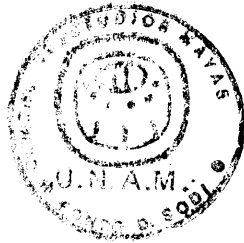


# "The Holy Bells" and Other Huave Legends<sup>1</sup>



By MILTON WARKENTIN and JUAN OLIVARES

## I

### The Story of the Montahtáh Wéal

Once upon a time, a very long time ago, there were only the Montahtáh Wéal [probably the name for the ancient Huaves]. It is said that these people had different customs than they have today. The Montahtáh Wéal made a great many pots, which were very large. They were very skilled in this art and everyone knew how to make them. They also made their weights for their fishing nets from baked earth. These weights are called *čerěč tóit* in Huave.

#### 1. mikwénta<sup>2</sup> montahtáh wéal

2. pwés más dé tanómb, 3. púra čák dé montahtáh wéal 4. čák nahlý. 5. pwés montahtáh wéal kiah alanóik módo 6. čák arangáw. 7. pwés montahtáh wéal kiah 8. šowáy čák 9. arangáw šór, 10. púra čák nadamdám šór. 11. pwés áaga čák 12. mondáy monráng a šór. 13. pwés arangáw čák 14. a miát ndók, 15. áag nasóik

#### 1. Story-of Montahtáh Wéal

2. So longer than long-ago 3. only it-is-said the Montahtáh Wéal 4. it-is-said there-are. 5. So Montahtáh Wéal those another custom 6. it-is-said they-do. 7. So Montahtáh Wéal those 8. many it-is-said 9. they-make pots, 10. only it-is-said very-large pots. 11. So those it-is-said 12. know-how to-make the pots. 13. So they-make it-is-said 14. the weights-of nets, 15. those are-called *čerěč tóit*, 16.

<sup>1</sup> The legends were written in Huave by Juan Olivares. The translation was made by Milton Warkentin. Olivares is a Huave Indian of 23 years of age. Warkentin is a linguistic investigator under the Summer Institute of Linguistics. The dialect is that of San Mateo del Mar, Oaxaca, Mexico, the principal Huave town.

<sup>2</sup> The phonemic symbols used in the transcription of these texts are b, d, g, p, t, k, ç, š, s, š, m, n, l, r, w, y, h, a, e, i, u, o, ʌ. The symbols have approximately the value which they have in Spanish: ç is an alveopalatal fricative, š is a palatal fricative, š is a palatal spirant, h is a velar spirant, u is a high unrounded front vowel, ʌ is a high unrounded back vowel; phonemic stress is marked by ['].

One day there came a large bird like an eagle. This bird liked to eat people. However, the Montahtáh Wéal hid themselves in the large pots which they had made, so that the bird was not able to eat them.

Not only did the Montahtáh Wéal know how to make large pots, but also lizard heads. They made a great many of these and all the children play with them. Only the Montahtáh Wéal knew how to make them. Thus did the Montahtáh Wéal, but no one has seen them make these things or the methods they used, because they lived very long ago, even before the great flood. Then there were a new people, but only the Montahtáh knew how to do any kind of miracles.

čerěč tótt, 16. miát ndók. 17. pwés tapéay, 18. čak nóik kíek, 19. átčakneh ágila. 20. pwés šowáy čak 21. ind mažámb nipilánd. 22. pwés nehíw apalayíh 23. čak omaláw tíal šór. 24. pwés mbíč 25. ngočakmažámb nehíw. 26. pwés átančakíah arangáw montahtáh wéal. 27. pwés montahtáh wéal 28. nehíw čak 29. mondáy monrangáw a šór. 30. nehíw čak monráng 31. a nasóik omál ngóy, 32. intéra čak ižóh nalíw mongíč, 33. púra čak nehíw mondáy monráng. 34. pwés tahláyíw čak, 35. a montahtáh wéal kíah. 36. pwés ngo mahawáaž 37. ngingéay módo ahlayíw. 38. pwés montahtáh wéal kíah, 39. áag čak ayáh más dé tanómb, 40. wáš čak nganáw 41. diliháy mándo kíah mahláy. 42. pwés čak tahláy hayáž nipilánd. 34. pwés montahtáh wéal púra čak atéokan arangáw 44. kwahan-tenéh čak. 45. pwés ásta nganáy, 46. almahláy arangáw nehíw čak.

