

AKHINNAJA AND ALIGKHUJON.

1 Once upon a time, there was a man called Aligkhujon.

2 One day, he decided he wanted to marry.

3 So he took his backpack and his packed lunch and set off.

4 Coming from the east, he walked towards the west.

5 Now he decided that the first unmarried lady he would find, that was the one he would marry.

6 When he was in the depths of the forest, he heard a cock crowing.

7 So he said to himself, <<Let me go over there. There must be a house.>>

8 He started walking again and he found that house, and he saw a very beautiful girl who was weaving.

9 Aligkhujon put down his backpack and he said, <<Please let me have some water to drink.>>

10 The girl, who was Akhinnajah, replied, <<Yes of course.>>

11 She put down her weaving and went up into the house, took the coconut shell and dipped it in the water jar.

12 She brought it down and said, <<Here is some water for you to drink. What is your name?>>

13 He replied, <<I am Aligkhujon who came from the east.>>

14 Aligkhujon drank, then he sat down and he said, <<Well I have come to look for somebody to marry and you are the first one I have found. So do you want us to get married?>>

15 Akhinnaja replied, <<Well yes, but we should wait for my father and mother to come so that we can all discuss whether they are willing for us to marry.>>

16 At dusk, Akhinnaja's parent came and Alikhujon spoke to them.

17 He said, <<I have come to marry your daughter.>>

18 And Akhinnaja's parents said, <<Yes if you want to.>>

19 He said, <<I do want to, so we will get married and we'll set off tomorrow so that I will take her home, because the people are preparing, so that if I find somebody to marry and take home, we will hold a wedding feast.>>

20 So Akhinnaja's parents said, <<You can take her, but wait until tomorrow before you go.>>

21 Aligkhujon said, <<Yes, alright.>>

22 The next day, they ate early in the morning.

23 Now because Akhinnaja was a beautiful young girl, Aligkhujon didn't want her to walk because she would get too hot.

24 So he put her in his backpack.

25. Akhinnaja put on good clothes and got inside the backpack, then Aligkhujon lifted it on his back.

26 Akhinnaja's father said, <<Look, I'm setting up this walking stick in the yard so that, if the walking stick makes a ringing sound, I will know that you have abandoned my daughter.>>

27 Aligkhujon agreed.

28 So they set off.

29 Aligkhujon and Akhinnaja went on their way and they passed a certain village.

30 Aligkhujon became thirsty and he found a woman who was at home, so Aligkhujon said, <<Please let me have some of your rice wine to drink.>>

31 The woman replied, <<I had some but it's finished, so you should go down below. Hopefully somebody else has some rice wine.>>

32 So he said, <<We will go then.>>

33 The woman in the house said, <<Yes, ok.>>

34 They set off again and went to another village.

35 They came across a certain woman who was weaving. She had protruding eyes.

36 Aligkhujon said, <<Please let me have some of your rice wine to drink.>>

37 She replied, <<Yes, I have some rice wine I made, and it's sweet because it is the inchumallingan type.>>

38 So Aligkhujon put down Akhinnaja who was in his backpack.

39 Emmamata'-on went up into her house and she dipped out some of her rice wine.

40 Then she said, <<Aligkhujon, please come in and drink.>>

41 Aligkhujon went up into the house and started drinking the wine Emmamata'-on had made.

42 When Emmamata'-on saw that Aligkhujon was becoming drunk, she kept saying, <<Have some more. Drink because there is plenty.>>

