



Indian Folk Tales of North - East

Tamo Mibang ■ P.T. Abrahan



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INDIAN FOLK TALES OF NORTH-EAST is a collection of narratives prevalent among the *Adis* of Arunachal Pradesh. Narratives on different aspects of *Adi* culture like creation, sibling, rivalry, romance, human being marrying animals, animal stories, etc., are included in the collection. The collection provides an entry to the imaginative world and world-view of the *Aids*.

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FARSIGHT PUBLISHERS & DISTRIBUTORS
Delhi-110 032

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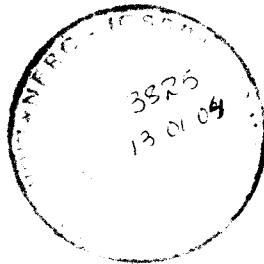
First Edition : 2002

ISBN—81-86265-77-5

Price :
Rs. 200.00

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Cover Designed by:
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398.410954163
MIB



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Publishers:

FARSIGHT PUBLISHERS & DISTRIBUTORS
S-16, Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-110 032

Laser Typesetting:

Nidhi Laser Point,
Shahdara Delhi-32

Printed by:

Pawan Offset Printers,
Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-32

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	.....	5
Part-A		
1. Keyum Kero	.....	15
2. The Evolution of the Mithun	.....	19
3. Ekum, the House	.....	22
4. The Dispute over a Mithun	.....	24
5. Donyi Anyi Ko: The Two Suns	.....	26
6. Silling Pai	.....	28
7. Kine Saki Mumdi	.....	30
8. The Death	.....	33
9. The Paddy	.....	35
10. Riidin : The Magical Creeper	.....	38
11. Goyeng-Ngoying	.....	41
12. Doni Yasi and LiiKo Yaman	.....	43
13. Boum Kaakir	.....	46
14. Kaari and Tooro	.....	49
15. Jaayi Bone	.....	52
16. Topo-Goone	.....	54
17. Nibo : The First Man	.....	56
18. Ninur Loomang	.....	60
19. Man and Monkey	.....	62
20. The Frog Husband	.....	64
21. The Woman who Married a Tiger	.....	66
22. Epom Mime, the Sylph	.....	69
23. The Son Follows the Father	.....	72

14 : INDIAN FOLKTALES OF NORTH-EAST

24. Titi-Miri; Titi-Miri	.....	74
25. Notek and Kokkeng	.....	76
26. Apang and Aming	.....	78
27. A Woman in Loneliness	.....	81
28. Three Thieves	.....	82
29. The Prophecy	.....	84
30. Mime Luutang Among; The Land of Women	.....	85
31. The Sharing of Three Birds	.....	87
32. Dobo Miirang Gaabo	.....	88
33. Biine Mepok, the Snake with two Tails	.....	91
34. Rumdong Miri	.....	93
35. Ayi Kamkong, The Giant	.....	96
36. Biitum, the Magician	.....	100
37. Koojum-Kooje	.....	103
38. Nanyi Mete	.....	106
39. The Monkey and the Tortoise	.....	108
40. The Deer And The Bear	.....	111
41. Pekung and Take	.....	113
42. The Weeping Dove	.....	115
43. The Journey of the Snail	.....	116
44. Tangut Atuk Tukling, The Flies with Red Head	.....	118
45. The Dog and the Pig	.....	121
46. The Tiger and the Goat	123
47. Pengu-Doolong Taapi	125

Part-B

Gomging—Proverbs from Adi	128
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PART - A

Keyum Kero

Sedi Melo, the creator of the universe, which was covered with dirt. *Sedi Sepi Yokmo* and *Melo Segen Yokmo* collected all the dirt and created the sky and the land out of it. *Sedi's* eldest son was *Kongki Komang*. The *Abang* describes the creation as follows :

Keyum Sedi Naane de
Kero Melo baabu de
Konno takoge bat gok lendo dem
Kone ko Joji tonai ke
Ambo koyyanye Jija tonai ke
Delo keyum Sepi e Yomo bulu
Korikullung Kutlu lang
Koyyang garonge gaatula
Konno belie pirob bomkai
Sigi beli em pirob bomkai
Keyum Sedi Naane tesi
Diine tile bayi lenkai
Diine nyoboe Oling kope
Keyum kongki abu me
Kero koomang ane me
Ajidiri e dilen pa.

