

Minderico (Portuguese “secret language”)

Falta de regatinha no trastagano “Lack of rain in Alentejo”

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Glosses and translation: Vera Ferreira 2006

1. *N-um* *d-o-s* *planeta-s* *d-a* *quart-a* *sesta*
in-ART:INDEF:SG:M of-ART:DEF:M-PL day-PL of-ART:DEF:SG:F forth-F week
- d-o* *Margaceiro* *o* *Penosta=de=Belém*
of-ART:DEF:SG:F March ART:DEF:SG:M President=of=the=Republic
- and-ou* *de* *peneireiro* *a* *mirantar* *a-s* *dideza-s*
go-IND:PRET:PERF:AUX:3S by helicopter to see:INF ART:DEF:F-PL damage-PL
- causada-s* *pel-a* *falta* *de* *regatinha* *d-a-s* *carrancuda-s*
cause:PART:F-PL by-ART:DEF:SG:F lack of rain of-ART:DEF:F-PL cloud-PL
- n-a-s* *terruja-s* *d-o* *trastagano.*
in-ART:DEF:F-PL place-PL of-ART:DEF:SG:M Alentejo

“In one of the days of the fourth week of March, the President of the Republic flew over Alentejo to see the damage caused by the lack of rain in its places.”

2. *Devido à trilha ser* *muito teodorinha* *para o-s* *d-o*
because of food be:INF:COP very scarce for ART:DEF:M-PL of-ART:DEF:SG:M
- Noé* *n-a* *d-o-s* *sete* *palmo-s* *d-aquela-s* *terruja-s*
Noe in-ART:DEF:SG:F of-ART:DEF:M-PL seven inch-PL of-DIST-PL place-PL
- há* *muit-o-s* *pasmado-s* *sequeir-o-s* *e* *houve*
there=be:IND:PRES:3SG lot=of-M-PL bull-PL thin-M-PL and there=be:IND:PRET:PERF:3G
- até* *algun-s* *que* *encolher-am* *o-s* *mirante-s* *por causa*
even some-PL that shrink-IND:PRET:PERF:3PL ART:DEF:M-PL eye-PL by cause
- d-a* *âmbria.*
of-ART:DEF:SG:F hunger

“Because food for the animals is very scarce in those places, lots of bulls are very thin and some of them have even starved to death.”

3. *Há* *quase dois mes-es* *que, apesar de estar-mos* *n-o-s*
there=be:IND:PRES:3SG almost two month-PL that despite of be:INF-1PL in-ART:DEF:M-PL
- passo-s* *d-o-s* *planeta-s* *didis* *e* *d-o* *arrepia*
step-PL of-ART:DEF:M:PL day-PL bad-PL and of-ART:DEF:SG:M wind
- não se* *miranta-vam* *carrancuda-s.*
NEG REFL see-IND:PRET:IMPF:3PL cloud-PL

“Despite being in winter, for almost two months no clouds have been seen.”

4. *Cheg-ou* *mesmo a haver crestador ancho demais*
 come-IND:PRET:PERF:AUX:3SG even PREP there=be:INF heat strong too=much
- para o-s planeta-s d-este-s passo-s.*
 for ART:DEF:M-PL day-PL of-PROX-PL time-PL

“There had been even too much heat for this time of the year.”

5. *Que o Treme- terras não seja para nós Gualdino*
 that ART:DEF:SG:M god NEG be:SUBJV:PRES:COP:3SG for us forgetful
- e nos jord-e cópi-a regatinha n-o-s mes-es*
 and us bring-SUBJV:PRES:3SG good-F rain in-ART:DEF:M-PL month-PL
- d-o crestador.*
 of-ART:DEF:SG:M heat

“[We hope] that God won’t forget us and will bring us a lot of rain during the months of heat [summer].”

Translation in Portuguese

1. Num dos últimos dias de Março o Presidente da República andou de helicóptero a ver os prejuízos causados pela seca nas terras do Alentejo.
2. Devido à falta de pastagens naquela região, o gado bovino está muito magro e houve até animais que morreram devido à fome.
3. Há quase dois meses que, apesar de ser Inverno, não se vêem nuvens.
4. O calor chegou mesmo a ser exagerado para esta época do ano.
5. Que Deus não se esqueça de nós e nos mande muita chuva nos meses de Verão.