

“LEGEND OF AHIN”

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Nunta bayyag, waday hakey ni naama, nan ngadan ni Dimmangaw, kaman paypayyew han nan abung di hanup ni hayyukung di Ah-hinan. Hakey eggew, nangupel ni namaganan ni butil et ihida tu. Aani ey in amag tu ta apuy han aani ey induman tun danum et hiyan mauppel ta butil.

Ngem, nunta nalabi la, naiugipan hîgatu inggatun ta natalwag la. Amin lan ta danum nunta banga men naandi la, namaganan la hutta banga. Masdaaw hîgatu tep wada i inang-ang tu ni kikîkut ni ampuputi nunta banga. Nan nemnem nu hipa man isunga tinamtaman tu, kinaagpaysu tu ket ahin gayam iman.

Kamanggagaya hi Dimmangaw et inbingay tu ta naamtaan tu di katuu-tuu. Nginadanan idan ta umili ni “Ahin” ta ili da, in ala da nunta ahin.

A long time ago, there lived an old man named Dimmangaw, a rice field builder who resided near the riverbank at Ah-hinan. One day, he intended to cook dried seeds for his viand. He continuously maintained the fire and added water from the salt spring, hoping the seeds would soften.

However, as the night passed, he fell asleep and did not wake until early morning. By then, all the water in the pot had completely evaporated. To his surprise, he found white particles left in the pot. Curious, he tasted them and discovered they were, in fact, table salt.

Excited by his discovery, Dimmangaw shared the event with the community. The villagers then named the place "Ahin," a vernacular term for salt in the Kalanguya language.

The Legend of Ahin works as a story that explains the beginning of a natural resource (salt) and the name of a place. By focusing on an elder's discovery, the story shows that cultural respect is given to older members of the community and to the natural surroundings. This