

## Gunjaliyan and Julimaman

The story from, er, about Gunjaliyan and Julimaman. Now this particular story was sung in the *vyaḷaguyus* way by the earliest old folks when they told stories. During our childhood, we loved listening to stories told in the form of *vyaḷaguyus* by the old folks. So I'll try [singing it] in *vyaḷaguyus*.

There was Gunjaliyan,  
who was the son of *Doña* Indiyapan  
who resided in Ka-ujanan.  
When Gunjaliyan was thinking of something:  
“*Ay, ay*, mother Indiyapan,  
have pity on me and give me permission  
because I have heard  
of a woman [who is] a young lady  
who, it is said, is located in –  
[whom] they had kept [a virgin]  
whose name is Julimaman,  
daughter, it is said, of *Doña* Vuḷan  
in the village of Jullangitan,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

“*Ay, ay* my son Gunjaliyan,  
I am fearful  
because that is the haunt  
of people who are snatchers  
for there is no one, it is said, they would let pass  
old people and young people  
they would snatch, it is said, everyone,”  
so said his mother *Doña* Indiyapan.

“*Ay, ay* mother *Doña* Indiyapan,  
do not be anxious  
for I am a rooster-like man.

So you can have proof of this,  
would you please get my bolo-sword,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And his mother Indiyapan, it is said, handed him  
his bolo-sword.

Gunjaliyan leaped  
and slashed a bamboo culm  
which, it is said, fell down at once.

“*Ay, ay* my son Gunjaliyan,  
please be very careful  
along the way so nothing bad will befall you,”  
so said his mother Indiyapan.

“And I will take this betel nut as a sign  
for I shall plant it here in the yard  
so that when it sprouts and blossoms  
I would know that you are there unharmed,”  
so said his mother Indiyapan.

And his mother gently sent him off  
And she blew on the road, it is said.  
“May your journey be well,  
That nothing will befall you,”  
so said his mother Indiyapan.

And as Gunjaliyan started off,  
“I will take this hairy dog  
which shall be my companion along the way,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And Gunjaliyan took out, it is said,  
his *kunjiman* handkerchief .  
“Let me flick my *kunjiman* handkerchief

So that I will not be bothered by this way  
so I will arrive at Jullangitan  
where *Doña* Julimaman is,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And suddenly he came upon, it is said,  
the spring of Julimaman.  
*Ay, a-ay* what’s the matter with this spring of Julimaman  
for it sparkles on both sides, it is said,  
and even the sands are golden.

And as Gunjaliyan was thinking  
he got his *kunjiman* handkerchief  
“Let me flick my *kunjiman* handkerchief  
so Julimaman will come to the spring unawares  
so we can converse here.”  
So said Julmaman [Gunjaliyan].

So then suddenly  
the handmaid of Julimaman  
who is Kinji-ingan said,  
“*Ay ay Doña* Julimaman,  
please let me go to the spring  
where I could take a bath,”  
so said Kinji-ingan,  
the handmaid of *Doña* Julimaman.

“*Ay, a-ay* go by yourself  
but don’t stay there too long  
my dear because I have much need of you here,”  
so said Julimaman.

And so Kinji-ingan went  
and as soon as she got to the spring,

she undressed because she was there to bathe after all.

And when she looked up above her  
there was a man whom she saw.  
“*Ay, a-ay*, this may well be the reason  
I won’t be returning to Julimaman  
because here is a man who’s looking down at me,”  
so said Kinji-ingan.  
For headhunting was still rampant  
in those early days.

Then, it is said, Gunjaliyan spoke up.  
“*Ay, ay Doña*, please don’t fret  
because I mean you no harm.  
Take a bath  
and then we shall talk,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.  
“And I shall go a bit far from here  
so you can bathe a while,”  
so said the man.

And so the man went some distance away  
And Kinj-iingan took a bath.  
When Kinji-ingan had finished bathing,  
Gunjaliyan came near.

