VI-X: Jokes


[1] ya yeki hawā-∅ mariz-ı
a someone be.PST-3SG.M ill-INDF
There once was a man who was ill.

[2a] yähem-∅ qaṭ=ṭâleb-∅ am=mâr-∅-e
sit.PST-3SG.M PRS=ask.PRS-3SG.M from=lord-1SG
He sat down and he asked God

[2b] oḥd-∅-e şonâ in-∅ u
do.IMP-SG.M-1SG good eye-1SG and
“Heal my eye, and

[2c] onn-e u kars-e u id-e
ear-1SG and belly-1SG and eye-1SG
my ear, and my belly, and my arm,

[2d] u kărây-e
and leg-3SG.M
and my leg.”
There was someone sitting beside him, listening.

Then he finished.

He said to him, “Dear God!”

Instead of all those things that he patched up for you, he could make somebody new for him!
VII  'Ya qahwî hâwat ḥâşiś qašîṭen. Ḥâwâ ya yeki, yâhem, bedq el-kârâyi tuṭî.

Kârâyi ser tammat. ‘Laqyâdî pâṣqat kârâyi. [Ωmar:] “Waylaḵ, yâ ânâšā, kârâye wel tammat!”


[1] ya qahw-î hâw-at ḥâski qe=šî-ṭ-en
a ccoffee-INIF bêt.PST-3SG.F hâshiš PRS-drink.PRS-3PL

There once was a coffee shop in which hashish was smoked.

[2a] hâwâ-ô ya yeki yâhem-ô
bêt.PST-3SG.M a sônêmô sit.PST-3SG.M

There was a fellow, seated,

[2b] bedq-ô el=kârâyi-tuṭ-i
put.PST-3SG.M REF=leg-3SG.M under-3SG.M

who stuck his leg beneath him.

[3] kârâyi ser tamm-âṭ
leg-3SG.M numb become.PST-3SG.F

His leg went numb.
He didn’t know his leg was cut off.

He said, “Oh my God, hey people,”

my leg has come loose!”

There were two sitting beside him

who were also smoking hashish.

Then they heard him.
One of them said to the other,

he said, "Yikes! Let's make a run for it!

he will come to make trouble for us,

saying, "You stole my leg!"

VIII  'Ya yeki hawā qāzi hammām. 'Ωzgā qəbāy lābeš aqmāšāni. 'Hawā sātor-di gāni. 'Ωzgā amall el-bāḥ ḥammām. 'Bāḥ ḥammām aḥaḥli parāḥ. 'Hawā sātor di gāni. 'Ωzgā amall el-bāḥ ḥammām. 'Bāḥ ḥammām aḥaḥli parāḥ. "Hafte horettā āṭa, dāš. Ḥammām dārā, tum nāpāq. 'Haw el-zobuni azgi. 'Dār el-

parāḥān am-bāḥ ḥammām.

Once there was a man who went to a hammam.

When he came out, he wanted to put on his clothes.

He saw that his razor had been stolen.

He went to talk to the owner of the hammam.

The owner gave him some money.
He came a second week and went in.

He took a bath and then came out.

He saw that his undershirt was gone.

He took the money from the owner.

The third week he came, [and the owner] said,

“I can’t let you go [in].
It can’t be like this.

with me giving you money every week.”

He said to him, “Sir,

you won’t be responsible.

Whatever happens, happens.”

He went inside, he washed.
then went out.

He saw that his clothes were all gone.

and that only his belt was left.

He got up and put on the belt,

and came to the owner.

He told him, “I swear to you,
I came like this to the hammam.

in this alone!”

There once was a man

who lied very much.
One day, he heard of someone who also lied very much.

He said, “I want to see what a liar he is, in comparison with me.”

Then he went to his house.

He knocked on the door.
He didn’t see him in the house.

He did, however, see his daughter.

His daughter asked him, “What do you want?”

He said to her, “I want [to see] your father.”

She said to him, “My father is elsewhere.”

He said to her, “Where did he go?”
She told him, “Heaven;”

a piece broke off of it.

and he has gone to patch it up.”

The liar left and ran off.

He said, “If the daughter lies like that,

then what’s her father like?”
One day, Joha went

to ask his neighbors for

a cooking pot.
After three days, he came back.

having put a small pot inside it.

His neighbors saw the pot,

and he took it out of it.

He said to Joha, “What is this?”

Joha told them, “This is your cooking pot.”
While it was at my place,

it gave birth to a child.

I brought it for you.”

The owner of the house said to him, “That’s absurd,”

took it and put it away.

The next week Joha came
and asked him for a cooking pot.

They gave him a large stew pot.

He took the large one.

He didn’t return it to them.

After a week, the neighbor

went to Joha.
He said to him, “Where is my cooking pot?”

He said, “The cooking pot has died.”

He told Joha,

“Who would believe

that a cooking pot could die?”

Joha laughed, and said to him,
Who would believe that a cauldron

come. PST-3SG.M.JCT

has given birth to a boy,

but then not believe

that it has died?