

CultureTalk Senegal Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
The Most Expensive Fish

Wolof transcript:

Mariama: No tudd?

Musa Ngom: Musa Ngom là tudd.

Mariama: Musa Ngom nagna def?

Musa: Ma ngi fi.

Mariama: *Ça va? Ñata année* ngi nii nga nek fi si *pêche* bi?

Musa Ngom: def na fi 26 *ans*.

Mariama: 26 *ans*! Tchi Soumbédioune bi, wa lolou bari na dé

Musa Ngom: Waw.

Mariama: Kone war nga am *expérience*.

Musa Ngom: Amnà fi diabar aki dom!

Mariama: Mën ngama wax tchi *vie quotidienne* bi *chaque jour* li ngen di def fi?

Musa Ngom: Man thiof rék laaï jaa-y.

Mariama: Ay thiof kesse! Mën ngama wax *signification* thiof ak thiof *importance* bi mou am si Sénégal? *Parce-que* nit gni xamou gnou thiof ni mou nekhe ak thiof ni mou mel dal.

Musa Ngom: Yénn say nga jëndé ko prix bo xamne dangay dem ba yow client yi sakh dou gnou la ko muna fay. Guiss nga yi kilo 3000 la gnu ko djeundé.

Mariama: Kilo 3000 kharal ma djeul ko. This is called Thiof. This is the most expensive fish in Senegal.

Musa: Yénn saï dangay dem ba Bo amul fond booko jëndé, doko lall *pour* djay.

Mariama: Kón yén saaï dangaï déf un jour sans am dara?

Musa ngom: Laay! Dengäi déf 3 jours sax do tchi am dara!

Mariama: Do tchi am dara!

Musa: Te yen say nga djay 200000 bou client yi gneuwe Presque nga gnack 75000 yi.

Mariama: Aaah.

Musa: Te djeun la bo xamne meunoul yagg tchi ay lokho *quoi!*

Mariama: Deug la kay meunoul yag dafay neub daal. Wa kon yow lan moy *sa routine chaque jour*: fi ngay gnaw nga djay *après* so watche nga dem.

Musa: Fii la deek guele tape.

Mariama; Guele tapee nga deuk!

Musa: Waw!

Mariama: Wa legui yow Ban heure ngéy xéy?

Musa Ngom: Yeen say ma xey Suma jullé fajar ba pare rék.

Mariama: Legui ban heure ngay gnibbi?

Musa: Yénn sàaï ma aña, yénn sàay дума мѐна аña.

Mariama: Do meuna agni deug la ndax liggéi bi dafa metti! Waw kon pour yaw liguey bi mettina wayé duñu lèen fěi luko jar?

Musa Ngom: Kénn duñu feï, xana Yalla.

Mariama: Ken du len fay yalla rek molen dif ay! Lan nga fog ni *État* bi mën nalèen dimbali ci djay bi?

Musa Ngom: Xana mou dimbale gnou tchi gnou am *fond* bougnou tchi ligueyé.

Mariama: Ahan! Legui fond ngen sokhla lo xamne meun ngen dougal xalis bi.

Musa: Li rek nga moun di dougal xalis bi mouy guen mouy thiof rek.

Mariama: Mouy thiof.

Musa: Waw.

Mariama: Yénèen jën yi djarou gnou?

Musa ngom: Yenen djen yi pour fi la rèk, pour rewmì la rek, mais djen bi nga xamne dey yeeg *avion* di dem, ay tiaxan dou ko djeund.

Mariama: Legui *fond* ngen sokhla pour mouna djay thiof yi.

Musa: *Bien sûr.*

Mariama: Meun ko djay lo xamne amna benefice, di tchi dougal sen len dom yi *école*, feyal len ko, di tchi soukandikou sen bop.

Musa: *Ah oué.*

Mariama: Djeuredieuf way, ba benen.

Musa: *Merci.*

**Italics indicate French*

English translation:

Mariama: What's your name?

Musa: My name is Musa Ngom.

Mariama: Musa, how are you?

Musa: I am fine.

Mariama: You're fine! Musa, how long have you been in the fishing business?

Musa: Twenty-six years.

Mariama: 26 years in Soumbédioune! That's a lot!

Musa: Yes.

Mariama: So you must be experienced!

Musa: I have a wife and children here.¹

Mariama: Can you tell me about the daily life here? What do you do everyday?

¹ A way to show how long he has been there.

Musa: I only sell *thiof*.¹

Mariama: You only sell *thiof*? Can you tell me about the meaning *thiof* and how important *thiof* is in Senegal? People don't know how good it tastes and how it is.

Musa: Sometimes you buy it at a price you know customers won't be willing to pay. You see these. We bought it at 3,000 per kilo.

Mariama: 3,000 per kilo. Wait I will record it. This is called *thiof*. This is the most expensive fish in Senegal.

Musa: Sometimes, if you don't have enough money to invest in it, you can sell it.

Mariama: So you can spend a day without selling anything then!

Musa: Absolutely! Even three days without selling anything.

Mariama: Without selling anything!

Musa: And sometimes you pay around 200,000 to buy them, and if the customers don't come, you will lose the 75,000.

Mariama: Ahhh.

Musa: ...because this fish can't stay long outside the water.

Mariama: That's true. It can't stay outside the water for long. It will get rotten. So what's your routine? Everyday you come, and when you finish selling you go back home.

Musa: I live here in *Gueule tapee*.

Mariama: You live in *Gueule tapee*!

Musa: Yes.

Mariama: So, at what time do you start work?

Musa: Sometime after the dawn prayer.

Mariama: And at what time do you leave?

Musa: Sometimes I can go eat lunch; sometimes I can't.

Mariama: Yes, you can't eat lunch because the job is hard? So do you think the work is hard, and you're not being paid enough?

¹ most expensive fish

Musa: Nobody pays us, only God!

Mariama: Nobody pays you but God! What do you think the government can do to help you with your business?

Musa: We need funding so that we can sell *thiof*.

Mariama: So you need funds to invest in it.

Musa: This is the only fish in which you can invest and that will pay back well.

Mariama: And that's *thiof*.

Musa: Yes.

Mariama: What about other fish? They don't pay as well?

Musa: Those are only for here; they are for the country. But fish that is exported overseas by plane is the most important.

Mariama: So the only thing you need is funds to sell your fish?

Musa: Of course.

Mariama: And be able to sell it and get money from it. Use that money to pay for your kids' school fees, and take care of yourself.

Mariama: Thank you, see you soon.

Musa: Thank you.

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.

© 2003-2008 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated