

17 Mar 09, tc: reviewed, 20 Mar: entered

Interview date: 28 Nov 2008

File name: Hawa and Yema on theft

Transcriber: HS with consultant Tommy Ngombu

Present: Hawa Lapiya, Yema Gbanyande, Yema Kakai, Yasi ____, Tommy Ngombu, HS, and many onlookers.

HL: Iduile hi hán ga geyε, idui ka siyεn ga.

The theft that we did, we knew theft.

kε apuma logi gbí ha pεi gbim dugeyε, apuma ha posi.

But the children of today truly, the ones who have been born by now, the children are cats.

TG: gbim dugeyε is 'born by now.' Cats are sneaky "thief-animals."

YG: Ha go dui hulengɔ!

They steal too much!

hulengɔ = 'too much.' Mende.

HL: Ha dui gε mu mum?

Have they stolen (from) you?

YG: Há yεη?

For what?

Note again ha as 'for/to.'

HL: Ha mu go duigi.

They steal (from) you.

YG: ɔɔ.

Yes.

YK: Ha gbenɔ duí yεgimɔ.

They finished stealing my cassava.

gbenɔ is TG's spelling; I thought it was gbim.

HL: Ha gbeŋ hun sɔm?
Did they finish eating all of it?

[People talking at same time from 18 sec. to 25 sec.—cut this]

HL: Mun be ce há si mum kam yɛgile iteen.
You yourself used to give me some small cassava.
Transl. here is approx.

Ha gbeŋ hun sɔmi?
Did they eat it completely?

Ya go hɔgi ga ge oo, agbenam!
(Dramatically:) I'm getting out of here, my parents!

Ya go hɔgi ka gi, ya kɔn ku ɔ idui ceyeni.
I'm getting out of here, I'm leaving because of this thievery.

Ya kɔn?
Should I go?

YK: ɛ–ɛ, ma kɔ a yɛn.
No! Don't go anywhere.

HL: Ye ma hu ma?
What about you? (turning to YG)

YG: M–m. Ma kɔn Bɔa.
Not (me). Don't go, Bɔa.
TG says that Bɔa is the name given to a first-born child if it is female.

YK: Ma kɔn a yɛŋ gbí!
Don't go anywhere at all!

HL: Ha cem ka oo.

You will be feeding me, oh.

Yasi: εε, ɔwε yεgilε hun hɔgε ya?

Eh, where will the cassava come from?

[From 44 sec. to the end, all speaking at once; unintell.]

END SEGMENT