

Prayers for the Community: Parallelism and Performance in San Juan Quiahije Eastern Chatino

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Introduction

This essay examines parallelism and other essential features of ritual discourse in San Juan Quiahije, Eastern Chatino. The Chatino languages are spoken in the highlands of Oaxaca, Mexico. The essay focuses on the poetic and discursive features found in two impromptu prayers within a corpus of civic/religious ritual petitions that the members of the community refer to as *La⁴² qin⁴ kchin⁴*,¹ or “Prayers for the Community.”²

The “Prayers for the Community” are part of a ritual carried out regularly by elders and traditional San Juan Quiahije (SJQ) authorities in their official capacity as community representatives. These dignitaries come together at dawn on the first day of each month and on high holidays—the most important feast day is that of the patron saint of SJQ, Saint John the Baptist, June 24th—to petition for the well-being of the entire community, and especially for the younger generations. Both of the petitions analyzed in this essay were made at the same ceremonial event on June 24, 2009 at 5:00 a.m. in the Catholic church. The prayers were said by Simón Zurita and Wenceslao Cortés, two elders from the SJQ community.

On the evening prior to the prayers, a group of municipal envoys visited select elders of the community, including Simón Zurita, and formally invited them to join the municipal officials and participate in the worship. Wenceslao Cortés, serving his final elected position in the SJQ municipality, had instructed the envoys to invite the elders to the ceremony.

The elders who agreed to accompany the authorities to the ceremony were instructed to come to City Hall at around 4:15 a.m. to begin the ritual. A total of six elders participated in the petition and began to arrive at City Hall by 4:00 a.m. At 5:00 a.m. the group walked together from City Hall to the church. Upon arriving at the doorsteps of the church, they all knelt and crossed themselves. Then all proceeded to walk on their knees for three to four minutes toward

¹ SJQ Chatino is one of the richest tonal languages in the world, with 13 different tonal contrasts, indicated here by superscript numbers (number 1 indicates high pitch and number 4 low pitch; see the appendix for more information on the Chatino orthography). The texts discussed here are based on fieldwork that I performed in San Juan Quiahije. I am a native speaker of this language, which provides an additional emic view of the rhetorical potential of language use in these prayers. For the Chatino orthography used in this essay, see appendix 1.

² In order to provide the reader with a fuller understanding of the context and performance of the prayer, both texts are offered in their entirety in appendix 2 to this essay.

the main altar holding the offerings in their hands while reciting their individual prayers.

The church attendants (catechists), lower ranking authorities (including helpers of City Hall), and members of the community who wished to be blessed by the elders' supplications were present at the church. Upon concluding their prayers, the community representatives stood in a row facing the church door, clutching their candles and flowers, in order to allow residents to touch and kiss the offerings they had brought for their petition. The petitioner's goal is to move and persuade the spiritual intermediaries (such as saints and ancestors) to grant his wishes.

Translation is as much an art as a science. Literary and cultural translations are challenging because cultural concepts frequently do not map one to one from one language to the next. When translating a poetic text, the translator must take into account the different layers of meaning in the source text including aesthetics, phonics, and polysemy (Barnstone 2010:4). These challenges are exacerbated when the source and target languages come from completely different language families. For example, Chatino and English idioms and metaphorical phrases have very little in common.

One of the challenges I encountered when I translated the two prayers studied here is that Chatino poetics make extensive use of positional and existential predicates to achieve poetic tension, imagery, and metaphor. Verses 1-2 of example (7) illustrate this point. The positional expression *tyi²⁰ ton¹* literally means "s/he or they will stand," and *tyi²⁰ tqen²⁴* means "s/he or they will exist or spread out on the ground." However, in this context these expressions are being used metaphorically to express that the new generation will one day take charge and step up and stand for the community. For this reason I have chosen to translate these expressions as "now they are about to rise up and now they are about to establish themselves," to convey the movement and agency that form part of the poetic meaning of these phrases.

Another notable example is the English translation of example (2), below. The preposition *qo¹* literally means "with." However, in order to make the English translation flow better, I've chosen to translate verses 17-18 as "now with," while in couplet 19-20, I employed the phrase "together with." Beneath each Chatino line is a word for word translation. A poetic English translation is given in the right-hand column.

Parallelism in San Juan Quiahije Prayers

Parallelism is a central and highly developed feature of poetic discourse in the languages and cultures of Mesoamerica, especially in Mexico and Guatemala. In these traditions, semantic parallelism is governed by regular conventions that function as a primary organizing principle of verbal art in much the same way that meter provides an organizing framework for traditional poetries of much of Europe and Asia. This device has been widely studied in both ancient and contemporary Mayan (Norman 1980; Bricker 1974; Edmonson and Bricker 1985; Tedlock 1987; Hull 2003; Hull and Carrasco 2012, and Hull, this volume) and Nahuatl languages (Garibay 1953; Leon-Portilla 1969; Bright 1990). But this feature has been overlooked in most Otomanguean languages spoken in Oaxaca, Mexico, including the Chatino languages.

The two prayers discussed here reveal multiple, varied, and complex forms of parallelism. A stretch of parallel repetition in SJQ verbal art consists of two parts: the "frame"

and the “focus.” The frame is the constant that repeats in every line and the focus is a variable part that occupies a slot in the frame (Cruz 2014:118). Both the frame and the focus draw on elements from the same syntactic category: noun phrases are paired with noun phrases, adjectival phrases with adjectival phrases, and verb phrases must be paired with verb phrases.

Norman (1980), Bricker (1989 [1974]), Hull (2003), and Hull and Carrasco (2012), among others, describe a similar structure for parallel verses in Mayan poetics. What I call the “focus” in the analysis of SJQ verbal art is what Mayan scholars refer to as the “variable.” I choose to call it the “focus” because the elements that occupy the focus position are the items that are highlighted in the phrase (Cruz 2014:121). This is illustrated in example (1), a section of the speech where the petitioner wishes that the young people in the community will grow to become outstanding citizens.

Each one of the four verses in (1) is built around a fixed frame made out of the phrase *Ka*²⁴ ___ *sqwe*³ (“may s/he be a good ___”), marked here in bold underline. The focus element in each line is then filled by a subject phrase, which in this case is one of a set of nouns describing different types of humans: *nten*¹⁴ (“people”), *neq*⁴ (“a kind of person”), *no*⁴ *kiquy*¹ (“man/men³”), *no*⁴ *qan*¹ (“woman/women”), presented in brackets in (1). Cohesion in this verse sequence is achieved by the repeating anaphor *ka*²⁴ (“s/he will be”) in each line:

Example 1

33	X	<u>Ka</u> ²⁴ [nten ¹⁴⁰]	<u>sqwe</u> ³ ,	<u>May they be good</u> [people]
		POT:BE PEOPLE	GOOD	
34	X	<u>Ka</u> ²⁴ [neq ³²]	<u>sqwe</u> ³ ,	<u>May they be upstanding</u> [citizens]
		POT:BE INDIVIDUAL	GOOD	
35	X	<u>Ka</u> ²⁴ [kiquy ¹]	<u>sqwe</u> ³ ,	<u>May they be upright</u> [men]
		POT:BE MALE	GOOD	
36	X	<u>Ka</u> ²⁴ [wqan ¹]	<u>sqwe</u> ³ ,	<u>May they be upright</u> [women].
		POT:BE FEMALE	GOOD	

A Structural Hierarchy of Parallelism

The ideas developed and performed in parallel verses are organized by a structural hierarchy of parallelism. Stanza here refers to a parallel group of verses that expresses a single unit of meaning. These semantically and syntactically related stanzas can have any number of verses, including couplets, triplets, or quatrains. The four-verse structure in example (2) illustrates this. In the passage, Cortés states that his ancestors and the sacred instruments (the cross and the staff of his office) endow him with the authority to carry out prayers for the community.

