

Samba, Boima Interview / Life story

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Transcribed by JK

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Nante mɔnde ndɔi waŋ ni mɛn dɛ, paŋdɛ ŋɔ pɔ wɔɛ Febuari, 2016.
Today is Monday the 15th of February 2016.

Yaŋ Jalikatu B Kumba ahun yi nɔmaɛ ki ni leme mi ja li wɔ atoke,
I Jalikatu B Kumba I am coming to ask this Woman to explain to me about herself,
ko lo pɔ gbem wɔɛ,
where she was born,

mpanthe ma wɔ ŋaɛ, ni nɛnthe wɔɛ ni ja litilaŋ.
The work she does, and her age, with other things.

Lane gbi lai thelio wɛ ŋane ŋa yema la theyɛ ŋa la bi ha the.
All that we are saying, those that would want to hear it would hear it.

Kɛ a le yiɛ nɔmaɛ ki pamde chɔŋ la len, Mi nchɔŋ la len?
But I would first ask this woman if she likes it, mummy do you like it?

Aaa a chɔŋ da len.
Yes I like that.

Mi ŋa mɔ ilel la?
Mummy what is your own name?

Yaa Bɔima Samba.
I am Boima Samba.

Mi ndɔ pɔ gbem mɔa?,
Mummy, where were you born?

Shenge ka.
In Shenge here.

Nɛnthe mɔɛ tha yeŋ?
What is your age?

Nɛnthe kuanya tiŋ ni mɛn.
Forty-five years.

Mi bamɔ ilel wɔa?
Mummy, what is your father's name?

Bami wɔ Bɛndu.

My father is Bendu.

Bendu yey?
Bendu what?

Josef Bendu.
Joseph Bendu.

Ndo po gbem woa?
Where was he born?

Iel ko, Nyamaina ko.
Over the river at Nyamaina.

Mpanth hando ma won wo nna?
What work is he doing?

Kache na mpath ma ichek.
He used to do farming work.

Athee nwo kache, ke cheni pe woe?
I heard you said those days, is he not alive?

A-a
No.

Apuma awo na wo gbem ma?
How many children he had?

Apuma men.
Five children.

nan amende na woe?
All five of them are alive?

Atin na koni cheko, iara iwolo ka.
Two of them have gone before, we are now three in this world.

Momo no nse ko bamo?
Are you the first child to your father ?

Aaa ya'a no nse.
Yes, I'm the first one.

Iel yama?
What's your mother's name?

Yami wo Yema.
My mother is Yeama.

Ndó pò gbem wàa?
Where was she born?

Shenge ka.
In Shenge here.

Apuma awò ña wòn gbem ma?
How many children did she have?

Apuma men.
Five children.

Wò mu wàé?
Is she alive?

Cheni pè wói.
She is not alive.

Mómò nò sei ko wò ko?
Are you the first one to her?

Aa.
Yes.

Mi nkò kil kanđai alò?
Mummy did you go to the school?

Aa.
Yes.

Ndó mò tipé kanđ móa?
Where did you started your learning?

Atipé ko klas wan.
I started in class one

Ndó mò mèkenda?
Where did you stop?

A mèkeni rai thi men.
I stoped at class five.

Mi, yelaowe, mpathe han dò vili ma mò kunea?
Mummy, as is it now, what work are you in.

Ee mpanth ma icheke
The farming work.

Yey ni yey ɲo mɔ be icheke ve kunea?
What and what do you put on your farm?

Atipe yuk yekee, ɲkanɔ, mbinche, pele, nsowe, ntolle,
I start to plant cassava, corn, beans, rice, cous-cous,

Ye ma ko wo we mɔ lo sotho yen?
When they have grown do you get something there?

Wel mpum a sotho, mpum a che sotho.
Sometime I get, some I don't get

I na mɔ ra icheka, mom fili momo yethi gbathowe o yey?
Who does the brushing for you, you hold the cutlass yourself or what?

Pomde wo iye wo ra icheke.
My husband does the brushing.

Mgbisiɲe?
Are you married?

Aa.
Yes.

Tem ndo ɲo mɔ gbisiɲea ?
When did you got married?

Nen do ɲo ɲa nenthi waɲ ni men de.
This year makes us fifteen years.

Mi gbem mi?
Mummy did you give birth?

Aa.
Yes.

