A.9 "Langkit Parrang Sabbil kan Apud"

(Ballad of the suicide of Apud)

Sung by Hatib Saypul, 50. Recorded at Bun-bun, Paticul, April 6, 1968. The text was written by the singer, a former professional musician who is now a religious leader, shortly before World War II.

The story of the song, which is fairly accurate historically, takes place during the Philippine Commonwealth under President Quezon. It describes the plight of five young Tausug men (Apud, Jumah, Mukaram, Pisingan, Isnain) who refused to become inductees as trainees in the militia and decided to become outlaws instead. They roamed around committing robbery and finally killed a bus driver (Jawil) who had reported them. Eventually, they and several of their kinsmen were killed in a battle with the militia which lasted for, "three weeks without end," according to the singer, perhaps exaggerating their prowess. This selection was recorded in a house near the beach; the background noise is that of breaking waves. (9:55 mins). The text follows.

1. Ari raying	
2. ari yaala hi raying	
3. katilah sing kalangan	The inspiration for this song
4. ha pagkulan-kulang	Came one night while lying still.
5. ing tagna sing kalangan	To begin our story we must first.
6. bismalla hirrahman	Give praise to God the merciful.
7. ra'aytu sing jaman	
8. layla tuan ku	Well, sir, this story is about
9. sing bata ahil jaman	Those young men of the last generation.
10. mahunit na nganan	It is very difficult to remember,
11. ahil jaman na kunuh	But is said that it occurred during the last generation
12. dunya diq na lumanuh	The world is not pure and peaceful,
13. bang awn saraq sunuh	If the law is more than one[refers to conflict between Islamic and American law].
14. dakula ing pagbunu	The fighting then was intense,
15. hihajarat hiusul	But I can only narrate the fundamentals.
16. kabataan naglunsul	In those days youngsters were roaming around
17. ing tugas diq magbinsul	Who were tough and hard and could not be crossed;
18. mangaku hikahansul	They would prefer death.
19. lima sila naglakul	There was one group of five
20. l\naglun-lun bata subul	Young unmarried men,
21. bata'I na mayul	And one of them said, "Go tell the Mayor,
22. kadtu'a na ing gubnul	Go tell the Governor,
23. bang sing tuhan hirul	That if God grants our wish
24. magjanji hangka kubul	We will pledge ourselves to be buried together in a single grave in His service."
25. lima sila nakura	All five were leaders
26. tiyuntutan sing saraq	Who had been charged by Philippine law;
27. natunug pa manila	The story had even reached Manila;
28. sila ing u balah	They had misfortune written all over them.
29. lima sila nagmattan	These five were well-known
30. tiyugun sing kapitan	And sent word to the Captain
31. diq mabaya hukutan	That they did not want to lose their freedom.

32. atas maglawitan	
33. lima sila nagisun	So they conferred together,
34. nagbutang sirilmasun	And made a decision
35. gam ngawa puasan	That it would be better to die
36. ayaw sila lugusun	Than to be forced to give in
37. sing saraq hi quezon	To the law of President Quezon.
38. lima sila nagpanun	So they took off together.
39. gam dunya paddangun	“Better to slashed to death,” they said,
40. ayaw tiriningun	“Than to become ‘trainees’.”
41. lima sila kailu	These five unfortunate fellows
42. pantun sing hangka ulu	Were of one mind and purpose:
43. mabaya da maghilu	They would much rather become insane with rage
44. daing sing magsundulu	Than become soldiers.
45. lima sila katan	Out of these five
46. hi apud ing mandangan	Apud was a real bull,
47. hi Jumah bubulangan	Jumah was the cockfighter,
48. katu kan mukaram	Mukaram was the third –
49. hi mukaram marakag	A real tough fellow,
50. ba anak hi bapa mutab	Son of Mutab,
51. bata bagu limasag	A young fellow just beginning to feel his strength,
52. bang bustanun mabasag	Which would pass the test for sure if he had to fight.
53. kaupa kat pisingan	The fourth was Pisingan,
54. usug kabibilangan	A reliable man, upright and well-regarded.
55. kalmia kan isnain	The fifth was Isnain,
56. hi isnain matangkis	A clever young man,
57. naggulal manuk impis	Almost like a speedy rooster,
58. mangaku mikipipis	Who would rather die a violent death
59. diq mayhu pa upis	Than face the government.
60. lima sila nagba’an	These five went together to hide
61. palaum sing gulangan	Inside the jungle;
62. bang awn katungha’an	And if they were to find game
63. du’un in kabuhi’an	They planned to live there.
64. kalabi pagkatay	But they grew weary of wandering in the jungle.
65. ing paggawa pa pantay	And came out into the plain again.
66. sanguh bang awn banta(y)	“Anyway,” they thought, “if we have enemies,
67. maksud magpakamatay	Our purpose is to die.”
68. ampa sila nanglangpas	So they committed robbery,
69. naturul pa naapas	And were followed and chased;
70. ing danan timungkas	But they got away,
71. ha ran nakauntas	By crossing the road,
72. nakauntas pa ran	
73. tarak ing piyagkugdan	Then they ran into a bus,
74. hi rabbuwa kunduktul	With Rabbuwa the conductor,
75. namaita nanghansul	Who told the persons giving chase
76. ing sapi piyagkudgdan	That the cow had been followed
77. iyagaw sing sugarul	And had been taken by the thieves.

