OUGANDA: Ensembles villageois du Busoga/ Uganda: Village Ensembles of Busoga
Recorded and compiled by Peter Cooke  VDE Gallo AIMP CD 926
Texts and translations.

Compiled with the expert help of the singer/composers in collaboration with Stephen Kyakwise (headmaster) and Josiah Hiriya (music teacher) formerly at Bishop Willis College Demonstration School, Dr. Baker Wairama of Makerere University and Mrs Higenyi. To all - my sincere thanks for this valuable labour.

TRACK 1. Otabona Bukaire.  English translation:. 

Oh you!, Ah me! I am restless
Oh you, we were friends
Despite my old age
As I am here, I can look good among my in-laws
Though I seem old and grey-haired
As you see me, I am presentable at my in-laws' place
Though I seem old
Could you please give me that girl, friend, even though I don't have a cow [the cattle dowry]?
My spirit, Maama is numb
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders
Endongos [lamellaphones] played in the absence of girls are not pleasant to listen to
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders, friends
Where there are those who appreciate, others despise
Could you please give me that girl, friend, even if I don't have a cow?
Dear you! Eh! Lughaire [the bass endongo], I have mine who will satisfy me
Hear the way it is booming, my in-laws, it's talking
Let me call Namukobe of the Eisoma clan [Mata's wife]
Oh! Tibata, you are my spirit!
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders
Sorrow is [like] rain - it does not affect only one person
When you brood over so many matters your soul wastes
There are some girls who learned how to read
But they lack cultural knowledge of the the village
You find a girl who never went to school
Who has that knowledge
I advise you friend, please take that girl even though she never had [formal] schooling
That girl is fit for a home
When she opens her eyes, it is like a lightning flash
When she laughs, her teeth are like silver
Looking at her fingers, they look like a table [a mistake]
Looking at her fingers, they look like a fork
Her foot is like that of a parrakeet [green bird with a red beak - or a mantis]
Looking at her buttocks - they are like that of a table [they stick out well]
Could you please give me that girl, friend, despite my old age?
My spirit, Maama, goes numb
The tracks that lead to Bwigule are very long
Sorrow is [like] rain, it affects everybody
When you brood over many matters your body wastes
The tracks that lead to Budhatemwa are far
Despite my old age
Could you please give me that girl, even if I am old with grey hairs?
Take that girl
That girl is suitable for a home
I have mine, who satisfies me Eh!
Despite my old age, eh!
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders
I've no relative who will come mourning [to my funeral]
When you brood over many things, your spirit wastes
The tracks that lead to Bwigule are very long
I've no relative who will come mourning for me
The name Miriki [milk] has spread all over the village [Mata's name - amata = milk]
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders
As you see me now, I am presentable to my in-laws,
Despite my old age, Mata is presentable to the in-laws
Despite my old age, give me that girl, friends,
Despite my old age and grey hairs
As you see me, I am presentable at my in-laws place
I've risen early to sing for the clan elders
The tracks that lead to Bwanume -
It is [the endongo][ conversing
"What shall I do, has always something to do" [a proverb]
I have risen early to sing for the clan elders
The tracks that lead to Bwigule are very long
"How shall I call has always a way of calling", [proverb]
Despite my old age
I have mine who will satisfy me
I have risen early to sing for the clan elders
Sorrow is [like] rain, it affects everybody
When you brood too heavily you become dispirited
If you jealously hover around your wife, you waste away
My spirit is troubled [thinking of] Menhya's place in Bugweri [his ancestor's
birthplace]
Take that girl, friend, even if you don't have a cow
Will you please give me that girl, friend, despite my old age
My spirit is accustomed to plump women [he prefers them]
I have risen early to sing for the clan elders
The tracks that lead to Bwigule are very long
My spirit is troubled [thinking of] Menhya's place in Bugweri
However much I 'eat' I can't forget where I come from [unlike some fat politicians]
Sorrow is like rain, it affects everybody
Could you please give me that girl, friend, even if I don't have a cow
I have mine. That is enough! Ah!
I have risen early to sing for the clan elders.
My Lughaire [endongo], there are some girls who got schooling
But who are unaware of cultural issues
Please take that girl, even if you don't have a cow
For that girl is suitable for a home
When she opens her eyes, it is like a lightning flash
When she laughs, her teeth are like silver
Looking at her fingers, they look like a fork
Her foot is like that of a parrakeet [green bird with a red beak - or mantis]
Looking at her fingers, they look like a fork
Looking at her buttocks - they are like that of a table [they stick out well]
If you could please give me that girl, friend, even if I don't have a cow.
That girl is suitable for a home.
Despite my old age, could you please give me that girl, friend, even if I don't have a cow
Listen, how it has sounded - I have called you - I am overjoyed
Our instrument Lughaire Matege
Dear you, we were friends, I have called you, I am not all right
I've woken early to sing for the clan elders
Sorrow is [like] rain, it affects everybody
When you brood a lot, you lose weight
The tracks that lead to Bwigule in Buyebe - I'm telling you, Despite my old age
As you see me, I am presentable at my in-laws place
Please take that girl, friend, even though you can't afford cow,
Take that girl. Despite your old age
I have my own, who will satisfy me - Ah!
I've woken early to sing for the clan elders
Sorrow is like rain, it affects everybody
"How shall I call, has a way of calling" [If you have a problem there is always a solution - find it]
Despite my old age,
I look acceptable at my in-laws' place
Despite my old age.

