Translation of the animal fable “The Tortoise and the birds”

Once upon a time, tortoise was a friend to birds. One day, a tortoise was hungry. He went to a hawk, and said, ‘my friend, I am hungry, I need something to eat’. His friend then replied, you are lucky. We are invited to attend a wedding party tomorrow up in the sky. You can come with us. ‘How is that possible, my friend, when you know that I have no wings?’ His friend the hawk then replied: ‘do not be afraid. We will contribute our feathers and stick them on you with glue.’

The following day, they traveled together up in the sky and attended the wedding party together. Tortoise was overwhelmed with excited and said, ‘Now that I am up here in the sky, I shall no longer be called ‘tortoise’. In dismay, his friends, then asked, ‘what then shall you be called?’ I shall be called Ge Beed (all of them).

When the invited guests took their seats, the caterers started serving them with meals. Tortoise, who sat in front, asked caterers, ‘whose food is this?’ It is for all, they replied. Excited, he celebrated and said, it is my food since I am now called ‘all of them’. He started eating everything by himself. And when he finished, he handed remnants to his friends who had seats behind him. His friends warned him, ‘please, stop doing that lest we dispossess you of our feathers.’ In defiance, he kept doing the same thing over and over again. His friends, then dispossessed him of their feathers and bid him farewell and they departed. But before they left, he sent a message to his wife: ‘do me a favor. Tell my wife to collect and spread soft materials on the ground in preparation for my landing since I will be jumping and rolling back.’ Upon arrival, his friends told his wife the exact opposite. ‘Your husband said you should collect and spread hard materials on the group in preparation for his landing.’ Tortoise’s wife believed them did accordingly.

When tortoise jumped down, he fell on hard materials (stones and rock) with his back, which he broke seriously. That is why, these days, you see the tortoise’s back the way it is.