

KOOLJOOWAN.

There was another cannibal, Kool-joo-wan. He travelled pin-dan-a (bush) and koo-jang-oor-oo (coast), and everywhere he killed and ate womba, jandu and jeera (men, women and children). He always travelled in rainy weather.

Whenever he came near a camp he would make a nyeerr-wa (cave) a little distance away, and then he would go on to the camp and pretend to be sorry that the womba had no shelter from the rain. He would say to them, "I've got a nyeerr-wa over there. You come to my nyeerr-wa, where the rain won't wet you, and then you can have a fire," for when the heavy rain came the womba could not keep their fire alight.

They said, "We will come with you to your nyeerr-wa, kogga," (uncle).

Kooljoowan asked them all to stand in a row in front of the nyeerr-wa, then he sang his own praises while he was making the fire. When it was well lighted, he said "Now, all sit down in a row." They all sat down, womba, jandu and jeera.

All the time Kooljoowan was carrying a mung-oorl (spear) between his toes, where the men could not see it, and when they all sat down he went to the end of the row and thrust the spear through all the sitting womba, jandu and jeera, and killed them, and cooked them at the fire they had watched him make, and he ate them.

He did this many times, and always in rainy weather. Sometimes he would put the womba, jandu and jeera inside the cave, and make his fire at the entrance, and cook them alive and eat them.

One day he came to a camp where there were some jalnga-gooroo (Magic Men) and they saw him a long way off.

"Here's a kabboo-wallee coming," they said. "We must stop him from eating any more womba, jandu and jeera."

So they waited till he came up.

Kooljoowan came into the camp, and said to the womba,

"I've got a nyeerr-wa over there. Come inside by my fire. Come out of the rain."

Jeera (children) and jandu (women) went first, then the womba, then the jalnga-gooroo, (Magic Men) and behind them came Kooljoowan. They all went into the cave.

"I must get some wood for my fire," said Kooljoowan, and turned to go outside, so that he could fill up the entrance and cook them all.

But the jalnga-gooroo (Magic Men) caught hold of him.

"You are a cannibal," they said. "You look like our uncle, but you eat men, women and children. You are kabboo-wallee!" And they pulled him by the legs and threw him into the fire. And that was the end of Kooljoowan, the cannibal.