Bear Story

told and translated by: Karimagomed Omarov on 23 July 2005

transcription, interlinear glossing: Marina Chumakina and Greville G. Corbett

(1) /uni02s5umar-dad-wu šipi′-u k′ali-ši o•b•q′a-li
Umar-uncle-[SG.ABS]-and Shapi-[SG.ABS]-and Kali.IN-ALL H.PL-go-CVB1
e•b•di-li boχ′-o
H.PL:be.PAST-EVID mountain_goat-EPTH_v1

Uncle Umar and Shapi went to Kali to hunt.

(2) turali-ši jatì-ši χa•b•ti-t:ib χ:ams b-ak:u-li jij-me-s
Tura.IN-ALL uphill-ALL <H.PL>go,POT-ATR.PL bear([SG.ABS] III.SG-see.PFV-EVID they-PL.OBL-DAT

When they were going to Tura, uphill, they saw a bear.

(3) šipi′-li e•b•k•u-li tumank′ kammu-li

Shapi, having put the gun (i.e. having aimed), shot.

(4) χit:a šapi′-li-s to-b b-e′•r•š:u-r-ši b-ak:u-t:u
then Shapi-[OBL.SG-DAT that.one-III.SG III.SG-IPFV-run-IPFV-CVB2 III.SG-see.PFV-ATR.L.SG
šapi′ 1:unne-li χ′:w•a-li-k′ u•w•č′u-li
Shapi-[SG.ABS] flee.LSG.PFV-CVB1 rock([III.OBL.SG-SUB.ESS 1.SG-hide.PFV-EVID

Then, Shapi saw that one (the bear) running towards him, Shapi fled and hid under a rock.

1 Since mountain goats are the default object of hunting, ‘go for goats’ comes to mean simply ‘hunt’. The final –o is not a regular formative.
Uncle Umar was standing right where he was.

Then, allegedly there was the bear², and with two cubs behind him, trailing fur on the ground (it was so long), growling, and throwing...the thing...the earth (at him), he came and allegedly stood on his (hind) paws in front of him (Uncle Umar).

Then he allegedly said: It wasn't me, it wasn't me, what have I done to you?

The one who shot at you, he ran away.

² In the sound file the speaker said jam ‘wolf’ by mistake which he corrected when translating the text.
(9) κ'onoč laha-s zari han uw-li edi
that.1.SG k'onoč boy.OBL.DAT 1SG.ERG what(IV)[SG.ABS] do.IV.SG.PFV-CVB1 IV.SG.be.PAST

That k'onoč guy, what (harm) had I done to him? [i.e. what harm had I done, to make him want to shoot and put me in this situation]

(10) daki un za-ti-k b-e<grš<u-r
why 2SG.ABS 1.OBL.SUPER-LAT III.SG-IPFV-run-IPFV

Why are you running towards me?

(11) ḩunne-li laqʷiw<t'a-t'u-kul sin-š-er usdi-li
flee.1.SG.PFV-CVB1 save.I.SG.PFV-NEG-MSD know-CVB2-RPRT stand.1.SG.PFV-EVID

i<grχ<o-r inž kur-<u-kul-u ḡateχu-li
4.SG.remain.PFV-RPRT LOGOPH.ABS hand(IV)-PL.ABS-and lift.N_H.PL.PFV-EVID

Allegedly having understood that he would not be able to save himself by fleeing, he allegedly remained standing there, even having lifted his hands.

(12) χit:a os bu bo-tu-t č'išu-wu uw-li χ:ams
then one bu say-ATR-IV.SG sound(IV)[ABS.SG]-and do.IV.SG.PFV-CVB1 bear(III)[ABS.SG]

b-akdi-li o-bq<q<r 4:a-š žu-s:-u
III.SG.leave-CVB1 III.SG.leave.PFV-RPRT near-ELAT LOGOPH.I.OBL.SG-DAT-and

nac' uw-t'u-mat
nothing do.IV.SG.PFV-NEG-CVB

And then having made sound like BU the bear left him, and went away having done nothing to him.

---

k'onoč is an Avar word, meaning ‘young bull’, it is an insulting nickname.