

## A Fight over Neck Strings #2 (DN-8)

narrative

### A. A Fight over Neck Strings #2 (DN-8)

A text typewritten by Durga about an uproar over the *mala* neckstring.<sup>1</sup>

A couple of years before we moved to the district to begin research the local king had been shot and killed by the police during a disturbance in Jagdalpur. Around the time of this text a holyman had appeared whom many claimed to be the king come back to life. It caused quite an upheaval amongst the villagers. The neckstrings described in the text were obtained and worn by those who believed the report. Other people were determined to put an end to the belief.

#### A.1 Free Translation of Text

1. *This is about neckstrings.*
2. *Our India's people, whether it's a king or a holyman at the Chapka, he will tie on a neckstring.*
3. *If don't tie (you) will die, so I'm told.*
4. *At the time of saying like that we also went for the neckstring. Me and Chingaru and the Sirha and his wife and older brother Somalu and Jhurang's aunt and that Deur village's older sister Deurgain's sister-in-law and son-in-law and his wife, we all went and we bathed.*
5. *We put on our clothes and on tiny pieces of paper we had written the names of the people in our houses. And at one place a man had sat. We gave him the papers.*
6. *Then that man read them and again he gave a very very small paper.*
7. *Then we took (the papers) and went inside and gave (them) to the holyman. And later they tied them on the people who'd gone and they gave them for the people at home.*
8. *Then later we got rice, flowers, bananas and whatever else. And we bowed down to that king or holyman whoever he was. And at that place they had made a **həm** of criss-crossed sticks.*
9. *There was a girl there. That girl put some ashes on the **həm**.*
10. *People with wounds are to be rubbing on those ashes. And the eating people are to be eating. They gave therefore we came home. Really late at night half the people stayed at Sukul Gura village and we half came (home). And they said to the people who hadn't tied on the neckstring, "Food is not to be eaten."*
11. *Then we prepared food and very late in the night we ate. And we slept and in the morning also we ate after having prepared food until Monday.*
12. *At the time of Monday arriving, on Monday morning we bathed, all the house's people. And after having made that neckstring tiny, after having threaded on string, after having done a **həm**, and having the spirits come, all the people of the house tied (on the neckstrings).*
13. *Then later the women prepared gruel therefore we ate.*
14. *Then from that day we don't eat meat or fish or drink liquor or anything. And Bastar's Sure Pal and Rabi and Manjla and whoever are very much beating (us?). And having said, "Why don't you eat meat or drink liquor?" they are pulling off the neckstrings. And they are forcing us to drink liquor. And they are beating.*
15. *They beat up Deur village with sandals and with sticks and fists and slaps. As you had gone, and our village and at our house, as he said, "I was in Nepal six days," as he was with him, they also beat one person,*

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<sup>1</sup>Text typed in romanised Halbi by Durga Ram Kasyap, 1972. Researcher: Fran Woods.

Jagdarpur's one *tasli* servant. And from wherever those Maharas are, they were taking the goat in order to sell it. It became a little bit night at that Bastar, so I'm told.

16. Then a vehicle came, so I'm told.

17. Then those goats ran away, all over the place, so I'm told.

18. Then that Rabi or whomever having roasted those goats they ate (them) at the *thana* place, so I'm told.

19. At the time of writing they also won.

20. Those goatherds lost, and that *tasli* person, (and) the people of Deur village lost.

21. This speech took up 2 pages, Bai.

## A.2 A Fight over Neck Strings #2 Interlinear

### DN-8:1

माला चो गोटा।  
mala tʃo goʈ  
N PRT N

neckstring =POSS speech

This is about neckstrings.

### DN-8:2

आमचो भारत देस चो लोग मन चपका ने गोटोक राजा आए की बएरागी  
amtʃo bʰarət des tʃo log mən tʃəpka ne goʈok radʒa ae ki bəeragi  
POSSPRON PN N PRT N N POSTP NUM N EQ CONJ N  
we=POSS India country =POSS people Chapka =LOC one king is.3S or holyman

बाबा आए जाले हून माला बाँदसे।  
baba ae dzale hun mala bādesē  
N EQ ADV PRON N V

father is.3S whether he neckstring tie-3S.PINC

Our India's people, whether it's a king or a holyman at the Chapka, he will tie on a neckstring.