TRACK 1. Otabona Bukaire. Lusoga text:

Oh, yeiwe! Oh, yenze! ndibulala
Yeije twalibamukwano
Otabona kukairigha - ah!
Era bwendighano mpoonera ebuko
Otabana bukaire nanvu
Era bwendighano nsanira ebuko
Otabona kukairigha
Ghemumpa omughala oyo muna,
Waire nzira nte
Omwoyo, Maama okunyhanaghala
Mpwine bwire okwembera abataka
Endongo edhiziraku abaghala, tidhi sangaala.
Mpwine bwire okwembera abataka balelwa
Aghali osimye, tighabula ogeya
Ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna waire nzira nte
Yeewe, Eh! Lughaire! nina owange alimala - ah!
Ghulira bwekemye eghaya bakoirome yeiwe, elikuwaya
Ndhete Namukobe Eisoma,
Oh! Tibata olimwoyo
Mpwine bwire okwembera abataka
Obughafu maadhí tigakuba mulala balelwa
Ghoduuba ebingi oseenena omwoyo
Eriyo abaghala abaasoma
Ate ebyekeyalo, tibayega
Waabona akaghala akataasoma
Ate ebyekeyaalo kayega
Era twala akaghala akko , muna, waire tikasoma
Oyo omughala asaanira amaka
Ghamoga kuliisa oti laadu
Bwasesa kiwino oti feezza
Okulinga yotwala oti meezza [a mistake]
Okulinga yotwala oti wuumma
Eyakula akagere oti nkodoole
Okulinga yakabina oti meezza
Ghemumpa oyo, muna, otabona bukaire-eh
Omwoyo, Maama, okunyhanaghala
Engira edhigenda eBwigule ebuyebe
Obughafu maadhí tigakuba mulala
Ghodhuuba ebingi ban oseenena omubiri
Engira edhigenda eBudhatemwa ghala,
Otabona bukaire
Ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna, waire bukaire nanvu
Twala omughala oyo
Oyo mughala asanira amaka
Ndinowange alimala-ah!
Otabona bukaire-eh!
Mpwine bwire okubembera abataka
Nze azira wange alidha kalira
Ghodhuuba ebingi, oseenena omwoyo
Ngira edhigenda eBwigule ebuyebe
Nzira wange alidha kalira
Erina lya Miriki lyabita ekyalo
Mpwine bwire okubembera abataka
Nze bwendighano nsamira ebuko
Otabona bukaire, Mata aghomera ebuko
Atabona kukairigha, ghemumpa oyo, bana,
Otabona bukaire namvu
Bwendighano mpoomera ebuko
Mpwine bwire okubembera abataka
Ngira edhigenda eBwanume
Erikughaya bughaye
"Nakola ntya nze, tabulabwakola"
Mpwine bwire okubemberabaataka
Ngira edhigenda eBwigule ebuyeb
"Nayeta ntya" nze tabulabwayeta,
Otabona bukaire
Ndinowange alimala
Mpwine bwire okubemberabaataka
Obughafu maadhi tigakubamulala
Ghoduuba ebingi, oseenena omwoyo
Ghoduuba omukazi, oseenena omubiri
Omwoyo gwadhuubye Bugwera wa Menhya - ah!
Twala omughala oyo muna, waire ozira nte
Ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna, otabona bukaire, eh!
Omwoyo, maama, gwanala abazito
Mpwine bwire okubemberabaataka
Ngira edhigendra eBwigule ebuyeb
Omwoyo gwadhuubye Bugwera wa Menhya
Ninakalya ebingi, nze tirabira yenava
Obughafu maadhi, tigakubamulala
Ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna, waire nzira nte
Nino owange alimala-ah!
Mpwine bwire okubemberabaataka
Eyange Lughaire, eriyo abahala abaaama
Ate ebyeyaliko tibayega
Wabona akaghala akataasama
Ate ebyeyaliko kayega
Era twala akaghala ako, muna, waire ozira nte
Oyo mughala asanira amaka
Ghamoga kuliisa oti laadu
Bwasesa kiwino oti feeza
Okulinga yotwala oti wuuma
Eyakula akagere oti nkodoole
Eyakula akagere oti wuuma
Okulinga yakabina oti meeza
Ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna, waire nzira nte,
Oyo mughala asanira amaka
Otabona kukairigha, ghemumpa omughala oyo, muna, waire nzira nte
Wulira bwakemye! - oh- nkwesendibulala
Eyaife Lughaire Matege
Yeewe, twaliba mukwano, nkwese, ndibulala
Mpwine bwire okubemberabaataka
Obughafu maadhi, tigakubamulala balelwa
Ghodhuuba ebingi, oseenenamumubiri
Engira edhigendra eBwigula ebuyeb, nkobere, otabona bukaire
Bwendigano mpomera ebuko
Era twala omughala oyo, muna, waire ozira nte.
Twaala omughala oyo. Otabona bukairigha
Ndino wange alimala - ah!
Mpwine bwire okubembera abataka
Obughafu maadhi, tigakuba mulala bakagwa
'Nayeta ntya nze tabula bwayeta'
Otabona bukaiye
Nze bwendighano mpomera ebuko.
Otabona kukairigha.