weights-of nets. 17. So arrived, 18. it-is-said a bird, 19. like-it-is-said eagle. 20. So very-much it-is-said 21. it-likes to-eat people. 22. So they hide-themselves 23. it-is-said their-heads of pots. 24. So that-one 25. did-not-it-is-said-eat them. 26. So thus-it-is-said they-do Montahtáh Wéal. 27. So Montahtáh Wéal 28. they it-is-said 29. know-how they-make the pots. 30. They it-is-said make 31. the called head lizard, 32. all it-is-said play-thing little children, 33. only it-is-said they know-how to-make. 34. So they-were it-is-said, 35. the Montahtáh Wéal those. 36. So not we-have-seen 37. how method they-use. 38. So Montahtáh Wéal those, 39. those it-is-said there longer than long-ago, 40. when it-is-said not-yet 41. flood world there there-is. 42. So it-is-said there-were new people. 43. So Montahtáh Wéal only it-is-said miracles they-do 44. anything it-is-said. 45. So until today, 46. there-are-still their-

Even until today some of their works are found. Once in a while, a lizard head is found. Thus did the ancient Montahtáh Wéal.

The Story of the Ancient Men of Long, Long Ago.

Once upon a time, there lived the ancient men, but they were very old-fashioned. The boys grew up and got married, but it is true that they did not wear pants. However, they did wear shirts. The girls also grew up, it is said, but they did not wear any blouses, only hand-made cloth, because it was their custom.

These ancient people made their own clothes. They made their own shirts, pants, cloth, hats and everything that they had, they made it all by

47. dé repénte ašorám 48. omál ngóy kwalkéra. 49. pwés átančákiah  
50. arangáw a montahtáh wéal.

II

1. mikwénta montašéy teangáit

2. pwés tahlayíw čák a montašéy, 3. péro šowály apatáw. 4. pwés monínc atangáw čák. 5. kás teangóč owišéaw, 6. péro náleaing ngó čák maíohkiw sarál. 7. pwés kamiš čák mían asohkiw. 8. pwés át čák a monáš atón natangtáng, 9. čák monáš atón, 10. péro ngó čák masohkiw méd, 11. áag čák mianhál asohkiw. 12. pwés kostúmbre okwiahíw čák. 13. pwés át čák kiah ahlayíw. 14. pwés nehíw púra čák neahály asohkiw, 15. intéra čák kamiš sarál hál sombrér. 16. pwés intéra čák apíšéaw nehíw 17. púra čák

works-of them it-is-said. 47. Once in-a-while are-found 48. head lizard any-kind. 49. So thus-it-is-said 50. they-do the Montahtáh Wéal.

1. Story of Old Men Long-Long-Ago

2. So there-were it-is-said the old-men, 3. but very old-fashioned. 4. So boys they-grew-up it-is-said. 5. Some married, 6. but it-is-true not it-is-said they-wear pants. 7. So shirt it-is-said hand made they-wear. 8. So also it-is-said the girls also grew-up, 9. it-is-said girls also, 10. but not it-is-said they-wear blouses, 11. only it-is-said hand-made-cloth they-wear. 12. So custom of-them it-is-said. 13. So thus it-is-said they-are. 14. So they entirely it-is-said makers their-clothes 15. all it-is-said shirts pants cloth hats. 16. So all it-is-said clothes-of them 17. entirely it-is-said it-is-made

hand. They also made their own string by twining it together. They made their hats from palm leaves, which they cut. They planted and irrigated their palm trees and transplanted them to produce some more.

