



Multilingual Corpus of  
Annotated Spoken Texts

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## Vera'a

— *mbw* transcription and translation —

June 2016

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cite this document as:

Schnell, Stefan. 2016.  
Multi-CAST Vera'a *mbw* transcription and translation.  
In Haig, Geoffrey & Schnell, Stefan (eds.),  
*Multi-CAST (Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts)*.  
(handle) (date accessed.)

file v1.0



Language Archive  
Cologne

## The *mvbw* transcription and translation

### utterance

[001] varian Stefan nome kakan kaka ne vōwal

[002] rekso wunva vaga no ga rēv

[003] ba 'enei nome da 'eno nok kakan kaka ne vōwal

[004] no ga moros nok dedicatem ēn kaka 'agēnē mēn 'eraga mēmēre rekso dir me rōn ēn kaka 'anē si dir me vasōgō mañasa no lama'i ros

[005] rekso nom rēv wo nom kaka

[006] kaka dim van segēn

[007] qōn ne vōwal e ruwa mēn gunuruō

[008] duru mak leg wal 'i ē rekso durum magraqa durum leg ...legleg magraqa

[009] durum 'ōgo vavavan n reñe ne tek mēn 'aṃan so ege no 'ōn 'aqak

[010] 'ōg sier durum 'ōgo 'ōgo van diñ ēn vul ne livi'ie 'amēn ...vul ne liviva 'amēn dine len tētē

[011] dine len ni'igi

[012] len ni'igin ni'i 'aṃan

[013] duruk 'ēn gōr 'ēn gōr 'ēn gōr 'ēn gōgōr vavan

[014] n ni'igi tētē 'anēm luwo vanvan rekso dim mōnō luwo wal 'e vōruō senē

[015] n reñe ne tek so 'o no 'ō lik ēn 'aqak e dine 'aram mēn gunugi

[016] m 'ōgo vavan diñ ēn masōgi 'amēn dine len ni'igi

[017] le lik ēn...n tētē n ni'i 'aṃan lik

[018] da duruō vōruō va'anē

[019] lēn masōgi dim len ni'i 'aṃan 'a 'ow'ow 'anē di mal luwo ge wal

'uwaṃnere duruk ul ēn sogi e Wediñgōr

[020] 'alē lēn masōgi dim len ni'i 'aṃan

'a...isimēre 'anē duruk ul ēn sogi e Bōar

[021] durum 'ēn gōr duruō vavavan

[022] n 'uwaṃnere wunva dim luwo rekso 'e nōgi wunva liviruō

[023] 'isimēre wunva n 'e nōgi rekso vove si vēlime senē vēvēru ne ma'

[024] 'ow'ow den ēn vēvēru ne ma' dim

### translation

[001] Thanks Stefan. I will tell a story.

[002] Like, usually I am the writer,

[003] but now I am going to tell a story.

[004] I want to dedicate the following story to all the children, they shall hear the story, or they will learn it sometime, I don't know.

[005] Like, I write and I (also) tell a story.

[006] The story, it goes like this:

[007] One day there was a couple.

[008] They had only just gotten married, like they were a young, newly married couple.

[009] They lived, on and on. Then the woman said to the man: "Man, I am pregnant."

[010] Expecting. They lived like this, until the ninth month, so that she would give birth.

[011] And she delivered her child.

[012] Delivered her child, a small boy.

[013] They looked after him, looked after him, on and on.

[014] And her child, the baby grew and grew, and when it had grown up a little, it was like two,

[015] the woman said: "I am pregnant again.", so she told her husband.

[016] After a while, when it was time for her to give birth,

[017] (she) delivered another baby, another boy.

[018] So they were two now.

[019] When she had given birth to that previous boy who had already grown up, the first born, they gave him the name W.

[020] Alright, when she delivered the second born, they gave him the name B.

[021] They looked after them, on and on.