**TRACK 2. Mboine Kirabu. English translation.**

English translation:

I have seen the club members who work hard [in their gardens] put on a variety of clothes.
Refr. I have seen....etc.
Maama, I have seen the women who dig hard these days wear a variety of clothes
Women, clap, and let the drums begin
Friends, I'm glad to see the respectable clansmen
Today I'm happy to see you visit
Friends, I've risen early to sing for this village
The person who does not want you to have friends
The person does not like you to dig, friend [with a beautiful garden]
That person does not even like you to laugh [be happy]
I have seen the club members who work hard in their gardens put on a variety of clothes.
Refr. ditto
Maama, I have seen the women who dig hard these days wear a variety of clothes
A watch on your wrist is a fine thing
new Refrain: Money talks.
If you want a smart coat. Refr. Money talks.
If you want shoes on your feet. Refr. etc
Get me a costly one
That nice-looking permed hair
The expensive cream
If you want a smart gomasi [traditional cotton or nylon dress]
Money, Money is sweet
Money, money is sweet
Kadaama, 'I loved the petite one among many'
Kadaama, I won [the heart of] the plump young one, friends'
Maama, 'I won the fairest one of many'
Kadaama says 'I chose the fairest one, friends'
I'm telling you, my aunt spoke wise words to me
That Hajati [the aunt - who in this case went to Mecca], I tell you, told me something
'Kadaama, don't court the youngest of your friends'
I replied to my aunt
'Please, Aunt, even if its a young one
Aunt, even if its a young one, friends'
[Change of refrain] You go and escort him.
Because he has given me 8000 shillings cash
Maama, he has given me 8000
Maama, my aunt spoke wise words to me
If he has given 8000 shillings
With this money [s]he'll buy Tilapia fish from the market
With this money we'll brew malwa [beer]
So, eh, eh! Refr. You go and escort them
So eh, eh! - you go and escort them
Even if [s]he has bandy legs
Maama, even if [s]he has a hair lip
Maama, because [s]he has given me 8000Sh. cash.

