

Story Card THAI-ROI 006

Story title	Ja Ann and Nang Sansri				
Name of story-teller	Jaruwat Sangtamart	Sex	Male	Age	
Recording time/date	25 October 2014				
Recording place	66 Moo 5, Ban Ta Yiam Wang Thong Lang Sub-district, Selaphum District, Roiet Province				
Length	15 minutes				
Language(s)	Isaan				
Data available	video, audio, picture, notes, other ()				
Topic/key words					
Category					
Summary					
<p>Jampa City was surrounded by the sea. There lived a king named Phaya Jampa. He had two daughters. One was Sansri; The other Khampang.</p> <p>One day, Sansri and Khampang wanted to swim in the sea and asked their parents for permission. The king gave them permission and ordered Ja Ann, a trustful guard, to take care of them and paddle a boat in the sea for them. During the trip, the two sisters picked flowers along the sea. They were very happy, singing, dancing and picking flowers, until they forgot about the time. It was 3 minutes before 9.00 pm.</p> <p>There was another city near Jampa City. There lived a man whose name was Prince Uton, or Tao Hard Khampong. He went to study the magic when he was a little child. He indeed had great magic skills. He could fly. Nobody could beat him.</p> <p>Tao Hard Khampong was paddling a boat in the sea, when he saw two princesses and their servant swimming in the sea. He fell in love with the two sisters. The two sisters also fell in love with Tao Hard Khampong. Phaya Jampa waited for his daughters to come back to the city but they did not come back. He ordered soldiers to find and bring them back. However, this attempt failed.</p> <p>Phaya Jampa became so worried. He thought a giant or a ghost might have kidnapped his daughters. He ordered soldiers again to seek advice from his best friend under the water, Naga. When Naga learned about the king's problem, he dug a big hole. All the water flew into the hole. The sea dried up and fish came on the ground. Phaya Jampa ordered all his soldiers to look for his daughters.</p> <p>Tao Hard Khampong came to understand the situation after the water had rapidly decreased. He thought that something might happen to the two sisters. So, he decided to hide Sansri on one island in the sea. This is believed to be the present-day Ban Sansri, Sansri Village, Kampang Sub-district, Kaseth Visai District in Roiet Province. He then took Khampang and hid her on another island. This is believed to be the present-day Khampang Sub-district, Kasethvisai District in Roiet Province. He also hid Ja Ann on yet another island, which is believed to be the present-day Ja Ann Village, Khampang Sub-district, Kasethvisai District in Roiet Province. They all became <i>don</i>, or islets in Kokkula Village in Roiet Province.</p> <p>In the meantime, Phaya Jampa's soldiers followed Tao Hard Khampong and learned that he had hidden the two princesses. They fought with Tao Hard Khampong and defeated him. Phaya Jampa finally got his daughters back to Jampa City.</p> <p>Indra, who lived in the heaven, saw the sea dried up and a mass of fish dead. The smell</p>					

reached all over the place during his meal. The smell irritated him very much. He felt sick and ordered an eagle to fly and see what had happened to the sea. When the eagle saw a mass of fish dead, it went back and reported to Indra. Indra ordered the eagle to eat all the dead fish. The eagle and his wife ate all the fish in one bite. They ate so much fish and their excrement became as big as a mountain.

When the eagle finished his mission, he did not want to go back to the heaven. He wanted to eat humans as well. However, Indra did not like it. Indra became worried about the sin. So, he said to the eagle, "If you want to eat something, you have to dream about it." When the eagle went to sleep, he dreamed that they ate a big elephant. When he woke up, he went to ask Indra, "Do you allow me to eat the head of an elephant?" Indra told him to talk with elephants' leader. The eagle flew to the elephant leader, told him about his dream, and said to the elephant leader, "Indra told me that if I want to eat something, I have to dream about it. Then, Indra has allowed me to eat it." When the elephant leader heard that the eagle wanted to eat him, he became worried about his family. So, he used a trick and sent a smart and trustful elephant named Bug Khao Kung to talk with Indra about the eagle's dream. When Bug Khao Kung arrived at the heaven, he stepped up on the floor once. Indra heard the notice. Bug Khao Kung met and ask Indra, "Is it true? If the eagle dreams about something, can he eat it? Indra replied, "Yes."

Bug Khao Kung asked Indra again, "If the eagle dreams about sleeping with your wife, do you allow him to sleep with her?" Indra became speechless. He decided to use a trick and told Bug Khao Kung to take a rest. Indra also sent a beautiful servant to take care of the smart elephant. Bug Khao Kung felt so happy. He became drunk and fell asleep for a long time.

When Bug Khao Kung woke up, it was already in the morning. He thought that he might go back too late and that the eagle had already eaten the elephant leader. In fact, the eagle ate up the whole elephant except for his feet. This became the present-day Ban Dong Tao Chang in the area. Even though the eagle ate the elephant leader, it was still not enough. The eagle still wanted to eat humans. Buddha came to know about this. He sent Pra Maudgalyayana¹ to defeat the eagle. Pra Maudgalyayana transformed the eagle into a hawk, which is smaller and can only eat small animals.

Naga dried up the sea and created the initial cause of this incident. After the eagle had become a hawk, Naga came up to the ground and tried to eat humans. Naga was so powerful. He spat spittle to humans. **Then the eyes out and the man bounce off** (Taden in Thai). This became the origin of the present-day Taden or Tanel Village in the area.

Naga's spittle was very salty. Pra Maudgalyayana thus came back to defeat Naga. He preached to Naga. Naga accepted this but Pra Maudgalyayana did not trust Naga. He used a yellow robe and blocked Naga's hole. The yellow robe became a big standing stone, which covers a water hole, called Bor Pan Kun these days, where salt water springs out. The area became salty. Humans started using salt water to produce salt for cooking and making pickled fish called *pa daek*.

This is a legend about the origin of salt production in Tung Kula Rong Hai, which is an important salt making site in Mekong Region. This is also where the world famous jasmine rice is produced. The story also tells that greedy leads to loss similar to an old saying, "Do not kill a goose that lays golden eggs." When you lack moral, you will eventually lose as the eagle and Naga. Naga has been blocked in a hole. He cannot come

¹ Read more on Maudgalyayana at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maudgalyayana>

out to the ground and his tears have become salt. If salt is too salty, it will destroy our life.