Apuma wo ɲa mɔ gbem ma?
How many children did you gave birth to?

Yaɲ be agbem bo apumma men.
Myself I gave birth to five children.

ɲa ni lamgbantho ki ɲa chalao we ɲaɲa gbem apumma men do we?
You and this man presenly siting,are you the one that gave birth to this children?

Aao pomi bende.
No to my old husband.

Ke ɲa cheni pe?

But you are no more?

Aa.

No.

Ama awɔ apuka na awɔ?

How many girls how many boys?

A gbem ama a ra apukan atiŋ.

Mi ŋɔ mɔ thek ni ja mbolom do wa?

Mummy how do you feel about this Sherbro?

Wɛl mbolom dɛ ma wɔ ni clia, ni charaŋ.

The Sherbro is been spoken clearly.

Ko lɔ mɔ yɛ ayiŋ ŋa lɔ theli mbolom?

Where you live do people speak Sherbro there?

A ŋa ma theli.

Yes they speak it.

Woŋ mɔ koa?

What about your house?

ŋan gbi mbolom.

All of them are Sherbro.

Apuma mɔ ŋa mɔ gbem da ŋan gbi ŋa theli mbolom?

The children you gave birth to are all of them Sherbro?

A ŋan gbi ŋa theli mbolom.

Yes all of them speaks Sherbro.

Mi yɛ mɔ kache taɛ sinthe han dɔ tha mɔ ka chɔŋ len ŋa siŋ ŋa?

When you where small what type of play you like to play?

A kache dikil koŋo thi bɛl potho wɛ, ayi bɛ isunde,

I use to gather coconut shell, then I put sand

ayi ko ŋyai mɛndɛ ko yami, ayi ya ayi chɔŋ, chɔŋ.

and I then go and fetch water to my mother, then I dish out.

Yɛ mɔ chɔŋ chɔŋ vɛ ŋa jo nje malan?

The foods you dish out do you eat them?

Aaa iche ma jo, ibo ko sɛmi thɔkɛ ti.

We don't eat them we just take them to the trees.

Iwɛ awa ŋa jo, thɔkɛ ma ikaɛ.

We say ok eat, we give to the stick.

Kε sinthe ve bo tha ηa kache siηε?
Are those plays the only ones you use to play?

Thantha ikache siηε.
There are the only ones we used to play.

Mi mpanthe ma mō kache ηa, chōη ma len?
Mummy the work you used to do, do you love it

Mpath ma siηthe?
The play work?

Mpathe ma mō kache ηαε ραε.
The work you use to do the brushing.

Aaa a chōη ma len.
Yes, I love it.

Ye bi chōη ma len na?
Why do you like it?

Iηke lonlo Abatoke we a ηa che ye.
It is in that work that God said I should be.

So nenthi wō tha mō ko ni koi ko bile la mō kuna
So how many years have you taking in your marital home?

Bile ki lo a kunεo we?
In this my marital home?

Nenthi waη ni men.
Fifteen years.

Nenthi waη ni men?
Fifteen years?

Aaa.
Yes.

So ηō ke bila, peth peth ηō lo?
How do you see this marrital, home is it sweet?

Eee peth peth ηō lo.
Yes it is sweet.

So mōm ni po mō ηaηa ka tipen δε ο mōm ni nō peka ηa ni ye?
So you and your husband started or you are now with another person?

I na pomde I tipe I cheni pe, I na no peka ini ye.
Me and my husband that started we are no more, am now with another person.

So pomae won wo ra ichেকে ijye?
Is it your husband that does the brushing?

Aaa.
Yes

Wo ra ichেকে, wo telo, ke wo ra.
He is a farmer, and also a tailor, but he brush.

Wo no che sonthae?
Is he the one that sew your clothes?

Aaa wo sonthe.
Yes he do the sewing.

Si soth iye?
Did he know how to sew?

charaᅇ.
Very good.

Ye a chie bo yen wo mi sontho?
If I bring something will it sew it for me?

Wo mo sontho charaᅇ.
He would sew for you nicely.

Sone wo ne wo koi ko sontha?
How much does he take to sew clothes?

E-e-eh, yam be a sini bicos a che chal telo shap pai.
Myself I don't know because I don't sit at the tailor shop.

oke mi seke, seke we, Abatoke ne chema m
Okay, Mummy, thank you very much, may God be with you.