyā ta kat¹*.’¹

(82) *inā řā-t-bītən¹ əl haspē xo siyār ət-bət=o¹ ət-čət-a dūr mā dūri bāžēri¹ hatā ət-bīt-a šav=ū¹ dānyī řārī t-bētən¹ o t-čīt-a t mālā wē žənkē va¹*.

(83) *čīt xo t-hāvīt=a baxtē žənkē¹ ət-bēžt=ē*, ‘*mən xò hāvēt-a baxtē ta=w¹ baxtē xodē hārikāriyā mə bə-ka!¹ avī žənkā mən ā řavāndī¹*.’¹

(84) *inā tə-bēžt=ē¹ ‘tā xo hāvēt=a sar baxtē mən¹ o ās ta nā-zəvəřinm-ava das xālī¹*.’¹

(85) *inā t-bīt-a šāv¹ o dahawātī xəřēt čoyñ-a¹ hamī gundē ma‘zūm kəriy-a mālā xo¹ dahwātā wī=ya¹ əstərānā t-bēžən=o¹ duhl-o zərnāyē lē ət-dən=ū¹*.

(86) *aw řī řā-bò¹ jəlkēt kəčā xò kərn=a bar Mīrzā Məhamadī¹ kəčā xo hēlā əl māl¹ ū jəlkēt kəčā xo kərn=a bar Mīrzā Məhamadī=w¹ darsūkā wē kəř-a sarī¹ [dav=ū lēvēt] wē gərtən=o¹ o řā-būñ čūñ=a nāv dāwātē dā¹*.

(81) She said, 'There is woman [in the city of the sultan]. She has a daughter. She is a just⁶⁰ woman. She does not accept injustice. The sultan has aggressively killed her husband. She is angry with the sultan. Go and plead with her!⁶¹ She will help you.'

(82) [Mirza Muhammad] rose, mounted his horse, and went to the [sultan's] city suburbs [and waited there] until it became night. It became dark and he went to the house of that woman.

(83) He implored the woman [and] said to her, 'I'm imploring you, for God's sake, help me! He (the sultan) has abducted my wife.'

(84) She said, '[Because] you have implored me, I will not send you back empty-handed.'

(85) It became night. All the [wedding] guests went there [to the sultan's house]. He (the sultan) had invited all the village to his house. It was his [son and Gulizar's] wedding. They were singing songs. And they were playing drum and reed instruments.

(86) [The woman] rose, put her daughter's clothes on Mirza Muhammad [and] left her daughter at home. She put her daughter's clothes on Mirza Muhammad. She put her headdress on his head. Mirza Muhammad and the woman⁶² made her (the woman's daughter) silent⁶³ and went to the wedding.

⁶⁰ Lit. with conscience.

⁶¹ Lit. Throw yourself at her fate.

⁶² Lit. they.

⁶³ The exact meaning is unclear.

(87) got-ē, 'waxtē às əšāratē ət-dam=a ta^l tu lawandiyā xo əl lampē bə-dà^l əl čārāyī bə-da bəlā bə-ṭəmṛētən^l az-ē ta bam kam=a ət ġurfā zāvāyī va^l as hatā vēṛē avà əš mən ət-hēt-o.^l yā dī xamā ṭà-ya.^l

(88) inā řā-t-bīt tə-čən=a nāw dāhwātē dā=w^l awəl jār dayn nà-kan-ū.^l aw žī tə-raqəsən-ū^l dā'wātē ət-kan-ū.^l o waxtakī žī Mīrzā Məhamād^l lawandiyā xo əl čārāyī ət-dat ət-ṭəmṛīyētən.^l

(89) ū tə-bīt=a ... xo 'ājəz ət-kan-ū^l 'ava kē wa kər-ū^l ava kē ṭamṛānd-ū?^l

(90) ... 'al'asās ko daykā ko Mīrzā Məhammad kəčā wē=ya^l inā tə-bēžtən, 'ava mē kəčā xo bər-o čo.^l hāt-o čo kəčak ā čārāyē ṭaməřānd.^l mā kəčā mē čə kəriya?^l

(91) ət wē nāvbaynē řā^l Mīrzā Məhammadī ət-kat=a ġurfā zāvāyī-va.^l Mīrzā Məhammad žī ət-čət=a bən tàxtē bikē-va.^l

(92) o hatā dāhwātī hamī vāṛabən-ū^l har ēk ət-čət=a mālā xo^l zāvā žī t-ēt čət=a sar jəhē xo=w^l Gulizār žī yā əl sar taxtī=w.^l Gulizārī žī nà-zānīt ko Mīrzā Məhammad=a^l yē čò=a t-bən wē rē va^l čuko ṭārī=ya^l čo=a t-bən taxtī-va.^l

(87) She (the woman) said to him (to Mirza Muhammad), 'When I give you a sign, hit the lamp with the long sleeves of you[r dress] to turn it off. I will take you to the groom's room. I am able [to help you] up to this point. The rest is your concern.'

