

## FOUCAULT'S PENDULUM::E KAÑUWAÑ FUKAWUWI

A translation challenge proposed to us by Carsten Becker  
[www.beckerscarsten.de/conlang/ayeri/xmp\\_pendulum.pdf](http://www.beckerscarsten.de/conlang/ayeri/xmp_pendulum.pdf)  
from the original (?) proposal at: [www.spinnoff.com/zbb/viewtopic.php?t=17730](http://www.spinnoff.com/zbb/viewtopic.php?t=17730)

This is the English version provided by Carsten, on which I based the Kash translation:

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Then, finally, I saw the pendulum.

The sphere, hovering freely at the end of a long metallic thread which was fixed high in the vaults of the choir, described its wide and constant oscillations with majestic isochrony.

I knew – but everybody ought to have felt it in the magic of this quiet breath – that the period was controlled by the relation of the square root of the length of the thread to this number  $\pi$  which, irrational for the earthly minds, in a godly ratio inevitably connected the circumference with the diameter of any possible circle in that the time of this roaming of a sphere from one pole to the other on the other hand was the result of a secret conspiracy of the most timeless of all measures – the singleness of the pivot point, the twoness of an abstract dimension, the threeness of  $\pi$ , the secret square of the root and the perfection of the circle.

I also knew that in the drop line of the pivot point, under the floor, there was a magnetic device which transmitted its gravitational pull to a hidden cylinder inside of the sphere, guaranteeing the regularity, a mechanism to beat the resistance of matter which yet did not oppose the law of the pendulum but rather allowed it to manifestate itself – for in the vacuum, any weight at the end of an unelastic and weightless thread which was not exposed to any air resistance nor friction with the pivot point would swing constantly in all eternity.

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Translating the *words* was not so much a problem (only 3 or 4 were lacking), as translating the *sense*, along with hacking my way through the jungle of compound sentences, subordinate clauses, inserted asides, etc. etc. Not to mention, of course, determining what it all meant *in English!!*

E KAÑUWAÑ FUKAWUWI === DEF *Pendulum Fukawu+gen.*

tiyanju, lulusni, matikassa kañuwañ yu.

cikundri yakulapsa inga amingasi ri lusni çicim keret livek re valam ri krat landruni voroset yu, i yayuyañuyañ voçil i tuça-tuça lusongi e yahanan vende-vendel.

*Then, at last, I-see-past pendulum that/the.*

*Sphere-its/the it-hang-past without hindrance-gen. LOC end-of thread metal long REL attached LOC most high-of it dome that/the, and it-swing-swing wide and precise-precise according.to DEF. Time-acc. noble-noble.*

makayasa-- mowa yuno kaç yu mende anjayi açon ri apurikni upahan tayu re kromonje-- makayasa re anju añuyañini irungoram yambit akendipni ñutuni adivek çicimi yam epinal M-- epinal traлека lusongi haniyu kaçale, mowa re, yambit akendip çehamaka, yahendip enjiyundri voçindini pipinal ciyur poçañuke-- ombi anjuni andatoni cikur ri alame tayu ri alame liya yakaket ombi alo akikicipi purik ri añoleç amakrale-- añambesani yakiñ, añandoroni makendri, añatilani M, vorakani purik ri ñutuni, i ambiyalni ciyur.

*I-know-past-- but all person it/that(acc.) PERF ought sense LOC mystery-of breath this REL quiet-- I-know-past THAT time/period swing-gen.-its they-manage(control) by.means.of relationship-of,it square.root-of.it length thread-gen. with number PI-- number unreal*

