

Phoebe's Interjections, As Written by JPH¹

yumarasishshaf—an oath that Phoebe says as she gets mad at Fritz's words. Means "dead man's semen".

mâa ôok tani'áhoo. Here I come.

mâa is a word to start a sentence with. **mâa naa ôok.** Here I am.

máva tuvâaram. There he goes.

haaninuvêe (often whinnied, or sometimes whinnied with last syllable: **-véhéhé:**) said both before and after songs in the Kick Dance.

mãapay. Here it is. **mãa páykuuk.** There it is.

hmhm... xás uppiip, hm² hmm.³ yuuvêen mu'afishrihaan úma káru nikréehaak.
Then she says, "hm hmm. I am the one who is Turtles boy."

But **akêeh**, it is just hurting me sometimes.

akéh, said when you hurt yourself. Not said when you get burnt.

anóh (with a very short vowels), **tani...⁴** said as ones snatches one's hand away when burnt, = oh, I burnt myself.

[597]

hu hu hu hu hu hu, sound of the dried deerskins as they ran out, "Panther and His Wives" Myth.⁵

êe, xás kunpiip, êe. Then they said: "Yes."

[602L]

uxinnêe, disgust at bad taste.

uxinnê^e can be used nowadays—you know the story of it and that was her word—Bluejay added the **-nnêe**.

But [they] say, **nêe pa'ávansa**: she is a rough or hateful woman, she talks funny ways. So Bluejay added this word to **ú"x**, it is bitter.

uknîi. / kupánnakanakana.

akeeh. akee (or **anoo**) **tanakúha**, it pains me much.

¹ [Complete text of Tape 11, frames 596-638, of J.P. Harrington's Karuk Fieldnotes, 1929.]

² [The **-m** is] short.

³ [JPH's diacritic ^ over the second **-m** seems to indicate a slight drop in nasal tone there.]

⁴ [? My guess is that JPH meant **anóh, tanéemchax**: Ou(ch), I burnt myself.]

⁵ [Harrington and Maddux, *Karuk Texts*, pp. 126-135.]

Sometimes they say **anóh** merely of any hurt.

akêeh, ouch (said especially when one gets burnt). Also said when one has small pains, a sore or slow pains. Perfect eel accent. but **akêeh**, ouch, said when one has rough pains.

Indians say **anóo nanivíshva^an, anôoh**, when they have the stomach-ache.

[606]

Phoebe thinks **ayukîⁱ**, now meaning hello did not use to be used this way.⁶ A man sitting down: **éee ayukîⁱ, chínih**: Oh, I'd like to see Jenny. Used any time, e.g. sitting in the house in the evening. Phoebe says:

íiii ayukîi nanikrívraam, tanasáyríihva.

Oh, I'd like to see my house. I am homesick.

[607L]

éee. No Indian word meaning "hello" when two Indians pass [by each other].

If an Indian is from a long ways off, the other Indian who meets him [says:]

yéee tanupíktar. Oh, I've missed you.⁷

yae hae tífithyâaha. You have good feet on you.

as'íshshahiv. Time to eat.

éee, variant of **íiii**. Eg. **éee ayukîⁱ**.

êee (often quite long), approximately **mâam** accent, interjection of surprise, said when Phoebe hears Mrs. Reese is going to California. A woman says this, but a man says **ye'êe**, or **yehûum**.⁸

High up men prefix **ye-** or **yae-** to many words. Men even say **yaepûuhara**.

In **yáehae** 'êe. "Is that so!"

Another exclamation when sweating themselves that one could hear from outside of the sweathouse was **hátitu hatitûu**. Repeated the two words. Said together several times.

Cp. **hãaninuvêe** and **hãaninuvee**.

ha'íiii⁹ táni'ay. Oh, I am afraid. They do not say **íiii** instead of **ha'íiii**.

haa¹⁰ taneethvôonha. Oh, I'd like to go.

haa tanvíshtar. Oh, I'd like to eat it.

Distinct from **hãa**, yes.

hãaninuveeh (also sometimes whinnied throughout), said all the time in the sweathouse, when sweating, and when packing sweathouse wood downslope. It is just a sweathouse word.

[611]

⁶ [In other words, **ayukîi** was formerly a sort of invocation, which was used to bring an absent person or distant place to mind. **ayukîi** is said to likely be of Wiyot origin (Bright 262).]

⁷ [For this line JPH has] "Oh, he is a person who is hard to see (meaning we do not see him all the time), we missed you (having missed you)."

⁸ [JPH's note about the first syllable, **ye-** :] Often **yae-**. This [**ye'êe**] is just a variant of **yaeae**.

⁹ **íiii** -- heavily nasalized.

¹⁰ [The **-aa**] does not rise before the following word.

híyoo, said when they finish singing the War Dance. Cp. **i'óo**, yell used in war.

ho ho ho hóooh (in monotone). One way the women have of laughing.
Also **ho ho ho ho hóh**.

hm,¹¹ said when one does not like what he hears.

hm hmmm,¹² interjections used as answer.

hmm = hm.¹³

hííííh, hollered to each other when bunting to keep track of each other.