### DN-8:3

नी बाँदलेने मोरूकलाए होऊआए मने।  
ni bādleṇe moruklae houae mṇe  
NEG TR V ST PRT  
not tie-CNSUF-temporal-condition die-INF-PURP become-3S.F2 REPRTDINFO

If don't tie (you) will die, so I'm told.

### DN-8:4.1

ऊसनी बोलतो के आमी बोले माला काजे गेलू।  
usni bolto ke ami bole mala kadʒe gelu  
ADV PHRADV PPRON ADV N POSTP V  
like that-EMP say-CONJ.INC-TEMP we-EMP also neckstring for go-1P.PTC

At the time of saying like that we also went for the neckstring.

### DN-8:4.2

मोएँ आऊर चींगडू आऊर सीरहा आऊर हून चो बाएले आऊर समलू दादा आऊर  
moē aur tʃiŋɽu aur sirha aur hun tʃo baele aur səmlu dada aur  
PPRON CONJ PN CONJ PN CONJ POSSPRON N CONJ PN N CONJ  
I and Chingaru and Sirha and he=POSS wife and Somalu older brother and

झूरँग चो नानी आएआ आऊर हून खाले देऊरगाँव पारा चो देऊरगाँन  
dzʰurāŋ tʃo nani aea aur hun kʰale deurgāw para tʃo deurgāin  
PN PRT N CONJ DEM ADV PN N PRT N  
Jhurang =POSS aunt and that below=LOC Deur village hamlet =POSS Deurgain

दीदी चो भाऊज बीती आऊर भाचा बीता आऊर हून चो बाएले, खूब  
 didi tʃo bʰaudʒ biti aur bʰatʃa bita aur hun tʃo baele kʰub  
 N PRT N N CONJ N CLSS CONJ POSSPRON N ADV  
 older sister =POSS kin term person(F) and son-in-law person(M) and he=POSS wife much

लोग गेलू आऊर नाहाकोर होलू।  
 log gelu aur nahakor holu  
 N V CONJ V

people go-1P.PTC and bathe-1P.PTC

*Me and Chingaru and the Sirha and his wife and older brother Somalu and Jhurang's aunt and that Deur village's older sister Deurgain's sister-in-law and son-in-law and his wife, we all went and we bathed.*

## DN-8:5.1

कपड़ा लता फीदलू आऊर गोटोक गोटोक नानी नानी कागट मन ने आपलाहान घर  
 kəpɽɑ lətɑ pʰidlu aur goʈok goʈok nani nani kagəʈ mən ne aplahan ɡʰər  
 N V CONJ NUM NUM ADJ ADJ N PRT POSTP PRON N  
 clothes wear-1P.PTC and one one small small paper =PL =LOC one's own house

चो लोग मन चो नाव मन के लीकून रोऊं।  
 tʃo log mən tʃo naw mən ke likun roũ  
 PRT N PRT N CASE V

=POSS people =POSS name=PL GOL write-CONJ.COMP-be-1P

*We put on our clothes and on tiny pieces of paper we had written the names of the people in our houses.*

## DN-8:5.2

आऊर बाट लगे गोटोक बीता बोसू रोए।  
 aur baʈ ləge goʈok bita bosu roe  
 CONJ N N NUM CLSS V

other direction place=LOC one person(M) sit-CONJ.COMP-be-3S

*And at one place a man had sat.*

## DN-8:5.3

हून कागत मन के धरान दीलू।  
 hun kagəʈ mən ke dʰəran dilu  
 DEM N PRT CASE V

that paper =PL GOL cause to take hold-CONJ.COMP-give-1P.PTC

*We gave him the papers.*

## DN-8:6

तेबे हून बीता पोड़लो आऊर फेर बिलकूल नानी माहा कागत  
 tebe hun bita poʈlo aur pʰer bilkul nani maha kagəʈ  
 CONJ DEM CLSS V CONJ ADV ADV ADJ ADV N  
 then that person person(M) read-PTC.3S.M and again very much small like paper

