

Hō-i k̄āu  
water-snail white

<sup>1</sup> Kūn hō-k̄ām gār nāng Ma-hā-de-vī gār ka yū  
(1) king they (two) lady queen they (two) not had

dē kwōn dē vā; <sup>2</sup> gār lōh s̄ōk-tē dē kū sōn  
their little one their (2) they (two) went to fast selves in garden

ō-yēn. Gār dā rīn-dā blō. <sup>3</sup> Pūr s̄a-ngī gār lōh  
garden. they (two) wore clothes white. seven days they (two) went

s̄ōk-tē, <sup>4</sup> gār hmān dē kwōn dē vā.  
to fast they (two) asked their child their (2).

<sup>5</sup> Bōn tōt s̄a-ngī. Rōt ra-hmō gār it. <sup>6</sup> Nāng rīn-pō  
got six days. arrived night they (two) slept. lady dreamed

kūn pī lēh, dēh ān hōm plē brī shīn, lēh  
spirit came down gave her eat fruit jungle ripe came down  
or  
mangoes (round)

dēh ān hōm mak-mōn k̄ām.  
gave her eat (long) mangoes gold.

<sup>7</sup> Nāng ra-s̄ōh, nāng yū grāi ta kūn hō-k̄ām, nāng  
lady awoke lady rose up said to (1) king lady

dāh, <sup>8</sup> ' Ō ka tōm rīn-pō hlāi ū lōh, k̄a-nyā ō,  
said O not ever dreamed even one time ruler O

<sup>9</sup> āi lōh s̄ōk-tē hā ō. P'ā-dīn nō lā pūr s̄a-ngī,  
we (two) came to fast place this. to-day is full good. seven days

<sup>10</sup> ō rīn-pō kūn pī lēh dēh ō hōm mak-mōn  
I dreamed (1) spirit came down gave me eat mangoes (long)

k̄ām ngām hnyo hnyō.  
gold sweet very.

<sup>11</sup> Hō-k̄ām grāi ta nāng, ' Kyā hnyo hnyō, p̄an  
king said to lady excellent very that which

rīn-pō mī nāng ō, <sup>12</sup> āi dī yū āi kwōn āi vā,  
dreamed thou lady O we (two) shall have our child our (2)

(1) Kūn is used as a prefix before hō-k̄ām king, and pī spirit. It may be translated as Lord or Great.

(2) vā little brother or little sister kwōn . . . vā child or children.

## The White Water-Snail

<sup>1</sup> The great king and his queen had not any children, so <sup>2</sup> they went to keep a religious fast in their garden (1). They wore white clothes and <sup>3</sup> they fasted for seven days, and <sup>4</sup> prayed for a child.

<sup>5</sup> After seven days, at night when they were asleep, <sup>6</sup> the queen dreamed that the great spirit (2) came down and gave her ripe round mangoes and long mangoes of gold to eat.

<sup>7</sup> The queen awoke and said to the king, <sup>8</sup> 'O ruler! I have never had such a dream [since] <sup>9</sup> we two came to fast in this place seven days ago. <sup>10</sup> I dreamed that the great spirit came down and gave me long mangoes of gold to eat. They were very sweet.

<sup>11</sup> The king said to the queen, 'How excellent is that which thou hast dreamed, O queen! <sup>12</sup> We shall have a little child.

(1) It is understood that there was a pagoda, with a 'rest-house', attached, in the garden.

(2) Sakya.

<sup>13</sup> mōh ān tu-ōt, ān ma-ri-ñt lēh tēk dē  
*be he precious he wonderful comes down to be conceived self*  
 ta mī nāng ō.  
*to thee lady O.*

<sup>14</sup> Nō pūr śa-ngī gār vēng ta hō. Gār vēng  
*were full seven days they (two) returned to palace. they (two) returned*  
 gwāi ta hō. Nāng tēk pa-dik-sān-tē.  
*stay at palace lady conceived conceived.*

<sup>15</sup> Būn kōr kyār hō-kām dēh bī fō vār kīr ū  
*got ten months king gave people tie rope gold one*  
 or  
 chain

nyōng, vār rūn ū nyōng <sup>16</sup> ōr hā hō ra-gwāi  
 (1) rope silver one (1) from place palace dwelling  
 or  
 chain

nāng mō hā hō ra-gwāi kūn hō-kām. <sup>17</sup> Kūn  
*lady till place palace dwelling (2) king. (2)*

hō-kām dah dē tām ā-pyō-dō nāng hō-kām, <sup>18</sup> 'Vā  
*king said he ordered maids of honour lady king child*  
 or  
 queen