78. jawali lingkatan
79. namayta sing mattan
80. abung niyu pa satan
81. kalu niyu abutan
82. pagka kiyatandawan
83. ganta duwa lumba'an
84. nagtuy liyungturan
85. saguwa dimagan
86. ubus ampa naguy
87. harap pa kabbun kahuy
88. agi sing manga bata
89. bang mahi bayta
90. ing atak bukun ganta

91. bunu'un bang magkita
92. hamu'uk timampal
93. mamung matawakkal
94. pagadlaw alba'a
95. nagisun nagmustala

96. ing sila magsabbil na
97. ing tarak hapa'an na
98. ing sila nagpanaw na
99. pagka luhul sugah na
100. ing tarak hapa'an na
101. hi apud simambat na
102. kamu upat una na
103. aku daing din a
104. ing tarak dimatung na
105. hinda apud simuna
106. bat sintak ing lima
107. amu ganti sagina
108. tarak mu pahungunga
109. ing karuhung sing tarak
110. ing hi apud simakat
111. biyugtu sing kahandak
112. ha kamatay magukat
113. pagka sing nakagaban na
114. tarak piyadagan
115. kinda apud durugan
116. ing bangku lingkuran
117. sapiyul siyunuran
118. sapiyul siyunuran
119. ing tarak piyahugpah
120. ha taytayan sapah
121. ing sila nagkita
122. pagka sukay nasabbut
123. sinyal pa abut-abut
124. pagka kalis naabut
125. ing sapiyul liyagut
126. ing kalagut iyumpak

The handsome Jawali
Told the truth:
"Go to the south,
Perhaps you will catch them,"
And when they were seen at a distance,
About a quarter mile away,
The thieves were surprised,
But they managed to escape,
And quickly fled
Towards "The Orchard of Trees".
The boys then said to each other,
"If they had not been told,
The group that was going to fight us would never have known.
If we see him again we will surely kill him."
One of them made it known
That he would be courageous and seek revenge.
Finally, Wednesday arrived.
They had decided to make themselves truly famous,

They would die in the Path of God,
They would ambush the truck and take revenge.
So they walked back to the road,
The hot noon sun was already out,
Then the truck arrived,
And Apud told his plan:
"You four go ahead," he told the others,
"I'll wait here."
The truck came closer,
And Apud said,
As he raised his hand
In place of greeting,
"Stop this truck."
The stopping of the truck
Allowed Apud to get on.
He was destined to die by God's will, this Apud,
And detach his soul by death.
So he climbed up on the truck,
And it started again.
This handsome Apud
Sat down on a bench in the truck,
While the driver continued on his way.