Thus the ancient men pleated palm leaves to make their hats, and twined their string for their fishing nets. They also made their own hats and belts and cloth and everything, because they did not have anything else in those days. The weights for their fishing nets, they made out of baked earth.

neaháy intéra čák. 18. pwés intéra čák púra čák ahayiw. 19. intéra čák púra čák andiléaw a haránč. 20. pwés át čák a sombrér, 21. akohčiw čák a nít, 22. pára čák mapeatiw maráng misombreriw nehíw. 23. pwés nít kiah apiráw čák. 24. át čák asáp apiráw, 25. čák ateowáw čák. 26. pwés át čák kiah arangáw a montašéy. 27. pwés intéra čák púra čák arangáw, 28. púra čák apeatiw, 29. púra čák ahayiw intéra čák. 30. pwés sombrér apeatiw čák. 31. pwés hál ahayiw čák. 32. pwés páy ahayiw čák, 33. sintarón ahayiw čák, 34. intéra čák. 35. pwés kós ngó čák mahiráw. 36. pwés ndók kiah, 37. andiléaw čák a haránč. 38. pwés át čák kiah arangáw a montašéy, 39. más tanómb más teangátt, 40. a póbre montašéy. 41. pwés át čák miíat 42. mindoków nehíw arangáw čák, 43. púra čák íat ahčiw čák mahán. 44. pwés landóh.

all it-is-said. 18. So all it-is-said only it-is-said they-make. 19. all it-is-said entirely it-is-said they-twine the string. 20. So likewise it-is-said the hats, 21. they-cut it-is-said the palms, 22. for it-is-said to-braid to-make their-hats-of them. 23. So palms there they-plant it-is-said. 24. Likewise it-is-said they-transplant, 25. it-is-said they-irrigate it-is-said. 26. So thus it-is-said they-do the old-men. 27. So everything it-is-said entirely it-is-said they-make, 28. all it-is-said they-pleat, 29. all it-is-said they-make all it-is-said. 30. So hats they-pleat it-is-said. 31. So cloth they-make it-is-said. 32. So scarfs they-make it-is-said, 33. belts they-make it-is-said, 34. everything it-is-said. 35. So because not it-is-said they-have. 36. So nets those, 37. they-twine it-is-said the string. 38. So thus it-is-said they-do the old-men, 39. very very-long-ago longer-than long-ago, 40. the poor old-men. 41. So likewise it-is-said weights of 42. nets-of them they-make it-is-said, 43. only it-is-said dirt they-make it-is-said to-bake. 44. So it-is-now-finished.

The Story of the Ancient Fathers  
[Founders of San Mateo del Mar]

Once upon a time there were some men who formed several ranches. They lived in them and increased in number. They were fishermen. One day there was a man named San Mateo. So they said, "Let us go down from above." So they went down and found a place. They they made houses for themselves, because they liked the place and wished to stay there. They also made a house for San Mateo. Thus they began to multiply until they were very many. Since San Mateo was the founder of the village, it was named after him. So to this day it is called San Mateo del Mar.

One day another man came down, called Father Jesus. It is said that he also came down from above. So they also made a house for him, which is

### III

#### 1. mikwénta téat montašéy

2. pwés tahláy čák akás monšéy. 3. pwés tarangáw čák nóik ihkiaw aránč. 4. pwés takalíw čák tíal, 5. péro mondók čák. 6. pwés ndóh tahláyíw čák šeyayíw. 7. pwés kiah čák tašomáw 8. čák nóp našéy, 9. áag čák téat sán matéo. 10. pwés tapiangáw nahmiák 11. imían čák kawáš. 12. pwés tašomáw čák. 13. pwés tarangáw čák ombíam, 14. kós čák andiamáw čák. 15. pwés áag čák tarangáw ombíam néh. 16. pwés kiah čák tapóž awihkeáčayíh. 17. pwés teašaiyáyíw čák. 18. pwés kiah čák, 19. taráng kambáh kiah čák 20. tanát sán matéo dél már. 21. pwés apiangáw tahmiák čák 22. alanóp neanát téat jesús. 23. pwés atón nahmiák čák. 24. pwés tarangáw čák ombíam néh atón. 25. pwés áaga nganáy almahláy