The parallel verses in the example are organized into a quatrain of two related couplets. Each verse is built around the same frame, and the focus elements are all nouns. The first couplet is built with kinship nouns “mother//father” as the focus (verses 17-18), while the second couplet

³Because the Chatino languages do not distinguish number in nouns this lexical item, *sqwe*³, could be singular or plural.

contains parallel elaborations based on objects “cross//sacred staff” (verses 19-20). In the first couplet, the petitioner declares that he has come to the ceremony infused with the power of his ancestors. In the second, he states that the cross and the sacred staff he has brought to the ceremony are the symbols of his office. Each verse begins with a repeated anaphoric conjunction *qo*¹ (“with”), giving the entire structure cohesion:

Example 2

17	V	Qo ¹	sten ²⁴	ne ² ,	Now with my father
		WITH	FATHER:1SG	NOW	
18	V	Qo ¹	yqan ¹	ne ² ,	Now with my mother
		WITH	MOTHER:1SG	NOW	
19	V	Qo ¹	ksi ¹	qnya ⁰ ,	Together with my cross
		WITH	CROSS	TO (ME)	
20	V	Qo ¹	chaq ³ -jyaq ³	qnya ²⁴ .	Together with my staff
		WITH	SACRED-STAFF	TO (ME)	

Hierarchical Parallel Structures: Symmetrical and Asymmetrical

The parallel stanzas in this hierarchical parallel structure can be symmetrical or asymmetrical. Symmetrical structures are fashioned with parallel stanzas containing the same number of verses (for instance, couplets are paired with couplets, triplets with triplets, and so on). Asymmetrical structures, on the other hand, comprise stanzas with differing numbers of verses. A structure can comprise a couplet followed by a triplet, or a triplet can be found next to a quatrain, and so on. Example (2) illustrates a symmetrical parallel structure: both of its stanzas are couplets. Example (3), which consists of seven parallel verses organized into two semantically related parallel stanzas, illustrates an asymmetrical parallel structure: the entire structure contains seven verse lines divided into two couplets and a triplet. The first stanza, a quatrain, vocalizes the physical life achievements of the ancestors, namely that they survived and grew old (verses 4-7). The second stanza, a triplet, conveys the moral lives that the ancestors led when they were part of this world (verses 8-10). The entire structure is bound by a repeating anaphoric pronoun *no*⁴ (“those who”):

Example 3

4	II	No ⁴	yqu ²		Those who survived
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:SURVIVE		
5	II	No ⁴	ndlu ³		Those who thrived
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:THRIVE		
6	II	No ⁴	suq ³		Those who matured
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:MATURE		
7	II	No ⁴	sen ³		Those who multiplied
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:MULTIPLY		
8	II	No ⁴	ya ⁴²	tykwi ⁴	Those who lived entirely
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:GO.AWAY	ENTIRELY	

9	II	No ⁴	ya ⁴²	nyi ⁴	Those who lived directly
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:GO.AWAY	STRAIGHT	
10	II	No ⁴	ya ⁴²	ykwa ⁴	Those who lived evenly
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:GO.AWAY	EVEN	

Parallel Elaborations around a Single Complex Sentence

Parallel stanzas that comprise a hierarchical parallel structure are frequently elaborated around a single complex sentence. This is illustrated in a passage that captures the moment when the petitioners begin to walk on their knees from the entrance of the church to the altar in example (4). Both the main phrase and the complement of the sentence are formed through the repetition of several parallel verses. The main phrase is the couplet in verses 15-16, and its complement is formed by the prepositional phrases in verses 17-20:

Example 4

15	V	Nde ²	na ³	jnya ¹	yanq ⁴² ,	I ask this with my hands
		THIS	THINGS	PROG:ASK	HAND:1SG	
16	V	Nde ²	na ³	jnya ¹	tqwan ²⁰ ,	I ask this with my mouth
		THIS	THINGS	PROG:ASK	MOUTH:1SG	
17	V	Qo ¹	sten ²⁴	ne ² ,		Now with my father
		WITH	FATHER:1SG	NOW		
18	V	Qo ¹	yqan ²⁰	ne ² ,		Now with my mother
		WITH	MOTHER:1SG	NOW		
19	V	Qo ¹	ksi ¹	qnya ⁰ ,		Together with my cross
		WITH	CROSS	TO (ME)		
20	V	Qo ¹	chaq ³ -jyaq ³	qnya ²⁴ .		Together with my staff
		WITH	PERMISSION	TO (ME)		

Additive Parallelism

Another prevalent type of parallelism in Prayers for the Community is additive parallelism, whereby “the introduction of additive information” (Stepanova, this volume) differentiates a verse or verse group in the parallel structure from preceding members. Example (5) from Cortés’ prayers illustrates how this feature strengthens, develops, and expands the message elaborated within the structure. Each verse begins with the expression *sa⁴ nde²⁰eq²⁰ jnya¹ ___* (“this is what ___ petitioned”). The first couplet deploys a well-known formula that combines the kinship terms “father//mother” in the focus element of the verse. One might expect that the focus in the third line would be filled by another kinship term, such as grandfather or grandmother, but instead the petitioner chose to enhance the message by filling the slot with the adjective *chaq³ tlyu² riq² qnya¹* (“forgiveness or good things onto me”), which is not completely parallel to the previous stanza but serves to focalize the message of the entire construction:

Example 5

62	XVI	Sa ⁴	nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰	jnya ¹	sten ²⁴ ,	Thus was the supplication of my father,
		LIKE	THIS		CPL:ASK FATHER:1SG	
63	XVI	Sa ⁴	nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰	jnya ¹	yqan ²⁰ ,	Thus was the supplication of my mother.,
		LIKE	THIS		CPL:ASK MOTHER:1SG	
64	XVII	Sa ⁴	nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰	jnya ¹	chaq ³ tlyu ²	Thus was their petition [lit. the forgiveness
		FOR	THIS		CPL:ASK THING BIG	or good things they made on my behalf]
		riq ²	qnya ¹ ,			
		ESSENSE	TO (ME)			

Parallelism across Intervening Verses

Though the great majority of parallel structures in SJQ Chatino operate between successive verses, Zurita's prayer shows that parallelism also occurs between discourse units that are separate from one another. The formulaic cluster in verses 4-7 is repeated in verses 14-17, shown in example (6). These repeating parallel units exhibit morphological variation according to the context in which they appear and the semantic integer to which the textual sequence refers.

Greg Urban (1986:26–29) describes parallel text sequences of larger scope as “macro-parallelism.” Frog notes that these types of parallelisms occur, for example, in formalized dialogic poetry and narrative poetry for instance a request repeated three times that elicits compliance uses the same formulaic cluster with morphological variation (personal communication, Frog February 15, 2015, and Frog “Parallelism Dynamics I,” this volume). In the present case, the parallel sequence in verses 4-7 elaborates on the physical and moral lives that the ancestors led while the sequence of verses 14-17 deals with issues concerning the younger generation:

Example 6

4	II	No ⁴	yqu ²		Those who survived
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:SURVIVE		
5	II	No ⁴	ndlu ³		Those who thrived
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:THRIVE		
6	II	No ⁴	suq ³		Those who matured
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:MATURE		
7	II	No ⁴	sen ³		Those who multiplied
		THE.ONE	COMPL.:MULTIPLY		
14	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰	nya ¹⁴	kqu ⁰	So too may (they) survive
		SO.TO	APPEAR	POT:GROW	
15	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰	nya ¹⁴	klu ⁰	So too may (they) thrive
		SO.TO	APPEAR	POT:THRIVE	
16	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰	nya ¹⁴	ksuq ⁰	So too may (they) mature
		SO.TO	APPEAR	POT:MATURE	
17	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰	nya ¹⁴	kxin ⁰	So too may (they) multiply
		SO.TO	APPEAR	POT:MULTIPLY	

Formulaic Language and Grammar

Formulaic expressions are another key tool in Chatino verbal art. The classic definition of the formula in verbal art was coined by Parry (1971:272): “a group of words which is regularly employed under the same metrical conditions to express a given essential idea” (see also Lord 1960:4). Parry proposed this definition specifically for Homeric verse, and it does not work for all metered poetries (Foley 1981:263). A metrical criterion for the formula is generally problematic for Chatino prayers because they lack a periodic meter. Formulae have been shown, however, to be a fundamental part of how language works: rather than being specific to metered poetry, formulae are simply shaped by the organizing principles of the form of discourse (Frog 2017:14-18). Semantic parallelism is a main organizing principle for Chatino Prayers. Fox (2016:xi) proposes that Parry’s definition can be modified for traditions organized on the basis of parallelism rather than periodic meter as “a group of words which is regularly employed *under the conditions of strict parallelism* to express a given essential idea” (emphasis original).