(88) They rose and went to the wedding ceremony. They did not make any trouble⁶⁴ at first. They danced and attended the wedding.⁶⁵ At a certain moment, [Mirza] hit the light bulb with the long sleeves of his dress, and the light was put out.

(89) The place descended into⁶⁶ [chaos]... They were shaken, 'Who did that? Who put out the light?'

(90) The woman who was supposedly Mirza Muhammad's mother said, 'I will take my daughter and leave. It's not a big deal.⁶⁷ She is a[n innocent] girl. She put out the light [by mistake]. What wrong has my daughter done?'

(91) During that time, Mirza Muhammad went into the groom's room⁶⁸. Mirza Muhammad went under the bridegroom's bed.

(92) By the time the guests were scattered, and each went to their home, the groom went to his place and Gulizar was on the bed. Gulizar did not know that Mirza Muhammad had gone under it (the bed), since it was dark. He had gone under the bed.

⁶⁴ Lit. They did not make noise.

⁶⁵ Lit. They did the wedding.

⁶⁶ Lit. it became.

⁶⁷ Lit. it came and went.

⁶⁸ Lit. put into the groom's room.

(93) o zāvā t-hēt=a žor=o[|] zāvā žī kūrē sułtānī=ya=w[|] yē mutakabār=a=w[|] o aw žī yē řiništī=ya xārē[|] t-bēžt=a Gulizārē,[|] 'kā palakē b-ina tā qalīnā xo həl-kam.[|] 'av jəgārēt məzən[|] ijā [pāēkā] wē ət-bēžn=e qalīn.[|] 'kā palakē b-ina tā qalīnā xo həl-kam.[|]

(94) aw žī palakē əb kāsəkē dat=a vē[|] ət-bēžt=e, 'mā mə gōtī=ya ta əb kāsəkē b-ina?[|] tu dē palakē ət-ka=ya dastē xò dā=w[|] dē inē.[|]

(95) inā t-bēžt=e,[|] 'xozī əš xērēkā xodē řā[|] čāvē Mīrzā Məhamadī lə vē rē![|] vē gāvē lə tà bā[|] dā har pəlkākā ta hāndī gohē ta lē katən.[|]

(96) waxtē wa t-bēžt=[|] Mīrzā Məhamad xo əž bən taxtī ət-hāvēt=a darē[|] o šīrakī dā-nt=a sar hapkā wī[|] o šīrakī lē ət-dat=ū[|] o tablā wī žē va-t-kāt[|] kat=a ət dāvē wī dā[|] ət-bēžt=e, 'ava jəkārā xo bə-kēšā![|]

(97) o jəlkēt wī yēt ko kārē wī yē zāvāy nī=ya[|] ət-kāt=a bar xo[|] aw jəlkēt žənkā žə bar xo t-kāt=o[|] jəlkēt wī ət-kat=a bar xo[|] o dastē Gulizārē t-gərət=o[|] o dar-də-kavət.[|]

(93) The groom came to the room. The groom was the sultan's son, he was haughty. She sat up. He said to Gulizar, 'Bring me a firebrand so that I may light my tobacco pipe'—the big cigars, their pipe⁶⁹ is called *qalīn*—'Bring me a firebrand so that I may light my tobacco pipe.'

(94) She put a firebrand in a bowl and gave it to him. He said, 'Have I told you to bring it in a bowl? You should put a firebrand into your [bare] hand and bring it.'

(95) She said, 'I wish to God⁷⁰ that Mirza Muhammad would have seen you!⁷¹ He would turn each of your firebrands like your ears.'⁷²

(96) When she said so, Mirza Muhammad appeared from under the bed, cut his (the groom's) throat with a sword,⁷³ took a sword to him, cut off his (the groom's) finger, and put it in his mouth, saying, 'Here, smoke your cigar!'