#### 1. Story-of Fathers Old-Men

2. So there-were it-is-said some men. 3. So they-made it-is-said one two ranches. 4. So they-lived it-is-said in-them, 5. but fishermen it-is-said. 6. So afterwards they-were it-is-said they-many. 7. So then it-is-said they-found 8. it-is-said one man, 9. that-one it-is-said Father San Mateo. 10. So they-said let-us-go 11. down-from it-is-said above. 12. So they-found it-is-said. 13. So they-made it-is-said houses, 14. because it-is-said they-wish it-is-said. 15. So they it-is-said they-made house-of him. 16. So then it-is-said began they-to-multiply. 17. So they-are-being many it-is-said. 18. So then it-is-said, 19. he-made village there it-is-said 20. called San Mateo del Mar. 21. So they-say down-came it-is-said 22. another called Father Jesus. 23. So also come-down it-is-said. 24. So they-made it-is-said house-of him also. 25. So that today is-still-there

still there until this day. When Father Jesus came into the village, he carried a cross on his shoulders.

Thus there was the village called San Mateo. It still has three names, one Huave, another Mareño and another San Mateo.

The Story of the Old Men of Long Ago  
[The Men who Founded a Church by Human Sacrifice]

Once upon a time, there were the ancient men. They said, "Let us make a church." So they began to gather stones. Everyone began to hunt for lime, rocks, bricks and everything that was needed. Soon everything was found and they began to look for a mason, whom they found. Then they began to build the church. After the ground had been dug for the foundation, they

ásta nganáy. 26. áag meambitík mikrás néh. 27. pwés atančakíah aráng. 28. tahláy kambáh neanát sán matéo. 29. pwés almahír aréh minát néh, 30. nóik huáve alanóik maréno alanóik sán matéo. 31. pwés atančakíah arangáw.

#### IV

##### 1. mikwénta montašéy dé tanómb

2. pwés tahláy čak a montašéy. 3. pwés tapiangáw čak, 4. marangáag nangáh íam awáw čak. 5. pwés kiah čak 6. tapóž mawaniw piédra, 7. tapóž mayambáw čak 8. meáwan čak pasól piédra ladriya meáwan čak. 9. pwés tašomáw čak meáwan čak. 10. pwés taya-mbáw čak a nearáng íam. 11. pwés tašomáw čak. 12. pwés kiah čak 13. tapóž matahkáw empesár marangáw. 14. pwés taohtíw čak

until today. 26. That-one was-carrying-on-shoulder cross-of him. 27. So thus-it-is-said he-does. 28. There-was village called San Mateo. 29. So it-still-has three names-of it, 30. one Huave another Mareño another San Mateo. 31. So thus-it-is-said they-do.

##### 1. Story-of Old-Men of Long-Ago

2. So there-were it-is-said the old-men. 3. So they-said it-is-said, 4. let-us-make holy house they-say it-is-said. 5. So then it-is-said 6. began they-to-gather stones, 7. began they-to-hunt it-is-said 8. all it-is-said lime rocks bricks all it-is-said. 9. So they-found it-is-said all it-is-said. 10. So they-sought it-is-said the maker house. 11. So they-found it-is-said. 12. So then it-is-said 13. began they-to begin to-make. 14. So they-dug it-is-said ground. 15. So then it-is-

asked for four volunteers to be buried alive. Finally, four old men volunteered. So they were accepted for the sacrifice and asked to go down into the foundation corners, one man in each corner. Then they began to bury the old men. Soon the dirt came up to their armpits. So they buried them some more, until they were completely covered. When the foundation stones reached the top of the ground, a little knoll was made in each corner as a memorial to the men who had sacrificed their lives. After the memorial services were over, the corners were smoothed down and the building continued again. It is thought that the four men are still down there until this day. Thus did the old men of long, long ago.

