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THE KABBOOWALLEE.

Nalja was a kabboo-wallee (cannibal).

He used to catch all the womba (men) by a trick, and cook them, and eat them.

He was also called Yeela-gullera, because he had several little dogs always with him. On his travels through the pin-dan, (bush) he made a noise like a kallee-gooroo (sacred bull-roarer) that frightened everyone away, so he and his yeela could go unseen wherever he liked. When he reached a camp where there were plenty of young womba, he would look like an old man, and the womba, seeing him, would call out to him to come and have some wallee (meat).

One day he reached a camp of young womba.

"Come and have some wallee, kogga (uncle, mother's brother)" they called to him.

Nalja said "Ngow-ai. (All right). "I'll leave the yeela here, and my lanji (boomerang) and karr-burna (shield) and now-loo (club) with them." Then he stood up near his yeela and weapons, and he said to the womba, "You hit me."

They said, "What for?"

But he only replied, "You hit me with lanji."

They said, "Kogga is very clever, He wants to show us how he can dodge the lanji," so they threw all their lanji at him, but none of them could hit him. When they had thrown every lanji in the camp, he picked up his yeel-bur-ding lanji, and killed all the womba with it. Then he cooked them and ate them.

He went on travelling koo-nian (north), doing this at every camp. The young womba always thought he was an old kogga. At last, one day, he came to a camp where there were two jalnga-gooroo. (Magic Men). They saw him a long distance away, and they said, "Here's a kabboo-wallee coming." They did not say anything to the others because that would have frightened them, and Nalja might not then come to the camp. They let him come up.

Literally "liver-meat".

He said, "I'll leave my dogs here, and my boomerang, and my shield and club," just as he had done at the other camps.

But the two jalnga-gooroo spoke, and said, "We don't want to hit you, kogga. You throw your lanji and hit us."

Nalja threw his lanji (yeel-burding) at them and missed them. Then they caught hold of him and threw him on the ground, and chopped him into little bits, saying as they did so, "You are a kabboo-wallee. You eat womba. We have been waiting for you. We did not meet you before, you kabboo-wallee! Many womba you have eaten. Now you will eat no more!"

So they killed him, but did not eat him, and now old men can come to any camp and not be mistaken for kabboo-wallee.