Formulaic language has been addressed in several Mesoamerican traditions based on parallelism, such as the poetic traditions of the Nahuatl (Garibay 1953; León-Portilla 1969), and the traditions of the Mayan people of Mexico and Guatemala (Hull 2012 and this volume). The term *difrasismo* was coined to refer to words and phrases conventionally paired across parallel verses to express a coherent metaphorical meaning in Mesoamerican poetry traditions. Here, I use the term formula to refer to such conventionally paired parallel words and phrases as established units of the poetic lexicon. Recurrent phraseology used in a series of verses will be referred to as “frames” according to the terminology introduced above. Some frames are a type of formula comparable to conventionally parallel vocabulary, but using the term frame avoids the thorny issue of whether a particular expression is part of the collective tradition, the performer’s personal idiom, or generated in the performance context. Formulae are part of the collective knowledge of the community and provide petitioners with an important lexical reservoir that simultaneously enables flexibility while facilitating conformity to conventions of form and style in performance.

The prayer formulae use the highly sophisticated linguistic resources of the Chatino language to elicit poetic imagery, persuasion, and contrast. Some of the most frequent syntactic categories employed in such formulae include positional, existential, and motion verbal predicates. For example, some of these expressions translate as “to hang,” “to stand,” “to sit elevated,” “to sit on the ground,” “to exist,” “to stay,” and “to fall.” Cortés employs positional and existential predicates to achieve a high level of cohesion and great contrast when he mentions the beginning of the new generation in example (7), a structure comprising eight couplets. In the first couplet, there is a combination of the predicates “to stand” in the first verse and “to exist” in the second. As the passage progresses, the positional/existential combination is briefly discontinued in the parallel couplet in verses 3-4, but resumes in the following couplet. The anaphoric adverb *ka*²⁴ (“just”) strengthens the entire construction. The structure is bookended by the repetition of the opening couplet of verses 1-2 and verses 7-8, but varied as the second is the only couplet that does not end its verses with the adverb “now:”

Example 7

1	I	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ JUST POT:AUX.TO	ton ¹ ne ⁰ , STAND NOW	Now they are about to rise up,
2	I	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ JUST POT:AUX.TO	tqen ²⁴ ne ² . EXIST NOW	Now they are about to establish themselves.
3	II	Ka ²⁴ kqu ¹ JUST POT:GROW	ni ¹ , NOW	Now they are about to grow,
4	II	Ka ²⁴ klu ¹ JUST POT:THRIVE	ni ¹ , NOW	Now they are about to thrive,
5	II	Ka ²⁴ tykwa ¹ JUST POT:SIT.ELEVATED	ni ¹ , NOW	Now they are about to sit up,
6	II	Ka ²⁴ tyqin ³² JUST POT:EXIST	ni ¹ . NOW	Now they are about to establish themselves.
7	III	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ JUST POT:AUX.TO	ton ⁰ , STAND	They are about to rise up,
8	III	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ JUST POT:AUX.TO	tqen ²⁴ , EXIST	They are about to establish themselves,

Common Themes Elaborated with Formulaic Language

The supplications on behalf of the community uttered by the two petitioners, Zurita and Cortés, share certain recurrent themes: the cycle of life, the new generation, the town of SJQ, the spirits, and civic service. It is formulaic language that communicates these themes, as discussed in this subsection.

Example (8) illustrates recurrent topics in SJQ prayers, issues surrounding birth and other biological stages of human life, elaborated with formulaic expressions. By employing an agricultural metaphor, “to sprout//to be born,” in the first couplet of this theme in Cortés’ prayer (verses 65-66), the petitioner recounts the moment when he was born. He uses a metaphor comparing the sprouting of a plant to his birth. He also describes his birth with the motion verbs “to come down” and “to drop from a high place,” perhaps from the sky (verses 67-68). Cohesion in the entire passage is maintained with the use of the word *tsan*⁴ (“day”) in each parallel verse:

Example 8

65	XVII	Tsan ⁴ ntson ⁴² , DAY CPL:SPROUT:1SG	The day I sprouted,
66	XVII	Tsan ⁴ lan ¹ , DAY CPL:BORN:1SG	The day I was born,
67	XVII	Tsan ⁴ qyan ⁴² , DAY CPL:COME.DOWN:1SG	The day I descended,
68	XVII	Tsan ⁴ ndlyon ⁴² , DAY CPL:FALL.DOWN:1SG	The day I came down,

Using formulae with lexical extensions that denote time (hour, day) and various words that describe human beings (people, woman/women, man/men), the petitioners also express their hopes and concerns for the well-being and moral and physical success of the new generation. The point is illustrated by a passage in Cortés' prayer that expresses his hopes that the new generation will follow in the ancestor's footsteps and achieve prosperity, longevity, and wisdom, as shown in example (9). The new generations are also described in SJQ prayers by synonymous pairings of the words *kwiq²//kneq¹* ("babies//infants") (verses 27-28):

Example 9

31	1X	Tya ²⁴ POT:COME	wra ¹⁰ , HOUR		When the time comes,
32	1X	Tya ²⁴ POT:COME	xa ³ , LIGHT		When the daylight comes,
33	X	Ka ²⁴ POT:BE	nten ¹⁴⁰ PEOPLE	sqwe ³ , GOOD	May they be good people,
34	X	Ka ²⁴ POT:BE	neq ³² INDIVIDUAL	sqwe ³ , GOOD	May they be upstanding citizens,
35	X	Ka ²⁴ POT:BE	kiquy ¹ MALE	sqwe ³ , GOOD	May they be upright men,
36	X	Ka ²⁴ POT:BE	wqan ¹ FEMALE	sqwe ³ . GOOD	May they be upright women.

The nouns "mountain," "community," and "people" are key formula components that express a variety of ideas relating to the town of San Juan Quiahije, its institutions, citizens, and land. The mountainous terrain provides imagery in SJQ formulae such as *qya²//kchin³²* ("mountains//people") in the frame *Snyiq⁴ ____* ("children of ____"): *Snyiq⁴ qya²/Snyiq⁴ kchin³²* ("The children of the mountains/The children of our people"), referring to the citizens of SJQ (verses 9-10). These formulae recur throughout the prayer (verses 9-10, 23-24, 37-38), in Cortés's petition (78-79), and in Zurita's prayer (verses 28-29 and 40-41).

Civic service and community engagement is an obligation for every male citizen in SJQ. SJQ culture views this obligation as innate for a man born into the community. Throughout their lives, men discharge different *cargos*, or duties, in City Hall. This service begins when a young man is initiated into service as a helper, or *topil*, at the age of twelve. These *cargos* change during a man's life time until his old age when he becomes an elder as in example (10). This passage recounts the wishes of his ancestors that one day he serve his community, and states that he is fulfilling their wishes and desires by enunciating his prayer.

