

Supplement: Babel Story

English Text

¹Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ²As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. ³They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. ⁴Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth. ⁵But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. ⁶The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." ⁸So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Láadan Translation with Morphemic Analysis & Retranslation into English

¹Now the whole world had one language and a common speech.

¹Bíde thi doni wum daneth nede neda hiya wáa, i medi with woho beth.

Bíde	wum	neda	i	woho
DECL + NARR	ENTIRE	ONLY	AND	#ALL
thi	daneth	hiya	medi	beth.
HAVE	LANGUAGE + OBJ	DEMO1 + TIME	PL + SPEAK	X1 + OBJ
doni	nede	wáa.	with	
EARTH	#1	TRUSTED	PERSON	

¹The entire earth has only one language at this time, and all people speak it.

²As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

²Meredeb with raboth Shinaresha úyahú mewida ben henedim; menohim i menahabelid ben núusha.

Meredeb	Shinaresha	ben	i	núusha.
PL + FIND	"SHINAR" + PLC	X>5	AND	THERE + PLC
with	úyahú	henedim;	menahabelid	
PERSON	CONJTIME	EAST + GOAL	PL + BEGIN + DWELL	
raboth	mewida	menohim	ben	
NON + MOUNTAIN = PLAIN	PL + MOVE	PL + FINISH + TRAVEL	X>5	

²People find a plain at Shinar when they move eastward; they stop traveling and begin to dwell there.

³They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar.

³Medi ben hin hinedim, "Wil mehel len yóhudeth menedebe i mehoowahal beneth." Meduth ben yóhudeth hoth udethusha i donimutheth hoth dóshidihudethusha.

Medi	mehel	mehoowahal	hoth	hoth
PL + SPEAK	PL + MAKE	PL + FIRE +	udethusha	dóshidihude-
ben	len	DEGUNUSUAL	PLACE	thusha.
X>5	WE>5	beneth."	STONE + PARTV +	PLACE
hin	yóhudeth	X>5 + OBJ	PLC	(CAUSE _{TO} +
hinedim,	(ARTIFIC + STONE	Meduth	INSTEADOf + STONE	BE _{TOGETHER} + STONE
DEMO>5	= BRICK) + OBJ	PL + USE	i	= MORTAR) + PARTV
DEMO>5 + GOAL	menedebe	ben	AND	+ PLC
EACHOTHER>5 + GOAL	#>5	X>5	donimutheth	INSTEADOf + MORTAR
"Wil	i	yóhudeth	(EARTH + TAR =	
OPTV	AND	BRICK + OBJ	BITUMEN) + OBJ	

³They say to each other, "Let's make many bricks and fire them unusually well." They use bricks in the place of stone and bitumen instead of mortar.

⁴Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.

⁴Id medi ben, "Wil mehel len miwitheth shumatheden olimedim raheb úwanú aril zha lenethoth mehan witheshub woho i leneth meralolineshub ra Donisha wum mesh."

Id	miwitheth	aril	woho	ra
AND _{THEN}	TOWN + OBJ	FUT	#ALL	NEG
medi	shumatheden	zha	i	Donisha
PL + SPEAK	(AIR + BUILDING =	NAME	AND	EARTH + PLC
ben,	TOWER) + ASSOC	lenethoth	leneth	wum
X>5	olimedim	WE>5 + POSS +	WE>5 + PATIENT	ENTIRE
"Wil	HEAVEN + GOAL	PATIENT	meralolineshub	mesh."
OPTV	raheb	mehan	PL + (NON +	ACROSS
mehel	Up	PL + BE _{ACQUAINTED}	GATHER =	
PL + MAKE	úwanú	witheshub	DISPERSE) +	
len	CONJPURP	PERSON + PASSV	PASSV	
WE>5				

⁴And then they say, "Let us make a city with a tower up to heaven so that our name will be known by all people and we shall not be dispersed across the whole Earth."

⁵But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

⁵Izh ril sháad Lahila úwanú láad Ba mehel with miwitheth i shumathetheháath.

Izh	Lahila	Ba	miwitheth	shumathethe-
BUT	HOLYONE	XLOVE1	TOWN + OBJ	háath.
ril	úwanú	mehel	i	TOWER + OBJ
PRES	CONJPURP	PL + MAKE	AND	+ EMBEDREL +
sháad	láad	with		OBJ
COMEGO	PERCEIVE	PERSON		

⁵But the Holy One comes in order to perceive the city and tower they were building.

⁶The Lord said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

⁶Di Lahila, “Bii bere thónashub mehin ben shonidam nede i medi ben wozhe wodaneháa hihóoth, ébere aril methad meshub ben wonédeshub wodalet h wahahóo wa.