Also **húukaah**. Where did you go?

Also holler **húuuuh** when you holler for someone to come along.

if, sure. Given when I ask how they say, "Sure." ("Sure Mike.")

i'óoo, a yell used in war. This is the only war holler.

In War [Dance] songs they say **híyoo**, when they quit singing.

[615]

íí, tanipítta[p] pamuchúupha. Oh, I am glad to hear his voice (outside).

íí púya if. Oh my! (said when one hears bad news).

íí púya íf kâarim. Oh, it is too bad!

Cannot use **óooo**¹⁴ instead of **íí** above, that would be English-like, but sometimes they say **óoo**^h when surprised.

íinâ¹⁵k, véek vúr ivôonfurukeesh. You must just walk in the house.

The first word means "in the house" and must mean here "you are going in the house." Said to a stranger man or woman as s/he enters the house. The people in the house are quick to notice who is coming in. A stranger just comes in without knocking. All the words above are sometimes whinnied, especially by an old man speaker. There is no Káruk word meaning "man whinnies his words thus".

They are kind of making fun, glad someone is coming, when they whinny.

ih, ih. (A groan.) Also **mh**. They never say **ay** or **áyayay**—that must be Spanish.

When naked Indians go out in the cold in the evening, they say:

íí ikakrihákaam tuvíish.

Oh, there is going to be a big frost.

hámi íí'ih: Oh, yes (said when I recollect something).¹⁵

[618]

¹¹ [Harrington has a *descending* volume on this **-m**, which the scrivener cannot insert.]

¹² [JPH has a *ascending* volume on this **-m**, which the scrivener cannot insert.]

¹³ [JPH has a tilde accent on the **hmm** and the descending accent on the **hm**.]

¹⁴ [JPH has descending volume mark on this **ooo**.]

¹⁵ [JPH has **íí'ih**, by which he means?]

mah. “I hear something,” “listen” when I hear a voice. I can say this and then I’ll be listening too.

máva. I see.

môox, tanimchákkar. There is a smell; I smell it.

óh, interjection of surprise said by woman when she sees a snake or spills something.

óoooooh, hámi yáamach páaxxiich.

Oooh, what a nice baby!

óoooooh is said on seeing a pretty baby.

óooh, íf chakkáaha.

Oh, how nasty! Said if enter a house and see manure on the floor.

óooooh, keech’íshshara takukúupha.

Oh, you are having a big (a lot of) trouble!

chími ôok na’^{1a}. Come here!

ôo kivyihra. You (plural) come here!

púya. Say there! Used to call attention.

Also **púya matée.** Say,¹⁶ wait!

púyava. Behold.

súva. I hear it.¹⁷

ôok súva. I can hear it from here.

tâ^{1a}k. Give me...¹⁸

thíkim, from English “sick ’em”, said to a dog.¹⁹

= **chíshki âaxhi.** Bite him!

puxxích vúra âaxhi. Bite him hard!

chém. That’s all right. There’s a voiceless **-i** after the **-m**.²⁰

chími man. All right then.

chíshki. Go away (said to a dog)! = Weichpec [Yurok] *chinnā*^a.

chíshki yivárih. Get away from here! Said to dog or man.

¹⁶ [Today, it might more commonly be: “Hey, wait!”]

¹⁷ [Cf. Bright 1261.]

¹⁸ [Following experience and Bright (1276) I’ve replaced JPH’s “Take it”.]

¹⁹ [JPH has “siccum”.]

²⁰ [JPH has an descending mark on the **-m** and a small circle under the **-i**.]

xay xay xay xay xay. Look out! Also:
xáy itaknihchákkish. It (automobile) might roll on you (= even over you).

yánava. It was there; behold.²¹ **yánava káan.** It (s/he) was there.

yaeceeeehae. An old man sometimes says this when thinking to himself;
 listeners do not even know what he is thinking about.

Sometimes **ye'êe.**

Corresponding woman's interjection: **êe.**

yâehae pûuhara. Well, no.

yâehae êe. Is that so! A word used by men only.

yéee tanupíktar. Oh, we missed you.

yôotva, matéek ikéevriikhe'esh. I am glad of it, you must get old (I wish for you to live long). = Thank you. This is the way Indians say thank you.

"Rejects"

'ãa'ãa **'ãa** is the noise the crow makes.

Crow's Song (A War Dance song)

'ãa **'ãa** **ovinna'^a.** Phoebe sings it well.

Susie Brizelle's language [Konomihu] says **há'aa**, when they answer.

Children getting mad at each other get this curious method of swearing from their elders:

ímtaat víriva múttaat,
víriva kúkkuum vúra múttaat.
im ákkah mu'ákkah,
víriva mu'ákkah,
kúkkuum vúra mu'ákkah.

[The last line] meaning: your great grandfather.

It used to make Phoebe feel so bad for her father had died—she used to get awful mad.

yumárarii kírí uum. I wish you'd go to hell. Said when mad. From English?²²

iim chishíh'aram'ma. [You child of a dog.] Said when one gets mad. From English.

²¹ [yánava, Bright (1657), "often translated as 's/he saw that...'."]

²² [háa.]