In the first couplet, the petitioner uses the formula "hand//mouth" in the frame "to ask with ____" to express that his ancestors spoke prayers on his behalf when he was young. In the second couplet, employing a common formula "work//community" in the frame "so that I may become ____," he states that his parents wished that he would one day serve the community. In the third couplet, he employs a formula comprising positional predicates "to sit in front // to hang in back" to declare his will both to lead and follow his community. He concludes this passage by

using another well-known formula “mountain//community” to acknowledge the community of SJQ as the beneficiary of his service:

Example 10

72	XVIII	Jnya ¹ CPL:ASK	yaq ² HAND	qnya ¹ , TO (ME)	On my behalf, they asked with their hands,
73	XVIII	Jnya ¹ CPL:ASK	tqwa ³² MOUTH	qnya ⁴ , TO (ME)	On my behalf, they asked with their mouths,
74	XVIII	Chaq ³ SO.THAT	kan ²⁴ POT:BE:1SG	tnya ³ , WORK	So that I may become work,
75	XVIII	Chaq ³ SO.THAT	kan ²⁴ POT:BE:1SG	kchin ¹ , COMMUNITY	So that I may become the people,
76	XVIII	Chaq ³ SO.THAT	tykwan ²⁴ POT:SIT.ELEVATED:1SG	lon ²⁰ , AHEAD:1SG	That I may lead,
77	XVIII	Chaq ³ SO.THAT	tykwen ²⁰ POT:HANG:1SG	ntyqan ²⁴ FOLLOW:1SG	qin ²⁴ , That I may follow,
78	XVIII	No ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	qya ² , MOUNTAIN	The mountains,
79	XVIII	No ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	kchin ¹ , COMMUNITY	The people,

To conclude this section, Table 1 presents a summary of the most common formulaic expressions found in the two prayers. Column 1 lists the words that make the formulaic expression; column 2 provides English glosses; and column 3 reflects the metaphorical sense of the combined elements in column 1:

Table 1. Formulaic expressions in Zurita and Cortés’s prayer.

Elements	Gloss	Meaning
tyon ²⁴ /tykwa ²⁴ /tyqin ⁴ /tyqan ⁴	to stand/to sit.elevate/ to exist/to sit.ground	to rise up, to establish oneself, to protect, to prosper
kqu ²⁴ /klu ²⁴ /ksuq ²⁴ /kxin ²⁴	to grow/to thrive/to mature/to multiply	life accomplishments
qya ² /kchin ⁴	mountain/community	San Juan Quiahije, people from San Juan Quiahije
tykwi ⁴ /ykwa ⁴ /ykwa ⁴	entire/direct/even	upstanding citizen/ straight and narrow road, flat land
kwan ⁴ /wra ¹⁰	sunlight/hour/light/earth, time	time, this world
xa ³ /xa ⁴ -lyu ³²	light/earth	earth
sti ⁴ /yqan ¹	father/mother	parents, ancestors, god, authorities
kiquy ¹ kla ²⁴ /wqan ¹ kla ²⁴	old men/old women	ancestors, grandparents
Jnya ²⁰ yaq ² /Jnya ²⁰ tqwa ⁴	to ask with hands/to ask with mouth	to pray, to petition, to plead
Ndon ⁴² jneq ³ / ndon ⁴² xtyinq ³	to genuflect/to kneel	plead, to sacrifice
tykwa ²⁰ lo ²⁴ /tykwi ²⁰ ntyqa ²⁴	to sit in front/hang in back	office in municipal
Tnya ³ /kchin ⁴	work/community	officer in municipal

As a result of the long history of contact between the Chatino and Spanish languages the prayers contain many borrowings from Spanish. This is similar to what Hull describes in this volume regarding Mayan curing rites. Spanish derivations in these prayers are religious terms: God, the Patron Saint, and the Holy Spirit. In praising the spirits, the petitioners state that they are healthy, courageous, and powerful. These pronouncements are made with a combination of Chatino and Spanish words as illustrated in example (11) below.

This construction comprises four parallel verses organized into two couplets. Using Chatino words, the first couplet states that the spirits are healthy and powerful (verses 89-90). The second couplet draws on Spanish loan words. The Chatino word *jwe⁴-sa⁰* in line 91 comes from Spanish *fuera* (“strength”) and *wa⁴loq¹⁴* in line 92 comes from Spanish *valor* (“courage”):

Example 11

89	XXII	Qwen ⁴ 2SG	ndwa ²⁰ PROG:SIT:2SG	qo ¹ WITH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	lye ⁴² , HEALTHY	You are seated in health,
90	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰ PROG:SIT:2SG	qo ¹ WITH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	tkwa ³ , POWER		You are seated in power,
91	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰ PROG:SIT:2SG	qo ¹ WITH	jwe ⁴ -sa ⁰ STRENGTH	in ²⁰ , INTJ		You are seated in strength,
92	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰ PROG:SIT:2SG	qo ¹ WITH	wa ⁴ loq ¹⁴ , COURAGE			You are seated in courage,

Examples (12) and (13) offer further illustrations of praise to the spirits that combine Chatino words and Spanish loan words. Each construction comprises three verses. The first two verses address the spirits with a well-known Chatino pair “father//mother,” accompanied in the third line by a borrowing from Spanish: *patron* (“patron saint”) in example (12) and *Dios* (“God”) in example (13):

Example 12

101	XXV	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	qwen ³² 2SG	nka ⁴² PROG:BE:2SG	sten ⁴ , FATHER:1SG	For great you are, my father,
102	XXVI	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	qwen ³² 2SG	nka ⁴² PROG:BE:2SG	yqan ²⁰ , MOTHER:1SG	For great you are, my mother,
103	XXVI	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	Patron, PATRON	For great is our Patron Saint,

Example 13

Part VI

82	X1X	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	sten ³² , FATHER:1SG	For great is our father,
83	X1X	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	yqan ²⁰ , MOTHER:1SG	For great is our mother,
84	X1X	Tlyu ² BIG	qa ¹ EMPH	no ⁴ THE.ONE	nka ²⁴ PROG:BE	sten ¹ en ¹ ndyo ¹⁴ si ¹⁰ . FATHER:1INCL GOD	For great is our father God.

Metapragmatic representation is the marriage of the spoken word to the performance event's manifestation by referring to what is happening in the verbal art. Keane (1997:50) asserts that, at their core, prayers and spells are metapragmatic: "they reflexively refer to the very actions they are undertaking." In the introduction to this volume, Frog and Tarkka add that verbal art contains "references to, reflections on, and representations of the verbal art being performed and of the performer in the act of performance."

SJQ prayers are rich in metapragmatic references regarding the petitioner's agency, identity, and authority. Many passages in *Prayers for the Community* vocalize bodily actions (kneeling, walking on knees, and gestures such as crossing themselves and pounding on their chests) that petitioners perform while they recite their prayers and advance toward the altar. The four parallel verses in example (14) illustrate these metapragmatic reflections. The metonymic use of body-part terms ("hand//mouth" in the first couplet) expresses the action of voicing the prayers out loud while concurrently performing the gestures that are included in Catholic worship. Actions performed during this ritual include making the sign of the cross, striking the breast, passing candles, and offering up a prayer using the iconography of a saint. The second couplet in this structure is a statement of identity and agency. The speaker identifies himself as the one conducting the prayers out of his love and care for the community:

Example 14

		Part V				
58	XV	Naq ⁴²	jnya ¹	yanq ⁴²	in ²⁰ ,	With my hands I ask it,
		1SG	PROG:ASK	HAND:1SG	INTJ	
59	XV	Naq ⁴²	jnya ¹	tqwan ²⁰	in ²⁰ ,	With my mouth I ask it,
		1SG	PROG:DO	MOUTH:1SG	INTJ	
60	XV	Naq ⁴²	qne ¹	qna ³	in ²⁰ ,	This is my care,
		1SG	PROG:DO	WORRY	INTJ	
61	XV	Naq ⁴²	qne ¹	xnyi ⁴	in ²⁰ ,	This is my true concern,
		1SG	PROG:DO	PINE	INTJ	

Example (15) further illustrates embodied prayer, performance, and action. In this section, Cortés voices the actions he performs during the prayer event stating that he is walking on his knees along with the other petitioners (line 93). Next, he reiterates the "hand//mouth" formula in the "to ask with ___" frame to declare that he is carrying out the prayers seen in example (14) (verses 94-95). He then states that he is kneeling in place, indicating his bodily stance (line 96). Finally, pairing the words "face" and "feet," he reflects on his actions and posture while he walks on his knees and speaks the prayer aloud as he advances toward the altar (verses 97-98):

Example 15

93	XXIII	Ne ²	wa ⁴²	re ²	ntqan ³²	xtyinq ³	wa ⁴² ,	Now we are kneeling down,
		TODAY	WE(EXCL)	HERE	PROG:GOING.AROUND	KNEE	US(EXCL)	
94	XXIII	Wa ⁴²	re ²	jnya ¹	yaq ²	wa ⁴² ,		We are asking with our hands,
		WE(EXCL)	HERE	PROG:ASK	HAND	US(EXCL)		

95	XXIII	Wa ⁴² WE(EXCL)	re ² HERE	jnya ¹ PROG:ASK	tqwa ³² MOUTH	wa ⁴² , US(EXCL)	We are asking with our mouths.
96	XXIV	Ndon ⁴² STAND	xtyinq ⁴² , KNEE:1SG				I knelt down,
97	XXIV	Sweq ¹ SCRAPE	lon ³² , FACE:1SG				Scraping my face on the ground,
98	XXIV	Sweq ¹ SCRAPE	kyanq ³² . FEET:1SG				Scraping my feet.

