

CultureTalk Ethiopia Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Talking About *Buhe*

English translation:

N: Nafkote M: Woman on the left

N: Buhe!¹ I really like buhe. Did you used to go around singing in the neighborhood?

M: No.

N: [singing] Hoya-hoye. Ho.

M: No, I don't remember doing that.

N: It's fun; it's really fun.

M: All right, give us some details on it.

N: Uhh... a stick, or uhh – what's it called? We used to call it *kish-kish* because it made a noise like “kish-kish.” You use that and, all sorts of things -- drums, if you have them. It's usually done by boys, so what's great about being a girl is that, since people aren't used to it, when you go and sing you get money. That could have changed now, though... And, I don't know, I really liked it. Back then, I remember I did it for some coins, for a little bit of money, but yeah... *Buhe*'s a great holiday. You go around to all the houses, you ask and sing, and they give you something. If they have bread, they'll give you bread. If they have money, they'll give you money.

M: In fact, the original tradition was to give bread. It's only now that people have started to give money.

N: Yes, the people are changing.

M: They changed, yes.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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¹Celebration of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church of the transfiguration of Jesus