“*Ay, ay Doña* let’s introduce each other,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.  
I am Gunjaliyan.  
Now I have heard  
of this beautiful lady named Julimaman,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And Kinji-ingan replied, it is said,

“I am Kinji-ingan,  
the handmaid of Julimaman  
I have come to this spring for this is the place where I bathe,”  
so said Kinji-ingan.

“*Ay, a-ay Doña* Kinji-ingan,  
kindly lead the way  
for I don’t know the way to Jullangitan  
that leads to Julimaman,”  
so said the man Gunjaliyan.

“*A* oh, I’m worried  
that I might be scolded  
by *Doña* Julimaman,”  
so said Kinji-ingan.  
“Don’t worry,  
for I myself shall speak  
to her when we get to her,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

So they walked until they reached the yard.

“Good day to you,  
*Doña* with whom I am smitten.  
“*Ay, a-ay* I am asking  
for water to quench my thirst  
with the heat of the east wind  
on my way here to Jullangitan,”  
so said Julimaman [Gunjaliyan].  
And Julimaman gave  
water for Gunjaliyan to drink.

The old people were all astonished  
that she would entertain Gunjaliyan’s greetings.  
For many men had wished to talk to her

but she wouldn't pay them any attention.

“Well, maybe this man will marry Julimaman  
for it is he whom she offered  
water for he was made thirsty  
by the heat of the east wind,”  
so said the old men.

And so all men who had sought Julimaman  
went away altogether  
for they had understood that it was Gunjaliyan  
whom Julimaman preferred.

So after Gunjaliyan had rested,  
Gunjaliyan said:  
“Ay, *a-ay* lady with whom I am smitten,  
it is you I came for, for I have heard  
of your beauty so widely known across our land.  
I am here to present my humble self  
for I desire to marry you,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

“Ay, ay *Señor* Wealthy,  
though that may well be your desire,  
I will have to inform my mother,  
my mother in Jullangitan,  
*Doña Vulan*,”  
so said Julimaman.  
And so she sent for her mother.

On the fifth [day], her mother arrived.  
And her mother reportedly said,  
“Ay, *a-ay* my daughter Julimaman  
why did you betray me?  
*Ay, ay* I had thought you had not yet

decided to marry,”  
so said her mother *Doña Vuḷan*.

“*Ay, ay* mother *Doña Vuḷan*,  
don’t be anxious  
for this is why I sent for you  
so you could meet *Señor* Gunjaliyan  
for he desires to marry me,”  
so said Julimaman.

“*Ay*, let me then return  
to our place in Jullangitan,  
for I need to tell my male relatives  
so they will not be grumbling,”  
so said *Doña Vuḷan*.  
“So you [will have to] wait for about a month,  
then I shall show up,”  
so said her mother *Doña Vuḷan*.

Barely a month had passed,  
for on the third [day] they were all present  
to talk about the marriage agreement.  
“*Ay, a-ay*,” so said Gunjaliyan,  
“Don’t be shy,  
just tell me my obligations for the [marriage] proposal,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

So *Doña Vuḷan* said:  
“This is what I wish to present to you,  
and if you agree,  
you can marry Julimaman,”  
so said *Doña Vuḷan*.  
“*Ay, a-ay*, just tell me what is needed,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

“Bring the most expensive  
antique jar;  
from carabaos, cows  
and all other kinds of animals,”  
so said *Doña Vuḷan*.

“If that is what you desire,  
so shall it be them for it is I  
who desire to have this [marriage] proposal,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

“*Ay, a-ay* let us then make the wedding ceremony.  
Let us send messengers to invite  
our various relatives  
and to let the [rest of the] community know,”  
so said *Doña Vuḷan*.

And so Gunjaliyan went  
and sent for a cluster of betel nuts  
which, when delivered, he flung to the ground  
and all were detached from the branch.

“*Ay, ay* you betel nuts,  
you go and make the announcement,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And they rattled off as they went.  
Later on, here they come returning.