दीलो।  
 dilo  
 V

give-PTC.3S.M

*Then that man read them and again he gave a very very small paper.*

## DN-8:7.1

तेबे आमी धरलू आऊर भीतरे गेलू आऊर बएरागी मन के  
 tebe ami dʰərɽu aur bʰitre gelu aur bæragi mən ke  
 CONJ PPRON V CONJ N V CONJ N PRT CASE  
 then we-EMP take hold-1P.PTC and inside=LOC go-1P.PTC and holyman =PL GOL

दीलू।

dilu

V

give-1P.PTC

*Then we took (the papers) and went inside and gave (them) to the holyman.*

## DN-8:7.2

आऊर पासे गेलो लोग के बाँदला आऊर घर चो लोग काजे दीला।  
 aur pase gelo log ke bādla aur gʰər tʃo log kadze dila  
 CONJ ADV ADJ N CASE V CONJ N PRT N POSTP V

and later go-ADJR people GOL tie-3P.PTC and house =POSS people for give-3P.PTC

*And later they tied them on the people who'd gone and they gave them for the people at home.*

## DN-8:8.1

तेबे पासे चाऊर फूल केरा काए काए धरलू।  
 tebe pase tʃaur pʰul kera kae kae dhərɽlu  
 CONJ ADV N N N REL V

then later rice flower banana whatever take hold-1P.PTC

*Then later we got rice, flowers, bananas and whatever else.*

## DN-8:8.2

आऊर हून राजा आए की बएरागी बाबा आए जाले पाएँ पोड़लू।  
 aur hun radʒa ae ki bəeragi baba ae dzale paẽ poḍɽlu  
 CONJ DEM N EQ CONJ N N EQ ADV V

and that person king is.3S or holyman father is.3S if pay respect-1P.PTC

*And we bowed down to that king or holyman whoever he was.*

## DN-8:8.3

आऊर हून लगे हम रचू रोऊआत।  
 aur hun lage həm rətʃu rouat  
 CONJ ADV N V

and at that place crisscrossed sticks stack-CONJ.COMP-be-3P.F2

*And at that place they had made a ham of criss-crossed sticks.*

## DN-8:9.1

हूता गोटोक लेकी रोए।  
 huta goṭok leki roe  
 ADV NUM N ST

there one girl be-3S

*There was a girl there.*

## DN-8:9.2

हून लेकी हून हम थानो खीनीक खीनीक लाकड़ी मन दीली।  
 hun leki hun həm thano kʰinik kʰinik lakṛi mən dili  
 DEM N DEM N N ADV ADV N PRT V

that person girl that crisscrossed sticks place-POSSV a little a little ashes =PL give-3S.NM.PC

*That girl put some ashes on the ham.*

## DN-8:10.1

हून लाकड़ी के घाव होलो लोग मन घाव ने घसतोर आए।  
 hun lakṛi ke gʰaw holo log mən gʰaw ne ghəstor ae  
 DEM N CASE N ADJ N N N POSTP V

that ashes GOL wound become-ADJR people wound =LOC rub-CONJ.INC-is.3S

*People with wounds are to be rubbing on those ashes.*

## DN-8:10.2

आऊर खातो लोग खातोर आए।  
 aur k<sup>h</sup>ato log k<sup>h</sup>ator ae  
 CONJ ADJ N V  
 and eat-ADJR people eat-CONJ.INC-is.3S  
*And the eating people are to be eating.*

## DN-8:10.3

दीला गूनूक आमी घरे ईलू।  
 dila gunuk ami gh<sup>h</sup>are ilu  
 V CONJ PPRON N V  
 give-3P.PTC therefore we-EMP house=LOC come-1P.PTC  
*They gave therefore we came home.*

## DN-8:10.4

खूब राती ले आदो लोग सूकूल गूड़ा ठेबला आऊर आदो लोग  
 k<sup>h</sup>ub rati le ado log sukul guṛa t<sup>h</sup>eb<sup>l</sup>a aur ado log  
 ADV N MKR NUM N PN V CONJ NUM N  
 much night-EMP =SRC half people Sukul Gura village stay-3P.PTC and half people  
 ईलू।  
 ilu  
 V  
 come-1P.PTC  
*Really late at night half the people stayed at Sukul Gura village and we half came (home).*