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The one with the beaters, I like your style of drumming
Maama, hey! Play with variations
Dancer, I like your style [the way you rotate your hips]
As you dance, keep varying your style
Ii, where's Maama
I'm looking for my mother, Namugeere
Where has my mother Nakizibu gone?
I'm looking for Eriya's birthplace
My birthplace is not far away, Kasongaire
Ee, Ausi, I'm glad to see you
Maama, the style you have played is the one I like
So, eh, eh!
So eh, eh!
So, eh, eh!
Nakaziba, play as you vary
Nakaziba, play as you change it
Edinasi Namugwere, I thank you
Maama, I liked that way of dancing
Where has Nfundu's wife, Jane gone?
Maama, I have enjoyed that playing
So eh, eh!
So eh, eh!
Ii, I have seen the club memebers who work hard in their gardens put on a variety of
clothes. Refr. ditto
I have seen the women who work hard these days put on a variety of clothes. Refr.

**TRACK 2. Mboine Kirabu. Lusoga text**

Mboine kirabu eyerimira, mama, ezwaala amangoye.
Refrain - ditto
Maama, Mboine kirabu eyerimira, maama, ezwaala amangoye. Refrain.
Maama, mboine abakyala eberimira kuluno bazwaala amangoye. Refr.
Abakyala obwala n'engoma. Refr.
Banange nsimye okubabona abataka. Refr. etc
Lero nsimye okubabona abageni
Banange mpwine okwembera ekyalo
Omulamu tayenda n'oghaya namwino
Omulamu tayenda n'olima, banange
Omulamu tayenda no'seka, ah!
Mboine bakyala eyerimira, maama, ezwaala mangoye. Refr.
Ii! mboine abakyala eberimira kuluno bazwaala mangoye. Refr.
Esawa kumukono enungi

New Refrain: Essente nekola, ah
Woyenda ekoti enhirira, [Refr.] Essente nekola etc.
Woyenda engaito mukiigere
Mundetere nze eyebeyi
Mbu pamu omulungi kumutwe
Akazigo akebbeyi, Ii!
Woyenda kugomasi enungi
Ssente! Ssente ewoma
Ssente!, Ee, ssente ewoma
Kadaama nakwana katokato mubangi
Kadaama nateeba mutomuto banange
Maama, nateeba mulungi mubangi
Assa Kadaama, nateeba mulungi, banange
Nkubobere songa yankoba ekibono
Oyo, Hajati nkukobere yankoba ekibono
Kadaama otakwana katokato mubaino
Songa nze namwiramu ekibono
Nti songa waire mutomuto ngoyo
Songa waire mutomuto banange

[New refrain] Ja'omugherekere
Kubanga ampair kanaana mukaasi
Maama, aghaire kanaana mukaasi
Maama, songa yankoba ekibono
Obanga akughaire kanaana mukaasi
Essente tunagula engege mukatale
Essente tunaataba amalwa twanwa
Ati, eh, eh, - ja'omugherekere
Ati, eh, eh, - ja'omugherekere
Nkubobere waire kyegeda ebigere
Maama, waire kyempene tikitya
Kubanga ampair kanaana mukaasi
Owomunholo ghokubire ghenenda
Maama, yiwe kubanga wogalula
Owamakina wokinire ghenenda
Ago amakina yiwe kinanga wofula
Ii, Maama aligha
Ndikwagona maama Namugere, eh
Agiregha Maama Nakizibu
Ndikwagona amazaaale g'Eriya
Ewaiife tighala Kasongoire - ee,
Eh, mbu Ausi nsimye okukubona
Maama, ghokubire ghenenda
Ati, Eh! Eh!
Ati Eh!, Eh!
Ati Eh!, Eh!
Nakaziba kubanga wogalula
Nakaziba kubanga wokyusa
Edinasi Namugwere mwebaza
Maama wokinire ghenenda
Agiregha Jeni Muka Nfundu
Maama, ghokubiire ghensimye
Ati, Eh!, Eh!
Mboine kirabu eyerimira, maama, ezwaala mangoye.
Refrain - ditto
Ii, mboine abakyala aberimira kuluno, bazwaala amangoye.
Ii, mboine abakyala aberimira kuluno, bazwaala amangoye.

The meaning of the central part of the song is unclear to those outside the immediate group since the listeners are unsure if Kadaama is a man, wishing to take an under-aged girl as a lover, or a woman taking a 'toyboy'. Normally the prefix 'Na' is used for all female names.

