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## Why Dogs Have No Names (Part 2)

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37.0 Why dogs have no names (ed tc m/m w/tones)

ùtén tùmè cé, by Kaba Camara (ka)

Note: There are some unusual pronoun agreement patterns, singular and plural seem to be interchangeable in places (jd agrees)

tén tùmè cé  
story dog def

The story of a dog.

à t ə ' p í ×

à cəp-i

1sg.sm start-i

Am I to start?

awa, aben ace, pe hele mi pale a huŋ yom ten

áwà à-bèn à-cé pè yél-yé mì  
okay ncm-old ncm-def pro call-stat 1sg

All right, elders, they called me for gossip

pálè à húŋ yóm tén  
say 1sg come agree story

It is said I come agreed (to tell) a story.

kənɔy, kənɔy ətɛn cɛ kə hi yom ki.

kənò-i kənò-i ù-tén cè kò hi  
yóm kì  
but but ncm-story def pro 1pl tell  
now

but- but it is a story that we are telling.

lɔ fə ŋə yomɔ. nya ki kaba.

lò fɔ ŋə yóm-ò ò-yà kì kàbà  
if must pro tell-ev emph-1sg here Kaba

If it must be told, here is Kaba.

nlɔ pɛ kom mi ka.

ò-lò pè kóm mì kà  
emph-pro pro bear me here

This is where someone gave birth to me here.

a gbendi sɔtɔ tinen itɔy ɲɔl nuŋ waŋ ka ki.

à gbén-di sòtò tì-nén ì-tón-ì-nyòl-  
núŋ-wàŋ kàkì  
1sg.sm finish-cmp get ncm-year ncm-twenty-ncm-four-and-ten here  
now

I am fifty (actually says 'ninety'!) years old.

awa, kol nlɔye.

áwà kól ò-lò yè  
okay there emph-pro prt

All right, there it is.

awa, a ka gbentdi tumε ce yo,  
 áwà à ká gbènt-di tùmè cé  
 yó  
 okay 1sg.sm past catch-cmp dog def prt.emph  
 Ok, I caught the dog.

tumε ce nwɔ kom, ntoe lay ×  
 tùmè cé ñ-wò kóm ñ tòé là- i  
 dog def emph-3sg bear 2sg hear it q  
 The dog gave birth, do you hear?

ə komdi apɔm agber.  
 ù kóm-di à-pòmò à-gbér  
 3sg bear-cmp ncm-child ncm-a lot/many  
 It bore many puppies.

nlɔa wuɲ ce kol haɲ,  
 ñ-ló ñà hùn cè kól háán  
 emph-pro 3pl come cop there until  
 It's there they are until

pàɛ ali sɛmiyɛ leli,  
 pàlé àlí sém-i-yé léli  
 say for stand-cs-stat name  
 they say (the time) for giving names

fɔ ɲa tun sikuluɲ  
 fɔ ñà tún sɪ-kùlùn  
 must 3pl search ncm-goat  
 they must look for goats (for the sacrifice).

əfɔ nɛ kɔnɔ kɔ huɲ fɔni kɔ tun sikuluɲ,  
 ù-fó ñ-cé kɔnɔ kò hún  
 fɔ-n  
 ncm-go.out ncm.def dem go come go.out-  
 mid  
 That search, it comes to go out  
 tc: weird agreement for 'search'

ì kò tún sɪ-kùlùn  
 sm go search ncm-goat  
 to go looking for goats,

ə tun, ə tun, ə tun, ə ken, ə sɔtɛn.  
 ù tún ù tún ù  
 kè-én ù sòt-én  
 3sg search 3sg search 3sg search 3sg see-neg 3sg get-neg  
 he looked, he looked, he looked, he didn't see any and he didn't get any.

ñḡḡ kḡ wḡḡ hun yḡy,  
 ñ-ḡḡ kḡ wḡ-n hùn yḡ-i  
 emph-pro go 3sg-emph come rel-i  
 When he came,

tumε ce ɲa gbendi wḡḡ pal.  
 tùmè cé ḡà gbén-di wḡ-n  
 páł  
 dog def 3pl finish-cmp 3sg-emph grow  
 the dog(s) had finished growing (they had become mature).

ə ɲale ánbay,á ə ɲale ánbay, nbay, apḡm ace ɲa ki.  
 u ɲàlé mbà ù ɲàlé mbà mbà à-pḡm  
 à-cé ḡà ki  
 3sg say ok 3sg say ok ok ncm-  
 child ncm-def 3pl here  
 They say "Ok," they say "Ok, ok, the puppies are here.

nḡḡḡ koe ə ha wḡ.á  
 nḡ-ó-nḡ kwè ù ḡà wḡ  
 person-dist-person take 3sg? 3pl prt  
 Every one takes their name. ?

awa, ḡḡḡ gbo wḡḡ koe ha wḡ yḡy,  
 áwà ñ-ḡḡ gbó wḡ-n kwè ḡà wḡ  
 yḡ  
 okay emph-pro just 3sg-emph take 3pl 3sg rel  
 Okay, they have taken their names

bḡḡḡ pε hale áḡḡḡ, n kḡ wḡḡ bey lel.á  
 bḡḡḡ pè nyàlé mḡ-n ñ kḡ  
 wḡ-ḡ bé ì-lél  
 and pro say 2sg-emph 2sg go 3sg-emph put  
 ncm-name  
 and they say "You, go give it a name."

awa, tumε sicεy ndo sḡḡḡ lel kol.  
 áwà tùmè si-cé ñ-lò sḡḡḡ lél  
 kól  
 okay dog ncm-def emph-pro get name there  
 Okay, the dogs got their names there.

ndabilay tumε ce biyen lel  
 ñ-là bilà tùmè cé bì-yé-én  
 léł  
 emph-pro why dog def have-stat-neg name  
 This is why dogs don't have names

fɔ̃ n kɔyɛ wɔ̃ mɔ̃ wɔ̃ bo kɔe,  
 fɔ̃                    ñ                    kwé                    wɔ̃                    mɔ̃  
                   wɔ̃                    bó                    kwè  
 must                    2sg                    take                    3sg                    2sg                    3sg                    pick                    can                    take  
 Unless you take the one you are able to take,

mɔ̃ wɔ̃ bo yɔ̃ki,  
 mɔ̃                    wɔ̃                    bó                    yɔ̃k  
 2sg                    3sg                    can                    bring  
 you can give it (a name).

bɔ̃lɔ̃ ə kɔ̃ sɔ̃tɔ̃ lɛl. ñɔ̃yɛ, ətɛn bul kɔ̃yɛ.  
 bɔ̃lɔ̃                    ù                    kɔ̃                    sɔ̃tɔ̃                    lɛl                    ñ-lɔ̃-ɛ                    ù-tɛn  
                                      b̀̀l                    k̀̀                    ỳ̀  
 and                    3sg                    go                    get                    name                    emph-loc-prt                    ncm-story                    one  
                   pro                    rel  
 and he gets a name. That's it, that's one (the first) story.