

20 Oct 08: TC briefly visited, edited and review, some interesting stuff – talk of telling babies to drink milk in Mende, language usage in the past and currently

19 May 08, TC: inspected and slightly edited

Recording date: 2008-04-16

Recording: A07 MK asks FK about the Kim Ig

MK: Fasía.

FK: Hm?

MK: ε– teliya yen, mu teliye yeni, (FK: Mm.) hun keneη?
Eh– this speech, you are speaking this, (Yes.) is it good?

FK: εε.
Yes.

MK: Hɔmɔ lani wε mu hɔ, yen keneη?
That language that you speak, [is it] good?

FK: εε, la la keneη hin.
Yes, it is good.

MK: εε, landa binde hun tɔmiye? Yi ce lan pɛi– ha–
Yes, why did it stop? We no longer– they–

FK: Yeni hun ce lan pɛi hɔ apuma hiye kíńíŋ ha yi koma, han ce lan pɛi hɔwε? (MK: Mm.)
The reason that all our children that were born of us no longer, they no longer speak it?
koma = ‘passive’ form of verb kom?

Yi ce lan há le: “kun moɣa.” Amge yi wɔ ha le: “a nyini gbɔɛi.”

amge = 'I think.' JP. "Proper Kim."

Double neg?

Not “nago” ‘after’ but rather “na go” “Past Future / hypothetical”?

“Breastfeed,” “Hey, girl, come here.”

“Come here! This girl, she’s stubborn!”

JP thought hi was 'if.'

If she cried, they told her to stop, stop stop stop stop stop.

“hu”?

Drawers: underwear.

You put drawers on her, right? ??

Κε leila yini, mu pɛi ɥɔ gi apuma yɛgi lani, ma ɥɔ bɛ ɥɔ Kimmɔi,
But nowadays, if you again speak to those boys, they don't speak Kim,

wɔ sɛm wɛi si wɔ mɔ ken. (MK: M-hm.)
he stands there and looks at you.

Tɛmi hun yi na pɔɛ, (MK: Mm.) mɔ-Mendɛ mɔ ma na cen mɔkwí.
Time Top 1pl Past grow, NCM-Mende NCP Neg Past Aux.Neg NCM-much
At the time when we grew up, Mende was not plentiful.
[TC: Double negative? See below]

MK: Agbɛna miɛ.

FK: Agbɛna hiyɛ yaasu. Kimmɔi, hun ha na ge hin ɥɔwɛ.
In our parents' hands. It was Kim that they were speaking to us.

Yan vui, leila yini, Kimmɔi mɔi, ya ce mɔn pweigan, kona fó.
I really, even now, I don't forget the Kim language, forever.
kona fó = 'forever,' Mende. Kona means 'future,' and fó is an ideophone
used, in instances I know, with being thoroughly clean/washed or being
very fair in complexion.

MK: Mm̀m̀. Ha ɥɔ mɔ vuí- ha ɥɔ mɔ vuí-
Yes. They spoke it much- they spoke it much-

FK: Mm. Anina ɥɔ mɔ vuí. Yaam wɔn, wɔ ma na cen ɥɔ mɔ Kim, na go ɥɔ
Bommɔi. (MK: Bommɔi.)
Yes. People spoke it a lot. My mother she, she did not speak any Kim, she
spoke Bom.

FK: Mm. Κε, wɔ ma na cen men háà le,
Yes. She would not say to me,

Bommɔ mɔ yanɔn, le a hun kun moɣa,

In the Bom language, when I came to suck at the breast,

Bommɔi yanɔn, wa le: “ε, Fasia, hun kun moɣa.”

in the Bom language, she said: “Eh, Fasia, come suck at the breast!”

MK: ε, Kimmɔi anɔn.

Oh, in Kim.

FK: Yanɓε kɔn. Si ya go kun moɣa.

I myself went. Then I was sucking at the breast.

MK: ε, Kimmɔi anɔn, hiyyeh?

Eh, in Kim, right?

FK: εε. Ya lunde hɔ Kimmɔ lanɪ wε háá hu ya mui yeni, yan saantε.

Yes. I **was** speaking that Kim language all the time until I came here, I am big.

JP translates lunde ‘was.’

Leila bε yeni, Kimmɔi, ya cen pweigan. Ya cen pweigan gbí.

Even now, Kim, I don’t forget it. I don’t forget it at all.

MK: Han te la, hiyyeh? (FK: unintelligible) Han te la? Le wɔ teliyε.

You understand it, right? Do you understand it? When she talks.

HS: εε.

Yes.

END SEGMENT