

JB and YM games (22 Mar 09)

Transcribed by HS with Tōmi Ngombu.

Present: Mahain Jabati, Kema Sokondie, Yema Gbanyande, Yema Gbandiya, Nasu Abu, Jita Bahna ("JB"), Yema Munda ("YM"), onlookers, Tōmi Ngombu, and HS.

Jita Bahna ("JB") asks Yema Munda ("YM") about childhood games

JB: Yema Munda. Ileinmulɛ hu hwin?

Yema Munda. Is that your name?

Mbaalɛ, ɛ, singtilɛ kínín̄ ta hin ga ce singi, ta, pɛi, Sampo gai.

Girl, all the games we used to play, 10.0 in, again, Sampor.

Tɛmdɛ hu mu ga pɔɛ.

The time you were growing up.

Singtilɛ kínín̄ ta ha ga sin̄. 20.0

All the games you were playing.

Yendɛ hu a hwei, yá ye, lenim da ya ga ceyɛn ki pi ga.

The thing that I'm saying, I say, tell me because I was not staying here.

YM: ɛɛ, singtilɛ wɛ ye hin ga ce singi, sin̄ti piyatilɛ, (m-m)

The dances we were doing, (one was) the hands dance, 27.0

TNg says this is when they all hold hands and dance in a circle.

Si casati lɔgi gbí ta caŋ, si hi ta ce welen̄. 35.0

Then the shakaré would pass, and we would go behind.

Hannah: Pɛi wɔ̄ yiyɛ.

Ask her again.

JB: La ga- la gben̄?

Did it finish?

YM: Ye komile hun ye ga ce yee tii gai, hun hun hi ga ce –
When the dance was danced here in town, 47.0 it was that that we were –

JB: Ye Luumbɛ ka ce–
When Luumbe was–
Luumbɛ is name of a band.

YM: εε, ye Nyaha Luumbɛ ka ce siŋ,
When the Women Luumbɛ were dancing,
luumbɛ = angry voice, in Mende. The men who yell at their wives not to
go to a dance (for fear they'll dance with other men, etc.) are called *nyaha*
luumbɛ in Mende. TG

bahun logi hún pɛi ga pin tii ga. (Mm) 55.0
it was this band they brought to the town.

Hun hun hi ga ce welenj.
That was the one we were after.

Tɔntilando ta hin gai, ye ti lan dogi, ta hi ga ceyɛ.
The song that we were in, that is what was falling, that we were in.
??

JB: Ta lɔ ga ceyɛ, hiyɛ?
That is what you were (doing), right?

YM: εε. Komilanugi hun hi ga ce yaiyɛ. 1:02
Yes. It was in the dance that we were dancing.
Note diff. between yee and yai for dance.

JB: Aa, yeetilande ta ga ce ibɔti! (Mm̀m̀)
Oh, that dancing was enjoyable!

Kɛ ye la gun dugeyɛ, la cen pɛi ibɔt.

But the ones that they throw now are no longer enjoyable.

YM: m̀-ń-m̀, ̀-́, la cé lɔn pɛi, ha cén pɛi.

No. No, there are no more, they don't any more.

JB: ̀̀̀, ha cén pɛi siŋ! Βεpaa, ε, siŋti, puta logi, ta a gun.

No, they no longer dance! 1:15 Except for European dancing, that's there now.

YM: Ta pɛi ce logi, nyuŋ hun logi, ceyɛn. 1:23

That's this thing, that stays.

nyuŋ hun logi = this thing.

JB: εε. Ni, nyuhundε ỳ̀̀. Ha cen pɛi síŋ, ε- Luumbε cen pɛi h́!

Yes. And, this thing, really. They no longer dance, Luumbε no longer plays!

TNg: ỳ̀̀ = really.

YM: Ha milε tisiŋ.

They have left it.

END SEGMENT