## DN-8:10.5

आऊर माला नी बाँदलो लोग चो हात चो, "खाना नी खातोर आए,"  
 aur mala ni bā<sup>h</sup>dlo log tʃo hat tʃo k<sup>h</sup>ana ni k<sup>h</sup>ator ae  
 CONJ N NEG ADJ N PRT N PRT N NEG V  
 and neckstring not tie-ADJR people =POSS hand =POSS eat-NOM not eat-CONJ.INC-is.3S  
 बोलला।  
 bolla  
 V  
 say-3P.PTC  
*And they said to the people who hadn't tied on the neckstring, "Food is not to be eaten."*

## DN-8:11.1

तेबे आमी राँदलू आऊर खूब राती ले खादलू।  
 tebe ami rā<sup>h</sup>dlu aur k<sup>h</sup>ub rati le k<sup>h</sup>adlu  
 CONJ PPRON V CONJ ADV N MKR V  
 then we-EMP prepare food-1P.PTC and much night-EMP =SRC eat-1P.PTC  
*Then we prepared food and very late in the night we ate.*

## DN-8:11.2

आऊर सोऊन दीलू आऊर बीआने बोले राँदून खादलू।  
 aur soun dilu aur biane bole rā<sup>h</sup>dun k<sup>h</sup>adlu  
 CONJ V CONJ N ADV V V  
 and sleep-CONJ.COMP-BEN-1P.PTC and morning-in also prepare food-CONJ.COMP eat-1P.PTC  
 समार अमरतले।  
 s<sup>h</sup>amar a<sup>h</sup>m<sup>h</sup>r<sup>h</sup>atle  
 N V  
 Monday arrive-until  
*And we slept and in the morning also we ate after having prepared food until Monday.*

## DN-8:12.1

समार अमरतो के समार दीन बीआने नाहाकोर होलू घर चो लोग सबा  
 səmar əmərto ke səmar din biane nahakor holu gʰər tʃo log səb  
 N PHRADV N N N V N PRT N ADJ  
 Monday arrive-CONJ.INC-TEMP Monday day morning-in bathe-1P.PTC house =POSS people all  
 At the time of Monday arriving, on Monday morning we bathed, all the house's people.

## DN-8:12.2

आऊर हून नलियो माला के नानी नानी मोनान बाती सूत ने  
 aur hun nilo mala ke nani nani monan bati sut ne  
 CONJ DEM ADJ N CASE ADJ ADJ V N N CASE  
 and that take-ADJR neckstring GOL small small make-CONJ.COMP after thread =INSTR

गूतून बाती हम देऊन आऊर देओ  
 gutun bati həm deun aur deo  
 V N N V CONJ N  
 thread ON string-CONJ.COMP after crisscrossed sticks give-CONJ.COMP and spirit

बोसान सब घर चो लोग मन के बाँदून दीलू  
 bosan səb gʰər tʃo log mən ke bādun dilu  
 V ADJ N PRT N CASE V  
 sit-CAUS-CONJ.COMP all house =POSS people GOL tie-CONJ.COMP-BEN-1P.PTC

And after having made that neckstring tiny, after having threaded on string, after having done a həm, and having the spirits come, all the people of the house tied (on the neckstrings).

## DN-8:13

तेबे पासे बाएले मन पेज साग राँदला गूनूक खादलू  
 tebe pase baele mən pedʒ sag rādla gunuk kʰadlu  
 CONJ ADV N PRT N N V CONJ V  
 then later woman =PL gruel vegetables prepare food-3P.PTC therefore eat-1P.PTC  
 Then later the women prepared gruel therefore we ate.

## DN-8:14.1

तेबे हून दीन ले मास मचरी मोद काई ची के नी खाऊँ  
 tebe hun din le mas mətʃri mōd kaĩ tʃi ke ni kʰaũ  
 CONJ DEM N MKR N N N PPRON PRT CASE NEG V  
 then that day =SRC meat fish liquor anything absolutely GOL not eat-1P  
 Then from that day we don't eat meat or fish or drink liquor or anything.