“*Ay, ay* what are you doing back here?  
Go to where you’re respectively sent,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

“You missed one thing when you sent us.  
You need to anoint us with oil,  
so that we could walk smoothly,”  
so said the betel nuts that had gathered.



And so he got an antique plate  
and put oil on it and prayed [over them]  
and when all of them entered –  
the betel nuts rushed to dip themselves [into the oil]  
and they went on their ways.

Sometime later,  
he noticed that one of them remained.  
“Ay, ay, you betel nut who has stayed behind,  
why haven’t you gone out yet,  
to where you were sent?  
so said Gunjaliyan.  
“Ay, ay, *Señor* Wealthy,  
you need to mark me  
for I am to face your mother *Doña* Indiyapan  
in the village of Ka-ujanan  
for she will not believe me without a sign,”  
so said the betel nut.

And so Gunjaliyan took  
and marked the betel nut.  
And “*Ovfoy*... go  
lest your message be late,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.  
The nut arrived at Indiyapan’s place, it is said,  
and set itself on the table.  
Indiyapan arrived, it is said.  
“Ay, ay, a talking betel nut,  
let me cut you into half so I could chew you,”  
so said Indiyapan.  
And the betel nut jumped [away from her].

I was the one sent by Gunjaliyan  
for he said the celebration will be held,

celebrating his marriage with Julimaman.

That is why I am here to tell you,”

so said the marked betel nut.

“*Ay, a-ay*, leave for I am not going,” so said Injiyapan.

“If you’re not coming, I will grow on your knee,”

so said the betel nut.”

And so the betel nut jumped onto *Doña* Indiyapan’s knee.

And the betel nut’s roots began to spread.

“*Ay, ay*, betel nut, please retract [your roots]

for I might as well go,”

so said Indiyapan.

And the areca nut retracted [its roots].

A little later, it is said,

“I lied betel nut, go on.

I’m not going,” so said Indiyapan.

“If you refuse, I’m going to grow on your neck,”

so said the betel nut.

“Go ahead, grow on it, grow on it!”

so said Indiyapan.

So the betel nut jumped onto Indiyapan’s neck,

and as its roots started spreading,

“Ouch! Oh, betel nut have pity on me and retract [your roots]

and I shall go with you then,”

so said *Doña* Indiyapan.

And so they prepared,

and Indiyapan reportedly said:

“What will I take with me

on the way going to Jullangitan?”

so said *Doña* Indiyapan.

“Don’t worry,”

so said the betel nut, speaking.

“For Gunjaliyan said he  
would take care of everything that you need.”

So then they went on their way, it is said.

And so they wended their way [to Jullangitan].

When they reached the yard,

they told Gunjaliyan:

“*Señor* Gunjaliyan, there now is *Doña* Indiyapan  
whom you wished for, as she is your mother.

Go get her, meet her lest she be shy,

so said the elderly folks.

And so Gunjaliyan met his mother Indiyapan.

As they came, “*Ay, ay*, mother *Doña* Vuḷan

this is my mother *Doña* Indiyapan,”

so said Gunjaliyan.

“*Ay, ay*, my co-parent-in-law,

this is why we sent for you,

so we could make the marriage agreement,

for on the third day when the moon is full

we shall begin,”

so said *Doña* Vuḷan.

When the third day came

more and more people gathered

for all village mates and relatives

were invited.

And they arrived at dusk, it is said,

and Gunjaliyan reportedly said:

“*Ay, ay*, clouds, be a blanket over

all these people so they could sleep,”

so said Gunjaliyan.

And so the people slept,  
while Gunjaliyan and others prepared the food.

Gunjaliyan said:

“Catch that pig,  
for that is what will be butchered,” so he said to his village mates.

And, “*Ay, a-ay*, what could be butchered  
out of this small piglet,”  
so said the people.

“Go on, just butcher it  
and see what will happen,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And so after they slaughtered it  
they started to slice it.