Many passages of Prayers for the Community are dedicated to the reflection, assertion, and expression of the performer's identity and authority. This metapragmatic assertion is vocalized when the worshiper states that he has come to this prayer event infused with two powerful forces: spiritual assistance from his parents, and the instruments of prayer in the form of the cross and sacred staff. The petitioner states that these elements endow him with the authority to represent the community. This is illustrated below in example (16):

Example 16

15	V	Nde ² THIS	na ³ THINGS	jnya ³ PROG:ASK	yanq ⁴² , HAND:1SG	I ask this with my hands,
16	V	Nde ² THIS	na ³ THINGS	jnya ¹ PROG:ASK	tqwan ²⁰ , MOUTH:1SG	I ask this with my mouth,
17	V	Qo ¹ WITH	sten ²⁴ FATHER:1SG	ne ² , NOW		Now with my father,
18	V	Qo ¹ WITH	yqan ²⁰ MOTHER:1SG	ne ² , NOW		Now with my mother,
19	V	Qo ¹ WITH	ksi ¹ CROSS	qnya ⁰ , TO (ME)		Together with my cross,
20	V	Qo ¹ WITH	chaq ³ -jyaq ³ PERMISSION	qnya ²⁴ . TO (ME)		Together with my staff.
21	VI	Qne ¹ PROGR:DO:1SG	ka ²⁴ EMPH	qna ³ CARE	in ²⁰ , INTJ	Because I care,
22	VI	Qne ¹ PROGR:DO:1SG	ka ²⁴ EMPH	xqnyi ³² WORRY	in ²⁰ , INTJ	Because I remain concerned,
23	VI	Qin ⁴ TO	kqya ² , MOUNTAINS			For the mountains,
24	VI	Qin ⁴ TO	kchin ³² . COMMUNITY			For the people.

Performance

The performance of the Prayers for the Community adheres to a specific culturally expected form, idiom, content, and organization. Each petitioner has the freedom to apply his

own personal style to the basic form. In this respect SJQ oral prayers correspond with the view of rigidity and flexibility of oral traditions around the world according to Oral-Formulaic Theory (Parry 1971; Lord 1960 and 1991; Foley 1990).

SJQ supplications are spoken in a rapid crescendo ending in almost incomprehensible speech. The beginning of each paragraph is delivered in a strong and clear voice. As the prayer progresses, the petitioner's voice becomes faint, feeble, and often times inaudible. This is illustrated in stanza II of Cortés's prayer (see appendix): *Ka²⁴ kqu¹ni¹ / Ka²⁴ klu¹ni¹* ("Now they are about to grow / Now they are about to thrive") (verses 3-4). This section is spoken loudly and clearly. As the petition progresses the rendition becomes softer and fainter. The end of stanza II —*Ka²⁴ tyqin³² ni¹* ("Now they are about to establish themselves") (line 6), is said more softly and almost mumbled. At this point the petitioner briefly pauses to breathe and gather the energy to start a new stanza. Then, at the beginning of stanza III, before starting a new paragraph, Cortés once again energetically utters *Ka²⁴ tyi²⁰ ton¹* ("They are about to rise up,") (verse 7).

Comparison of the two prayers reveals various commonalities and differences. Both prayers invoke and exalt the spirits by describing their physical and moral characteristics. Both speakers declare their hope that the new generation will follow in their ancestors' footsteps and will be able to maintain and continue the community and its traditions. While Cortés' prayer is rich in metapragmatic reflections of his own agency, authority, and identity, Zurita's prayer does not touch upon such points. Cortés recounts the personal sacrifices he has made to the community and asserts his willingness to do so because his services were offered to the spirits the moment he was born. When these prayers were spoken, Cortés was serving his last compulsory position in City Hall, and perhaps for this reason he elaborates on his service to the community. Structurally, Zurita's prayer contains macro-parallelism that is not present in Cortés' prayer.

Conclusion

The Prayers for the Community offer splendid examples of the dynamic range of parallelism found in the Chatino language, adding to the study of that found in other Mesoamerican languages. The two prayers examined here reveal assorted structures of parallelism working in conjunction with repetition, formulaic expressions, performance, as well as a wealth of stylistic features such as metaphor, anaphora, and metonymy. Parallel verses are organized around hierarchical parallel structures of both symmetrical and asymmetrical parallel stanzas.

SJQ petitioners skillfully manipulate Chatino grammar. Many hierarchical parallel structures are built from repetitions of single complex sentences. The different sentence elements, such as the main clause and the complement of the clause, are repeated a number of times. Similarly, formulaic expressions are built by pairings of positional, existential, and motion predicates. These elements provide cohesion, tension, and poetic contrast to these prayers.

SJQ petitioners spent a great deal of time rationalizing and reflecting on their gestures, bodily movements, and actions during prayer. In an effort to achieve a stronger and more forceful prayer, petitioners articulate their concurrent bodily actions through their verbal art. Each

petitioner brings his own collective knowledge and experiences to bear in their respective prayers. Both Zurita and Cortés ably represent their community, one as a community elder and the other an elected official. While both prayers appeal on behalf of the new generation that they might grow and become a force in the community, Cortés' prayer places a greater emphasis on voicing his own agency, identity, and authority in his performance.

The examples of the Prayers for the Community are consistent with the verbal art found in SJQ, Eastern Chatino. There is a long tradition of orators using formulaic expressions and parallelism with the latitude to embellish their own style within the verbal discourse. This verbal art is also consistent with poetic forms found throughout Mesoamerican poetic traditions.

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Appendix 1: Chatino Orthography

The orthography used in this essay is based on the practical orthography developed by the Chatino Language Documentation Project (CLDP). Some of the conventions for representing consonants are as follows: <q> = [ʔ], <x> = [ʃ], <ch> = [tʃ], <j> = [h], <y> = [j], <ty> = laminal alveolar; <y> before consonants = voiceless palatal glide; <y> elsewhere = voiced palatal glide. <Vn> represents a nasalized vowel. SJQ Chatino is one of the richest tonal languages in the world with 13 different tonal contrasts. Tones are associated with syllables and are expressed using numbers (0,1,2,3,4). Below is a description of the tones, their form, and their sandhi expressions in SJQ:

0 = is a floating, super high tone

1 = High

2 = Mid

3 = Low mid

4 = Low

04 = Super high to low

14 = High to low

24 = Mid to low

42 = Low to mid

32 = Mid to high

40 = Low to super high

20 = Mid to super high

10 = High to super high

140 = High to low to super high

SJQ Chatino has a set of complex tones that are the result of a nasalized vowel clitic (=Vn) in combination with a tone-bearing stem. This occurs with verb stems containing tones (1, 2, 3, 4, 20, 32, 42, and 40) inflected for the first person singular (1SG) and first person plural

inclusive (1INCL) (E. Cruz 2011). For instance, *kwi*^l (“she/he hangs”) has a double mora when inflected for first person singular: *kwen*²⁰*enq*³² (“I hung”) and the first person inclusive (INCL): *ndywen*²⁰*en*³² (“we (INCL) hang”). The rule and representation of this in the practical orthography are as follows: for complex tones, put one tone on each mora, for example: *yan*^{^42}*an*^{^32} (“we came (away from base)”). For further information on SJQ tones see (Cruz and Woodbury 2005):

INTJ = interjection
 1SG = first person singular
 2SG = second person singular
 CPL = completive aspect
 POT = potential aspect
 PROG = progressive aspect
 B = base

Appendix 2: The Prayers

Audio recordings of the prayers were transcribed into the Chatino language by the author using time aligned annotation with EUDICO Linguistic Annotator (ELAN). Breaks and sections in the text were made using parallelism. The texts are presented in four columns: Column 1 is the line number; column 2 divides the texts into stanzas; and column 3 shows the division of the text into parts, which are ultimately the themes and topics elaborated by the texts. It also holds the Chatino transcription with the gloss of each lexical item below it. This presentation follows Urban (2010). Column 4 provides an English translation of the same.