## DN-8:14.2

आऊर बस्तार चो सुरेपाल आऊर रबी आऊर मँजला कोन कोन अएसा मारूआता  
 aur bəstər tʃo sure pal aur rəbi aur məɟʒla kon kon əsa maruat  
 CONJ PN PRT PN CONJ PN CONJ PN RPRON ADJ V  
 and Bastar =POSS Sure Pal and Rabi and Manjla who-who much hit-3P.F2  
 And Bastar's Sure Pal and Rabi and Manjla and whoever are very much beating (us?).

## DN-8:14.3

आऊर, "काए काजे तूमी मोद मास नी खाहास," बोलून बाती माला मन के  
 aur kae kadʒe tumi mōd mas ni kʰahas bolun bati mala mən ke  
 CONJ REL PPRON N N NEG V V N N PRT CASE  
 and why you=EMP liquor meat not eat-2P say-CONJ.COMP after necklace =PL GOL

टूटाएसोत।  
 tuʈaəsot  
 V

break off-3P.PINC

And having said, "Why don't you eat meat or drink liquor?" they are pulling off the neckstrings.

## DN-8:14.4

आऊर मोंद के खोआएसोत।  
 aur mōd ke k<sup>h</sup>oaesot  
 CONJ N CASE V  
 and liquor GOL consume-CAUS-3P.PINC  
*And they are forcing us to drink liquor.*

## DN-8:14.5

आऊर अएसा मारेसोत।  
 aur əesa maresot  
 CONJ ADJ V  
 and much hit-3P.PINC  
*And they are beating.*

## DN-8:15.1

देऊरगाँव अएसा मारला पनही ने आऊर लात ने आऊर मूटका ने आऊर  
 deurgāw əesa marla pənhi ne aur lat ne aur muṭka ne aur  
 PN ADJ V N CASE CONJ V CASE CONJ N CASE CONJ  
 Deur village much hit-3P.PTC sandal =INSTR and stick =INSTR and fist =INSTR and

थापड़ ने।  
 t<sup>h</sup>apəṛ ne  
 N CASE  
 slap =INSTR

*They beat up Deur village with sandals and with sticks and fists and slaps.*

## DN-8:15.2

तूई जाऊ रोईस जे आऊर आमचो गाँव आऊर आमचो घरे,  
 tui dʒau rois dʒe aur amtʃo gāw aur amtʃo g<sup>h</sup>əre  
 PRON V REL CONJ POSSPRON N CONJ POSSPRON N  
 you(S)=EMP go-CONJ.COMP-be-2S just as and we=POSS village and we=POSS house=LOC

"मोएँ नेपाल ने छए दीन रोएँ," बोललो जे हूनचो सँगे रोए जे  
 moē nepal ne tʃ<sup>h</sup>əe din roē bollo dʒe huntʃo sāge roe dʒe  
 PPRON PN POSTP NUM N ST V REL POSSPRON POSTP ST REL  
 I Nepal =LOC six day stay-1S say-PTC.3S.M just as he=POSS with-EMP be-3S just as

गोटोक बीता हून बोले आए जगदलपूर चो गोटोक तसली चपरासी के बोले  
 goṭok bita hun bole ae dʒəgdəlpur tʃo goṭok təsli tʃəprasi ke bole  
 NUM CLSS PRON ADV EQ PN PRT NUM N N CASE ADV  
 one person(M) he also is.3S Jagdalpur =POSS one sub-division servant GOL also

मारला।  
 marla  
 V  
 hit-3P.PTC

*As you had gone, and our village and at our house, as he said, "I was in Nepal six days," as he was with him, they also beat one person, Jagdalpur's one *təsli* servant.<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>2</sup>This a difficult sentence to figure out and the free translation seems a bit muddled.

## DN-8:15.3

आऊर काहाँ चो माहरा मन आत जाले बोकड़ा बीकूकलाए नेते रोहोत।  
 aur kahā tʃo mahra mən at dzale bokṛa bikuklae nete rohot  
 CONJ REL PRT N PRT EQ ADV N V V  
 and where =POSS Mahara(M) =PL is.3P if adult goat(M) sell-INF-PURP take-CONJ.INC-be-3S  
 And from wherever those Maharas are, they were taking the goat in order to sell it.

## DN-8:15.4

हून बस्तूर लगे खीनीक रात होली मने।  
 hun bəstər ləge kʰinik rat holi məne  
 DEM PN N ADV V PRT  
 that Bastar place=LOC a little become night-3S.NM.PC REPRTDINFO  
 It became a little bit night at that Bastar, so I'm told.