ē kan mōh i-mē pē dōh vār kīr, <sup>19</sup> kan mōh  
*our if is male you strike rope gold if is*  
 or  
 chain

i-pān dōh vār rūn.  
*female strike rope silver.*  
 or  
 chain

<sup>20</sup> Rōt śa-ngī pwō, nāng yū mōh hō-i. <sup>21</sup> Bī ka  
*arrived day birth lady (3) was water-snail. people not*

ñap dē dōh vār. <sup>22</sup> Bī loh grāi ta hō-kām. <sup>23</sup> 'Bī  
*know they strike rope people went tell to king. people*  
 or  
 chain

dāh ka-nyā ō, nāng hwō-i pwō, vār kīr yē ka  
*say ruler O lady finished birth rope gold we not*  
 or  
 chain

(1) See N. 196.

(2) See note on page 146.

(3) See N. 216.

<sup>13</sup> He will be precious and wonderful, when he comes down to be conceived in thee.

<sup>14</sup> When seven days were past they returned to the palace. They returned and remained at the palace, and the queen conceived.

<sup>15</sup> When ten months (1) were past, the king ordered people to tie a gold chain and a silver chain <sup>16</sup> from the part of the palace where dwelt the queen, to the part where he lived.

<sup>17</sup> He gave orders to the maids-of-honour of the queen, <sup>18</sup> 'If our little one is a boy, strike the golden chain, <sup>19</sup> if a girl strike the chain of silver.'

<sup>20</sup> There came a day when the queen gave birth to a water-snail. <sup>21</sup> The people did not know which chain to strike.

<sup>22</sup> They went and said to the king, <sup>23</sup> 'They say, O ruler! that

(1) Lunar months.

nấp yē dōh, <sup>24</sup> vār rŭn yē ka nấp yē dōh, <sup>25</sup> kwōn  
*know we strike rope silver we not know we strike child*  
 or  
*chain*

nāng mōh hō-i a-myō. <sup>26</sup> Bī yŭ dē kwōn hō-i  
*lady is water-snail kind. people have their children water-snail*  
 or  
*person has her child*

kūn ān mōh lā-gā, ān ka kūn bī mōng-kōn, ān  
*father its is dragon he not father people world of men he*  
 or  
*naga*

kūn lā-gā, <sup>27</sup> ka-shē lō-i bī fāng ān.  
*father dragon ashamed all people on account of it.*  
 or  
*naga*

<sup>28</sup> Kūn hō-kām dāh dē grāi ta gē, 'Hwō-i lă! ka  
 (1) *king said he spoke to them finished good not*

nấp kŭ-i nyā; <sup>29</sup> ō dī dēh bī rōr pōng, ō dī  
*know as to do I shall give people make raft I shall*  
 dēh bī lōng pēt ān jōm ōm.  
*give people float finish it follow water.*

<sup>30</sup> Hwō-i nyā kŭ-i dīn. Bōn ār kyār u-āi kyār  
*finished done as that. got two months three months*

hō-kām grāi ta bī, 'Lōng pēt hō-i kŭ jōm  
*king told to people float finish water-snail white follow*

ōm.' <sup>31</sup> Ra-gwāi hwō-i rōr lă lă. Hō-kām lōh grāi  
*water. dwelling finished made well. king went told*

ta nāng, hō-kām dāh, <sup>32</sup> 'Nāng ō kwōn āi ō dēh  
*to lady king said lady O child our this give*

bī lōng pēt ān jōm ōm, ka-shē bī fāng  
*people float finish it follow water are ashamed people on account of*

ān, bī dāh, 'kūn ān lā-gā, ka-shē bī.'  
*it people say father its dragon are ashamed people.*  
 or  
*naga*

<sup>33</sup> Nāng dāh ta hō-kām, 'ka nấp kŭ-i nyā, bō-e  
*lady said to king not know as to do though*

the queen has given birth, <sup>24</sup> but we do not know whether to strike the golden chain or the silver. <sup>25</sup> The baby of the queen is a kind of water-snail. <sup>26</sup> One who has a water-snail for a child, its father is a Naga. <sup>27</sup> All the people are ashamed on account of it.'

<sup>28</sup> The king said to them, 'It is good, but I do not know what to do! <sup>29</sup> I shall order men to make a raft and shall tell them to float it [the water-snail and the raft], down stream.'

<sup>30</sup> It was done in this manner. After two or three months the king said to the people, 'Float the white water-snail down stream.' <sup>31</sup> Its dwelling-place was well prepared. The king went and said to the queen, <sup>32</sup> 'O queen! Give this our child so that the people may float it down stream. The people are ashamed because of it, they say, "Its father is a Naga". They are ashamed.'

<sup>33</sup> The queen said to the king, 'I do not know what to do!