[022] When the first born was maybe like seven years old,

[023] and the second born was like four or five, their mother died.

[024] But before their mother died, when

rusō dine tek mēn duruō so  
 [025] kumruō wom 'ōg 'i Wēdiṅgōr nik  
 ga luwo nik me 'ēn gōr 'enteg sa e Bōar  
 [026] sirē no me ma' ba si nom ma'  
 'amamruō dim leg kel ēn reñe ga itok  
 rekso e no  
 [027] ba si gitag nik me mas 'ēn gōr  
 'enteg ēn ni' i 'isim  
 [028] dim tektek vovona duruō van ne  
 ma'  
 [029] lēn masōgi dim ma' da 'a'ag rekson  
 tektek mugi 'amagi ne l... 'amaru ne leg  
 kel le man reñe  
 [030] ba n reñe n movugi ros rekson  
 vēvēruō 'a 'ow'ow ē  
 [031] n vēvēruō ga garaqa 'anē n movugi  
 ga ... ga mōnō valakra  
 [032] lēn masōgi dire vek 'ō'ōgo  
 [033] 'amar'ōl ne van den dir'ōl lēn  
 gamal si lēn 'ēqē si ne vanvan kelkel senē  
  
 [034] dir'ōl wom 'ōg 'i vēvēruō ga garaqa  
 ne dan gorun gengen sin gor'ōl ēn  
 gengen sin gorēve  
 [035] dan gorēn gengen dine gen gen gen  
 ēn gengen vavan  
 [036] dine le san 'erē 'i'īni gengen ē visivi  
 duru bēne  
 [037] da 'i son 'amaruō ne kel ma ne 'ēn  
 so 'o 'a ruwa ni'ik 'anēm gengen  
  
 [038] ba sire ne gitag  
 [039] dim da mē duruō 'a sēnē da  
 mēduruō 'a sēnē vavavan  
 [040] duruk rōn wal so duruō as es lik  
 mān biriñ san vēvēruō ga garaqa nē  
  
 [041] van lēn ma'ava ne vōwal 'uwaṁnēre  
 ne tek mēn 'isimēre so  
 [042] 'ege e Bōar nik ga rōn sivie  
 [043] so 'ege nok rōn n miliñsalm da se'  
 wal no  
 [044] 'uwaṁnēre ... 'isimēre ne tek mēn  
 'uwaṁnēre so duk ... duk row siksik ēn  
 vēvēduō 'a 'ow'ow ē  
 [045] 'uwaṁnēre so 'alē duk van  
  
 [046] duruk vanvan ban 'isimēre di ga  
 rōn so dim miliñsal di ne rara sir gogi

she was sick, she spoke to them:  
 [025] When you two live, W. you are  
 older, you have a good look after B.  
 [026] For I will die soon. But when I am  
 dead and your father will take another  
 woman that is good like myself, ok.  
 [027] But if not [i.e. if she isn't good], you  
 will have to look after your little brother."  
 [028] She advised them thus, and then  
 she died.  
 [029] When she had died, it happened as  
 she had said, like their father took a new  
 wife.  
 [030] But the woman didn't have the  
 fashion of their mother from before.  
 [031] This new mother of theirs had a  
 fairly bad fashion.  
 [032] So as the four of them lived along,  
 [033] When their father went away from  
 them to the nakamal, or the garden, or  
 went somewhere like this,  
 [034] when they stayed behind, their new  
 mother would make food for them.  
 [035] Having made their food, she would  
 eat. Eat and eat the food, and then  
 [036] she would take just some of the  
 juices and smear it on the two of them.  
 [037] So that when their father came back,  
 he would see: "Oh, my two children  
 have eaten."  
 [038] But in fact they didn't.  
 [039] She did this to them, did this to  
 them, on and on,  
 [040] until the two really felt like they  
 couldn't live with this new of theirs any  
 more.  
 [041] Coming to one morning when the  
 first born said to the younger one:  
 [042] "Man, B.! How do you feel?"  
 [043] Said: "Man, I'm feeling like hunger  
 is really doing me no good."  
 [044] Then the younger one said to the  
 older one: "Let's go look for our mother  
 from before."  
 [045] And the older one said: "Alright,  
 let's go."  
 [046] And as they were walking, the  
 younger one felt that he was just too

