Hopi Humpbacked Flute Player petroglyph: 'Our long battle made him stop'

Stuart Harris, December 2011

The Hopi Flute Clan guided many Hopi clans on their arduous journey around America. Their image is a rebus of a flute player carrying a backpack, composed of six letters from Old European syllabary. Petroglyphs of this rebus occur at numerous locations where Hopis stopped, such as Oraibi, Chaco Canyon, St. Johns, Gila Bend, Canyon de Chelly and Sonora, Mexico. If the flute player was lying on his back, it meant that the Flute Clan settled there for a long time. And this is exactly what the rebus says.

Translation

Old Eur ME SO Ä SA SE SE

Finnish: Meiän soan äijä sai sen seis.

English: Our long battle made him stop.

Image and Transcription

Figure 1: Image and transcription of Hopi Humpbacked Flute Player.



Notes on Translation

K. refers to Kalevala, chapter and verse, composed between 1430 and 1420 BC.

ME = meiän 'our'; K19.415 "Did our (meiän) suns blaze over there?"

SO = soan 'battle'; K31.025 'He waged war (soan) merely by gestures with his fingers'

 $\ddot{\mathbf{A}} = \ddot{a}ij\ddot{a}$ 'long'; K37.017 "the night is **long** ($\ddot{a}ij\ddot{a}$), the time sad"

SA = sai 'it-she-he made'; K01.270 'there she made (sai) the coasts smooth'

SE = sen 'him'; K03.277 "him (sen) I will sing into a swine"

SE = seis 'stop', from seistä 'stand'; K08.032 'he at once stopped (seisatti) the horse'

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