

COMPARISONS of LANGUAGES INVOLVED IN WALAM OLUM (MAALAN AARUM)

WALAM OLUM

lowanwamink
(*mink*) wulaton
wtakan
tihilli kelik
meshautang
gsili
ewak
|
v

At this Northern place
they speak
favorably
of mild cool (lands)
with many deer
and
buffaloes

ALGONQUIN

lowaney
mindji mendam
etoka
tohkoi aki
mis hartoo
oegoo
hockus

OLD NORSE

raa-andi
minjar mindam
tykkjaa
thyoeckr akr
mest hiartra
og
hoko
|
v

(At this) cooling (place)
(they) remind the memory
(I) reckon(with esteem)
(of) cloudy lands
most deer (hart)
also
foxes

WORD (PHRASE) BY WORD (PHRASE) DECIPHERMENT

(All references are to Sherwin's eight volumes of the *Viking and the Red Man*)

Original English	At this Northern place	
Recorded sounds	lowanwamink	
Algonquin words	lowaney	v. 6 p. 58
Old Norse	raa-andi	
Norse/English	(At this) cooling (place)	
Original English	they speak	
Recorded sounds	<i>minkwu</i> laton	Syllable from previous word
Algonquin words	mindji mendam	v. 1 p. 165 1*
Old Norse	minjar mindam	
Norse/English	(they) remind the memory	
Original English	favorably	
Recorded sounds	wtakan	
Algonquin words	etoka	v. 4 p. 138 & v. 3 p 31
Old Norse	tykkjaa	2*
Norse/English	(I) reckon (with esteem)	
Original English	of mild cool (lands)	
Recorded sounds	tihilli keli k	3*
Algonquin words	toh koi aki	v. 4 p. 143 & v. 1 p. 8
Old Norse	thyoekkr akr	
Norse/English	(of) cloudy lands	
Original English	with many deer	
Recorded sounds	mes hautang	
Algonquin words	mis hartoo	v. 1 p. 101 & v. 6 p. 31
Old Norse	mest hiartra	Icelandic 4*
Norse/English	most deer (hart)	
Original English	and	
Recorded sounds	gsili	
Algonquin words	oegoo	v. 1 p. 131
Old Norse	og	5*
Norse/English	also	
Original English	buffaloes	
Recorded sounds	ewak	
Algonquin words	hockus	v. 1 p. 61
Old Norse	hoko	
Norse/English	foxes	6*

1* Either the WO word is badly corrupted or the Algonquin word is not correct, but only the "la" syllable is really questionable.

2* Sherwin wrote: "Etoka (tykkjaa) is used very much like our colloquial expression 'I reckon.' Any hunter or fisherman's tale would be incomplete without it." Another meaning of "tykkjaa" is esteem.

3* The WO "illi" indicates the Historian had memorized a word closer to Old Norse. The two WO words must be combined be similar to an Algonquin word.

4* The modern Norwegian name for deer is hjortedyr. The similarity of the words for deer is another strong piece of evidence that the Walam Olum was created by people speaking Norse.

5* The modern Norwegian word for also is "også." This is another piece of evidence that the Walam Olum was first spoken by Old Norse people.

The Recorder hung the "g" sound on the end of the deer word. Many English words do end in "g." Sherwin showed that the "g" is not a part of the deer word, enabling a better translation.

6* The Algonquin word means, "to slink," Algonquins named animals by their actions. The fox slinks through the forest and plains. The Cree and Algonquin (tribe) had words similar to "ewak" for fox.

Somewhere in the memory process the mental image of the fox, an Arctic and forest animal, was replaced by a vision of the buffalo, which was usually named, in common use, by two long words not associated with slinking. But the original word for fox, the slinker, was passed from one Historian's memory to another Historian's memory as the word was in the beginning.