(97) [Mirza Muhammad] put his (the groom's) clothes on, he was the new groom, [and] took off the women's clothing [he had worn]. He put on his (the groom's) clothes, took Gulizar's hand and left.

⁶⁹ Apparently, this refers to a kind of pipe into which a cigar is inserted.

⁷⁰ Lit. God's goodness.

⁷¹ Lit. Mirza Muhammad's eyes were here on you.

⁷² The speaker rather intends to express the reverse meaning, thus 'He would make each of your ears like your firebrands.'

⁷³ Lit. He put a sword on his throat.

(98) *waxtē haràs ət-bīnən^l yā əš wān-va ava kuřē sułtānī=ya=w^l o
kā dē ət-čən=a nāv hadiqē^l dē bə xo čən=a gařyānakē=w^l dē dār-kavən.^l*

(99) *o dār-tə-kavətən=o^l Gulizārā xo ət-bat əl ھاspi sīyār ət-kat=o^l
nīvā šavē=w^l qasdā jārakā dī^l dār-tə-kavən-o čən^l o qasrā, qasdā
qāsra pīrē ət-katən.^l*

(100) *o [lā] waxtē ət-čən=a wē dərke^l inā bīt-a səpēdā=w^l səltān řā-
t-bīt=o^l əb duł=o zərñā ət-bət-a bar dargahē kūrē xo.^l o ko dē dargahē
kuřē xo^l va-kat ko bīk=o zāvāyē əž žòr-va.^l*

(101) *dargahī vā-t-kat^l sah tə-kat-ē kuřē wī yē kuštīya=w^l o šīnā
jəgārē təblā wī yā ət davī dā.^l*

(102) *Mīrzā Məhamadī xo gahānd-a qasrē.^l pīrē ət-bēžt-ē,^l ‘həlo řā-
bā^l həlo hařā!^l žə vē rē hařā!^l xo xəlās kà!^l həndī mən mālē hayi žī’—
pīrē žī gəlāk zēr ēt hayn^l yēt va-šārtīn^l ət-qāl‘ā xo va^l pīrē zangīn ā
həsābē^l zangīnā mazənā qal‘ē bo.^l*

(98) When the guards saw [them], they thought⁷⁴ that he was the sultan's son and that he was going to the gardens to take a stroll. [That's why] they (the two people) were leaving [the palace].

(99) They went off. He (Mirza Muhammad) seated Gulizar on the horse at midnight. He headed towards... they left [the sultan's palace] and went away, [heading to] the old woman's palace.

(100) By the time they arrived there, it became morning. The Sultan rose, took drums and reed instruments to the door of his son's house [and played]. He wanted to open the door of his son's room, [the room where] the bride and groom were.

(101) He opened the door and saw that his son had been killed. Instead of a cigarette, his [own] finger was in his mouth.

(102) Mirza Muhammad reached the palace. The old woman said to him, 'Get up, get away from here! Save yourself!⁷⁵ I have so many possessions'—the old woman had much gold, which had been hidden in her citadel. The old woman was rich. It is said⁷⁶ that she was the richest⁷⁷ in the citadel.

⁷⁴ Lit. it to them.

⁷⁵ Lit. relieve yourself.

⁷⁶ Lit. supposedly.

⁷⁷ Lit. the biggest rich.

(103) *pîrê žî řā-t-bət tîrkēt zērā ət-ʔinət¹ ət-dāt=a vē=w¹ o tə-bēžt-ē,*
‘avān zērā bə-bà=w,¹ ava bû tà=w.¹ o hařa xo xəlās ka!¹

(104) *aw žî řā-t-bītən wā¹ hændî tə-bēžt-ā pîrē¹, ‘as ta nà-hēlm-a əl*
vē rē əb-tənē.¹

(105) *ət-bēžt-ē, ‘hařà!¹ mən pə-hēlā!¹ tu hařa xo xəlās ka!¹ tu nà-*
mîn-a lə vē rē.¹

(106) *inā řā-t-bət zērēt xo¹ hændî pîrê zēr dāyîn-ē¹ wān zērā ət-bātən¹*
o əl həspē xo sîyār ət-bītən¹ o čitən.¹ ət-čît bə řē va ət-bēžət, ‘dā as
awəl jār bə-čəm əl bəřâyēt xo bə-gařiyəm.¹

