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Notes

Because of his age (90 years) and some wear and tear on the vocal apparatus, Pa Seku's speech is often unclear. Relied heavily on his interpretation of what he said. Sometimes difficult to understand his English – misunderstood his pronunciation of “sex” (as a verb)

Phonology: Lots of l/d alternations, epenthetic (?) before ncm i–, mysterious “si”, his allomorph of the hin–class prefix was often [yi]
 Lexicon: lots of uses of *sí* in the sense of ‘then, next’, his rendering of *nàgò* ‘after’ is [nàbò]

Syntax: Pa Seku seems to have at least one of the features prominent in Fasia's recordings – headless verbs, typically introducing a sentence – usually they link back to the previous sentence, recapitulating in a rheme what was the theme – texts so far have been highly coherent – lots of anaphora and lots of clausal linking – particularly prominent in narratives

,
 I have no other name.
 i–len le laŋ. bi–Neg–i, “lìlàn” = ‘other’

?But, Tommy, second son, that is the name.
 “Tommy” is the traditional name for second–born male (Coo for the first–born)

mà sìn gwé wó dé còò.
 The first one he is Coo.
 “sen” = ‘first’

2 SA intro

lem yε ya le Seku Abdulai. ya ma bi a ma bingi yìlén dèlàn
My name is Seku Abdullai. I do not have– I do not have any other name.

li lemyε ya na biyε, ké,
It was the name I was having, but

dé–é, piŋiyε nabo le mɔɔnwε
when, after becoming a Moslem

ha mo kεε yìlén nèlàn
They give you other name.

ilemyε bii hin ma sehin, ya le tɔm.
My first name in my language, is Tom.
“sen” = ‘first’; ma = ?, used a lot as some kind of connective, as?

(Okay) lemyε sehin,
My first name,

yεnε hɔn pε wiεm dε tòmí, yaamu kom nàbó, yεgipugε ma sihin
why they call me “Tom”, when your mother borns, the first son
ma as connective

yaamu kom nabo, mà sènsèngwé, wɔ lε coo.
When your mother borns, the very first one, he will be Coo.

hɔgé ε Coo hoogé nà lɔ gbó, si ha kom, nu lelan
After Coo has appeared (?), if they born a second son (‘another person’)
(37.1)
hɔgé = hoogé = hog ‘come from’? double clause

wó nà gbó lé yègìpók, wɔ le tòṃ.
If it was a boy, he is Tom.

làndà lé yá hìn.
I am the one.
also possible in place of *làndà*: wɔn wɔ

yán yà lé tòṃ.
I am Tom.
Final rise.