[047] di ga moros so di mas gengen  
 [048] duruk van van van vavavan  
 [049] duruk van diñ man 'uvu wōqe  
 'enge ne vōwal lēn wōmōmō' dir ga ul  
 son ... 'uvu wōqe 'enge 'anē n wēwē 'a  
 bēne ga marmar nē  
 [050] ba 'uvu wōqe 'enge ne vōwal lēn  
 wōmōmō' dir ga ul son wōñarñar n  
 wēwē ga marmar  
 [051] 'isiñēre ne 'ir lēn qe'an 'uwañēre  
 ne mōnō rem kal sag ma ne bis

[052] 'ēqel suw ma bul munmunō le mē  
 di dine kurkur ne tek mē di so nike 'ir 'ir  
 kēgēn Bōar nok rem lēn ... nēnēn 'uvu  
 woqe 'enge 'a gēnē nok sur ēn nes sin  
 vēvēduō 'a vēe dine rōñ e dine van ma  
 sir gēduō  
 [053] 'isiñēre so ga itok  
 [054] 'uwañēre ne rem kal lēn woqe  
 'enge rem kal diñ sagē ne qē'ēg ēn nes

[055] qē'ēg ēn nes so  
 [056] [SONG]  
 [057] dim sur qe' senē dine 'ēqel kel

[058] ba lēn masōgi dis sursur anēn  
 vēvēru ne rōñ n lañ ne 'ō' ma n vēvēru  
 wal lēn wērēsuro e biriñ ēn 'erē 'aklē  
 vuvulugin 'erē 'ama'

[059] rōñ ēn lañ ne 'ō ma

[060] 'eig ne tek mēn 'erē vuvulusi so 'erē  
 'aqōrōñ 'eno nok rōñ 'i son nelñon e sē

[061] 'erē vuvulugi so oo nike qaqa nē  
 nēn ēn men nē n men ne awaw 'a vēe n  
 lañ ne 'ō man nelñogi

[062] dine 'ukeg vē'ē duruk ... duruk van

[063] duruk van van ban ni'i mērmēre ne  
 rōñ so o miliñsal wal va'i

[064] duruk vanvan 'i dine tek so

hungry and he cried for something to eat.

[047] He really would needed to eat.

[048] They walked and walked,

[049] and then they came to a tree in the  
 bush. This tree has very solid fruits.

[050] But this one tree in the bush, they  
 call it 'wōn2arn2ar' tree. Its fruits are  
 very solid.

[051] And while the younger one was  
 standing on the ground, the older one  
 was climbing upwards and pinched  
 (some) off.

[052] Came down, smashed some open  
 with a stone, and gave him to eat. Then  
 (he) said: "You stay here, Bōar, I am  
 going to climb on this tree here and sing  
 a song. Wherever our mother is, she will  
 hear it, and she will come for us."

[053] And the younger one said: Alright."

[054] Then the first born climbed up the  
 tree, climbed upwards until he reached  
 the top and started the song,

[055] started singing:

[056] [SONG]

[057] He finished singing this, and then  
 he came back down.

[058] But when he was singing, their  
 mother heard (it), the wind was carrying  
 (it) over to their mother at the Wērēsuro,  
 where she stayed with those like her, the  
 dead.

[059] Hearing how the wind carried (it)  
 over,

[060] she said to her friends: "Hey, quiet  
 everyone! I'm trying to figure out whose  
 voice this is."

[061] And her friends said: "No no,  
 you're just being crazy. These are just  
 birds! Birds singing somewhere, and the  
 wind is carrying their voices over here."