íat. 15. pwés kiah čak tapiangáw čak, 16. háne neráng bulantád 17. makál tíat awáw čak. 18. pwés kiah čak 19. tapiangáw apikiw monšéy, 20. pwés šikóna awáw čak. 21. pwés tíal naléaing 22. ihirán balánta mekalían tíat, 23. pwés ihmúlian ahowiw čak. 24. pwés kiah čak tahmúliw tíat. 25. nopnóp káda čak ošing. 26. nopnóp čak monšéy apikiw ošing 27. apikiw montašéy. 28. pwés kiah čak 29. tapóž mamiatíw čak. 30. anganáy pwés tatáč aléaw čak tumbaháw. 31. pwés tamiatáw čak más. 32. pwés támb čak tíat 33. púra čak piédra 34. intéra čak andáy tíat. 35. pwés tatáč íšta čak tomál íat. 36. pwés tatupičáw čak anóik ahtíp. 37. pwés monšéy alíw čak tíat. 38. pwés tarangáw čak. 39. ásta čak ndót tarangáw čak omál, 40. péro alanóik čak. 41. pwés téoh čak marangáw más nahnéah. 42. pwés ndót áaga monšéy, 43. ásta čak nganáy alíw čak tíat. 44. pwés átan čak kiah arangáw.

said they-said it-is-said, 16. who maker volunteer 17. to-stay under they-say it-is-said. 18. So then it-is-said 19. they-said four men, 20. So we they-say it-is-said. 21. So if true 22. you-have volunteer you-stay under, 23. so you-enter-into they-tell-them it-is-said. 24. So then it-is-said they-entered below. 25. each-one each it-is-said corner. 26. Each-one it-is-said men four corners 27. four old-men. 28. So then it-is-said 29. began they-to-bury it-is-said. 30. Soon then it-reached place it-is-said armpits. 31. So they-buried more. 32. So completely it-is-said till-below 33. only it-is-said stones 34. everything it-is-said till bottom. 35. So it-reached till it-is-said top ground. 36. So they-piled-up it-is-said little higher. 37. So men are-still it-is-said below. 38. So they-made it-is-said 39. until it-is-said they-made it-is-said head, 40. but another-kind it-is-said. 41. So afterwards it-is-said they-are-going-to-make much better. 42. So perhaps hose men, 43. until it-is-said today are-still it-is-said below. 44. So thus it-is-said then they-do.

## The Acquisition of the Bells of San Mateo del Mar

Once upon a time, there were some men who decided to go to Juchitán. There they found many people trying to pull up some bells from a deep hole in the ground. However, they were not able to pull them up, because the hole was very deep. Even after much digging, they still were not able to pull up the bells. When they saw the two men from San Mateo del Mar pass by, the men from Juchitán seized them and begged them to pull up the bells, but they would not do it. Then the men from Juchitán said that if they would pull up the bells for them, all would be well, but if they didn't, then they would get their heads cut off.

## V

## 1. mikwénta nangáh mančíak

2. pwés tahlý čák akás monšéy. 3. pwés tambáw čák 4. and-  
yiw čák sambisénd. 5. pwés kiah čák 6. tašomáw čák teagáy  
nipilánd, 7. tingéal čák mahčiw arangáw nahíat. 8. tingéal čák  
mahčiw 9. mawaníw nangáh mančíak. 10. pwés nehíw ngó čák  
masaháw nikwahínd čák. 11. pwés nipilánd monáw sambisénd 12.  
tašomáw čák nóik nangáh mančíak. 13. pwés interahów čák tapóř  
čák mawaníw, 14. pwés ngó čák ndóm mawaníw. 15. pwés kós  
čák ísta čák altíat. 16. pwés aohtíw čák. 17. pwés ngó ndóm  
mawaníw. 18. pwés kiah čák amongóh 19. ihpáw monšéy monáw  
sán matéo. 20. pwés tapiangáw čák a mišiiig, 21. isapán a nipilánd  
kiah awáw čák. 22. pwés kiah čák tasapáw, 23. pára čák mawaníw  
néh okwiahíw. 24. pwés monšéy kiah 25. ngó čák mandiamáw.

