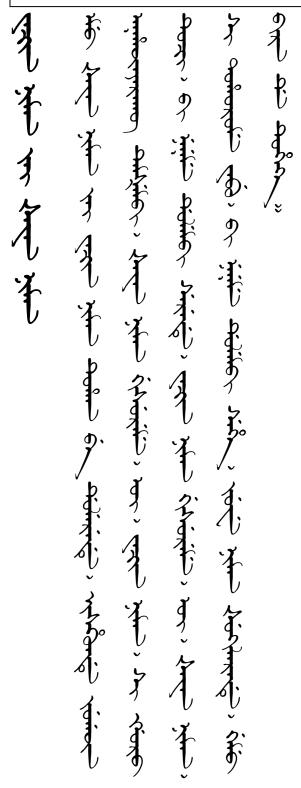# Lesson 9: Quotation

Identifying quoted speech

1. Embedded quotations – including multiple layers of embedded quotations – are extremely common in many of the sorts of Manchu texts you will encounter, particularly memorials and edicts. However, they are not clearly marked (Manchu has no quotation marks) and so it takes a bit of practice to identify them.
2. Quotations can be introduced in a variety of ways:
    a. With a verb of speech/writing/hearing/reading/etc written with the imperfect converb – *bi ini baru hendume onggolo [...]* ("I said to him, 'previously […]'" – note that the use of the imperfect converb does not mean that the speech is occurring in the present or future – you'll need to look to the end of the sentence to figure that out)
    b. With a verb of speech/writing/etc written with the perfective converb – *hese wasimbufi jakūn gūsa [...]* ("An edict having been issued, [it said], 'the Eight Banners[…]'")
    c. With a verb of speech/writing/etc using the substantive participle *–ngge* (added to the end of a participle – that is, a verb with the ha/he/ho or ra/re/ro ending) – *hese wasimbuhangge baita [...]* ("An edict was issued, [saying] 'the matter […]'")
    d. With a noun referring to something spoken or written – *tere hehe i gisun mini beye [...]* ("The woman's words were, 'I myself […]'"). Sometimes this noun will be marked with the dative case – *wang ni baci unggihe bithede hūlha [...]* ("In the letter sent from the prince's place, [it said] 'the bandit […]'")
3. The end of quotations are usually marked with some form of the verb *sembi*
    a. This can be the verb *sembi* by itself – *[...] giyan i baita sehede* ("When X said '[…] was an appropriate matter'") or
    b. Or it can be *seme* + another verb of speech/writing in the finite form – *[...] yabuki seme wesimbuhe* ("He memorialized saying, "I would like […] to be carried out")
4. Note that direct and indirect speech are not always clearly distinguished. Use context to determine whether to translate something as "he said: 'x'" or "he said that x"
5. Patterns similar to those used to mark speech are also used to mark the content of unspoken (and unwritten) ideas, like thoughts. *mini ama imbe anggasi seme gūnime* means: "my father, thinking that she was a widow"
6. Since there can be multiple layers of embedded speech, make sure you can clearly identify the beginning and end of each layer of a quotation; this is particularly important for memorials (which will often include a quote from an edict quoting another memorial, or even a quote from another memorial quoting an edict quoting yet another memorial)

A story: Try to identify the case markers and verb endings in the following short story. In addition, see if you can figure out which sentences are quotations. Then, translate the story

Vocab
anahūnjambi to yield to, to be modest
dulembi to pass, to go by
gemu all
goro far away
ishunde mutually, to each other
jai and, next
jugūn road, way
nenembi to be first
niman goat
šayan = šanyan = šanggiyan
šukilambi 1. to beat with the fist 2. to strike with the horns (cows, sheep, etc.), to knock against, to butt
temšembi to struggle
tohorombi to calm down
tuhan 1. a tree that has fallen over, roots and all 2. a single tree that serves as a bridge across a stream
tuhembi [-ke] to fall
yabumbi to act, to go
yacin dark, black