

CultureTalk Senegal Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Gewels (Griots) Praising the Godmother

Description of video:

This scene shows the *Gewels*¹ praising in songs, Arame, the godmother of the newborn. This takes place during the naming ceremony of the baby. They are telling her that she is responsible for the baby and that she can claim the baby at any time, (this is just a way to reinforce the relationship between the baby and her godmother, but also between the godmother and the newborn's parents). They are welcoming her as the godmother, giving her *Teranga* (hospitality).

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

¹ *Griots* or storytellers