

## WOWA NE Neo-Aramaic (Jewish, Dohok), by Dorota Molin

### Text A

speaker 01 (male, 82)

1	<i>'əθwa xa-ḥakòma,'</i>	There was a ruler,
2	<i>g-emər ta-wazire dide:'</i>	he says to his ministers:
3	<i>'ana g-əbən</i>	'I want
4	<i>xa 'aθe</i>	someone to come
5	<i>'amərri</i>	tell me
6	<i>eke=la gu palguθət dunye</i>	where the middle of the world is.
7	<i>u-b-yawənan-noxun ʔlā yome'</i>	And I will give you three days,
8	<i>'aθe xa</i>	(so that) someone can come
9	<i>'amər-ri</i>	tell me
10	<i>'əke=la'palguθət dūnyē.'</i>	where is the middle of the world.
11	<i>u-lā 'amrətu-li'</i>	And if you do not tell me,
12	<i>baθər rešoxun mafyerən-ne'</i>	then your heads—I will make them fly.
13	<i>zəllu naše mbaqore 'axxa u-ṭamàha,'</i>	(So) people went asking,
14	<i>g-meθe nāše'</i>	they brought people
15	<i>u-čuxxa la k-ye</i>	but no one knows
16	<i>'əke=la palgut dūnyē,</i>	where the middle of the world is?
17	<i>mən-'əka b-ya'e?'</i>	How will he know
18	<i>hulle ʔalu ʔlā yome'</i>	He gave them three days
19	<i>'aθe 'amri-le</i>	(so that) they would come
20	<i>lā, rešu mǎfər-re'</i>	(if) not, he would cut off their head.
21	<i>zəllu l-batane dōhun,'</i>	they went to their homes,
22	<i>mjomə'lu nāše,'</i>	they gathered people,
23	<i>b-xazax</i>	We will see
24	<i>mā 'ođi,'</i>	what we shall do
25	<i>'az hatxa xa ji g-əmri-wa'</i>	So they used to say
26	<i>'əθwa xa-huḏaya go-šūqa,'</i>	(that) there was a Jew in the market,
27	<i>g-emər,</i>	he says
28	<i>nāblu-li,'</i>	take me,
29	<i>'āna b-amrən-ne</i>	I will tell him
30	<i>'əke=la palgut dūnyē.'</i>	where the middle of the world is.
31	<i>'aval 'ani mərri...'</i>	But they said...
32	<i>mərre malək ʔalu'</i>	the king (had) said
33	<i>bāle huḏaya' lā məθetu huḏaya,'</i>	But a Jew, don't bring me a Jew,
34	<i>huḏaye k-i'e kulle məndi. tōv.'</i>	A Jew knows everything. Good.
35	<i>zəllu baθre do huḏaya,'</i>	They went to him, to that Jew,
36	<i>g-emər ʔalu huḏaya,'</i>	(who) said (to them),
37	<i>g-emər,</i>	he says,
38	<i>'ana maxəlsən-nu</i>	I will save them,
39	<i>b-amrən-ne 'āna</i>	I will tell him
40	<i>'əke=la palgut dūnyē.</i>	where the middle of the world is.
41	<i>māʔo? g-emər</i>	How? He says,
42	<i>nāblu-li</i>	take me,
43	<i>qam-šaqli-le huḏaya,'</i>	They took the Jews,
44	<i>qam-maluši-le badla xàθa'</i>	they dressed him in new clothes,
45	<i>u-zunnu ʔale 'ixàla'</i>	they bought him food
46	<i>u-zunnu ʔale kulle məndi'</i>	and bought him everything

47	<i>u-qam-nabli-le.'</i>	and they took him (with them).
48	<i>zalle kəs-ħakòma,'</i>	They went to the king,
49	<i>ħmälle,'</i>	waited,
50	<i>g-emər</i>	(then) he says,
51	<i>'àna b-amrən-nox</i>	I will tell you
52	<i>'èke=la palgut dunye.'</i>	where the middle of the world is.
53	<i>g-əmri</i>	They say,
54	<i>'èke=la palgut dunye?'</i>	where is the middle of the world?
55	<i>g-èmər</i>	He says
56	<i>kursi didox' palgut dūnye'</i>	your throne is the middle of the world.
57	<i>g-èmər'</i>	He says,
58	<i>màto?</i>	how?
59	<i>g-èmər,'</i>	He says,
60	<i>là gə-mhenənət?'</i>	you don't believe?
61	<i>kul-la!</i>	Measure it (then)!
62	<i>si</i>	Go,
63	<i>miθi naše</i>	bring people
64	<i>keli-la palgut dunye</i>	that would measure the middle of the world
65	<i>reši màfər-re.</i>	cut off my head/
66	<i>kayəl-la,' dūnye?' mən kullu 'alàle?'</i>	Who can measure it, the world? From all the sides?