*according.to mind human, but REL, by.means.of connection spiritual, it-connects circumference-of.it (and) diameter-of.it every circle imaginable-- because period-of.it wandering-of.it sphere LOC pole-dat. this LOC pole-dat. other it-(is)linked(logically) because from conspiracy secret LOC measurement eternal-- oneness-of.it fulcrum=pivot, twoness-of.it (intrinsic)nature-of.it, threeness-of.it PI, square-the hidden LOC square.root-of.it, and perfection-of.it circle. (whew!!)*

eme makayasa re (r)i vaka kanin, tuça ri vaka yakiñi, yale apral pombrokale, yarungurip andrayi añambondami ri eçuwe purik ri ondeni cikundri, var(a) rumirap andurasni-- apral are uçoñi vara kenda ambundrukni kocakat, apral are anje ta yamunuk omendri kañuwañ, mowa-mowa yarumbole re omendri netu rundikas-- ombi ri añañumbu tapat angicat ri lusni çicim trapokutrap takricat-- inga ambundrukini mene, inga andruvoni ri yakiñi-- angicat yu yayuyando yunda-yunda ri yuno leroç amaraç.

*Also I-know-past THAT LOC under floor, precise LOC under fulcrum=pivot-its/the, there.is device magnetic, it-transmits attraction gravity-gen. LOC tube=cylinder-dat. hidden LOC inside-of.it sphere-its/the, in.order.to make.certain regularity-its-- device REL purpose-its (is) in.order.to defeat opposition=resistance-of.it matter, device REL yet not it-opposes law-of.it pendulum, but-but it-make.possible THAT law-its/the it-dat-REFLEX. cause.see=show-- because LOC vacuum any weight LOC end-of.it thread un-stretchable un-heavy-- without opposition=resistance-gen.-of.it air, without friction-gen-of.it LOC fulcrum=pivot-- weight that it-swing-fut. always-always LOC all day-pl. ages-pl. (whew again!!)*

#### A few comments:

The new words required: *valam* 'attach, affix'; others were created from existing roots: *poçañuke* 'possible (actually < ABLE+imagine)'; *añañumbu* 'vacuum' (double nominal deriv. < *yumbu* 'empty'), *añambondam* 'gravity' (double noml. < *pondam* 'fall') and of course the abstracts 'oneness, twoness, threeness', also double nominalizations, which is how Kash forms collectives and/or abstracts. Other words had their meanings extended, e.g. *yakiñ* 'fulcrum of a lever' became 'pivot, pivot-point'...well, it's almost the same thing.....'Friction' and 'magnet(ic)' are not in the dictionary or supplement, but were found in the to-do list under 'rub', and in an old coinage for 'X-ray (picture)' where I decided that Kash technology would prefer something like an MRI, so *kaçe/pombro* 'picture+magnet'.

Lots of scientific terms are borrowing from Gwr languages. Fu Kòw (Fukawu) himself was a Gwr; *pombro* is < *pr mo* (meanings yet to be assigned); *ñutu* 'square root' < *nyu* 'divide' + the Kash reflexive marker *-tu*; similarly *matu* 'square of...' < *maq* 'vast' but also used in Gwr to indicate "multiplied by itself". Likewise *voroset* 'dome' < old *wor sæt* (too lazy to invent "vaulting, choir", and anyway I assumed the pendulum would be in a temple, and those always feature a dome-- the pendulum in the Chicago museum is also suspended from a dome). But 'sphere, circle, circumference, diameter, PI, matter' et al. were already in existence as native Kash words. *Kañuwañ* itself is an irregular agent-noun < *yuyañ* 'to swing'; "sphere *cikur*" and "circle *ciyur*" are obviously related, and *ciyur* is the base of "circumference *enjiyur*" (with an old prefix *e(N)*- 'thing that typifies...', the thing *par excellence*) and of PI *onjiyur* (< *om* 'base, basis'-- it is symbolized with the Kash letter M (pronounced [mi]) because mathematicians have abbreviated it to an "affectionate" *omi*.

In the last paragraph-sentence, there are two instances of r-elision, occasioned by the Kash constraint against two r's in successive syllables...others may have slipped by.

So there it is-- E&OE (errors and omissions excepted) 😊