

Making Àdìre Cloth – Part 3

Yoruba transcript:

Arábìnrin: Èmi nàà dì dáadáa, *dye* òyìnbó la fi ñ se, *dye* òyìnbó. A lè mú ìmù ká nà lè, ká ka, ká ka, ká ka, ká fi iko só, ká fi só, ká fi só, àwá re láró. Nígbà... àwá re ní *dye*, *dye* yẹn nàà ní *soda*, óní *andrew sulfate*, áá pòópó, òun nàà á se susu-susu bíi aro, àwá ki aso si, tí a bá ki si, tí ó re, tí a bá tu, à yo *color* orisirisi, a yo... kíni mo se le so... *pattern* orisirisi. Ìgbà ìmù, a lè mú àbélà, à té aso, à máa kan si... tó-to... tó-to... tó-to sí bíi irú bí a bá se fé kó *form*, à fii *dye* re. So a tún ní pàápáá... ikan... *wax*, a máa ñ rà yẹn, òyìnbó ló sè wá, áá sè lóri ná, tí a bá sè, áá té aso sílè, a ní ikan tí a ma kì bò, a ma wóo sí báyií. A lè kókó paá... a lé kókó *dye* rẹ ni *yellow*, a tún... a tún gbe, à tún wó si, à tún wó si. À tún *dye* è ni *green*, á di àwò méta. *White* áhàn, *yellow* áhàn, *green* áhàn. À ñ pè ní *color* méta. Bí adire ti rí ni yẹn, àpẹẹẹ kan rée, èyií wón di pò.

English translation:

Woman: I wove a lot too; we use the foreign dye, foreign dye. We can spread some [cloth] on the floor, fold it, and use *iko*¹ to tie it, and put it in dye. Sometimes... We soak it in dye. The dye has soda, it has Andrew sulfate; we will mix it, it will form like a dye. We will then dip the cloth in it, for it to soak. When we unfold it, it will show colors, different types; it will show... how can I say this? Different patterns. Sometimes, we can take a candle; we will spread a cloth and make the wax drop on the cloth in any pattern we want it to form, and soak it in the dye. So, we also have in... a thing... wax, we do buy that; it is made by the foreigners. We will cook it on the stove. After cooking it, we will spread the cloth on the floor; we have what we will put in it, and then we will sprinkle it [the melted wax] on the cloth like this². Firstly, we can put it in the dye; firstly, we can dye it in a yellow color, then we... then we will take the cloth and sprinkle the wax on it again. We will sprinkle it on the cloth; we will then dye it in green, and it will turn to three colors. White³ will show, yellow will show, and green will show. We call it the three colors; this is an example⁴, and this was folded.

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¹ *Ìko* is raffia.

² She demonstrates how it is done.

³ The original color of the cloth.

⁴ She shows the garment she is wearing.