Di	me hin	i	hi hóoth,	ben
SPEAK	PL + EXIST	AND	DEMO1 + FOCUS +	X>5
Lahila,	ben	medi	é bere	wonédeshub
HOLYONE	X>5	PL + SPEAK	OBJ	REL + INTENTION
“Bii	shonidam	ben	aril	wodalet h
DECL	PEACE + FAMILY	X>5	...THEN	REL + THING + OBJ
bere	= TRIBE +	wozhe	methad	wahahóo
IF...	IDENT	REL + BEALIKE	PL + BEABLE	#ANY + FOCUS
thónashub	nede	wodaneháa	meshub	wa.
JUST + BEGIN +	#1	REL +	PL + Do	MYPERC
Do		LANGUAGE +		
		EMBEDREL		

⁶The Holy One says, “If they who are one tribe and who speak the same language have just begun to do even this, then they will be able to do any intended thing at all.

⁷Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.”

⁷Wil dórawedeth Lan dan benethoth úwanú aril me hin ra ben hin hineth.”

Wil	Lan	OBJ	me hin	hin
OPTV	WELOVE>5	úwanú	PL + UNDERSTAND	hineth.”
dórawedeth	dan	CONJPURP	ra	DEMO>5
CAUSETO + NON +	LANGUAGE	aril	NEG	DEMO>5 + OBJ
BE CLEAR	benethoth	FUT	ben	EACHOTHER>5 + OBJ
	X>5 + POSS +		X>5	

⁷Let us go and make their language unclear so that they may not understand each other.”

⁸So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

⁸I rabuth Lahila beneth núude Donidim wum mesh, i menóhel ben miwitheth.

I	Lahila	Donidim	mesh,	menóhel
AND	HOLYONE	EARTH + GOAL	ACROSS	PL + STOP + MAKE
rabuth	beneth	wum	i	ben
NON + GATHERX =	X>5 + OBJ	ENTIRE	AND	X>5
SCATTER	núude			miwitheth.
	THERE + SRC			TOWN + OBJ

⁸And the Holy One broadcast them thence across the entire Earth, and they stopped building the city.

⁹That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

⁹Hotheth hi zhashub Babel hiwáanehóo—beróo dórawedeth Lahila dan withethoth woho núushahóo. Rabuth Lahila beneth núudehóo Donidim wum mesh.

Hotheth	hiwáanehóo	Lahila	núushahóo.	núudehóo
PLACE + PATIENT	DEMO1 + COZ +	HOLYONE	THERE + PLC +	THERE + SRC +
hi	FOCUS	dan	FOCUS	FOCUS
DEMO1	—beróo	LANGUAGE	Rabuth	Donidim
zhashub	BECAUSE	withethoth	SCATTER	EARTH + GOAL
NAME + PASSV	dórawedeth	PERSON + POSS +	Lahila	wum
Babel	CAUSETO + NON +	OBJ	HOLYONE	ENTIRE
BABEL	BE CLEAR	woho	beneth	mesh.
		#ALL	X>5 + OBJ	ACROSS

⁹For this reason this place is called Babel—because there the Holy One made their language unclear. From there the Holy One scattered them across the entire Earth.

Láadan Text

¹Bíide thi doni wum daneth nede neda hiya wáa, i medi with woho beth. ²Úyahú mewida with henedim, meredeb ben raboth Shinaresha; menohim i menahabelid ben núusha. ³Medi ben hin hinedim, “Wil mehel len yóhudeth menedebe i mehóowahal beneth.” Meduth ben yóhudeth hoth udethusha i donimutheth hoth dóshidihudethusha. ⁴Id medi ben, “Wil mehel len miwitheth shumatheden olimedim raheb úwanú aril zha lenethoth mehan witheshub woho i leneth meralolineshub ra Donisha wum mesh.” ⁵Izh ril sháad Lahila úwanú láad Ba mehel with miwitheth i shumathetheháath. ⁶Di Lahila, “Bíi bere thónashub mehin ben shonidam nede i medi ben wozhe wodaneháa hihóoth, ébere aril methad meshub ben wonédeshub wodaeth wahahóo wa. ⁷Wil dórawedeth Lan dan benethoth úwanú aril mehen ra ben hin hineth.” ⁸I rabuth Lahila beneth núude Donidim wum mesh, i menóhel ben miwitheth. ⁹Hotheth hi zhashub Babel hiwáanehóo—beróo dórawedeth Lahila dan withethoth woho núushahóo. Rabuth Lahila beneth núudehóo Donidim wum mesh.