

**English translation:**

N: Nafkote                      M: Woman on the right.

M: Yes, and since they have play-time only after they've finished their work, then I felt compelled to help them with their work. I'd go to their house and clean the floor if it needed cleaning, I'd make coffee, I'd cook food. I would help. We would be sent on errands to buy coal, we'd go fetch milk. And I used to love being sent on errands because I had the freedom to go out and about with them and every night at 7 PM. I'd go out to buy coal with my friends. And since our time was so limited, since our families wouldn't let us, we'd sometimes stay as late as 10 PM. playing tag

N: Oh yeah! And hide and seek.

M: Hide and seek. And when the holiday came, we'd go around and singe "*Abebaye hosh.*"

N: When *buhe* arrives, "*hoya-hoye.*"

M: For *buhe*, the boys would dance.

N: Yeah, that was a really fun time.

M: I have some really good memories. When you grow up in a neighborhood like this, you have a connection with society. I'm quite sure that if I had grown up in Bole, I wouldn't have had this opportunity.

N: Oh yes.

M: Because everyone keeps their kids in the compound. This isn't always the case – you can't say that everyone does this-

N: But the connection usually doesn't occur you're right. Most of my friends grew up without really leaving their houses. They didn't have the experience of playing with other kids, their families wouldn't allow it.

M: True, they often don't allow it.

N: The way I see it, a lot of what I've learned about other people, what I know about ordinary people is from being with those kids. I've learned a lot from that.

**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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