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Folktales and songs of the Daasanach : Documenting and celebrating oral storytelling traditions

Daasanach Community

2019

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Hibano ubaa aram 'Daasanach

He veerit ubaa á'dúm tá hol hibano af kí 'dony yaalmitlé

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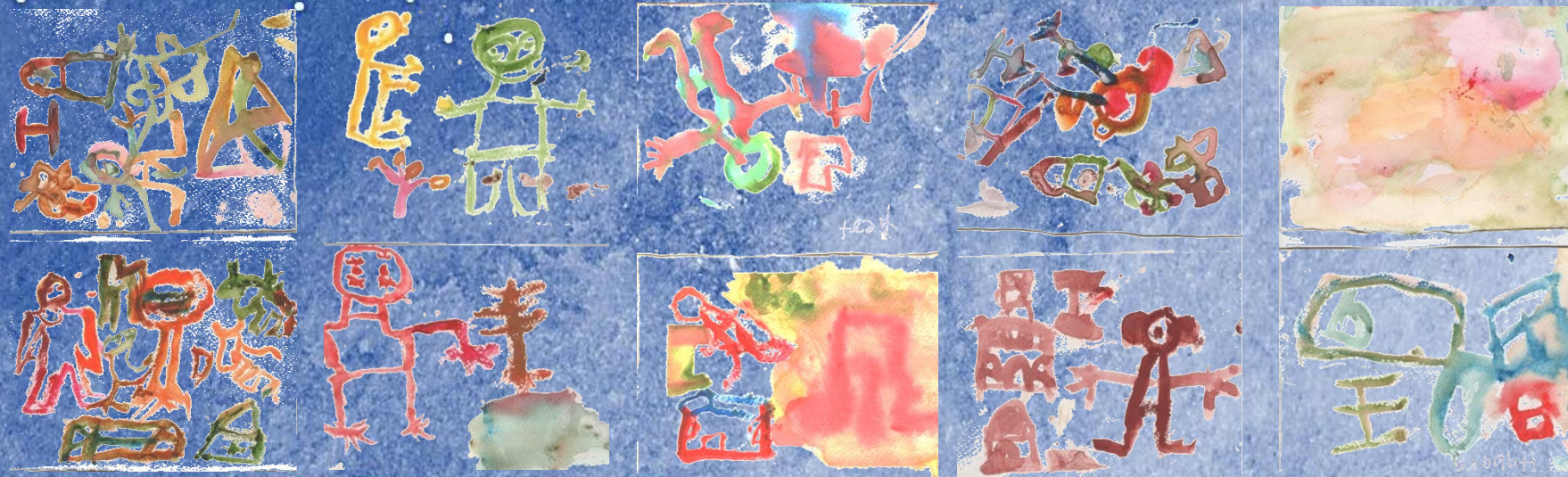


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Gál he gíl geer higilloká

War'gatééllá gál he 'dú seenoká, he gál giri
lulle hibano ká 'doy-, lés kúnno geerle hibano
sidham gaa koyká.



Dedication

This book is dedicated to all the storytellers
who keep alive the stories of our world.

Hibano ubaa aram war'gatééllá gaa ijóóllá hát hol mé argisinyká karu
'Daasanach hí kí yíééie. Ameen y kamur guáo war'gatééllá 'daalle yé
gáá 'deenká Gábárich 'Daasanacho hí le.



The stories and songs collected in this book are collectively held by
the Daasanach community. Any profits from this book will go to the
Daasanach community.

Gál gáál hibano kí ‘doyká ~ Storytellers:

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Gál 'daalim he hol eiy gaa shugunoká 'guoká ~ Expert language consultants:

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Gál war'gát veereká ~ Editors of the book:

Mar Cabeza, Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares.

Gál wargat hol há taikokua ~ Layout designer:

Mar Cartró Sabaté.

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Mé gáá koon

Af meeny giri war shíí naama-, wár eiy tommon tiki'de a le-,
'jíg war shíí naama-, wár eiy tommon tiki'de a saalká, karu
'Daasanach ubaa gál 'deem egeet sugul guḁo gaalí Helsinki
yegie-, (lés Finlandká) hibanno hol af ki 'dony kamur
'Daasanachká veere.

War'gatééllá he sieny mé 'dér-, war hí seḁ chie-, giri gáál hibano
ubaa aram 'daasanach táb kí gagatoká. Hé tág gál 'Daasanach
he bukany ógká ubaa um niginiká hí hát 'dabaanká bukay, gaalí
af 'Daasanach ubaa af gál édhká met hullaalle ki veere, 'daa he
met esiny biraamietká shoko'daamlé ke he ki oonootká.

Hibano ubaa aram gaalí war'gatééllá hol 'du gáá shuunééllá he
hé eshim eshim 'Daasanach giri gáalle hibano guguchle 'guoká.
Hé nyí met egetoká he giri war'gatééllá nyí á'dum, hol bal ki
'dony ubaa sirig nyátál 'Daasanachká. Héetí hibanoóllá ubaa
aramééllá bíyyo ke táb 'do'dootká.



