M157
Nzyu-fao-lao, draining the lake for farming.

Sung by Yang Zhi.

Notes

This song is found in Document N (no. 42/6, page 587).

Note. About 40 mistakes were found in the printed text of this song, chiefly misprints and inconsistencies in the tone markings, which have been corrected but are not listed below.

Lines 10 and 11. These are printed as a single long line.

Line 15. A footnote in Miao explains that "ngaox mangb lik mul" is an "Yi girl who is not clever".

Line 22. A footnote explains that "Ghad zhik dox shik teud" is (in Chinese characters) "Zhao tong jiu cai ping", that is, "The leek vegetable plain of Zhaotong". This is the name of a small section of the plain on which the City stands. The Miao name is unrelated to the Chinese. "Ghad shik" possibly means "split" or "divided", "dox" is a ridge of hills or a range of mountains, while "shik teud" is probably the name of the locality. It has therefore been rendered, "The divided ridge of Shi-teu".

Line 23. A footnote in Miao explains that "shit lol ndox" means "climbed only half way up the hill".

Line 24. A footnote in Miao explains that "shit lol died" means "not yet climbed to the top".

Line 26. A footnote in Miao explains that "bib dad nchad" means that the rain was as heavy as a waterfall.

Line 27. The word "bangt", meaning "breath" is misprinted "ghangb".

Lines 27 and 28. The word "ngaox", meaning "girl" is missing from the printed text in both these lines.

Line 31. A footnote in Chinese explains that "ndrangx lib mub" is Zhaotong plain.

Lines 33 and 34. These are printed as a single long line.

Lines 40 and 41. These are printed as a single long line.

Line 43. A footnote in Chinese explains that "sab yib" is the "Zhaotong Sa-yi-ho". This is the name of a river which flows north-west and drains the Zhaotong plain. It gives its name to a large village which stands on its banks.

Line 46. A footnote in Chinese reads, "da tong lao ya yan". That is, "struck through the Raven cliff".

Lines 72 and 73. These are printed as a single long line.

Line 82. The word "dib" is printed twice.

Line 83. The name "Mub zyul laos" is misprinted "mut mul zib laos".