

27th September 2012

LSPNG 2012 CONFERENCE



DAIMAK; METAPHORIC STORIES OF THE KUMA PEOPLE OF JIWAKA PROVINCE

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PRESENTATION REVIEW

- Introduction
- Daimak; What is a Daimak?
- The Art of Daimak
- The Daimak & Metaphors
- Metaphor
 - * Allegory
 - * Parables – Fables

} As expressed in daimak

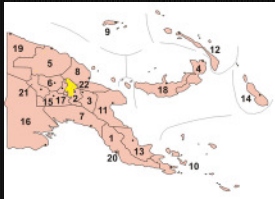
- Significance of Daimak in the Kuma Society
- Present State of Daimak in society
- Recommendations

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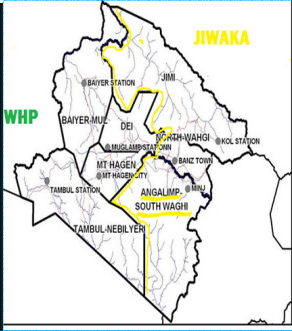
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INTRODUCTION

- > CULTURAL ASPECT OF THE KUMA SOCIETY
- > PROVINCE: JIWAKA (FORMERLY PART OF WESTERN HIGHLANDS)
- > DISTRICT: ANGLIMP SOUTH WAGHI
- > LANGUAGE: WAGHI (fad)



<http://upload.wikimedia.org>



(NARI, 2010)

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DAIMAK

- What is a Daimak?
It is the Kuma tradition of telling bed time stories
- The narratives sometimes recalled historical events but were mostly fictional with the objective of entertaining and or teaching morals.
- The stories are always short and are most often accompanied by songs.

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The art of Daimak

Daimaks are more informal and entertaining than other forms of storytelling and had its own set of rules for those involved.

- Never told during daylight.
- Always said lying down.
- Everyone was to keep silent when someone was telling a Daimak (Even if it has been told before).
- Always begins with "Ai mai mai"
- Always ends with "Bol dasa"

* "Ai maimai" & "Bol dasa" are almost comparable to the Western tradition of beginning stories with "Once upon a time" and "The End" except that in waghi these two phrases have no literal meanings.

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The Daimak & Metaphors

- Unlike legends in Daimaks the story teller is allowed to tell the story in an interesting and creative fashion as s/he chooses without changing the characters, plot or theme.
- The most accomplished story tellers (*Yu pornga yi*- male or *Yu pornga amp*- Female) are the ones who are most likely to use metaphors in their daimaks.
- Metaphors are a particular feature that can be identified in Daimaks.

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What is a Metaphor?

- Metaphor, is a **figure of speech** in which an implied comparison is made between two unlike things that actually have something important in common. The word *metaphor* itself is a metaphor, coming from a Greek word meaning to "transfer" or "carry across." Metaphors "carry" meaning from one word, image, or idea to another (About.com)

For e.g. He is a pig.

Allegories and Parables are also specialized forms of Metaphor. They will also be looked at briefly.

<http://grammar.about.com/od/qaaboutrhetoric/f/faqmetaphor7.htm>

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Some Common Metaphors

	WAGHI	LITERAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION	METAPHORIC MEANING	LITERAL WORD IN WAGHI
1	Kai Walpe	Flying Fox	A Gossiper.	Yu bok
2	Dop gom	The fire has died out.	A Widower	Yi Kangil
3	Dop esik	Smoke	Person without possession and does not contribute to society.	Endikim
4	Kon Kambaning	Small Bilum	Young, unmarried girl.	Ambek Mos
5	Kon Mengil	Big Bilum	Married Woman	Amp
6	Kon Arim	Old, ragged Bilum	A widowed or divorced woman.	Amp Kangil
7	Ond Nop Munamp	Cassowarina Tree top	An opportunist	Akamb Angik Kui mim
8	Koi	Rat	Female infant	Ambek ngak
9	Kai	Bird	Male infant	Yi Ngak
10	Kraime Simbil	Wild Cassowary	Person who avoids contributing to society.	Akamb simbil
11	Kamb Sine	Spotted Cuscus	Well behaved, attractive, beautiful and soft supplied bodied woman (beloved wife)	Amb Ka wei

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Metaphor: Kon Kambaning

- Characters: Three young men & a young lady
- Plot: Three young men went courting on the other side of the Waghi river . Two of the young men were from the Konumka Tribe and the other was from the Kondika tribe.
- As they were returning a young woman followed one of the Konumka young men however, he tells the Kondika man that he can have the "kon kambaning" / little bilum.

