

12 Mar 09, tc: rcvd from Hannah, reviewed and slightly edited
topic: Mende vs. Kim

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TL: ε– yinbε ta poε yeni.
Eh– we who grew up here.
I also have ‘hɔge ta kwɛili hin,’ for the entire utterance, but it doesn’t sound like that in the recording.

Ha Kími, ni ha Mɛndeyε.
They the Kim, and they the Mende.

yɛŋta ta ta leyε?
What things are there left over?
I.e., what things are there between them? What are the differences between them?
tc: Functions of 3 ta’s?

ε, han, yi tupa anɔn lewε, [TJ: εε.]
Eh, they, we stay in the bush,
lewε = glossed as ‘stay’ by JP.

sɔmma ma yi yaswaan yeni,
the food that is in our possession here,

ma cé han yaswaan.
is not in their possession.

Amge, hɔye ken na go, yi lapi go la yεge gbiya, hiye? [TJ: Mm]
I think, when day has broken, we fight to squeeze cassava, right?

Han, hɔye ken nan go, ha le, ha yá ha jogwɛ; ha jo.

As for them, when day has broken, they say, 'Let them boil themselves some rice.' They eat rice.

Han, ha wɔ ken,

They, they see it,

la gbusumga hun ge pigwɛ wɛ.

for plowing it in pigwɛ.

Also written, alternative: gbusun go ha go yɛpi gowɛ. I think this doesn't sound right. Unsure what this means. Something about the location of Mende rice fields, or how the Mende don't have to travel by water to reach their fields like the Kim.

Hin, ha na cen minan yan/yɛ.

It, they don't stay in the water.

Ha cen minma hinyɛ anɔn wɛ.

They don't (go) in our water.

Yin, amge yi min go gbateɔn, hiyɛ? [TJ: Mm]

As for us, I think we go to the floodplains through the water, right?

Han, ha ce go yɛpɔn.

They, they stay on land.

yɛpɔn = on land.

Han, ha hɔye hɔmɔ yi hɔwɛ yeni,

They, the speech which we are speaking here,

This is hard to understand on the recording.

han, ha ce mɔn hɔ, ha ce mɔn te.

they, they don't speak it, they don't understand it.

Yeni hu yi pɛpɛn pɛi, yini hani.

That is what separates us, we and them.

pɛpɛn = to separate. JP gave pupan.