[062] So she gave up, and the two kept  
 going.

[063] They went on, but the small kid  
 began to feel that it was still quite  
 hungry.

[064] They were going for a little while,  
 and then he said:

[065] 'e...nike 'ir lē(?) qe'i gēn 'isimēre  
ne tek mē di so... 'uwaṁēre ne tek mē di  
so nike 'ir qe'i nok rem lik

[066] 'isimēre ne 'ir lēn qe'an dine rem lik  
ne sur

[067] 'enei duruk vanvan rōv'e man  
wērēsuro va'anē

[068] dine rem lik dine sur lik ēn nes

[069] [SONG]

[070] vēvēruo so lēn wērēsuro ne sag 'i ne  
rōn ēn lañ ne 'ō man nelñon e 'isimēre an  
ni'i... 'uwaṁēre an ni'igi 'anē di so

[071] ragav'ōl nok rōn ēn nelño 'añsara

[072] 'erē 'ama' an vulugi ne tek so o nike  
rōnrōn 'enteg ēnēn men nē n lañ ne 'ō  
man nelñogi

[073] duruk van 'e ruwa an ni'igi anē  
duruk van

[074] durum vavavan duruk van rōvrōv'e  
wal man .. n wērēsuro 'a vēen vēvērus  
'ōg 'i

[075] 'uwaṁēre ne rem lik Wēdiṅgōr ne  
rem lik

[076] rem lik rem sag ne sur lik ēn nes

[077] [SONG]

[078] vēvēru ne sag 'i lēn wērēsuro ne rōn  
san nelñon e ge ne rōn ēn soru so

[079] 'e'e ragav'ōl nēn 'erē nini'ik wal

[080] vrig sur vrigē vrigē vrigē vavavan  
vrig siksik duruō van vrig diñ ma duruō

[081] 'ēn durus 'ir 'ir ver 'i'ir rara malaga  
'i so

[082] ru...ruwam da sivie

[083] so 'o ote nike ma' den kamaduō  
kamadam 'ōg 'i n 'amadum

... 'amadum leg kel

[084] ba dim leg kel ēn reñe a rekso nikem  
'aram 'i mē kamaduō son reñe ga se'

[085] dim leg kel ēn reñe ga se'

[065] The older one said to the younger  
one: "You stand here for the moment, I  
am going to climb (up) again.

[066] So the younger one stood on the  
ground, and he older one climbed up  
another (tree) and sang:

[067] Now they were coming close to the  
Wērēsuro (where the spirits of the dead  
dwell):

[068] So he climbed again and sang the  
song again:

[069] [SONG]

[070] Their mother at the Wērēsuro was  
sitting there and heard how the wind  
was carrying over the voice of her older  
son, and she said:

[071] "Come one people, I am hearing a  
human voice here!"

[072] But all the devils, her friends, said:  
"No, listen up good: it's a bird. The wind  
is carrying over its voice."

[073] So her two children kept going.

[074] They went on and on until they  
came very close to the Wērēsuro, where  
their mother was.

[075] Then the first born, Wēdiṅgōr,  
climbed again.

[076] Climbed and climbed up to the top  
and sang the song again:

[077] [SONG]

[078] Their mother was sitting at the  
Wērēsuro and heard the voice of that one,  
heard their names:

[079] "Oh yes, people, that's my kids, no  
doubt!"

[080] Ran down, ran and ran, ran  
searching for the two, until (she) found  
them.

[081] Saw them standing there and  
crying, (she) said:

[082] "Hey, you two, what's wrong?"

[083] (they) Said: "Oh, mum, when you  
left us, we stayed behind, and our father  
married again.

[084] But he took a wife as you had told  
us, a bad woman.

