

21 Nov, TC: Pa Joe transcribed and did a rough translation late in the evening

22 Nov, TC: Checked against audio, only 'arm' idiom needs explanation

23 Nov: finished

Idrissa Amara

with accompanying group

"Singu gbɛn-gbɛn"

Recorded 10 May 08 by Alie Turay, Mosenten, involving a group of men who took turns singing and accompanying others

Based on recording "21 Idrissa Amara song Singu gbengben", 1:30

Transcription

Clapping throughout

Chorus and response: Idrissa the lead singer with others joining him on a repeated line – Idrissa renowned for his fine voice

Some useful text for Flex

singu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ ɔ go yani we-e-e

We have an old poverty on us here. (Idrissa Amara Singu gben-gben song)  
'poverty' sɛngwɛ́, equivalent to "yi-sin"?

(Chorus and IA repeat)

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ ɔ go yani we-e-e

6.58

e-e sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ ɔ go yani e-e, gbagi ma ko (10.1)

should be [gbagi] 'arm', people wearing it

Joe later: "gbagi ma ko" = merely a euphonic sequence

(Chorus and IA repeat)

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ ɔ kwago gbagu ma ko

13.1

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go yani we gbagi ma ko  
(16.0)

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go kwago gbagi ma ko  
(18.9)

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go kwago gbagi ma ko  
(22.0)

sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go kwago gbagi ma ko  
(24.8)

IA alone: sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go yani we-e-e-e  
(27.8)

IA w chorus: sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go gbagi we-e-e-e  
(30.8)

IA w chorus: sin gu gbɛn-gbɛn kɔ lɔ go gbagi we-e-e-e  
(32.8)

ha na gbɛngo ya eya ye kwago e gbagi ma ko

sin gu gbɛn - kɔ lɔ yani o we gbagi ma ko (46.0)