"*Keyum Sedi*, the mother,
And *Kero Melo*, the father
Emerged out covered with dirt
Keyum Sepi Yokmo
And *Melo Segan Yokmo*
Collected the dirt
Created the sky and the land
By then, *Keyum Sedi*, the mother
Gave birth to *Kongki Komang*."

Thus, the sky and the earth came into existence. Plain land,

hillocks, gorges with vegetation, springs, rivulets, etc., also came into being later. But there was no light. *Keyum Sedi Melo* designed two suns. The sun rays had fallen all over the earth creating a problem for the living-beings.

Sedi Naane gave birth to two children. *Kongki Komang* has given shape to the first child as male. He was called *Litung*. The second child had been shaped as a female. She was named *Limang*. Both the children grew up as brother and sister and became adults. They never had any feeling for sensual pleasures.

One day they had gone to a forest and noticed a big cave. When they went near it and stood by its side, they heard an unusual noise from the cave.

"Wonderful, wonderful"

They thought themselves,

"What was going on? who might be inside the cave?"

They tried to see the inside and found a hole. When peeped through that hole, they saw innumerable ants mating. Seeing the mating of ants aroused the temptation in them. Thus the scene acted as an impetus to arouse sensual feelings in them; tempted them to make love leading to their conjugal relationship.

In course of time, *Limang* became pregnant and gave birth to two sons, *Tuye* and *Yepe* and a daughter, *Pedong*. *Pedong* gave birth to many children; *Ninur*, *Lomang*, *Sili Sidong*, *Banji-Banmang*, *Bisi-Yaada*, *Daadi-Saomi*, *Nite-Poorak*, *Epom* and *Tani*, the human-being. Thus all the benevolent and malevolent spirits and the human-beings came into existence.

Keyum Sedi Naane
Dine obang tidang kope
Keyum Litung Babu melang
Dine obe e duupur lento;
Keyum Kongki babu melang
Kero koomang Nanne me
Kongki tarong em
Gaajo lento.
Delok rongem
Keyum Sedi mite me
Keyum Bisi Bote me
Keyum Daadi Bote me
Keyum Dongi ngite me

*Keyum Doro Robo me
Meyum Doni aji
Pedong Naane aji mambi
Duyi Lenpa.*

*“Keyum Sedi, the mother gave birth to Litung Babu
Kongki Komang gave him
Shape and life to live on the earth,
Keyum Sidi mite, Daadi Bote
Dongi Ngite and Doro Roba
Were also born
Doni Tani was the last born
Of Pedong Naane”.*

A slightly variant version of the narration is also found about *Litung* and *Limang* among certain groups of Adis. See the following narration :

*Liiting Yaayi e
Mijing ke
Liimang maano e
Ane ke
Daadi ginsila
Liitung sinbo e peesila
Liitung e Yaayi e mijing ke
Ettume tarume
Barbum gename,
Liimang maamo ane ke
Ette taro e,
Koojak gename
Dooni e taro e
Koojok gename
Konno ke deboe dotkenge
Dodung dem
Liidunge regine regiyo duudem
Doni e dotkenge
Doman duru dem
Mibo e gori e
Yitko tesik
Doni e gori e
Yitko tesik*

*Tumie belunge
Buugadagem.*

Liitung and *Limang* developed their genital organs and started to make love. Out of their union living-beings were born with similar genital organs to give continuity to the human race. In those olden days, rocks were young and soft. The human-beings ate them and lived on. In the course of time their number increased. Thus evolved the human race.

Therefore, the Adis always begin their genealogy from *Liitung* and *Limang*.