(107) *inā t-čît=a gundakî¹ gundakē dî gundakē dî¹ bəřâyēt xo t-bînət.¹*
sah tə-kat-ē bəřâyēt wî yēt hažār boyn¹ řožakē nānakē hây tə-xon¹
řožakē nî-na bə-xon.¹

(108) *inā čət bəřâyē xo žî kòm tə-kət¹ ət-bēžt-ē, ‘řā-bən dā bə-čîn*
qasrā bābē xo bə-stînîn!¹

(109) *‘dē čāwā stînîn?¹ ma čə dastē ma dā nî-na!¹ tə-bēžt-ē, ‘hawà*
šûl pē nî-na!¹ wē pə-hēlən xāmā mən!¹

(103) The old woman rose, brought [her] sacks of gold, gave it to him (Mirza Muhammad), and said, 'Take these [sacks of] gold, these are for you. Go and save yourself!'

(104) He rose, [and] said to the old woman, 'I won't leave you alone here.'

(105) [The old woman] said, 'Go! Leave me! Go and save yourself! Do not stay here.'

(106) He rose, the gold—the large amount of gold that the old woman had given him—he took the gold, mounted his horse, and went away. He went away. On the way he said [to himself], 'I shall first go and look for my brothers.'

(107) He went to one village, to another one, [and still] to another one, and found⁷⁸ his brothers. He looked at them. His brothers had become poor. They would eat food [only] every other day.⁷⁹

(108) He gathered his brothers, [and] said to them, 'Get up, let's go and take back our father's palace!'

(109) [His brothers said], 'How are we supposed to take it (the castle) back? We—we cannot manage it!'⁸⁰ [Mirza Muhammad] said, 'Don't worry!⁸¹ Leave it to me!'⁸²

⁷⁸ Lit. saw.

⁷⁹ Lit. One day there was bread for them to eat, one day there was not for them to eat.

⁸⁰ Lit. There is nothing in our hands.

⁸¹ Lit. You don't have a job to it.

⁸² Lit. Leave [it] to my concern.

(110) *inā řā-t-bīt ət-čətən=ō^l dē dē ət-čən xo tə-gəhünt=a qāl'ā xo.^l
pānē zèrē əl-gal^l o dānyā hamī pārā=ya=w!^l pāra žī ət-dat=a .. yēt avēt
zaḷāmēt tə wī qal'ē dā māyn=ō^l*

(111) *gal yēt māmē xo žī hāndakā^h kēšt=a řaxē xo=w^l o jārakā dī
zaḷāmā əl xo kòm ət-kat=ō^l lə-gal bəṛāyēt xo^l o əb šar sar qal'ē dā ət-
čən=ō^l o qal'ē jārakā dī əš māmē xo də-stīnət=ō.^l*

(112) *o jārakā dī vēja tēn^l bəṛāyē wī=ō^l yē məzən=ō^l yē dī=w^l inā tə-
bēžn-ē hamī lē kòm tə-bən=ō^l ət-bēžn, 'Mīrzā Məhamād dē bət=a
məzənē qal'ē.^l*

(113) *šinā bābē Mīrzā Məhamadī,^l Mīrzā Məhamād ət-řint=a xārē
əl-sar kursikē^l o ət-bət=a məzənē wē qal'ē.^l*

o řahmāt əl day bābēt gohdārā^l o hatā vērē mən ā zānī^h

(110) He rose [and] left for their citadel. Isn't it the case that they had gold with them [and that] money rules the world!⁸³ He gave money to the men [guarding] the citadel, the ones who were inhabiting that citadel.

(111) He made an alliance⁸⁴ with some [of the guards] of his uncle. Again, together with his brothers, he (Mirza Muhammad) gathered his men, attacked the citadel,⁸⁵ and took it back from their uncle.

(112) Then they came. His elder brother and the other one [the middle brother] said... Everyone gathered around him [and] said, 'Mirza Muhammad will be the ruler⁸⁶ of the citadel.

(113) Mirza Muhammad succeeded his father, sat on the throne and⁸⁷ became the ruler of the citadel.

May blessing be on the audience's parents. I know [the tale] until here.

⁸³ Lit. The world is all money.

⁸⁴ Lit. He pulled them to his side.

⁸⁵ Lit. in fight they went on the castle.

⁸⁶ Lit. the big.

⁸⁷ Lit. Instead of Mirza Muhammad's father, Mirza Muhammad sat on the throne.