The people were amazed because  
the meat they were slicing kept multiplying  
for four vats were filled  
and that’s what they readied.

“*Ay, ay*, see all the rush for this food.”

“Yes, we shall prepare.

For I shall awaken these people so they could eat,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

And when the food was finally cooked,  
they set them out on the table.

“Let’s eat, because we shall begin  
the marriage ceremony we all came here for,”  
so said Gunjaliyan.

The people had their fill until the next morning.

And so spoke *Doña Vulan*:

“*Ay, ay, Señor Gunjaliyan*,  
show us now whatever we agreed on,  
so that they can witness it,”

so said *Doña Vuḷan*.

And Gunjaliyan spoke:

“*Ay, ay*, you antique jars

show yourselves so you could be displayed.

And so the antique jars grouped themselves together, it is said,

Presenting themselves before the assembly.

“And you, too, you carabaos, cows,

and various kinds of animals,

so that I could hand over my obligation,”

so said Gunjaliyan.

And, *ay, a-ay*, the people were amazed.

“What wealth this man has,”

so said the people, for

the animals had gathered together.

And so Gunjaliyan said:

“You animals, go yonder for a while,

to that wide, flat land

for now you will be handed over

for the marriage agreement,”

so said Gunjaliyan.

And when the marriage ceremony was over,

*Doña Vuḷan* addressed the people

who were of her village:

“Now, the marriage ceremony is over.

Go and care for Gunjaliyan and Julimaman

for they are just starting to build a home,”

so said *Doña Vuḷan*.

And the people went their way for

the marriage ceremony was done.

And so they built their own family,

Julimaman and Gunjaliyan.

And Kinji-ingan remained with them  
for she was Julimaman's handmaid.

Later, after several months  
Julimaman became pregnant.

On her third month  
of having a child with Gunjaliyan.

Gunjaliyan reportedly said:

"*Ay, a-ay, Doña* Julimaman my only wife,  
please permit me  
so I could travel to various places  
and visit our various relatives,"  
so said Gunjaliyan.

"Go then, but don't be long my dear  
for as you can see I am on my third month,  
and I need your attention,"  
Julimaman said.

When Gunjaliyan was in Kajallayapan,  
he was enticed by an unmarried woman  
whose name was Jinnayuwan.

And Gunjaliyan forgot Julimaman.

And after some time, here was Julimaman giving birth.  
The child grew and grew and started to play,  
but Gunjaliyan never came back.

"*Ay, a-ay*, let's go to Kajallayapan [Ka-ujanan],  
for he might be with his mother *Doña* Indiyapan,"  
so said Julimaman.

When they reached Kajallayapan, that is Ka-ujanan.

"*Apu*," so said Julimaman.

And their mother *Doña* Indiyapan replied:

"Come in my child, just push the door

for I cannot move, I'm flattened by my illness,"

so said *Doña* Indiyapan.

"Mother what happened to you?

I thought you would still be strong,"

so said Julimaman.

And so Julimaman got the oil

and applied it on her mother, including her hair

for she lay flat on her bed.

After doing this, she bathed her.

"Ay, ay, mother we came here

for as for him, he has not returned

your son, *Señor* Gunjaliyan,"

so said Julimaman.

"He is not here, my child.

For after you left, I got sick

and no one ever came here,"

so said Indiyapan.

And so later, on the fifth day,

there was an announcement that reached them.

And she looked at it

but they did not tell her it came from Gunjaliyan.

"They agreed and Jagsiluwan is getting married,"

so said those who delivered the message to Ka-ujanan.

"So go now, my child

for perhaps that is where you will meet

Gunjaliyan at Kajallayapan,"

so said *Doña* Indiyapan.

When they arrived at Kajallayapan, it is said,

Julimaman recognized, it is said,

Gunjaliyan who was cavorting with Jagsiluwan.

"Ay, a-ay, what shall I do now?

Maybe I should just go home,”

Julimaman said.