## DN-8:16

तेबे मोठर ईली मने।  
 tebe moṭʰər ili məne  
 CONJ N V PRT  
 then vehicle come-3S.NM.PC REPRTDINFO  
 Then a vehicle came, so I'm told.

## DN-8:17

तेबे हून छेरी बोकड़ा मन पोराला मने गूलाए बाटे।  
 tebe hun tʃʰeri bokṛa mən porala məne gulae baṭe  
 CONJ DEM N N PRT V PRT ADJ N  
 then that goat(F) adult goat(M) =PL run-3P.PTC REPRTDINFO everywhere-EMP direction=LOC  
 Then those goats ran away, all over the place, so I'm told.

## DN-8:18

तेबे हून रबी कोन कोन हून बोकड़ा मन के भाजून भाजून  
 tebe hun rəbi kon kon hun bokṛa mən ke bʰadzun bʰadzun  
 CONJ DEM PN RPRON DEM N PRT CASE V V  
 then that Rabi who-who that adult goat(M) =PL GOL roast-CONJ.COMP roast-CONJ.COMP  
 खादला मने ठाना ने।  
 kʰadla məne tʰana ne  
 V PRT N POSTP  
 eat-3P.PTC REPRTDINFO place =LOC  
 Then that Rabi or whomever having roasted those goats they ate (them) at the tʰana place, so I'm told.

## DN-8:19

लीकातो के बोले जीतला।  
 likato ke bole dzitla  
 PHRADV ADV V  
 write-CAUS-CONJ.INC-GOL also surpass-3P.PTC  
 At the time of writing they also won.

## DN-8:20

हून छेरी बीता मन हारला आऊर हून तसली बीता देऊरगाँव चो  
 hun tʃʰeri bita mən harla aur hun təsli bita deurgāw tʃo  
 DEM N CLSS PRT V CONJ DEM N CLSS PN PRT  
 that goat(F) person(M) =PL lose-3P.PTC and that sub-division person(M) Deur village =POSS  
 लोग सब हारला।  
 log səb harla  
 N ADJ V  
 people all lose-3P.PTC  
 Those goatherds lost, and that təsli person, (and) the people of Deur village lost.



**DN-8:21**

ए गोट दूई कागत होली बाई  
 e goṭ dui kaḡət holi bai  
 DEM N NUM N V VOC  
 this speech two paper become-3S.NM.PC Bai  
 This speech took up 2 pages, Bai.

**Abbreviations**

1S	=	first person, plural
1P	=	first person, singular
2S	=	second person, plural
2P	=	second person, singular
3S	=	third person, plural
3P	=	third person, singular
ADJ	=	adjective
ADJR	=	adjectiviser
ADV	=	adverb(ial)
BEN	=	benefactive
CASE	=	case marker
CAUS	=	causative
CLSS	=	classifier
CNSUF	=	conditional/temporal suffix
COMP	=	complete
CONJ	=	conjunctive
DEM	=	demonstrative
EMP	=	emphatic marker
EQ	=	equative
F	=	female
F2	=	future 2
GOL	=	goal marker
INC	=	incomplete
INF	=	infinitive
INSTR	=	instrumental
LOC	=	locative
M	=	human male
MKR	=	marker
N	=	noun
NEG	=	negation, negative
NM	=	non human-male
NOM	=	nominaliser
NUM	=	cardinal number
ON	=	onomatopoetic nominal
PC	=	present complete
PHRADV	=	adverbial phrase
PINC	=	present incomplete
PL	=	pluraliser
PN	=	proper noun
POSS	=	possessive particle
POSSPRON	=	possessive pronoun

POSSV	=	possessive
POSTP	=	post position
PPRON	=	personal pronoun
PRON	=	pronoun
PRT	=	particle
PTC	=	past complete
PURP	=	purpose marker
REL	=	relative marker
REPRTDINFO	=	reported information marker
RPRON	=	relative pronoun
S	=	singular
SRC	=	source
ST	=	stative
TEMP	=	temporal particle
TR	=	transitive
V	=	verb
VOC	=	vocative