## 1. Story-of Holy Bells

2. So there-were it-is-said some men. 3. So they-went it-is-said  
4. they-go it-is-said Juchitán. 5. So then it-is-said 6. they-found  
it-is-said many people, 7. are it-is-said they-are they-do work. 8.  
are it-is-said they-are 9. they-are-pulling-up holy bells. 10. So they  
not it-is-said they-are-saying anything it-is-said. 11. So people of  
Juchitán 12. they-found it-is-said a holy bell. 13. So all-of-them  
it-is-said began it-is-said they-to-pull-up, 14. but not it-is-said are-  
able they-to-pull-up. 15. So because it-is-said till it-is-said it-is-  
deep. 16. So they-dig it-is-said. 17. So not able are-they-to-pull-up.  
18. So then it-is-said pass-by 19. two men of San Mateo. 20. So  
they-said it-is-said the people-of-Juchitán, 21. you-seize the people  
there they-say it-is-said. 22. So then it-is-said they-seized 23. in-  
order-to it-is-said that-they-might-pull-up it of-them. 24. So men



Then the men from San Mateo pulled up the bells and also made clouds. Then it rained very, very hard with a strong south wind blowing. The people of Juchitán then ran away, and while they were running, the men from San Mateo del Mar lifted up the bells to the astonishment of the people of Juchitán, and were carried to their village on a cloud. Of course the people of

26. pwés tánta čak matahkáw rogár 27. pára čak mawaníw, 28. pwés ngó čak mandiamáw. 29. pwés kiah čak tapiangáw 30. a monšéy monáw sambisénd, 31. pwés tial bwéna mewanía 32. nahnéahan awáw čak. 33. tial ngó mewanía, 34. pwés kí ikóna apmetahkón intréga kabésa awáw čak. 35. pwés kiah čak tambáw mawaníw. 36. pwés nehíw tapiangáw čak mawaníw, 37. péro pára aneayíiaŕ awáw čak. 38. pwés kiah čak tawaníw. 39. pwés kiah čak marangáw óik. 40. pwés tahóit čak napák čak, 41. ihčír napák čak, 42. nčerék napák čak ahóit. 43. pwés nipilánd monáw sambisénd teakwiráw. 44. pwés wáš čak akwiráw kiah, 45. čak mašai- ngíw. 46. pwés mbayahów čak, 47. nipilánd tingéal čak maháw. 48. kwá čak apmarangáw. 49. pwés nehíw nóik nóik čak 50. okwia- híw tahoyíw čak andáy čak 51. tial miiatíw nehíw sán matéo. 52. pwés ahoyíw ámb čak tial nangáh óik 53. ámb čak kawáš 54. mapeayíw čak timiíat nehíw. 55. pwés tayakáw čak timiíatáw nehíw. 56. pwés ndóh čak, 57. kwá čak apmarangáw a mišúig.

there 25. not it-is-said they-are-wishing. 26. So much it-is-said they-are beseeching 27. in-order-that they-might-pull-up, 28. but not it-is-said they-are-wishing. 29. So then it-is-said they-said 30. the men of Juchitán, 31. then if well you-pull-up 32. very-well they-say it-is-said. 33. If not you-pull-up, 34. well then you you-will deliver-up head they-say it-is-said. 35. So then it-is-said they-went that-they-might-pull-up. 36. So they they-said it-is-said that-they-might-pull-up, 37. but for us they-say it-is-said. 38. So then it-is-said they-pulled-up. 39. So then it-is-said they-are-making clouds. 40. So it-rained it-is-said hard it-is-said, 41. very-hard-rain hard it-is-said, 42. south-wind hard it-is-said it-rains. 43. So people of Juchitán are running. 44. So when it-is-said they-run those, 45. it-is-said they-are-lifting-up. 46. So they-are-astonished it-is-said, 47. people are it-is-said looking. 48. What it-is-said will-they-do. 49. So they one one it-is-said 50. of-them they-carried it-is-said to it-is-said 51. into their-land-of them San Mateo. 52. So they-carry going it-is-said in holy cloud 53. going it-is-said high-up 54. they reach it-is-said into-land-of them. 55. So they-placed into-their-land-of them. 56. So afterwards it-is-said, 57. what it-is-said will-

Juchitán got very angry, but they did not do anything about it. Thus the holy bells are still in San Mateo del Mar until this very day.