Simón Zurita's Prayer

Simón Zurita's prayer is divided into three parts and topics are largely organized in the following way. Verses 1-3, stanzas I-II, invoke the deities and ancestors. Verses 4-13, stanzas II-III, describe the ancestors and the lives that they led while in this world. Verses 14-23, stanzas IV-V, describe the young generation. Verses 27-41, stanzas VII-X, are the petitions made to the deities and ancestors, and verses 42-44, stanza XI, again invoke the deities.

Text 1. Prayer for the Community performed by Zimón Zurita:⁴

		Part I		
1	I	Sa ⁴ nta ¹⁴	A ³ yma ¹⁴	Santa Ayma
		SAINT	SOUL	
2	II	Kiqyu ¹	kla ²⁴	Forefathers
		MALE	OLD	

⁴A description of the Chatino orthography is given in the appendix below.

3	II	Wqan ¹ kla ²⁴ FEMALE OLD	Foremothers
4	II	No ⁴ yqu ² THE.ONE COMPL.:SURVIVE	Those who survived
5	II	No ⁴ ndlu ³ THE.ONE COMPL.:THRIVE	Those who thrived
6	II	No ⁴ suq ³ THE.ONE COMPL.:MATURE	Those who matured
7	II	No ⁴ sen ³ THE.ONE COMPL.:MULTIPLY	Those who multiplied
8	II	No ⁴ ya ⁴² tykwi ⁴ THE.ONE COMPL.:GO.AWAY ENTIRELY	Those who lived entirely
9	II	No ⁴ ya ⁴² nyi ⁴ THE.ONE COMPL.:GO.AWAY STRAIGHT	Those who lived directly
10	II	No ⁴ ya ⁴² ykwa ⁴ THE.ONE COMPL.:GO.AWAY EVEN	Those who lived evenly
11	III	Yan ⁴² lo ⁴ kwan ⁴ COMPL.:COME.AWAY TO SUNLIGHT	They came to the sunlight
12	III	Yan ⁴² lo ⁴ xa ³ COMPL.:COME.AWAY TO LIGHT	They came to the light
13	III	Yan ⁴² lo ⁴ xa ⁴ -liyu ³² COMPL.:COME.AWAY TO LIGHT-EARTH	They came to the world
Part II			
14	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰ nya ¹⁴ kqu ⁰ SO.TO APPEAR POT:GROW	So too may (they) survive
15	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰ nya ¹⁴ klu ⁰ SO.TO APPEAR POT:THRIVE	So too may (they) thrive
16	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰ nya ¹⁴ ksuq ⁰ SO.TO APPEAR POT:MATURE	So too may (they) mature
17	IV	Sa ⁴ -kwa ²⁰ nya ¹⁴ kxin ⁰ SO.TO APPEAR POT:MULTIPLY	So too may (they) multiply
18	V	Tyi ²⁰ ton ¹⁰ POT:AUX.TO STAND	May they stand up
19	V	Tyi ²⁰ kqan ²⁴ POT:AUX.TO SIT.ON.GROUND	May they sit down
20	V	No ⁴ kwiq ² THE.ONE BABY	The ones that are newborn
21	V	No ⁴ kneq ¹ THE.ONE YOUNG	The ones that are young
22	V	No ⁴ ntsu ³² THE.ONE PROG:BORN	The ones that are being born

23	V	No ⁴	ndla ³²		The ones that are sprouting		
		THE.ONE	PROG:SPROUT				
24	VI	Nka ⁴²	sten ⁴		You are my father		
		PROG:BE:2SG	FATHER:1SG				
25	VI	Nka ⁴²	yqan ²⁰		You are my mother		
		PROG:BE:2SG	MOTHER:1SG				
26	VI	Nka ⁴²	sten ⁴	renq ⁴	ndiyo ¹⁴ si ⁰	in ²⁰	You are their father, God!
		PROG:BE:2SG	FATHER	OF.THEM	GOD	INTJ	
Part III							
27	VII	Santo	Patron	San	Juan	Bautista	Patron Saint John the Baptist
		SAINT	PATRON	SAINT	JOHN	THE.BAPTIST	
28	VII	Qwen ⁴	nka ⁴²	re ¹⁴	qya ⁰		You are the lord of the mountains
		2SG	PROG:BE:2SG	KING	MOUNTAIN		
29	VII	Qwen ⁴	nka ⁴²	re ¹⁴	kchin ⁰		You are the lord of the community
		2SG	PROG:BE:2SG	KING	COMMUNITY		
30	VIII	Qwen ⁴	tyon ⁴²				You shall stand
		2GS	POT:STAND:2GS				
31	VIII	Qwen ⁴	tyqwi ⁴²				You shall exist
		2GS	POT:EXIST:2GS				
32	VIII	Sqwa ²⁰	yaq ¹				Give a hand
		POT:PUT:2GS	HAND:2GS				
33	VIII	Sqwa ²⁰	skon ¹				Give an arm
		POT:PUT:2GS	ARM:2GS				
34	IX	Tyon ⁴²	lo ⁴				Stand before them
		POT:STAND:2GS	AHEAD				
35	IX	Tyon ⁴²	chonq ⁴²				Stand behind them
		POT:STAND:2GS	BACK				
36	X	Qne ²⁴	kqu ²⁴				Take care of them
		POT:DO:2GS	CARE.FOR				
37	X	Qne ²⁴	tjoq ⁴²				Make them strong
		POT:DO:2SG	STRONG				
38	X	No ⁴	ntsu ³²				Those being born
		THE.ONE	PROG:SPROUT				
39	X	No ⁴	ndla ³²				Those sprouting
		THE.ONE	PROG:BORN				
40	X	Ntyqan ²⁴	qya ²				In the mountains
		ALL	MOUNTAIN				
41	X	Ntyqan ²⁴	kchin ⁴				In the community
		ALL	COMMUNITY				
42	XI	Nka ⁴²	sten ⁴				You are my father
		PROG:BE:2GS	FATHER:1GS				

43	XI	Nka ⁴²	yqan ²⁰		You are my mother
		PROG:BE:2GS	MOTHER:1GS		
44	XI	Nka ⁴²	sten ⁴	ndiyo ¹⁴ si ¹⁰	You are our father, God
		PROG:BE:2GS	FATHER:1INCL	GOD	

Wenceslao Cortés' Prayer

Cortés' prayer is divided into six parts. Part I describes the new generation, stating that they are young and inexperienced. Part II underscores the petitioner's responsibility for praying on behalf of the new generation. In part III, Cortés voices his hopes that the new generation will prosper, survive, and thrive, and that they become exemplary citizens and a force for their families and community. In parts IV and V Cortés emphasizes tradition, stating that the ancestors petitioned prayers on behalf of the new generation in a similar fashion. Cortés culminates his prayer in part VI by exalting the spirits and the images of the Catholic Church.