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Allegory in Daimaks

- What is Allegory ?**
The representation of abstract ideas or principles by characters, figures, or events in narrative, dramatic, or pictorial form (freedictionary.com)
- Objects or places in certain Daimaks sometimes represent a much more deeper concept.
- One such Daimak is the "Red Pandanus Gifts"

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Allegory: The Red Pandanus Gifts

- Characters: Bai & Moken (Young Brothers), Huge old woman and beautiful young ladies.
- Plot: The young men are hunting in the forest and the old woman steals their catch. They go after the old woman and discover that she has many beautiful young daughters. The old woman apologizes to them and sends them off with a red pandanus each as a gift and asks them to carry it home with care. Moken is dissatisfied and ungrateful with the gift and keeps banging the pandanus on tree trunks and dropping it on the ground whilst Bai takes great care of his pandanus. When they reach their village the red pandanus turn into young women. Bai's bride appears very beautiful and happy but Moken's bride is ugly and bleeding all over.





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The allegories in the Daimak (The Red Pandanus Gifts)

ALLEGORY	CULTURAL CONCEPT	MEANING From the context of the story...
The Red Pandanus (Kombe)	A valuable delicacy which is often used as a food item for trade .	Symbolizes an exchange. The old woman had stolen their catch so she traded it with the pandanus.
The Forest (Kekpin)	The forest is dark but luscious and rich in animals to be hunted (many other resources).	The young men where in this dark place but it had everything in it. They only had to find their way.
The Youn Men's expedition (Koi Kamb yi)	When hunter's go hunting they either return with something or they don't.	The young men had gone hunting as boys but return as men each with a bride that turned according to how the young man treated the gift.


- Theme: One should always appreciate what one has in life and revere it because the true value can never be known until it is too late.
- As stated Allegorical daimaks contain symbols that have a deeper meaning.




PARABLES 27th September 2012

- A Parable is an extended metaphor narrated to illustrate a moral lesson. A Fable is a form of parable.
- Fables usually feature animal characters and teach morals.

Fable: Kip kin Kukang kin (The Eagle & the Owl) 27th September 2012



- Characters: Eagle & Owl
- Plot: The two are best friends but while Kukang (Owl) is out hunting for worms Kip (Eagle) eats everything that they had hunted previously. Kukang returns to nothing and he sings to Kip telling him that their friendship is over and returns to the forest.
- Theme: Friendship, honesty & hard work.




SIGNIFICANCE OF DAIMAK IN KUMA SOCIETY 27th September 2012

1. It was a form of art. Accomplished story tellers were known as "Yu por nga" which literally translates as 'Story giver' which is not at all equivalent to story teller (Any one can tell stories).
2. It was a form of family entertainment.
3. It was a creative way in which children indirectly learnt morals and ethics until they were initiated into the society.

THE STATE OF DAIMAK TELLING TODAY 27th September 2012

	RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Due to development and changes in the Kuma society people have many other forms of entertainment and Daimaks are becoming less popular. ▪ If Daimaks die out then the metaphoric features will die out also. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Oral Traditions of the Kuma people must be recorded but people have to be trained in order to record this aspect of literature. ▪ Community awareness must be done to make people see the importance of the daimak and other aspects of oral literature of my society.

Metaphor is what unlocks the potential of the human mind; it is the language of the angels, to use a metaphor for metaphor.
(Dr. Silvia Hartmann)



KA WEI
(THANK YOU)
END OF PRESENTATION