Introduction

From 2016 to 2019, the Daasanach community and a group of
researchers from the University of Helsinki (in Finland) have
been documenting the rich tradition of oral storytelling of the
Daasanach people.

This book is the result of this three-year journey and contains a
selected number of stories and songs that reflect the cultural
heritage of the Daasanach community. It has been beautifully
illustrated by a number of Daasanach artists and children, and
is written both in Daasanach language and English, in the hope
that it can be used as an educational material.

The stories and songs collected in this book have been
transmitted from generation to generation by the Daasanach
community, who have historically been the guardians of this
heritage. We hope that this book contributes to celebrate,
honour and respect the Daasanach culture, and that these
stories and songs will be remembered forever.

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‘Daasanach hibanollé



Daasanach folktales



**ACCORDING TO THE WISHES
OF THE DAASANACH COMMUNITY
THE FOLKTALES COMPILED IN THIS BOOK
ARE NOT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
FOR PREVIEW**

‘Daasanach aramblé



Daasanach

songs



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War'gat gaalí bine baa'diet gaa bukayká ~ Illustrated wildlife dictionary



Anich – Crocodile



Ɖerich – Hyena



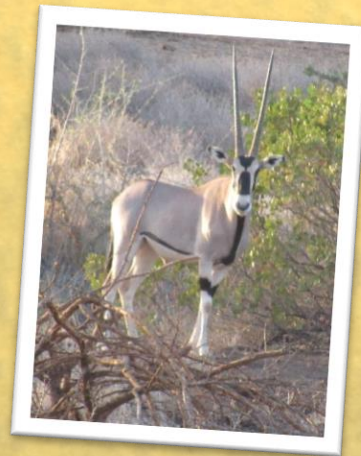
Garich – Buffalo



Guriech – Rhino



Árab – Elephant



Farich - Oryx



Ginte – Grant Gazelle



Haarach – Crow



Hiille – Hare



Hóle - Dove



Luoch - Lion



Neech - Ostrich



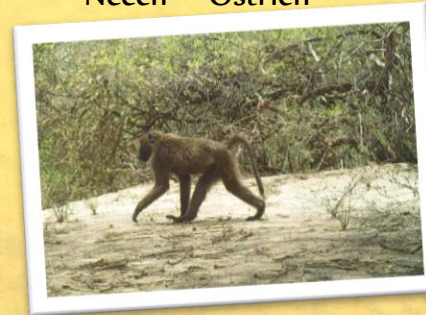
Nyakunyug - Squirrel



Horite - Flamingo



Mante - Bat-Eared Fox



Norroch - Baboon and other primates



Nyékó'dósia - Varana (Varanus niloticus)



Nootoch - Dik-dik

'Daasanach. Múún ke gál máre?

Nyíini nyí 'Daasanach lééllá he nyí gál lés 'daa meles Kenyáká ubaa lés 'daa urru Abachaká yé gáá 'dieká. Kidh lulle taawuoká nyiin nyáá nyí iraaam mánká he yeedhe, tá nyíin nyí elúf tommon síet af chen,(85,000)giri nyí inum wár raate ta 'jíg bás in 'daa baryo hát he taalká lulle ki idaká. Nyíin yíéđiny kinyo aany 'deeny ubaa lesam fimmi he gáá koonne (hát káána rub ubaa nakabúono tá haam fimmi). Gíl 'dáá tiki'dka nyáá nyí gál awuan-, káanal_hátle bée yegeská 'gayya. Nyátál kinyoka súm 'gúo iin he naasan kinyo hí yiem gáá 'de'deeme, tá nyáá nyí éde ubaa wála 'gayya.

Nyíin úba nyáá nyí kamur gálle hol hibano af ki 'daraanká 'gayya, 'daa giri hé kinaallá gíl 'dáá tiki'dka he um niginiká kás shiinyká. Hibano ubaa aram gíl 'dáá tiki'dka he nyatalaam 'Daasanch táb kigagadhoká. Aalé a 'daa gelgaká nyiin náábo nyí hol 'dú seseenne, nyí 'jiet gaa bolmosicha giri nyí hol hibano ubaa aram af ki 'daraanoká. Hééllá he kieye, hol kás eiy 'deeny ubaa hol góro gon yé gaa 'deeny aadhle kuliyyo giri gáál kulich ki saniannoká. Hibano ubaa aram kinyia burnayállá súm agerint ubaa midhant bine baa'diet lés kinyo gaa ijoká he gáál ká geéicha.



The Daasanach people. Who we are?

We, the Daasanach, are an ethnic group from Northern Kenya and Southern Ethiopia. Although people used to say that we are few in population, we are actually around 85,000 people living around the Omo Delta and the northeastern shores of Lake Turkana. Our livelihood is based on herding and agriculture (mostly sorghum, maize and beans), with some people also practicing fishing nowadays. Cattle is a central element of our culture as pastoralists, but we also tend sheep and goats.

