

Richard Berengarten

Akapaiko / translation by Ofonime Inyang

Isang inemesit ke mben akpa mmong

...idaha eyio otongoke akim

Edidem Eyio, Okpoon mfuk, nkukwere akara usen okuk
Afo ame ontuk mien, ikpa idem mi akaba mkpaenyin, Eyio
Okpo asak edem mi obo nyenge, idem mi atuak
Ubak adigke oto ke odudu ntuk mfo, Eyio
Ke oyom akpa mong, ye ke obio, nkim afuk eyin
Kemi ke ake asida, asuk adada
Mme ufok ye efak, anyie me obio efen
Idoho anye afo ama ake ojud akaba ukeduked, Eyio.

Nnyin isanga ke mben mmong, Okoneyo
Ubom mme oko iyak ebene idem adiwuo
Mme moto esio uyio, efik ikang edong
Afid obio ebene idem ebana isang inemesit ke mben esuk
Mme amaima, ubok ke ubok, mkparawa etiod,
Mme ete ye mme eka, ntok eyen, ke edia udia
Makara
Ikan eren etie ke esa ese mmo
Obubid obot asike akpere, nte mme unam
edoho ufan.

Nneinem mbubid eyio otuk ikpa onyong,
Ofuk afid obod ye adaha
Ubok mfo otuk ake mmi idaha mi
Nte moto anyie aksiden.
Uyama eyio, uyama ikpa enyong
Atie nte ubok ayin owo uwani asangakemi,
Antuk mien
Mkpon ifuko, ntok ukot isang,
Ided oduo ke edem, usung itong nte afara
Ntotungo ukwak, mmem eyin ima ke asak
Ami uwong fien, nyama unwana, nte ukot,
Nte ikwo, nte unwana
Nte mme mon usen edem eke
Esinama, Uwana
Anana ukpeme obio, ayin amo ado Eleftheria
Oboikpa asangake ye ami mi
Ibehe nte mbon mfo ado ntong ntong ke eyin
Amo, anana ukpeme obio, ke ini ke unwana
Ye unana ayamake

Bre ifiok ifiok ye enye ke iso nte
Iko mme ikwo
 Iso ayin nne atie to akamba uboko
 Nte mkpo ndad usung ye
Ukpeme unwana, obio ke etang nti
Nkpo uwuo ufAn ebomo nte
Anek unek, oboikpa yie afo,
Obio.

Ima ima mbubid eyio, unwana uwak isua,
Ntuho ima, anem uyio ikwo, ayaiya nte
Owo uwan, namdie mme nkpe toroke uto
Inem inem ido mfo emi – ima ima mbu
Bid eyio, unwana, okwo ikwo
Obio emi ye mme nsidung ke enye,
Otu ke akama nti nkpo ake otuk afid
Ederimbot
Ami ndo afun mfo,
Ke mme ndoho ayin isong – afo, unwana mbubid eyio

Translator's note

The text presented above is a free translation of the poem into the Ibibio language. The variety is that of the language in current use in the Akwa Ibom State. This differs from the related language, Efik. The spelling I have used here reflects the actual usage of speakers and is not in strict adherence to scholarly orthography.

Item Akapaiko

Se ewod emi ado ukaba iko emi nsin ke usem Ibibio. Ekaba ke nyakanyaka usung eke mi ineke ikene nte esiwed usem emi ke wed. Anyem ado nte nanga etang iko Ibibio ke usen ke usen idaha mi,kpan akpan ke otu mon ami mi ineke ke ino iwed ado eno itang iko ami mfin ke Akwa Ibom. Ayem ado usem Ibibio.idoho ake Efik.

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