As the truck moved towards
The bridge over a river,
He and his companions saw each other
And then the fare was asked for
He signaled several times,
Reached for his kris,
And hacked the driver.
He jumped and slashed the driver's

127. ha abaga hansipak	Shoulder in two;
128. ing hait namagakpak	The sharp kris wished through the air
129. kibitz duwa masipak	Splitting his shoulders,
130. kaduwa liyakbusan	Both hacked like cutting sugar cane;
131. baran katibusan	His body jerked,
132. diq marapat tangkisan	The blow could not be evaded, and
133. tad tad ing gimpaisan	His skin was slit in pieces.
134. jawali durugan	He then turned to the handsome Jawali,
135. kimawa kabantugan	Who had acquired much fame:
136. minsan aku hilaran	“Even if I am destroyed,” he yelled,
137. ha pagguyud—guyuran	“In fighting my enemy,
138. diq ta kamu igan	You will not survive”;
139. igan diq ta kamu	
140. baita ku kaniyu	I’m telling you,
141. minsan aku matumu	Even if I am killed,
142. way maginu—inu	Nobody will be surprised, because I am justified.”
143. jawali majantih	This Jawali was alert and skilled,
144. diq mabugah ha basih	He did not fear weapons.
145. minsan pais magisih	Even though he was wounded
146. diq mig hanka insi	He did not give an inch.
147. kalaksu sing inspectul	The truck inspector jumped,
148. ing budjak nasinkul	Crossing weapons with the assailant.
149. mahait bukun tukul	His sword was no hammer, but very sharp;
150. ha bukug magkagingkul	Their bodies met with force.
151. ing lannang piyasigay	A Chinese was told to get out of the way,
152. tiyu’ud piyalabay	They tried to let him pass,
153. in palih ha gulumay	But he was wounded in the finger [this is humorous—Chinese are regarded as cowards];
154. wala tu’ura nasabay	It was an accident,
155. ing lannang simiyagit	But the Chinese got real scared,
156. nakia nahait	Seeing that sharp sword.
157. diq aku makabalik	“I’m not going to come back here,” he said,
158. bat magtinda pa seit	“Just in order to sell things.”
159. ing lannang dimagan	The Chinese ran away,
160. tau ing piyakugdan	Until he met someone along the road.
161. bapa aku haturan	“Safeguard me,” he said,
162. atas ku manangdan	“I promise I will pay you.
163. tuan haturan aku	Sir, please arrange it, please.
164. madtu pa upis campu	So that I can reach the Constabulary Camp.”
165. daghal piyagsapu	He was very agitated,
166. sanguh sing nagkatipu	As he had been victimized;
167. miyudhas na ing bayhu	His face was pale and
168. nakatandaw pa tabu	He looked toward the market;
169. biyal siyud duguh	He had been wounded,
170. tatab na bissara	And said with great emotion,
171. ha tau bukun pila	To many men:
172. bang way pilak	“If I had no money
173. minsan baran patay na	I would be killed already.”
174. hi janah mabahaya	Janah was a big man,
175. matambuk timbang duwa	So fat he weighed as much as two men.
176. patay na magkatawa	He was laughing hard