We have a rich tradition of oral storytelling as a way of passing down knowledge across generations. Folktales and songs are vital to the transmission of Daasanach culture. In the evenings, we often sit in the *naab* and share folktales and songs around the fire. This represents a moment of refreshing our minds after a long day of herding under the burning sun. Many of our folktales and songs speak about both the dangers and beauty of the wildlife found in our lands.



Ar hol af ka yíediyeká

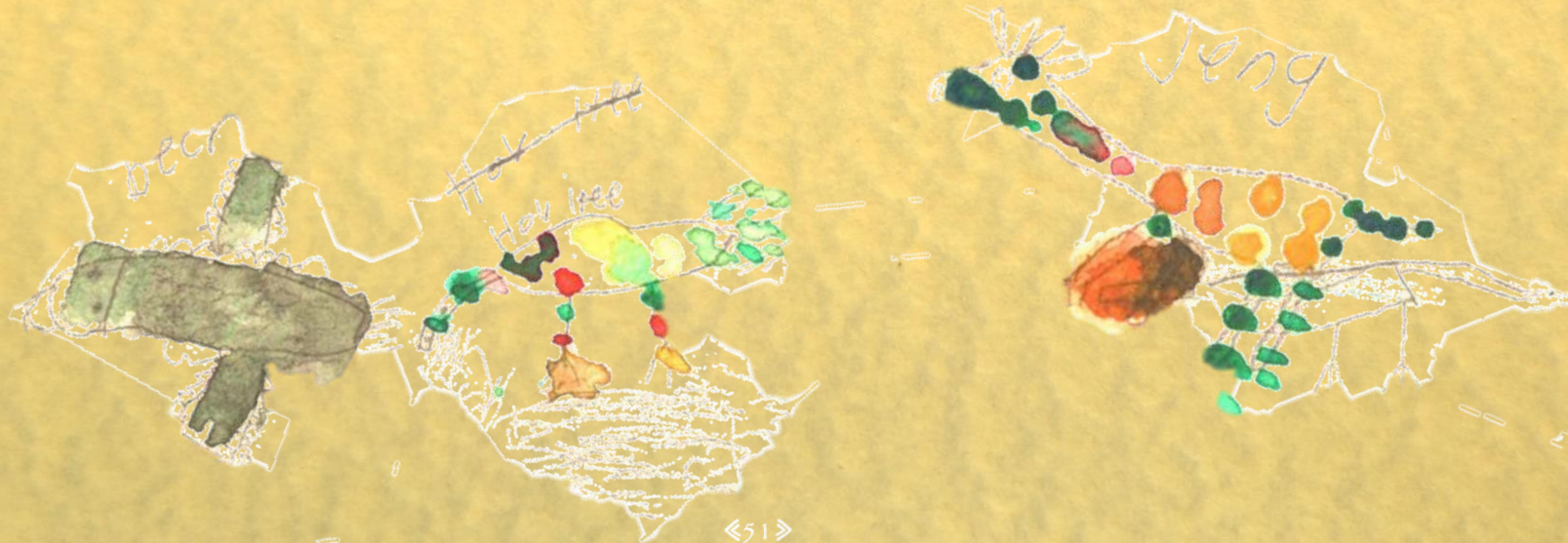
Hol af ka yíediny giri war'gatéllá beesenléká, gál hol argeká he gál arráká, Karu gugudo 'Daasanachká, gál hibano ka doiyká, gál war'gát af eiy hol ki nannieká, gál 'daalellé 'deem hol eiy gaa shugunoká, gál war'gát bukayká, gál wargát veereká ubaa gál lés tollo faafagká gáá yimie-, 'deem egeetká. Gál arrá kinaal waram seē me hí hol aargire, hibanóóllá veeritle iiy yie, giri gaal íín tuudle hé biiy sugoká af 'dáb guḁoká ki aargiroká.

Ar lulle TBI Il-Herietká 'guiy ki seḁeká, rámlé giri leká, wárlé shíí naama wár eiy tommon tiki'de asaalká af hí hol 'dú fame giri war'gatéllá yé ka 'deenoká.

Steering Committee

The project leading to the completion of this book has been carried out by a Steering Committee composed by Daasanach elders, storytellers, translators, expert consultants, illustrators, editors and researchers. Members of the Steering Committee partnered over three years to bring these stories to daylight, overseeing that their collection followed the highest ethical standards.

All members of the Steering Committee met at the Turkana Basin Institute (TBI) in Ileret (Kenya) on the 6th of March 2019 to sign a Free, Prior and Informed Consent for the publication of this book.



Gál arráká ~ Members of the Steering Committee



Job Guol Nasak
Ambrose Awosio Ajiko
Laburo Lokomeri
Lokomeri Natodo

Nyakoo Toroo
Goosh Kwanyang
Benedict Lokono
Job Komoi

Christine Nanok
Eelo Chumakan
Mar Cabeza
Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares



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