Text 2. Prayer for the Community performed by Wenceslao Cortés:

Part I						
1	I	Ka ²⁴	tyi ²⁰	ton ¹	ne ¹ ,	Now they are about to rise up,
		JUST	POT:AUX.TO	STAND	NOW	
2	I	Ka ²⁴	tyi ²⁰	tqen ²⁴	ne ² .	Now they are about to establish themselves.
		JUST	POT:AUX.TO	EXIST	NOW	
3	II	Ka ²⁴	kqu ¹	ni ¹ ,		Now they are about to grow,
		JUST	POT:GROW	NOW		
4	II	Ka ²⁴	klu ¹	ni ¹ ,		Now they are about to thrive.
		JUST	POT:THRIVE	NOW		
5	II	Ka ²⁴	tykwa ¹	ni ¹ ,		Now they are about to sit up,
		JUST	POT:SIT.ELEVATED	NOW		
6	II	Ka ²⁴	tyqin ³²	ni ¹ .		Now they are about to establish themselves.
		JUST	POT:EXIST	NOW		
7	III	Ka ²⁴	tyi ²⁰	ton ¹⁰ ,		They are about to rise up,
		JUST	POT:AUX.TO	STAND		
8	III	Ka ²⁴	tyi ²⁰	tqen ²⁴ ,		They are about to establish themselves.
		JUST	POT:AUX.TO	EXIST		
9	III	Snyiq ⁴	qya ² ,			The children of the mountains,
		CHILDREN	MOUNTAIN			
10	III	Snyiq ⁴	kchin ³² .			The children of our people.
		CHILDREN	COMMUNITY			
11	IV	Tykwa ¹⁴⁰	sqwe ³ ,			They will prosper as they sit,
		POT:SIT.ELEVATED	WELL			
12	IV	Tyqin ⁴	sqwe ³ ,			They will prosper as they establish themselves.
		POT:EXIST	WELL			
13	IV	Sa ⁴	nde ²	wra ¹⁰ ,		For all these hours,
		FOR	THIS	HOUR		

14	IV	Sa ⁴ nde ² xa ³ . FOR THIS LIGHT	For all these days.
Part II			
15	V	Nde ² na ³ jnya ¹ yanq ⁴² , THIS THINGS PROG:ASK HAND:1SG	I ask this with my hands,
16	V	Nde ² na ³ jnya ¹ tqwan ²⁰ , THIS THINGS PROG:ASK MOUTH:1SG	I ask this with my mouth,
17	V	Qo ¹ sten ²⁴ ne ² , WITH FATHER:1SG NOW	Now with my father,
18	V	Qo ¹ yqan ²⁰ ne ² , WITH MOTHER:1SG NOW	Now with my mother,
19	V	Qo ¹ ksi ¹ qnya ⁰ , WITH CROSS TO (ME)	Together with my cross
20	VI	Qo ¹ chaq ³ -jyaq ³ qnya ²⁴ . WITH PERMISSION TO (ME)	Together with my staff.
21	VI	Qne ¹ ka ²⁴ qna ³ in ²⁰ , PROG:DO:1SG EMPH CARE INTJ	Because I care,
22	VI	Qne ¹ ka ²⁴ xqnyi ³² in ²⁰ , PROG:DO:1SG EMPH WORRY INTJ	Because I remain concerned,
23	VI	Qin ⁴ kqya ² , TO MOUNTAINS	For the mountains,
24	VI	Qin ⁴ kchin ³² . TO COMMUNITY	For the people.
Part III			
25	VII	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ ton ¹⁰ , JUST POT:AUX:TO STAND	They are about to rise up,
26	VII	Ka ²⁴ tyi ²⁰ tykwa ²⁴ , JUST POT:AUX:TO SIT.ELEVATED	They are about to sit up,
27	VII	No ⁴ kwiq ² , THE.ONE BABY	The infants,
28	VIII	No ⁴ kneq ¹ , THE.ONE YOUNG	The young ones,
29	VIII	Tyi ²⁰ ton ¹⁰ , POT:AUX:TO STAND	They will rise up,
30	IX	Tyi ²⁰ tkwa ²⁴ , POT:AUX:TO POT:SIT.ELEVATED	They will to sit up,
31	IX	Tya ²⁴ wra ¹⁰ , POT:COME HOUR	When the time comes,
32	IX	Tya ²⁴ xa ³ , POT:COME LIGHT	When the daylight comes,
33	X	Ka ²⁴ nten ¹⁴⁰ sqwe ³ , POT:BE PEOPLE GOOD	May they be good people,

34	X	Ka ²⁴ neq ³² sqwe ³ , POT:BE INDIVIDUAL GOOD	May they be upstanding citizens,
35	X	Ka ²⁴ kiqyu ¹ sqwe ³ , POT:BE MALE GOOD	May they be upright men,
36	X	Ka ²⁴ wqan ¹ sqwe ³ . POT:BE FEMALE GOOD	May they be upright women.
37	X	No ⁴ nka ²⁴ snyiq ³² kqya ² , THE.ONE PROG:BE CHILDREN MOUNTAINS	They are the children of the mountains,
38	X	No ⁴ nka ²⁴ snyiq ³² kchin ³² . THE.ONE PROG:BE CHILDREN COMMUNITY	They are the children of the people.

Part IV

39	XI	Qne ³² wa ⁴² re ² kqna ³ ne ² , PROG:DO WE(EXCL) HERE WORRY NOW	This is our care,
40	XII	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ yan ⁴² sti ⁴ wa ⁴² , LIKE THIS CPL:COME.AWAY FATHER WE(EXCL)	This was the way of our fathers,
41	XII	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ yan ⁴² yqan ¹ wa ⁴² , LIKE THIS CPL:COME.AWAY MOTHER WE(EXCL)	This was the way of our mothers.
42	XII	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ yan ⁴² kiqyu ¹ kla ²⁴ , LIKE THIS CPL:COME.AWAY MALE OLD	This was the way of the elder men,
43	XII	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ yan ⁴² wqan ¹ kla ²⁴ , LIKE THIS CPL:COME.AWAY WOMEN OLD	This was the way of the elder women,
44	XII	Ndya ³² wra ¹⁰ , CPL:COME HOUR	When the time came,
45	XII	Ndya ³² xa ³ , CPL:COME LIGHT	When the daylight came,
46	XIII	Jnya ¹ yaq ² , CPL:ASK HAND	With their hands they asked,
47	XIII	Jnya ¹ tqwa ¹ , CPL:ASK MOUTH	With their mouths they asked,
48	XIII	Ndon ⁴² jneq ⁴² , CPL:STAND GENUFLECT	They prostrated themselves,
49	XIII	Ndon ⁴² xtyinq ³ . CPL:STAND KNEES	And they knelt down.
50	XIV	A no ³ mbre ²⁴ nde ⁴ ndyo ¹⁴ , IN THE.NAME OF GOD	In the name of God,
51	XIV	Jesus Sa ⁴ nti ³ si ²⁴ ma ¹⁴ , JESUS SAINT	Holy Jesus,
52	XIV	Sa ³ nto ²⁴ y ³ ma ¹⁴ , SAINT SOUL	And the holy soul,
53	XIV	No ⁴ nka ²⁴ kiqyu ¹ kla ²⁴ , THE.ONE PROG:BE MALE OLD	The elder men
54	XIV	No ⁴ nka ²⁴ wqan ¹ kla ²⁴ , THE.ONE PROG:BE WOMEN OLD	The elder women,