177. magkasa sing ngawa	Janah's death was imminent.
178. hi janah diq marapat	It wasn't possible to fool with Janah,
179. alistu timbang upat	His knowledge was as much as two men;
180. kaku bukun tumpis	On can't criticize Janah.
181. kalangan piyanipis	This song is shorter now [apparently there is a section here forgotten by the singer]
182. hi janah nagkambut lupis	Janah was wearing a sash of abaca,
183. nagsanyawa manipis	With thin underwear.
184. tau nakahalubilu	People were confused
185. didtu ha upis campu	At the government office:
186. nakalaruk na madtu	They had gone to find out from Tandu Batu[a place]
187. tarak ha tandu batu	Ayub was a top notch fellow,
188. hi ayub umbul satu	It was not possible to challenge him.
189. diq marapat alistu	
190. alistu diq marapat	
191. ing kasakat pa tarak	The people got on the truck as
192. pa tayungan simakap	It was preparing to go to Tayungan.
193. in tarak limagublub	The engine roared,
194. pa taungan simakap	And proceeded to Tayungan.
195. hinda inspectul ayub	This Ayub was the bus inspector, and
196. diq marapat sing isug	Nobody would dare test his bravery;
197. pabut pagkausug	He had magic to increase his bravery.
198. napanyap iban durug	He was very handsome,
199. tunggal na bang usug	Knew how to take care of himself,
200. maluuy magmaulud	And was a good singer,
201. nagtingug hi daud	Just like the Prophet David [who is regarded as original singer of the *luguh* in Tausug belief]
202. subul budjang magilud	Young people would come to hear him
203. minsan magbangday tuhud	And lose themselves in the music,
204. way bali masipub	Even if they did something shameful.
205. bangkay ing piyaruli	Jawali has received vengeance.
206. inspectul jawali	His corpse
207. liyuwan pa tiyanggi	Was loaded on the truck for Jolo,
208. hayispital iyukay	Taken to the hospital,
209. piyakita ing bangkay	And examined.
210. pagubus piyahatul	Then arrangements were made
211. ampa na piyaukay	To have it autopsied
212. ha ductul	By a doctor.
213. ampa na piyakubul	Then Jawali was buried.
214. ing sapiyul nabunu	This bus driver had been killed,
215. sahibuddin kunu	Supposedly by Sahibuddin.
216. kiyabalu sanguh	Anyway, he was dead, his wife a widow.
	But there was one whose anger was intense,
217. ing atay diq lumanuh	Whose determination to take revenge was great:
218. bat amu nagmatugul	The young man who was his son,
219. ing anak subul-subul	Who went back to Taungan,
220. pa tayungan imurul	So that his teachers were upset.
221. bat ing mastal hiyul	This son of Jawali
222. anak hi Jawali	Was out to take revenge,
223. ing ganta mamaruli	But instead of proceeding directly to Tayungan,
224. pa tayungan simubli	Biray would not allow him to go.
225. wala hi biray duli	

226. hi biray umbul satu	This Biray was a good man,
227. kaput tarak auto	The owner of the bus company.
228. ing maitay katu	“Those three who died,” he said,
229. atas kun a maggastu	“I will pay for their funerals and blood-money in order to see this trouble ended.”
230. bukun ulaula kua	I am not joking
231. bukun ulaula ku	I am not joking,
232. dilah ku kapangandulan	I am not lying,
233. diq ta kamu akkalan	I am trustworthy;
234. diq ta kamu akkalan	You won’t be cheated by me.
235. maabut tapus bulan	By the end of this month,
236. kari kamu dihilan	Come to me for the money.”
237. hi biray lingkatan	This Biray was handsome.
238. miyadtu pa kapitan	He went to the Captain [of the Constabulary]
239. bang akkal ksugpatan	Saying, “If this plotting for revenge continues,
240. tayungan kasakitan	The people of Tayungan will suffer.”
241. kailu hinda apud	Poor Apud,
242. ubus ampa timakud	Meanwhile, had struggled
243. harap pa pigih bud	Toward the mountain.
244. usbawaris	His relatives had pleaded with him [i.e., the five outlaws]
245. naglihud	“Do not abuse people,” they said.
246. ayaw kamu manglaug	Isnain kidded them;
247. hi isnain jimuri	“If the soldiers come
248. bang ing sundalu mari	Guide them right here,
249. pa bay hinda lambi	To the house of Lambi.”
250. ing hi lambi mandangan	Now this Lambi was like a Bull,
251. niyat sing angan-angan	His deep thoughts had led him
252. anakun niya in ununga	To desire to die with his nephew,
253. anak sing palanggungan	The child of his full brother.
254. hi lambi pa naming	Then Lambi said,
255. sisintak ing barung	Raising up his sword,
256. diq kun a mapalambung	“I do not know what will happen,
257. ha anakun umunung	But we will die together,
258. ha sabab anak sing langgung	Because this is the child of my brother.”
259. pagka mahapun-hapun	In the early afternoon,
260. hi arabain dimatung	Arabain arrived.
261. way dusa pa campung	Arabain had done no wrong to his kinsmen,
262. luwal pa tagi’ipun	Only to God.
263. arabain malingkat	He was handsome,
264. piyalud pa dagat	He had been made to go into the ocean,
265. ba piyalagut ha ubat	And had been ritually whipped.
266. awn pa sunud huli	Later, the son of Jajuli [the singer probably means Jawali here]
267. anak hi jajuli	Proceeded to come.
268. akkal gimali-gali	He was thinking of doing bad all the time,
269. sumandal biragdali	Anticipating his own death, and enjoying a beautiful young woman angel in the afterlife,
270. wa sing tuhan duli	But only if God wills it;
271. nalillah pa tininti	But he surrendered to the Lieutenant
272. inday bang ha mahuli	So I do not know what his fate will be.
273. ampa tau bud	But the people of the mountain[refers to Tayungan]