[085] He took a new wife, a woman who  
was bad

- [086] so di 'ēn'ēn 'enteg ros sir kamaduō  
kamaduō gengen 'enteg ros  
[087] da kamadum van siksik nik ma nē
- [088] so ga itok van ma gēdēk van
- [089] 'ō duru lēn wērēsurō  
[090] le mē durun gengen  
[091] le mē durun bē  
[092] da durum 'ōg vavavan  
[093] rōvrōv'e ne revrev dada gorun  
gengen duruk ...direk 'ōg vavavan dada  
gorun gengen rōv'en revrev  
[094] dine tek mē duru so  
[095] kamak 'ō kel kumruō  
[096] 'ō kel kumruō mom 'i kumruō biriñ  
ēn gomrun gengen  
[097] kumru wom 'ēn ēn 'ekēm qōñ 'erē  
gengen  
[098] 'erē gen san gengen a kama me 'ō  
kumruō va'anē  
[099] wo 'erē gen qē'
- [100] 'erē kal ba'a lēn mōnō din mumruō  
an 'amami vem da son mumruō  
[101] 'erē mi'ir  
[102] si kumru wo mi'ir ros kumrum rōñ  
ēn savam ...m ...vanvan lēn qōñ  
[103] kumru 'ovi'i ga lañma'a kumru  
ovi'i tektek 'ō 'erē òn rōrōn wuva  
[104] so ga itok  
[105] lēn masōgin 'ekēm qōñ durum  
gengen qē' duruk kal ba'a lēn mōnō din  
muruō 'anē  
[106] won vēvēruō ga garaqa ne van lēn  
din mugī 'ōgin 'amaruō  
[107] 'amaruō ne kalraka ne van lēn  
gamal  
[108] wana 'amaru ne van  
[109] duruk'ōl dir'ōlk ònōn 'i 'anē
- [110] misin wal ros dir'ōlk rōñ n 'erē  
'amak qē'ēg van ma  
[111] ne vōwal ne van ma ne row 'aq  
...ne van ma ne row 'aq  
[112] durum row 'aq asēnē vavavan  
direm mēw  
[113] vēvēruō ne wak rakan mē'ēmē ne  
kal ba'a ma
- [086] in that she didn't look after us  
properly. We didn't get enough to eat,  
[087] so we walked around looking for  
you."  
[088] (she) Said: "Alright, come here. We  
will go (together)."  
[089] (she) Took the two to the Wērēsurō,  
[090] gave them something to eat,  
[091] gave them water,  
[092] and so the two stayed there until  
[093] it came close to the evening. (she)  
Made them something to eat just before  
nightfall.  
[094] The she spoke to them:  
[095] "We will take you back.  
[096] take you two back, settle you two in  
together with your food.  
[097] When you guys notice that it's  
getting dark, then (you) eat.  
[098] Eat that food that we will take for  
you.  
[099] and when (you) have finished  
eating,  
[100] go into your room, the one your  
father has made for you.  
[101] And go to sleep.  
[102] If you shouldn't be asleep and you  
hear something happening at night,  
[103] don't wake up, don't talk about it.  
Just keep lying there quietly."  
[104] (they) Said: "Alright."  
[105] When it was dark and the two had  
eaten, they went into their room.  
[106] And their new mother went into her  
room together with their father.  
[107] Then their father got up and went to  
the nakamal.  
[108] So their father went off.  
[109] And while the three of them were  
lying there,  
[110] not long after they heard the spirits  
of the dead arriving.  
[111] One after another they came and  
slipped inside.  
[112] They slipped in like this, until there  
were many of them.  
[113] Their mother opened the door, came  
inside