But the people prevailed upon her to stay.

Later after that,

they sat at the gathering.

“Ay, ay, Kinji-ingan, go and get

the staff of Gunjaliyan,

his golden staff

and bring it here,”

so said Julimaman.

And so Kinji-ingan stealthily

took his golden staff.

And Julimaman got hold of it.

When Gunjaliyan turned,

he saw that his staff was with Julimaman.

And so Gunjaliyan came near.

“How come my golden staff

is with you,” said Gunjaliyan.

“Sit down, Gunjaliyan.

What have you done?

Behold your beloved son

who looks like you,” said Julimaman.

And Gunjaliyan bowed his head.

“Ay a-ay, why did I ever get ensnared  
by this young woman *Doña* Jagsiluwan,”

Gunjaliyan said.

“Ay, ay, let’s now go home,”

said Julimaman.

“I am very disheartened

for he has lost his way,”

Julimaman reportedly said.



And so later, they arrived at their house.

“Ay, ay, Gunjaliyan, see how much you have ruined  
in our very own community.

This is because of your own doing.

What were you thinking of?

I thought the love you showed was true,”

said Julimaman.

Then Gunjaliyan profusely asked forgiveness.

“I shall leave you awhile, *Señor* Gunjaliyan,

for I will go to Jullangitan

to see my mother *Doña* Vuḷan,”

she said and so she went to see her mother.

When she reached home

she disclosed what happened to them.

And Julimaman returned.

“*Señor* Gunjaliyan, let’s go to your mother

and visit her for she was sick when we went there,”

said Julimaman.

When they arrived at Ka-ujanan,

and Julimaman instructed Gunjaliyan:

*Señor* Gunjaliyan, watch over your beloved child.

Do not neglect him

for I shall go to my mother in Jullangitan,”

Julimaman said.

Some time later, they stayed

at [the place of] Gunjaliyan’s mother, Indiyapan.

“I shall leave you here awhile for I shall go again

to *Doña* Vuḷan, for she has not told me everything

that she wanted to say,”

said Julimaman.

And so she stayed at Jullangitan and  
told her mother that she will leave Gunjaliyan.

And so they decided, *Doña Vuḷan*  
and her husband Iwaginnan:

“Let’s marry our daughter off  
to Kabagaguwan’s son,”

*Doña Vuḷan* said.

And so they married Julimaman off to  
Kababaguwan’s son  
who was himself a rooster-like man.

The Julimaman said,

“Let’s send word  
to *Señor* Gunjaliyan  
so I can have my revenge  
for it hurts me thinking about it,”

Julimaman said.

And, “No more, my child,  
forget it for you are leaving Gunjaliyan, anyway,”  
said her mother *Doña Vuḷan*.

And so they went on with the marriage ceremony.

When their marriage ceremony was over,

Kababaguwan’s son and Julimaman,

Julimaman went

to return to the place of *Doña Indiyapan*.

And all the family were there at her arrival.

“Alas, mother Indiyapan.

here, I have to leave with you this beloved child,  
for I have found another.

For I have gotten married for the second time  
and I now have my own family.

*Señor* Gunjaliyan, do take good care  
of this beloved son.

Anyway, your mother is here  
who will help you care for  
this our beloved son.  
Please do not be neglectful,”  
so said Julimaman.

And so Gunjaliyan was weeping.  
“*Ay, ay*, what can I do if you have made  
that decision,” said Gunjaliyan.  
“*Ay*, my son Gunjaliyan,  
you have to bear it for it was you who started this.  
What did you think you were doing?  
Why did you have to ruin  
your own home?”  
his mother Indiyapan said.

Then Julimaman bade them goodbye.  
“I shall leave you now to care for  
our beloved son,  
for I shall go home to Jullangitan for I now  
have my husband, the son of Kababaguwan,”  
so said Julimaman.

And so that is the end of the story of our forebears, the story of Gunjaliyan and  
Julimaman.

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