#### Travel Adventures of the Men-of-Old

Once upon a time, there lived the men-of-old. One day they decided to go to Tehuantepec. So one of the old men of the village ordered some firecrackers and some lime to be brought for him from Tehuantepec. The men that were going to Tehuantepec said that they would bring the things for the old man. Then they began the journey to Tehuantepec. They carried along a sheep's head for their food along the way. In the party were three men and

58. pwés tahkayíw čák, 59. péro kwá čák apmarangáw. 60. pwés támb čák kiah 61. arangáw monšéy. 62. pwés ásta čák nganály, 63. alčakmahlý nangáh mančiak. 64. pwés átan čák kiah arangáw a monšéy, 65. monšóm nangáh mančiak. 66. pwés landóh.

### VI

#### 1. mikwénta montašéy tambáw latíak

2. pwés tahlály a montašéy. 3. pwés tapiangáw čák, 4. tabáag latíak awáw čák. 5. pwés tapiang čák a nóp natašéy, 6. sanahaléay ikón nóik šainkárge áw čák. 7. pwés tapiangáw čák, 8. néam awáw čák. 9. pwés tapiang čák, 10. ihamianán teagály šakwéat áw čák, 11. alteagály šapasol áw čák. 12. pwés kiah čák tambáw. 13. pwés nehíw ahoyíw čák, 14. omál sáp pára ašambáw. 15. pwés nehíw arohpáw čák monšéy, 16. alčák ihpáw montáh. 17. pwés nehíw

they-do the people-of-Juchitán. 58. So they-got-angry it-is-said, 59. but what it-is-said will-they-do. 60. So it-happened it-is-said thus 61. their-work men. 62. So until it-is-said today, 63. are-it-is-said-still-there holy bells. 64. So thus it-is-said thus they-do the men, 65. finders holy bells. 56. So it-is-finished.

#### 1. Story-of Men-of-Old They-Went Tehuantepec

2. So there-were the men-of-old. 3. So they-said it-is-said, 4. let-us-go Tehuantepec they-say it-is-said. 5. So he-said it-is-said the one old-man, 6. I-will-order you one my-order he-says it-is-said. 7. So they-said it-is-said, 8. very-well they-say it-is-said. 9. So he-said it-is-said, 10. you-bring many my-firecrackers he-says it-is-said, 11. and-many my-lime he-says it-is-said. 12. So then it-is-said they-went. 13. So they they-carry it-is-said, 14. head sheep for their-food. 15. So they three it-is-said men, 16. and-it-is-said two women.

two women, who were not their wives. None of them knew how to speak Spanish.

As they were going along the road, they met a man who asked them if they had not met his friend along the way. The man spoke in Spanish, so they were not able to understand him, nor say anything to him. However, the man continued to say many things to them, but they still could not say anything. Finally, one of the ladies told the man that his companion is by the river, where there is the tree and the boat. [Her speech is a humorous mixture of Huave and Spanish.] Then the man went on his way and they continued on their journey to Tehuantepec.

Soon they met another man along the road, who saw the sheep's head and asked them to sell it to him. However, they did not understand what he