- [114] van lēn dīn mun e vēvēruō ga  
garaqa ē vus die  
[115] sēr tiktik die asēg ēn 'irbēgi dan  
daragi ne vrig valakra lēn lōlō niṃ anē  
vavavan vrig diṃ wal man mē'ēmē
- [116] asēg ēn 'erē 'irbēgi van lēn 'erē 'ama'  
volvol van van vavavan
- [117] qī'igi wuva dir e kur rōs qī'igi  
dirēm mom 'i lē venē niṃē segēn ne 'ōg  
'i sa kēnē
- [118] durus ōn 'i duru ga rōn 'i san 'erē  
mōmōlēge a dires dada 'anē  
[119] 'amarum vanēm wanam wanam 'ōg  
lēn gamal van vavan m mul kel ma  
[120] masōgi dīm mul ma dīm sēs rakan  
mē'ēmē so ne kal ba'a sar ma
- [121] var tislān sa lēn daran e gunugi ē
- [122] masōgi dīm var tislān dīm mēs 'anē  
dīm vrig diṃ wal ma sa lēn vene niṃēn  
qī'in e gunugi 'anē  
[123] 'aṃ suwō o ne rōn ēn vili gen qī'igen  
ma'...wē son vin'ige  
[124] dīne 'ēn suwōn gunugi  
[125] 'ei ulul ēn 'erē nini'igi an(?) so bam  
da sivie segēnē  
[126] so o ...mamam nik ga lama'i  
[127] kamadam ...kamam 'ōg'ōgo  
kamabō'ōl biriṃ ēn vēvēmaduō 'ōg'ōgo  
masōgi nik vanvan lēn gamal kamabō'ōl  
kamaduō gengen 'enteg ros  
[128] e kadum sik kel san vēvēmaduō 'a  
'ow'ow a ma'' den kamaduō  
[129] kadum van diṃ lēn wērēsūrō  
[130] dīm vaṃan kamaduō 'ō kel  
kamaduō ma  
[131] 'alē dīne kur san vēvēmaduō ga  
garaqa 'anē  
[132] ba dīm tek so  
[133] nik mas leg kel ros  
[134] si nikem leg kel wo di me kur nīke  
biriṃ ēn ...n gunum ga garaqa lik 'anē  
[135] da son 'amarum ma'ag die leg kel  
ros  
[136] dīne 'ēn gōr wuva 'i duruō van
- [114] and went to the room of their new  
mother, killed her.  
[115] (she) Tore her apart into small  
pieces, distributed her body, so that the  
blood was flowing all about inside this  
house, reaching even the door.  
[116] (she) Distributed all parts of her  
body, and every devil went off, one by  
one.  
[117] Only her head, they didn't eat. Her  
head they put down in the middle of the  
house like this [hand gesture], so that it  
was sitting there.  
[118] The two (kids) were lying down and  
could hear all these things happening.  
[119] Their father was still away in the  
nakamal. Then he came back home.  
[120] When he came back, he opened the  
door (by taking apart the pile of woods  
blocking the doorway) in order to get in,  
[121] slipped with his foot in all that  
blood of his wife.  
[122] When he slipped and fell down, he  
came down right to the middle of the  
house where his wife was.  
[123] (he) Reached down with his hand  
and felt hair and a head, and skin.  
[124] He looked down and saw his wife.  
[125] "Hey!" he cried out for his children,  
"but what is all this here about?"  
[126] "Oh, dad, you know what:  
[127] when the three of us, with our  
mother, were staying at home, when you  
were away in the nakamal, we didn't get  
enough to eat.  
[128] So we searched for our mother from  
before, who is dead, to get her back.  
[129] We went all the way to Wērēsūrō.  
[130] She gave us to eat and took us back  
here.  
[131] Alright, she then ate our new  
mother.  
[132] But she said that  
[133] you mustn't take a wife again.  
[134] If you marry again, she will eat you  
together with your new wife again."  
[135] That gave their father a big fright  
and he never got married again.  
[136] He just kept looking after the two

gaidiñ duruk lumlungav  
[137] durum lōlōwo kal no lama'i ros so  
durum dan sava ban kakam qē' sa kēnē

until they became young men.  
[137] And when the two were big, I don't  
know what they did then. So the story is  
over here.