55	XIV	Ndwiq ³² tlyu ² HAB:SPEAK BIG	Speak out strongly!
56	XIV	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ wra ¹⁰ , FOR THIS HOUR	For all these hours,
57	XIV	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ xa ³ . FOR THIS LIGHT	For all these days.
Part V			
58	XV	Naq ⁴² jnya ¹ yanq ⁴² in ²⁰ , ISG PROG:ASK HAND:1SG INTJ	With my hands I ask it,
59	XV	Naq ⁴² jnya ¹ tqwan ²⁰ in ²⁰ , ISG PROG:DO MOUTH:1SG INTJ	With my mouth I ask it,
60	XV	Naq ⁴² qne ¹ qna ³ in ²⁰ , ISG PROG:DO WORRY INTJ	This is my care,
61	XV	Naq ⁴² qne ¹ xnyi ⁴ in ²⁰ , ISG PROG:DO PINE INTJ	This is my true concern,
62	XVI	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ jnya ¹ sten ²⁴ , LIKE THIS CPL:ASK FATHER:1SG	Thus was the supplication of my father,
63	XVI	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ jnya ¹ yqan ²⁰ , LIKE THIS CPL:ASK MOTHER:1SG	Thus was the supplication of my mother.
64	XVII	Sa ⁴ nde ²⁰ eq ²⁰ jnya ¹ chaq ³ tlyu ² FOR THIS CPL:ASK THING BIG riq ² qnya ¹ , ESSENCE TO (ME)	Thus was their petition [lit. the forgiveness or good things they made on my behalf],
65	XVII	Tsan ⁴ ntson ⁴² , DAY CPL:SPROUT:1SG	The day I sprouted,
66	XVII	Tsan ⁴ lan ¹ , DAY CPL:BORN:1SG	The day I was born,
67	XVII	Tsan ⁴ qyan ⁴² , DAY CPL:COME.DOWN:1SG	The day I descended,
68	XVII	Tsan ⁴ ndlyon ⁴² , DAY CPL:FALL.DOWN:1SG	The day I came down,
69	XVII	Lo ⁴ kwan ⁴ , ON SUNLIGHT	To the sunlight,
70	XVII	Lo ⁴ xa ³ , ON LIGHT	To the daylight,
71	XVII	Xa ⁴ -lyu ³² . LIGHT-GROUND	To the earth.
72	XVIII	Jnya ¹ yaq ² qnya ⁴ , CPL:ASK HAND TO (ME)	On my behalf, they asked with their hands,
73	XVIII	Jnya ¹ tqwa ³² qnya ¹ , CPL:ASK MOUTH TO (ME)	On my behalf, they asked with their mouths,
74	XVIII	Chaq ³ kan ²⁴ tnya ³ , SO.THAT POT:BE:1SG WORK	So that I may become work,

75	XVIII	Chaq ³	kan ²⁴	kchin ¹ ,	So that I may become the people,	
		SO.THAT	POT:BE:1SG	COMMUNITY		
76	XVIII	Chaq ³	tykwan ⁴²	lon ¹ ,	That I may lead,	
		SO.THAT	POT:SIT.ELEVATED:1SG	AHEAD:1SG		
77	XVIII	Chaq ³	tykwen ²⁰	ntyqan ²⁴	qin ²⁴ ,	That I may follow,
		SO.THAT	POT:HANG:1SG	FOLLOW:1SG	TO	
78	XVIII	No ⁴	nka ²⁴	qya ² ,	The mountains,	
		THE.ONE	PROG:BE	MOUNTAIN		
79	XVIII	No ⁴	nka ²⁴	kchin ¹ ,	The people,	
		THE.ONE	PROG:BE	COMMUNITY		
80	XVIII	Sa ³²	nde ²	wra ¹ ,	For all these hours,	
		LIKE	THIS	HOUR		
81	XVIII	Sa ³²	nde ²	xa ³ .	For all these days	
		LIKE	THIS	LIGHT		

Part VI

82	XIX	Tlyu ²	qa ¹	no ⁴	nka ²⁴	sten ³² ,	For great is our father,
		BIG	EMPH	THE.ONE	PROG:BE	FATHER:1SG	
83	XIX	Tlyu ²	qa ¹	no ⁴	nka ²⁴	yqan ²⁰ ,	For great is our mother,
		BIG	EMPH	THE.ONE	PROG:BE	MOTHER:1SG	
84	XIX	Tlyu ²	qa ¹	no ⁴	nka ²⁴	sten ¹ en ¹	For great is our father God.
		BIG	EMPH	THE.ONE	PROG:BE	FATHER:1INCL	
				ndyo ¹⁴ si ¹⁰ .			
				GOD			

85	XX	Ay	Maria	Santisima!		Oh, Holy Mary!	
		OH	MARY	SAINT			
86	XX	Santo	Patron	San	Juan	Bautista!	Our patron Saint John the Baptist!
		SAINT	PATRON	SAN	JOHN	THE.BAPTIST	
87	XXI	Nka ⁴²		sten ⁴ ,		You are my father,	
		PROG:BE:2SG		FATHER:1SG			
88	XXI	Nka ⁴		yqan ²⁰ .		You are my mother.	
		PROG:BE:2SG		MOTHER:1SG			
89	XXII	Qwen ⁴	ndwa ²⁰	qo ¹	no ⁴	lye ⁴² ,	You are seated in health,
		2SG	PROG:SIT:2SG	WITH	THE.ONE	HEALTHY	
90	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰	qo ¹	no ⁴	tkwa ³ ,		You are seated in power,
		PROG:SIT:2SG	WITH	THE.ONE	POWER		
91	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰	qo ¹	jwe ⁴ -sa ¹	in ²⁰ ,		You are seated in strength,
		PROG:SIT:2SG	WITH	STRENGTH	INTJ		
92	XXII	Ndwa ²⁰	qo ¹	wa ⁴ loq ¹⁴ ,			You are seated in courage,
		PROG:SIT:2SG	WITH	COURAGE			
93	XXIII	Ne ²	wa ⁴²	re ²	ntqan ³²		Now we are kneeling down,
		TODAY	WE(EXCL)	HERE	PROG:GOING.AROUND		
			xtyinq ³	wa ⁴² ,			
			KNEE	US(EXCL)			

94	XXIII	Wa ⁴² re ² jnya ¹ yaq ² wa ⁴² ,	We are asking with our hands,
		WE(EXCL) HERE PROG:ASK HAND US(EXCL)	
95	XXIII	Wa ⁴² re ² jnya ¹ tqwa ³² wa ⁴² ,	We are asking with our mouths,
		WE(EXCL) HERE PROG:ASK MOUTH US(EXCL)	
96	XXIV	Ndon ⁴² xtyinq ⁴² ,	I knelt down,
		STAND KNEE:1SG	
97	XXIV	Sweq ¹ lon ³² ,	Scraping my face on the ground,
		SCRAPE FACE:1SG	
98	XXIV	Sweq ¹ kyanq ³² .	Scraping my feet.
		SCRAPE FEET:1SG	
99	XXV	Nka ⁴² sten ⁴ ,	For you are my father,
		PROG:BE:2SG FATHER:1SG	
100	XXV	Nka ⁴² yqan ²⁰ ,	For you are my mother,
		PROG:BE:2SG MOTHER:1SG	
101	XXV	Tlyu ² qa ¹ qwen ³² nka ⁴² sten ⁴ ,	For great you are, my father,
		BIG EMPH 2SG PROG:BE:2SG FATHER:1SG	
102	XXVI	Tlyu ² qa ¹ qwen ³² nka ⁴² yqan ²⁰ ,	For great you are, my mother,
		BIG EMPH 2SG PROG:BE:2SG MOTHER:1SG	
103	XXVI	Tlyu ² qa ¹ no ⁴ nka ²⁴ Patron,	For great is our Patron Saint,
		BIG EMPH THE.ONE PROG:BE PATRON	
104	XXVI	Neq ² kwan ² ,	In the heavens,
		INSIDE ABOVE	
105	XXVI	Xa ⁴ -lyu ³² ,	On earth,
		LIGHT-GROUND	
106	XXVII	Nka ⁴² sten ³² ,	You are my father,
		PROG:BE:2SG FATHER:1SG	
107	XXVII	Nka ⁴² yqan ²⁰ .	You are my mother,
		PROG:BE:2SG MOTHER:1SG	
108	XXVII	En el nombre de dios de los santos,	In the name of God and the Saints,
		IN THE NAME OF GOD OF THE SAINTS	
109	XXVII	Ave maria santisima,	Holy mother Mary,
		AVE MARIA SAINT	
110	XXVII	Tlyu ² qa ¹ no ²⁴ nka ²⁴ sten ⁴ ,	Great is our father,
		BIG EMPH THE.ONE PROG:BE FATHER:1SG	
111	XXVII	Sin pecado concebido,	Conceived without sin,
		WITHOUT SIN CONCEIVE	
112	XXVII	Tlyu ² qa ¹ no ²⁴ nka ²⁴ yqan ²⁰ ,	Great is our mother,
		BIG EMPH THE.ONE PROG:BE MOTHER:1SG	
113	XXVII	Por la señal de la santa kru ³ .	By the sign of the holy cross.
		BY THE SIGN OF THE SAINT CROSS	

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