tingéal čák, 18. mičohów a nahtáh. 19. pwés tambáw čák. 20. pwés kómo nehíw ngó čák mandeakáw kastíya, 21. pwés mapeayíw čák tíal nóik lagár. 22. pwés tangočíw čák nóp našéy. 23. tapíang čák tasáh nehíw, 24. ngó čák mengočiana 25. nóp sakiába amigo 26. ngó mehawána nóp sakiába áw čák a našéy. 27. pwés nehíw ngó čák mangeayíw kastíya. 28. pwés ngó čák ndóm masaháw nikwahínd. 29. pwés tánta čák masáh nehíw. 30. pwés ngó ndóm masaháw čák nikwahínd. 31. pwés kiah čák tapíank a nahtáh, 32. ásta a íya laráya lazáya lamáša áw čák. 33. pwés kiah čák támb a mišíig. 34. pwés tambáw čák. 35. pwés tašomáw čák alanóp našéy. 36. pwés néh čák a našéy 37. taháw čák omál sáp. 38. pwés tapíang čák, 39. ómbre amigo inahpian áw čák. 40. pwés ngó čák mangeayíw apíang. 41. pwés tapíang čák a nahtáh, 42. nó pára

17. So they are it-is-said, 18. prostitutes the women. 19. So they-went it-is-said. 20. So as they not it-is-said they-speak Spanish, 21. so they-arrive it-is-said in a place. 22. So they-met it-is-said a man. 23. He-said it-is-said he-told them, 24. not it-is-said you-did-meet 25. a my-companion friend 26. not you-did-see a my-companion he-says it-is-said the man. 27. So they not it-is-said they-understand Spanish. 28. So not it-is-said are-able they-to-say it-is-said anything. 29. So many-things it-is-said he-tells them. 30. So not are-able they-to-say anything. 31. So then it-is-said she-said the lady, 32. till the there the-river the-tree the-boat she-says it-is-said. 33. So then it-is-said he-went the stranger. 34. So they-went it-is-said. 35. So they-met it-is-said another man. 36. So he it-is-said the man 37. he-saw it-is-said head sheep. 38. So he-said it-is-said, 39. man friend you-sell he-says it-is-said. 40. So not it-is-said they-understand what he-says. 41. So she-said it-is-said the lady, 42. no for

was saying, because he only spoke Spanish. Then one of the ladies answered him [in Huave] that the sheep's head was for them to eat. Then they continued on their journey again.

When they arrived in Tehuantepec, they went to buy the firecrackers first of all. Since they could not speak Spanish, they said that they wanted "bang-bang," but the people of Tehuantepec just laughed at them. Then they went to buy their lime, but they were given a corn-drink instead. [Their word for lime is the same as the word for corn-drink in Tehuantepec.] They thought that the corn-drink was given to them for nothing, but they finally paid, because the people got angry at them.

Thus were the experiences of the men-of-old, because they were not able to talk Spanish.

sangũšngũšána áw čák. 43. pwés kiah čák támb. 44. pwés mapeayiw čák latíak. 45. tambáw čák mangaláw a inkárga áag a kwét. 46. pwés asaháw čák a mišiiig 47. pára pramprám awáw čák, 48. kós ngó čák ndóm ombasáw andeakáw kastíya. 49. pwés akwiakíaw čák a mišiiig. 50. pwés tambáw mangaláw a pasól. 51. pwés mišiiig tááč čák nehíw čów čák. 52. pwés tanganeowáw čák, 53. kós apiangáw čák Δandíw čák mían, 54. péro ndóh tangayiw čák, 55. kós lačakakháy a mišiiig. 56. pwés átan čák kiah aráng, 57. kós ngó čák ndóm 58. ombasáw andeakáw kastíya.

us-to-eat she-says it-is-said. 43. So then it-is-said he-went. 44. So they-arrive it-is-said Tehuantepec. 45. They-went it-is-said that-they-might-buy the order those the firecrackers. 46. So they-tell it-is-said the stranger 47. for bang-bang they-say it-is-said, 48. because not it-is-said are-able they-themselves they-speak Spanish. 49. So they-laugh it-is-said the strangers. 50. So they-went that-they-might-buy the lime. 51. So the strangers gave it-is-said them corn-drink it-is-said. 52. So they-drink it-is-said, 53. because they-say it-is-said they-give it-is-said for-nothing, 54. but afterwards they-paid it-is-said, 55. because now-angry-it-is-said the strangers. 56. So thus it-is-said then is-done, 57. because not it-is-said are-able 58. they-themselves they-speak Spanish.