

Interview date: 23 Mar 2009
File name: MJ and HS on theft

Transcriber: HS
Transcription consultants: Tɔmi Ngombu.

Present: Hawa Sanja = Hawa Ngaju, Manu Joni, Boi Tua, Jilo Sigbi, Hawa Idrisa, Tɔmi Ngombu, and HS.

MJ: M-hm. Mama Hawa. (Mm?)

Iduilɛ hun ha tii ga?
Is there theft here in town?

HS: ɛɛ-ɛ, sɔɔsi ha hinlɛ gbí ha pɛi gbeŋ duiyɛ. 6.0
Ee-eh, our chickens all, they have stolen.

ɛɛ, ha duin tulɛ!
They steal a pot!

Ha dui pandɛ!
They steal a pan!
pantilɛ. TG

Yen go gbí, ha hun gbeŋ dui. 11.0
Everything, they steal it.
gbeŋ = everything. TG emphasis of some sort.

Iduilɛ hi tii ga geyɛ, hi cén saiyai.
The theft in this town, it's not joking.

BT: ɛɛ, nbanamamde vuí, pɛi duí ma.
Yes, bananas truly, they steal them.

HS: Ma lɔ go le sɛm wɛ, si pɛmbɛ beti, si “tem!”.

They leave (the tree) standing, and cut (the stem).

Si hán wɔye ɔɔgi, si báanalɛ kɔ le sɛm hwaa hwaa hwaa.

When they want to take them away, then the banana tree stands there empty empty empty.

Iduí hi tii gai! 21.0

There is theft in this town!

MJ: Hu abɛɛlandɛ ha há.

What do the chiefs do.

HS: Abɛɛɛ, (Mm)

Aii-i-l, ibaam. Ha paa na paa kɔn, e-

Ohh-h, father. As soon as they go,

ɔeti pɛni logi, muli, ha cén pɛi hɔ.

“hold this pen,” stop, they no longer speak.

I.e., they’re paid off with a pen or somesuch.

muli = stop. TG

Hwei ha min la, wei?

(meaning: they leave them), hear?

Wɔ gun. 33.0

He stays.

MJ: Jali tegetege la pɛŋ hi há wɛ?

Is that a good thing to do again to us?

HS: Mm! Jali tɔbun, la pɛŋhin ce a tɔgi. 38.0

Mm! It’s trouble business, that they bring to (us).

BT: Baanamamɛ pentimɔ hɛ ki go páá.

My banana tree, my brother (said), “hey,” it (was just left) like that.

Nuu bonti ha ka ceyen.

There was nobody to intercept them.

Cuamule, a ke wɔn oo.

The boy, I didn't see him oh.

A kê wɔn doo.

I didn't see him oh.

Hɔbatugɛɛ hu ke wɛ. 46.0

God saw him.

MJ: Ha kɔ páá bɛti man.

They just cut it off.

HS: “ceŋ”!

MJ: Tɔɔɛ go.

On the tree.

Ni tɔɔɛ lan li sɛm.

And the tree stays standing.

BT: Tɔɔgi landɛ siyɛ la bɛ, kɔ sɛmi!

Even now, the tree is standing!

MJ: Ka ce go bɔn màn! 53.0

(They) draw off (the bananas)!

Wɔ ma yɔgi!

He carries it away!

BT: Mm, mani go gbiyai lɔ wa.

Yes, the plantain has a big head. (Mende)

HS: Ha bon wòò-ò.

The head is big.

BT: Ti humangɔ!

They are stealing! (Mende)

HS: Idui-i-i-

MJ: Idui, hi ha pɔɔgi ɔ.

It is theft that is in this area.

[Finish with all speaking at once; BT in Mende.]

END SEGMENT