The Words of Ancestors

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祖先的話語



# Language is the soul of a culture. However, as a Kungadavane people, I was ashamed that I didn't know how to speak Kungadavane.

I started from the very beginning. I murmured to the mirror or wall to practice pronunciation and memorize all the alphabets for a whole month. And then, comes the spelling part. Because I made effort on the pronunciation, I could get into the swing of things quickly.

We had 3 exams from the Center for Project Management and Examination committee. It was the most nervous time because the contents are unexpected. Sadly, I was the only one who didn't pass the final test. I was so upset but it reminded me to must study harder.

Finally, all of us joined the Aboriginal Language Proficiency Test. I was surprised that most of the examination contents were what we've learn for the past few months. I was confident to do the test. Though I couldn't speak fluently now, I still had great improvement during these months. I hope I could respond to the elders in Kungadavane lucidly soon.

我的家鄉在多座山峰的環抱中,美好的環境 造就了現在的多納部落。多納部落在台灣 原住民族群魯凱族之中的一個原住民部落,是 個有四百多年歷史文化的地方,文化精彩、豐富。可惜早期無文字記錄傳統文化及古老的山 林智慧,過去只有口耳相傳的傳說和耆老過去 的生活經驗,再加上因為受到時代變遷的影響,多納的傳統文化正在隨著時間的推進逐漸 消失。

#### 把握機會學習族語

語言是一個文化的靈魂,傳承文化是每個 族人的使命,學習文化從「說話」開始。每次 坐在長輩們旁邊聽著他們用族語述說故事及生 活經驗,多納魯凱語聽起來時而優美、時而粗 礦,這是多麼的有意思,但我感到很愧疚,因 為我沒辦法從他們說的話語中真正了解長輩們 想告訴我的內涵,甚至要我說出族語回應他們 的詞也寥寥無幾,所以我學習多納魯凱語、我 自己的語言也就成為了我的目標。

俗話說:「機會是留給有準備的人」,想 學但不知道要從何而起,這時剛好茂林營造協 會在推族語師徒制,這是一個學習族語的好機 會,於是我就報名參加族語師徒制,讓自己能 夠多學習族語,達成自己的使命。

#### 從基礎開始努力學習

多納魯凱語不及格的我,在開班授課分配 到基礎班,從羅馬拼音、字母發音開始學習。 發音練習很重要,對我這個舌頭不太流暢的人



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來說,少不了苦練,為了要讓自己能夠 更好,練習時會對著鏡子、牆壁喃喃自 語,練習發音及背字母,皇天不負苦心 人,有付出就會有代價,練了將盡快一 個月總算將字母都背起來了。

接下來迎接我們的是族語單詞的拼音,還好字母的發音練習很扎實,在拼音的課程中很快就進入狀況,只要老師給一個單詞,幾乎都能拼音,也能寫出字母來,這時的成就感讓我感到非常強大,但美中不足的地方就是常把一些字母搞錯,犯了不該有的錯,為了要讓自己更進步,每次上完課回到家,都會反省自己的缺點。



多納自製族語教材。

定期考試,對我來是個很大的一個障礙, 收穫的成果就在這二次的定期考試。每次的考 試,雖然在有準備下的情況下度過,但那個過 程就好像高中第一次參加學測一樣的緊張又刺 激,而且考試內容常常出乎我們每位學員的預 料,可惜在11月的月考中,我未能達到合格成 續,當下的反應是失落的,內心非常的沮喪。 這個打擊讓我覺得我自己還不夠努力,我必須 要花更多時間,想更多方法去多認識自己的族 語,這樣我才能進步。這二次的考試中,只能 說每位學員都發揮出平常實力的百分之 一百二十,考試成績都非常優秀,真的是以我 們B班為榮。

#### 循序漸進持續進步

經過了幾次大小考試,最後我們要面臨的 是「原住民族語認證考試」,盧老師常常囑咐 我們要注意的事項,我們也都銘記在心。到了 考場,準備心理,迎接考試,當看到考試內容 後發現,這些不就是我們常常在課堂上所學習 到的內容嗎,當下就把我所學到的詞彙通通用 上,這讓我感到非常興奮。

經過這幾個月的努力,雖說還沒辦法到可 以對話,但我感受到我在聽、寫這方面有很大 的進步,接下來我想在說這地方加強練習,有 朝一日可以好好地聽長輩們說故事,可以用族 語回應長輩們,這是對我自己的期許。◆



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#### 編 按

### Editor's note

Kungadavane people are categorized as Rukai, but Kungadavane language and Rukai language are not mutually intelligible. Kungadavane community is located in Maolin District, Kaohsiung City with less than 600 people. Many elders speak Kungadavane, but few of them could read and write in Kungadavane. The apprentices of this program are comprised mainly of the youth who just returned to this hometown and partly the elders who speak fluently but lack literacy proficiency. Due to this fact, the classes were designed as the part-time mode that it took only 40 hours every month. There are two classes this year, the beginner class and the advanced class. The author is in the beginner class. This project initiated in August 2018. He will participate in the High-Intermediate level of the Aboriginal Language Proficiency Test at the end of this year.

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