43 She kept on giving Aligkhujon drink until he was drunk.

44 Then Emmamata'-on went down and opened Aligkhujon's backpack, and she saw Akhinnaja inside.

45 She took Akhinnaja out and strangled her.

46 She took off her own ragged clothes and she took Akhinnaja's good clothes off.

47 Then Emmamata'-on put on Akinnaja's clothes, and she dressed Akhinnaja in her clothes.

48 Then Emmamata'on got inside Aligkhujon's backpack.

49 Later, when Aligkhujon's drunkenness wore off, he went down and he said to himself, <<Can it be noon already?>>

50 Then he thought, <<I'll go quickly so that we won't be overtaken by night on the road.>>

51 He lifted his backpack on and said, <<Why is this backpack so heavy?>>

52 Emmamata'-on who was inside replied, <<Naturally because you stopped for a while, that's why what you are carrying became heavier, so let's go right now.>>

53 He put on the heavy backpack and they set off on their way.

54 Then the walking stick which Akhinnaja's father had set up in the yard made a ringing sound.

55 And Akhinnaja's father said, <<That's it, Aligkhijon has abandoned Akhinnaja!>>

56 So he said to the cockerel, <<Go and look for Akhinnaja because Aligkhujon must have abandoned her because the walking stick I set up is ringing.>>

57 Then he tied some ointment round the rooster's neck.

58 He said, <<Take this, and put the ointment on Akhinnaja so that she will come to life.>>

59 So the rooster left and flew a long way.

60 He went to a village in the neighbourhood of Emmamata'-on's house.

61 He saw Akhinnaja hanging from the tree where Emmamata'-on had tossed her.

62 The rooster landed and took Akhinnaja down and put the ointment on her.

63 He applied ointment to Akhinnaja three times and Akhinnaja's breath returned.

64 So he applied some of the remaining ointment and Akhinnaja woke up.

65 He applied more of the ointment, and Akhinnaja could now walk.

6 Then the rooster said, <<Let's return to your father's house because Aligkhujon has abandoned you.>>

67 He said, <<No I will follow him so that I can get my ring and my clothes before I return.>>

68 So the rooster flew all the way back again.

69 He returned to Akhinnaja's parents' house to let them know that Akhinnaja had come to life again.

70 As for Akhinnaja, she set off to follow Aligkhujon's route going towards the east.

71 When she came over the first mountain, she saw Aligkhujon climbing in the distance with his heavy load which was actually Emmamata'-on.

72 Akhinnaja sat down on the mountain top, and she said, <<Wait for me, wait for me Aligkhujon, because it's Emmamata'-on in your backpack, not Akhinnaja!>>

73 Aligkhujon looked back and he said, <<Who is that pitiful person who is following us?>>

74 Emmamata'-on who was in the backpack said, <<Let's go because it's hot - that's just somebody singing. Let's go because it's hot!>>

75 So they set off again.

76 They passed another mountain

77 and Akhinnaja appeared on the other side of the mountain they had passed.

78 Akhinnaja said, <<Aligkhujon is so inconsiderate. Even though I keep shouting to beg him to wait for me, he won't wait!>>

79 So Akhinnaja sat down again on that mountain, and she looked at him from a distance again while she sang.

80 She said again, <<Wait for me, wait for me Aligkhujon. Because it isn't Akhinnaja in your backpack, it's Emmamata'-on!>>

81 Aligkhujon said, <<Who is this person in the backpack? Are you not Akhinnaja?>>

82 But Emmamata'-on said, <<I am Akhinnaja. Let's go now because it's hot.>>

83 But Aligkhujon said, <<Let me see, though. I'll open the lid so that I can see if you are Akhinnaja.>>

84 Then Emmamata'-on held on to the lid of the backpack.

85 So when Aligkhujon tried to open it, it wouldn't open because she was holding on to the lid.

86 Then Emmamata'-on said, <<Let's go, because I'm getting hot.>>

87 So Aligkhujon said, <<Alright, let's go.>>

88 He lifted on the backpack again and kept going.

89 When they were close to Aligkhujon's house, Aligkhujon saw from a distance that there were many people at the house waiting for the girl he would take home to marry.

