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VI
2003

NGARGALULA

Billinge

When the ngargalula are asked, "What your father?" he says, "Paljeri," or "Kaimera," it does not matter as he goes into the proper class when he follows his new father.

Wabbingan's father dreamed that a little ranjee or ngargalula came to him, and he asked him, "What your father?"

Maggundee (mangrove nuts) the ngargalula was picking up and cleaning in the water.

Maljara goonbooroo, was the name the ngargalula gave of his kogga, who he said was a Paljeri. Wabbingan was a Banaka as a ngargalula. Leeberr was his father, but he is now a Paljeri as Wondongarra was his father and he was a Banaka.

Kalwarra yoonjoo - "only born there" , that is not his booroo, his booroo is where his father dreamed him. I begin to understand how it occurs that a Paljeri ngargalula can become a Kaimera when born. If I, being a Boorong man, dream of a ngargalula who tells me his father was Paljeri, and if he follows me home, he becomes a Kaimera when he is born, but I have stolen him from his proper father, whom when I meet I tell I have stolen a Paljeri ngargalula and he is now a Kaimera. The ngargalula may be anything, Kaimera, Paljeri, etc., but if he follows me home he becomes Kaimera.

Joolburda jarra - coast people, N.W.
Beeda kala " " S.W.

The ngargalula knows the class of the man he follows, and calls him by the title due to him, as for instance, a Boorong man dreams a ngargalula comes to him and he asks the ngargalula "Yanga babba jooa?" ("What boy you?) "Ngai Kaimera jooa ngabboo." ("I Kaimera, you youngest father.) or "Ngy Paljeri, jooa kogga." If the ngargalula follows him home and goes into his woman, it will be a Kaimera, It does not know anything when it comes, but by and by, when it grows up, its father will tell his brother-in-law, "That's your boy. I stole him."