

Boubacar Souleyman

Kongo ra

In the Doum palm grove.

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Iri koy kongo do, kala ay ga ma ɲaw-ɲaw* kongo ra, Arja* day!	We went to place with palm-fronds, suddenly I heard “nyaw-nyaw” in the palm grove, choo dog! *ɲaw-ɲaw : used like “woof-woof” as the sound of a dog’s bark. *Arja : ou Karja. Word used to chase away a dog.
Kaɲ ay koy kongo do, filaana* baaba hanzo na ay gaaray, Arja day!	When I went to the place with palm-fronds, someone’s father’s dog chased me, choo dog! *Filaana – this is a term used to refer to just someone, anyone you don’t know. It is also culturally used in the context of reserve and respect for elders, in-laws, or people of the same name, in some cases one’s first-born child.
Da ay te waykuuru, filaana baaba day no ga ay hiiji, Hayya!	If I become a prostitute, anyone’s father will just come to marry me, Hayya!
Da ay te waykuuru, filaana baaba day no ga ay hiiji!	If I become a prostitute, anyone’s father will just come to marry me.
Kaɲ ay koy kongo do, filaana baaba hanzo na ay gaaray, Arja day!	When I went to the place with palm-fronds, someone’s father’s dog chased me, choo dog!
Kaɲ ay koy konga do, kala ay ga ma ɲaw-ɲaw kongo ra, Arja day!	We went to place with palm-fronds, suddenly I heard “nyaw-nyaw” in the palm grove, choo dog!
Kaɲ ay koy kongo do, filaana baaba hanzo na ay gaaray, Arja day!	When I went to the place with palm-fronds, someone’s father’s dog chased me, choo dog!
Da ay te waykuuru, filaana baaba day no ga ay hiiji, ga bontoba ma didiji ay fafey boɲ, Ayda!	If I become a prostitute, anyone’s father will just come to marry me, Ayda!
Inna ga ay di, Abba ga ay di.	Mother will catch me, father will catch me.

Sungay mariya, taasiga mariya, dooru ay boŋ!	Droplets of sweat, fine sand, falls on me!
A dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ!	It falls on me, it falls on me, it falls on me, it falls on me.
Inna ga ay di, Abba ga ay di!	Mother will catch me, father will catch me.
Sungay mariya, taasiga mariya, a dooru ay boŋ!	Droplets of sweat, fine sand, falls on me!
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A dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ, a dooru ay boŋ!	It falls on me, it falls on me, it falls on me, it falls on me, it falls on me.