TRACKS 3 and 4. No texts available.


Aa, Aa, Aa, - they came enquiring
I want that smart one
The one I can manage
Wowe
They came slowly and carefully
But, children, they came enquiring
Wowe, dear me.
[Na-lufuka drumming begins]
Ee, Ee, EE, Oh, dear one, Oh, dear one.
Friends, they came slowly and carefully
You friends, they came slowly and carefully
Don't you see, they came searching
Which is the route to our home area?
Ee, Ee, -
Mine is there, Where is she? Ah -
Where is Namulinda?
Should I call Nakisuuyi?
Should I call Namulondo?
Should I call the Princess? She is at home
Where is Gulumaire Mpongo?
Namugabo!
Where is Nakisuuyi?
[Na-lufuka drumming begins]
Oh dear, all of you!
Ee, Ee, -
[Irongo drumming]
You there, what has happened to me?
You know I am in a hidden situation.
What's the matter, friend?
You know I am in a hidden situation, I come from Bukoona
They came enquiring
They came slowly and carefully
Ah - What's the matter with him? He is tiptoeing.
I am narrating what I saw
I am reading the news.
[Irongo drumming on the long drum]

EE, Maama. Ee, Maama.
Oh, Maama. Oh, Ee!
[Tamenya ibuga drumming]

**Item 5. Waiswa Mpolo Mpolo. Lusoga text.**

Aa, Aa, Aa! - baizanga babulya
Oh, nenda oyo omuyonjo
O, yensobola mpola mpola
O - wowe
Baizanga mpola mpola
Aye, abaana, baizanga babulya
Woowe, yenze
[Nalufuka drumming begins]
Ee, Ee, ee!, Oh, Yeiwe! O Yeiwe!
Muna, baizanga mpola mpola
Baino, baizanga mpola mpola
Tobona, baizanga banonia
T'engira ati engira erigha eyewaife
Ee, Ee, -
Aliyo owe wange, aligha? ah-
Aligha Namulinda?
Ndhete Nakisuuyi?
Ndhete Namulondo?
Ndhete omumbedha? Aliyo.
Aligha Gulumaire Mpongo
Namugabo!
Aligha Nakisuuyi?
[Nalufuka drumming begins]
O yeiwe! - O, yeiwe!
Ee, Ee! -
[Irongo drumming]
Yeiwe, mbaire ntya?
Oidhi muna ndimukyama
Obaire otya muna
Oidhi muna ndimukyama, nsibuka Bukoona
Baizanga babulya
I am happy, I rejoice, I rejoice
Refr. I have selected a partner [lit. I have found my child]
I am happy, Refr. et
Ref. etc
I am glad to see our esteemed visitors. Refr
I have selected a partner,
Our music group is based in Bugweri. Refr.
It is lead by Mrs Mulonde, I rejoice. Refr.
And also by Mr Fulanya. Refr.
Our cultural team comes from Bugweri. Refr.
It is also Mr Byekwaso's place. Refr.
I am glad to see our esteemed visitors. Refr.
Our team comes from Bugweri Refr.
? Refr.
My father is called Asani Fulanhya, who is far from me now.
Refr.
--- Culture, I rejoice. Refr.
Our English visitors, I am glad to see you... Refr.
And also Kirima, in our culture group. Refr.
And Namaganda, I'm glad to see you in culture. Refr.
And Mudadi, I'm glad to see you... Refr.
And Matama, I'm glad to see you.... Refr.
And Babirye, I'm glad to see you... Refr.
Our cultural group comes from Bugweri. Refr.
Our club is trained,
We are trained by Mr Byekwaso of Bunyhiro. Refr.
Sooka, we are glad to see you. Refr.
And Mugoya, we are glad to see you. Refr.
And all of you club members, I thank you. Refr.
All of you, I thank you, I rejoice.
Refr. All of you I thank you, I rejoice.

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All of you should rejoice today.
Refr. All of you should rejoice today.
[repeated]
This our team - Refr. All of you should rejoice today.
Came from Bugweri. Refr. All of you should rejoice today.
We come from where people are open to each other. Refr.
We have Bayangwa (clan) among our team. Refr.
All who use the hoe. All of you should rejoice today.
Mrs Mulonde. Refr.
All of you, I'm glad to see you. Refr.
I praise Byekwaso. Refr.
And our team's supporters Refr.
This our club, comes from Bugweri.
Refr. All of you should rejoice today.

