

1 “The speaking of Esani the wise”

tóma esáni erosáni t3
zotá katoú ke.
zotá cutoú ce.
zotá rotoú re.
keve táma ebú n3 tál3n d1 gh3.
t3m3t3
mýnac3 katuí ke.
mýnac3 cutuí ce.
mýnac3 rotuí re.
tálm. k13 icúro bis3d1.
t3m3.

1.1 Commentary

This is an example of dramatic philosophical prose in Ebisedian. The speaker’s name itself, **esáni**, is quite dramatic. The suffix **sáni** in Ebisedian occurs in three related words: **cusáni**: “cleverness”, “intelligence”; **rosáni**: “wisdom”, that is, wisdom in handling of people and matters; and **kasáni**: “expertise”, the culmination of **cusáni** and **rosáni** coupled with the learnings of experience.

Here, the speaker is referred to as **esáni erosáni**, “Esani the Wise”. But his own name is derived from the suffix **sáni**, that abstract quality common in intelligence, wisdom, and “expertise”. Hence, one might be led to think that the designation “the Wise” showed the **rosáni** part of him.

Nevertheless, abstract connotations aside, his speech itself is quite poetic and dramatic. It uses two trichotomies—keep in mind that the Ebisedi love trichotomies—both which uses the three direction words in the same order. This order matches each corresponding correlative particle in their colour-symbolic values: **katuí** and **ke**, ‘red’; **cutuí** and **ce**, ‘green’; and **rotuí** and **re**, ‘blue’.¹

The first set of four lines, delimited by the quoted discourse delimiter **t3m3t3**, pose a question: “Look to the north, look to the southwest, look to the southeast; and tell me wherein lies peace?” This last line is a bit odd, since it literally means, “tell me the where-peace-is where?”. This is a poetic use of the interrogative noun **ghí**.

The second set of four lines answer: “there is none of it in the north, there is none of it in the southwest, there is none of it in the southeast. Peace, it is within a person.” The last line is in the typical topic-comment structure that Ebisedi love to employ, using a nominator sentence and a set of sentences, in this case only one, that refer to the topic with a form of **k1h**.

¹This may seem excessive; but in fact, all Ebisedian prose claiming to be poetic are required to display at least this amount of colour-symbolism to be regarded as such by the Ebisedi.

1.2 Smooth English Translation

Thus speaks Esani the Wise:

Look to the north,
Look to the southwest,
Look to the southeast;
And tell me, wherein lies peace?

And also:

There is none in the north,
There is none in the southwest,
There is none in the southeast.
Peace, it lies within a person.

1.3 IPA Pronunciation Guide

1	tóma esáni erosáni t3	tə:ma ʔesáni ʔerosáni.ni tə
2	zotá katoú ke.	zotá katoʔú ke.
3	zotá cutoú ce.	zotá tʃutoʔú tʃe.
4	zotá rotoú re.	zotá ʔotoʔú ʔe.
5	keve táma ebú n3 tál3n d1 gh3.	keβe táma ʔebú nə tʰálɛn: d1 ɣ3.
6	t3m3t3	təmətə
7	mýnac3 katuí ke.	mýnacə katuʔí ke.
8	mýnac3 cutuí ce.	mýnacə cutuʔí ce.
9	mýnac3 rotuí re.	mýnacə rotuʔí re.
10	tálm. k13 icúro bis3di.	tʰálin. kilə itʃúro bis3:di.
11	t3m3.	təmə.