90 So they continued on their way.

91 When they had passed another mountain, Akhinnaja saw him from a distance again, and she said, <<What's the matter with Aligkhujon? He really doesn't take any notice of me. Even though I tell him to wait for me, they don't wait.>>

92 She set off again to follow and was ?? while singing.

93 She said, <<Wait for me, wait for me Aligkhujon, because it's Emmamata'-on in your backpack, not Akhinnaja!>>

94 Aligkhujon heard it and said to the backpack, <<Are you Emmamata'-on?>>

95 But Emmamata'-on said, <<No I am Akhinnaja, so let's go because it's hot.>>

96 Aligkhujon said, <<Ok, we are about to arrive.>>

97 Aligkhujon kept going and they arrived at his house.

98 He put down the backpack because he was sweating, because he was tired from carrying Emmamata'-on in his backpack.

99 So the people said, <<Well open the backpack then so that we can see the girl you are going to marry whom you put in your backpack, because there are many of us here so that we can hold a marriage ceremony.>>

100 But when he tried to open the backpack, it wouldn't open because Emmamata'-on was clinging on.

101 Just then, Akhinnaja also came over the mountain, looking pitiful with her ragged clothes because she was wearing Emmamata'-on's clothes of course.

102 Aligkhujon saw her from a distance, and he said, <<Who is that then who is following us?>>

103 He recognised Akhinnaja because, even though her clothes were ragged, Akhinnaja was very beautiful.

104 So he said, <<Goodness, that is Akhinnaja. So that's why she kept saying I should wait for her. So who have I been carrying in my backpack?>>

105 Then he said to the other men, <<Please come here so that we can open this backpack. Why won't it open?>>

106 So they snatched at the lid of the backpack.

107 When it was opened, Emmamata'-on's staring eyes appeared.

108 Aligkhijon said, <<What's going on Emmamata'-on? You were the one weighing me down when I thought you were Akhinnaja.>>

109 They took Emmamata'-on out and made her into a fence on a pathway.

110 Her feet were used as their stepping stone.

111 Akhinnaja arrived at the house then, and she was crying with tears running down, saying, <<Where are my clothes, Aligkhujon, so I can go back? Why did you abandon me on the road?>>

112 Ja allon Aligkhujon hi, <<Agkhuy u atag anila, ti tan hi Emmamata'-on ton nun-ephod hi amat heto.>>

Aligkhujon said, <<But I didn't know. It was Emmamata'-on who was responsible for this.>>

113 So they took Akhinnaja's clothes off Emmamata'-on, and they dressed Akhinnaja in them again.

114 That's what happened.

115 And because many people were waiting for Aligkhujon, on the next day after their arrival, they held the wedding ceremony.

116 Aligkhujon said, <<We should go ahead and marry, because it wasn't me who abandoned you, it was Emmamata'-on. This is the punishment for what she did, that she has become a fence, so we'll use her feet as a stepping stone because it wasn't right that she strangled you and caused my journey to turn out this way.>>

117 Now there were many people.

118 So Akhinnaja had some magical rice she had brought with her from her father's house.

119 So she said, <<This is what we'll do. Fill those cooking vats with water.>>

120 Then she took one grain of magical rice to each vat.

121 Just as she put the single rice grains in the vats, all of them were suddenly full of cooked rice.

122 Then again, she took tiny pieces of pork.

123 And she said, <<Put water in these other vats so that we can cook our viand.>>

124 She put the tiny pieces of pork in the vats.

125 When the water boiled, the vats were suddenly full of pork pieces.

126 In that way, their food was all cooked.

127 The people were saying, <<Who is this beautiful wife of Aligkhujon? She can do a lot of things because she just put in one grain of rice, and the vat was full. And she put just one piece of meat in that vat, and it was also full of much meat.>>

128 Then they served up the pork and the cooked rice, and the people ate.

129 But the meat never ran out.

130 So the people picked up their large portions of meat and they took home what they got from Aligkhujon and Akhinnaja's house.

131 After the people left, they were on their way when it rained,

132 and the meat became many piglets.

133 The end.