TRACK 6 Dindu and Mwena Mwena Mudughe Lero. Lusoga text:

Dindu, dindu, dindu
Refr. Nero, ndeire omwana wange
Dindu etc.
Dindu etc.
Nsimye abakulu okubabona, ndindu
Nero, ndeire omwana wange
Etimu yeiffe eno eBugweri, dindu
Egugibwa mukyala Mulonde, dindu
No mwami mwene Fulanyha bakagwa
Culture evire eBugweri, dindu
Etyaime ewa Mwami Byekwaso, dindu
Nsimye ba Baba okubabona bakgwa
E timu yaiffe eno eBugweri bazeyi
Etyaibwa mama anzala
Baba Asani Fulanyha aliwala
Refr.
---Culture, dindu
Abazungu nsimye okubabona baba
Ni Kirima nsimye okubona mu Culture
Namaganda nsimye okukubona mu culture
Ni Mudadi, nsimye okubona mukagwa
Ni Matama wena okukubona baba
Ni Babirye nsimye okubona bazee...
Culture evire Bugweri, dindu
Etyaimwe ewa mwami Byekwaso, dindu
Club yaiffe eno eBugweri bakagwa
Club yaiffe eno yatendekebwa
Yatandekebwa omwami Byekwaso eBunyhiro
Ni Ssoka nsimye okukubona mukagwa
Ni Mugoya nsimye okukubona mukagwa
Mwena mwena mbebaza Kirabu
Mwena mwena mbebaza, dindu
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Mwena mwena mudhuge lero
Refr. Mwena mwena mudhuge lero
A team yaiffe eno, lero, mwena mwena etc.
Evire Bugweri, lero, mwena mwena etc.
Yebagya tobona, mwena mwena etc.
ABayangwa baiffe, mwena mwena etc.
----?

Mutawone kidima, Lero, mwena mwena etc.
Mukyala Mulonde, mwena mwena etc.
Mwena nsimye okubabona, mwena mwena etc.
Nze nebaza kwaso, mwena mwena etc.
Atengeka Tim, mwena mwena etc.
Ewaiffe eBunyhiro, mwena mwena etc.
Yebatengeka culture, mwena mwena etc.
Club yaiffe eno, evire Bugweri etc..

TRACK 7. Babalema. English translation

O, o, o, They defeated them, Sir.
Ee, Ee, Ee, Ee,

Ii, they defeated the Army men, they beat them up
Ee, Ee, Ee.
My spirit got used to the important ones that visit us
I had started, but I didn't know I would get them
My heart [calls on] Waiswa [his dead brother]
My heart thumps, people
The hearts of Museveni's men are brave
The work they did enabled them to beat the strong men
We would like to thank them, the patriots.
In truth, thank them, you people of this village
The Resistance Councillors, my friends, thank you.
And our wives, in truth, who keep us in our houses.
And they are also thanked for the rituals they perform [to ensure success].
[ululations].
People are very good
Truly, let us thank the President of Uganda and those who guard him
Truly, Presidents come and go, but we like our President, this particular one belongs
here [our very own].

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The Army men said 'Ha! Friend!, Friend, - Baziriyo Olara [the previous Chief of
Staff]
What are you doing still in the house?
Friend, get out - let's run away! [in the sense of 'We'll drive you away']
Friend we are being chased
He fled, and left many things at home
These Uganda things he left them to be sorted out
So they [Museveni's men] chased them far along the road from here.
Truly, this time they won't return.
Now they admire our Uganda
Because it has achieved peace.
Uganda is back on the rails again
We thank Museveni Kaguta
Truly, he has brought the standard back within reach.
Fellows, thank him. You performers carry on working for cultural values
Those who cared for us, let us thank them all for their good deeds
Those who brought the video, I also thank you very much.