274. naglandu ing isug
275. ing baran diq malunud
276. hi manggun hiyarus
277. kan da apud timapus
278. pikilan ku napuspus
279. diq kun a yan magapus
280. hi manguma pandikil
281. agi kan abubakkar
282. diq ku makaakkal
283. ikaw ing pagpatampal
284. manguma sarang patah
285. pa gubnur namaitah
286. pasal sing manga bata
287. diq ku mayan makawa
288. urdin sing capitan
289. hangkan na sa tapusan
290. ha butang makaminsan
291. bang way na tustusan
292. magunu diq valisan
293. sulayan tan a kunu
294. tirinis ing hibunu
295. bang diq makawa namu
296. kunstabli ing sumunuh
297. ing sumunuh kunstabli
298. bang diq maparuli
299. hi biray ing sumubli
300. pagabut adlaw isnin
301. kapitan nagurdin
302. kan da mudjahirin
303. ing tindug mu hari'in
304. daha na maglain
305. in tindug mu ha bud
306. bat da diq makalamud
307. ing taungan malingug
308. bata'I na dittun
309. ha langgal na matipun
310. ing mundu palurun
311. sundalu pasularun
312. pagabat adlaw hamis
313. ing tunangan timangis
314. timangis ing tungangan
315. pagdungug sing tayungan
316. Sali sing giyandangan
317. mahunit na agpangan
318. pagkita sing baanan
319. dagan kaw kapang
320. baytah suy suy
321. Sali kambing diyuy
322. napamahit naglaksu
323. ing ulak makabisu
324. gam magad ha asu
325. ayaw sing mapalisu

We're getting very anxious for a fight.
Manguma's body was getting heavy;
He was getting tired.
Apud, too, was tired.
"I cannot think of anything more;
I cannot stop them now."
Now this Manguma was good in talking,
And he said to Abubukkar
"I am not deceiving you;
It's up to you."
Manguma was candid.
He told the Governor:
"Concerning these fellows,
I cannot do anything about them."
Then the order of the Captain came:
"We will try just once
To put an end to this trouble;
But if they cannot be convinced,
We will have to overwhelm them.
Let's try it," he supposedly said
"We will send the trainees in first.
If they are not captured,
We will send in the Constabulary,

If Biray [the mediator] is
Not able to do the job of settling this."
When Monday arrived
The Capitain gave an order,
Saying to Mudjahirin [the head man in Tayungan]
"Where are your retainers?
Ask them to come down,
Your retainers on the mountain,
So that they are not involved.
And the people of Tayungan who are not in trouble,
Tell them
To assemble in the mosque."
The outlaws came down,
And the soldiers climbed up.
When Thursday came,
Their fiancées cried.
When they heard,
They became very animated.
It was impossible to hold them
When they saw their enemy.
"Run," they screamed, "Lie down."
It is said.
That it was like goats being driven away.
They shouted, jumped with anger,
Screamed so loud you could not hear.
"Better to die," they said.
"Than become a prisoner.

326. asal tar a bista
327. ing tindug sing parinta
328. mins an kita limata
329. mapilisu da kita
330. lugay nila biyunuh
331. tu hammis nagsunnuh
332. imulak pa timanngu
333. ampa sila nasabbil kunuh

We have already encountered them,
These followers of the government;
If we idly talk,
We will become prisoners."
They fought for
Three weeks without stopping.
They continued yelling, putting off their death,
And then, they were killed.
Or so it is said.