

13 mar 09, tc: reviewed and lightly edited

Interview date: 02 May 2008

File name: A11 Joe Braima on the Kim Language

Transcriber: HS

Transcription consultants: Fasia Kolia and Joe Peku.

Notes: this conversation continues without pausing the recorder from A10, the conversation about the war.

IMPORTANT: the end of this recording is actually at the beginning of recording A11. This needs to be removed on the master copy.

TL: Kε- yení hun ɔ hun ya mɔ yiyɛ (jb: m-m)

But- there's something else I will ask you. (jb: Okay)

TL hard to hear; speaking in low voice

Jɛnda yen anina yen ha yipɛ, la hɔwɛ gen mɔi mui yení, mu cɔn da jɛn? (JB: mm)

This thing that these people are bringing, for this, your language, do you like it? (jb: Yes.)

I have *hɔwɛgen* as one word in the notes. JP glossed as "our language."

Incl. pronoun? TL uses *hɔwɛ ge* for speech; see earlier.

TL: Si ha yipɛ yin koog, vuí yen, cɔn da jɛn?

If they bring us up here, do you like that?

Unclear what this first part means.

JB: Mm, ya cɔn da jɛn.

Yes, I like it.

Si ya ma cɔni lan jɛni, [TL: Mm] ya ma húnna.

If I didn't like it, I wouldn't have come.

Note irrealis construction here. Note -a with verb for irrealis.

Le ha kwɛi ce vuí ha le, ha hunɛ hɔ.  
When they go to stay a lot, they say, they will speak it.

Ha le yin, yin, yi kwɛi yan yeni.  
They say we, we, we walk here.  
Here TL himself seems to be struggling with language.

Mu kɔ?  
Will you go?

JB: Ya ce nan go nigɛna.  
I haven't gotten sick.  
tc: nb –neg on na

TL: Kɛ, hun la kapuma ha?  
But, what is it (about) your children?  
tc: ka– vs a– because children considered collectively? ka apuma?

Si ha– yi hɔ– hɔgi mɔi yen, Kimmɔi,  
If they– we speak– this language, Kim,

kɛ apuma hiyɛ, ha ma hɔ mɔ.  
but our children, they don't speak it.  
no double neg w/ ma

Hun le li lá?  
What about that?

Jɛnda igbegbe la la ha?  
Is that a good thing for them?

JB: Mm, ingɛ lani? [TL: Mm]  
Mm, if it's so?  
ingɛ = perhaps/if? JP vague.

Mm, Bulum, ㄇㄛ Bulumㄇㄛ, [TL: M-hm] wei? [TL: Mm]  
Hm, Bullom for the Bullom person, right?  
I.e., one should speak the language of one's ethnic group.

Nuu ㄛㄛ ㄌㄛ, [TL: Mm] ㄛㄛ yema ㄇㄛ. [TL: M-hm]  
There's a person, he wants it (a language).  
Some people want (to learn) languages.

Kenma le kàà bɛ, [TL: Mm] nuu ㄛㄛ ㄌㄛ, ㄛㄛ yema kàà.  
Like studying itself, there's a person who wants to study.

Amge hani bɛ, le ha mui yeni,  
I think that they themselves, when they arrived here,

ha yema ㄇㄛ te, [TL: ɛɛ] ha yema ㄇㄛ ㄏㄛ, hiyɛ? [TL: Mm]  
they want to understand it [Kim], they want to speak it, right?

ɛ- gbɛtega nan go, [TL: Mm] la ㄏㄛㄇㄛ ㄛɛ, [TL: Mm] mu ㄇㄛ go ㄏㄛ!  
If (you) press, for that language, you will speak it!  
I.e., if you try hard and strive for language competency, you'll succeed.  
**gbɛtega** = 'press' JP

TL: Yi ㄏㄛ ha la. [JB: Mm]  
We'll speak it to them.  
tc: animate promotion?

Ha le, lani bɛ, tɛnmɔ lan ㄇㄛ ha,  
They say, that itself, that its sense,  
**tɛnmɔ** = "sense"/knowledge JP. tc: cEn?  
Unclear what final ha (very unstressed in recording) is doing here.

la lani ㄛɛ, ha hun go yipi yapita yan.  
for that, they will bring it onto the paper.  
Why NCP ㄇㄛ becomes hun here (referring to language, words) is unclear.

Ha hun go kaa apuma.  
They will teach it to children.

La hɔwɛ gemɔ himɔi.  
For our language.  
Note curious construction with ‘language.’

Le ha na ma hɔ munyɛ,  
When they had not spoken it,  
I think that this na before ma is a mistake; FK corrected it to ma na.

ha maniji háá, ha ni ha hó mɔ.  
they manage for a while, then they’ll speak it.  
**maniji** = ‘to manage,’ ‘make do.’ JP. From Engl.

JB: Ha kaa apuma teen teeni? [TL: ɛɛ]  
They’ll teach the small–small children?

La la kɛnɛɲ hin.  
That is good.

END SEGMENT