--------
We thank Kasata - the leader of the group
We thank all you group members, fellows thank you for supporting us.
Let's support the good one, fellows, I'd like us to work to do everything properly
Those who confused us, let them depart frustrated. Here we are enjoying Museveni's peace.
Now I bid farewell, friends. Farewell!
Aa, Aa, Aa - -

TRACK 7. Babalema.  Lusoga text:

O, o, o, babalema ssebo.
Ee, Ee, Ee, Ee,
Ii, babalema abasaadha abajaasi, Babalema okukuba. Ah.
Ee, Ee, Ee, Ee..
Omwoyo gwanala bakoirume abazito
Nze ntandise, tidhinga tirituuka ghala
Omwoyo, Waiswa
Omwoyo gwatudha abantu
Omwoyo gwaguma aba Museveni abasadha abawuba
Omulimo gwebaakola baghangula abasaadha era abazito.
Twenda tubebaze abasaadha abeiwangwa lyaife
Kyoka, mubebaza abasaadha Abe kyalo.
Aba RC's bona, banange, mbebaza.
N'abakyala, kyoka abatukuuma munyhumba
Era bona bebale emirimo
Abantu balungi inyho
Kyoka, tumwebaza President - owa Uganda -
Nabo abamukuuma bona.
Kyoka, baPresident bangi, aye omutaka era tumwenda President owaife ono.

--------
Obujaasi bwakoba, Muna, muna, - Baziriyo Olara
Obayiwe okolaki munyhumba
Muna, fuluma tuvegho
Muna, bamumbinga mbiro
Yalumuka , yaleka nabingi munyhumba
Bino ebYaUganda yaleka bwawooya
Babinga baanonereza olugira baatwala aghala
Kyoka lero tibkwaira
Item 8. Agabaale. English translation:

Aa, aa, aa, etc.
Father, people will call out my name, but wrapped in bark-cloth I won't hear
Dear me, rocks will fall on my chest [those who attend burials each throw a handful
of stones on to the body of the deceased before covering in the grave]
At a time like this, I shall be wrapped in bark-cloth and motionless
Father, mourn for yourselves
The clan elders will bury me
Father, let us ourselves mourn, nobody will bury us
Dear me, stones and rocks will fall down onto my chest
At a time like this, I shall be wrapped in bark-cloth and motionless
---
Those of you, my kinsmen, eat
Those who have anything, eat it now.
The Death spirit comes without warning
Friends, my grandfather, I'm still a youth
I say, aunt, , I'm still a youth
Tofa, what will happen to me?
You, Kasata, what will happen to you?
Death makes no appointment, I'd like to explain to you
If you have wealth
Clansmen, they are keen to eat it up
If you leave chickens behind, those clansmen eat them up selfishly
If you leave any goats behind, for sure, those clansmen will slaughter and eat them
Father, where are you then? Motionless, in the sitting room [where the corpse is laid
out according to custom]
Oh Dear! People will roll me over, but I'll stay motionless

Father, the rocks will fall onto my chest
In truth, the clansmen are pig-headed
They fall out over the property of the dead
Whose goat will this be? It's for Waiswa
Whose bicycle will this be? It's for Babirye, Let her sell it and buy bark cloth
What about this he-goat? It is for the final mourning rites
Namwandu [the widow] was beloved of her husband, but inherits nothing.
Friends, it has attacked me
Indeed, it has started, and I have no cure for it
If it were not for my wife's barreness, I would get a child whom I'd name after my father
We shall chase our people [our barren wives]
Oh dear! Batchelorhood is a serious thing, father.
I, Tofa, only the flies will show where my dead body lies
Father, I say, those who remain bachelors, intend it so [because there are many women to choose from].
Yet the money that you have is wasted.

The boys of Kananage, where I always stay
Who trade in skewered meat - that meat can kill them.
They may have started killing wild cats for meat to get money
Haji's son [a Muslim] is quiet
He is sipping waragi [crude liquor] and at the same time eating pork
Oh dear, the people of Kananage are badly behaved and cunning
They killed my innocent dog [because of jealousy]
I still mourn the loss of my dog as if it were human
That dog used to dance better than any human
That dog used to boil the water for malwa [beer] for us
It used to comb it's own hair like I do
When I ordered that dog out to the cooking place it would not refuse
Ii-i-i! Those people punished me
Clansmen elders, let me tell you important information
You know most of us learned many things
We the budongo players learned the time for death
At eleven in the morning it is time for making your will
At noon they announce the death
Then at one o'clock you see the nephews [or nieces wash your dead body]
Then at two you see the elder clansmen lower it into the grave
The men carry the corpse to the burial place ['Tofa, thankyou' - spoken]
As soon as they begin casting stony soil onto the body [lit. onto the chest since the corpse is lowered face up]
Death, the deceased was aged, we wonder if it will resurrect
Then they stamp down the soil

