

## **Mamou Kamissogo**

### **Ala Taanu**

[Grace to God]

Transcribed and Translated by: Kassim Diallo

**Ala ba n'yi taanu la, Masa ala ba n'yi taanu la. [x2]**

[Great God, we give you grace, all powerful God, we give you grace.]

[x2]

**I ye munu son wolu ma fenk'ye, I k'an munu je an nu fana ma fen ki la.**

[That which you have given without doing anything for you, and us that have been lessened have not done you wrong.]

**Ala ba n'yi taanu la, Masa ala ba n'yi taanu la. [x2]**

[Great God, we give you grace, all powerful God, we give you grace.]

[x2]

**Ala ba n'yi taanu lo lo, Masa ala ba n'yi taanu lo lo.**

[Great God, we give you grace, all powerful God, we give you grace.]

**I ye munu son wolu ma fenk'ye, I k'an munu Je an nu fana ma fen ki la.**

[That which you have given without doing anything for you, and us that have been lessened have not done you wrong.]

**Ala ba n'yi taanu la, Masa ala ba n'yi taanu lo lo.**

[Great God, we give you grace, all powerful God, we give you grace.]

**I ye dolu ke nafolo tigi di, kana dolu ke bolokolon di; Ni be farala masa ala de la**

[Some live in abundance, just as much as others have nothing; All depends on His will.]

**Ala ma mogo si je; Fo min ka jo itala.**

[Great God provides for everyone; except for one that is not satisfied enough with what he has got.]

**I ye dolu ke den tigi di, kana dolu ke den ku tan di.**

[Some have children while others have never had.]

**Ala ma mogo si je; Fo min ka jo itala.**

[Great God provides for every one except for that is not satisfied enough what he has got.]

[refrain]

**Na na na na! Ne baa.**

[Oh!!! Sweet mother!

**Golo fola, lu karamogo le golola kuma.**

[Master of the drum, make that skin talk.]

**Soro Bolo Mamare\* Idrissa Kulibali.**

[Soro Bolo Mamare\* Idrissa Coulibali.]

*\*Soro Bolo Mamare- sacred name of the Coulibali lineage.*

**I te golola kuma doni doni.**

[Offer us some rhythms from the skin.]

**Bala fola lu karamogo ee Tugumayi Dyabate.**

[Master player of the balaphone, Oh! Tougoumagni Diabate.]

**Kala Jala Samoyi\* Mande bala la kuma n'ye.**

[Kala Jala Samoyi\* make the Mande balaphone sing.]

*\*Kala Jala Samoyi- sacred name of the Diabate lineage.*

**Goni fola lu karamogo lee Laji Sisoko.**

[Master player of the Ngoni, Ladjji Sissoko]

**Fabali mamare den Mande.**

[Son of Fabali Mamare of Mande]

**Mande goni la kuma doni doni.**

[Make the strings of the Ngoni sing softly, softly.]

**Kuma ni foli de kadi gnogon ye.**

[Lyrics and music always make a good household\*.]

*\*make a good household- are compatible*

**File folalu karamogo file la kuma.**

[Master of the flute, make us hear the beautiful melody of the flute.]

**Jeli muso min kuma kan di, Mamu Kamisogo.**

[This griot expressing herself is Mamou Kamissogo.]

**Ne bora sora lu la gine jamana la.**

[I'm a descendent of the sora from Guinea Konakri.]

**Duna ni taana tara fila ni kaya  
Nani bodugu ni balaniko\*.**

[\*Sacred name of Kamissogo lineage.]

**Lasine Kamisogo [den] le Jeli muso le kuma la.**

[This griot expressing herself is the daughter of Lasine Kamissogo.]

**Dawo muso ledi; jeli be kuma la.**

[This brave woman Dawo; It's me the griot that speaks.]

**Duna ni tana tara fila ni kaya  
Nani bodugu ni balaniko\*.**

[\*Sacred name of Kamissogo lineage.]

[Refrain] [x2]