Elders, let me now tell you important happenings here in Uganda
What sent the Indians away was the jealousy of the Blacks
We wrote a letter which was sent directly to Parliament
When Kalani [the interpreter] on reading its contents
[The contents] said that Indians should go back to their own land
They didn't come this way to turn us into houseboys.
'Thank-you' - [on the flute]
The malwa [beer] is finished [spoken]

**TRACK 8. Agabaale. Lusoga text.**

Aa, aa, aa, aa,
Baaba bayeta ndimwigaire tiwulira
Yenze agabaale balingwako kumwooyo
Kaliba kati bana kendi mwigaire nsiriike
Baaba mwerire nga Kubyaimwe
Abataka nabaalinziika
Baaba katwe tire ezira alituzika
Yenze agabaale galinkgwako nsiriike
Kaliba kati bana kendi mwigaire nsiriike
Aboni abekika mwerirenga
Awoli abali nabyo mwerirenga kubyaimwe
Lubaale tirulaga
Bana, dhadha wange, nkalimutomuto
Nkoba senga wange nkalimutomuto
Tofa ndiba ntya
Yeije Kasata oliba otya
Olumbe tirulaga ndikwenda muna okubahairia
Bwoba ne'maali yolinayo
Kyoka abebika bajesunga baagira
Bwoba nebikoko byolese, Aboni abebika babyiero kulwaibwe
Bwoba nebibuizi byolese,
Kyoka, abebika babyesalira baabirya
Baaba koligha? Olimwidiiro tokyuka
Yenze bakyuse ndimwidiiro tikyuka
Baaba, agabaale guliangwako kumwooyo
Okumanhya ka'bebika boona bakyedhu
Bagaba ebintu byebealese
Embuuzi yani? Eyo ya Waiswa
Egaali yani? Eyo ya Babirye, atundemu agule gomasi aligheki
Embuuzi enume yaki? Eya bye Olumbe
Namwandu yebagha owende obwobuse
Banaife kintanwike
Kyoka kintanwike nzira ngeri yakukikolera
Kulu omukazi atazaala ngu ngulika taata wange
Kaabe waife tubinga
Yenze Obuwuulu buno bwanaani, baaba
Tofa ensowera nedhirinnzuula mubulibi nze kenyomo nsiriike
Baaba kyenkoba obuwulu kweyendera
Ate dhobanadhho edho dhidaaga
Abalenzi bali eKananage eyo yenssiba
Abasubula emambe eyomuwaya eya muchomo
Batandise nokwita emiyaayu olwe mamba okuteeba
Mutabani wa Haji omulamba asirike
Alikunguuli ateraire ate nembidhi bwayesa
Yenze abeKananage bantonga nemize
Abaita embwa yange ezira nsonga
Nze ndira embwa eyo oti muntu
Embwa eyo okutyabula amakina ezira ayaidha
Embwa eyo etusuyisa agamalwa
Embawo eyo okusunsula enviiri oti ninze
Embwa eyo okugiyunza mukyoto tiyegania
Ii-i-i! bale bambonereza
Abataka kamalodhere ebikula
Oidhi abasinga twayega bingi
Ife ni abadongo twayega esaawa edhokufa
Esaaawa itaanu kokulaama kosiibula
Ghano kumukaaga go'bona nakilango kiyiririza
Male kumusanvu to'bona nabaiw kukunaaza
Male kumunaana to'bona abataka kuziika
Akalume batwala [Tofa, webale] eyoni yebazikira
Batandise agabaale okusuulirira kumwoyo
Olumbe luno lukulu tidhi nga [lu]nayila engulu
Male basinhira
Abataka kambalodhere ebikula ebyaligho mu Uganda muno
Abayindi ekyabatala ife abairugavu tuli bankwe
Bene twaidha twakola ebulua butelru yatukira mu Parliament
Kalani okuja okusoona ebaluwa kyekoba
Baluwa ekoba nti obyindi obwo bwireyo
Tibwaidhe eno kutudhoga kutufula ife baboyi
Mwebale! [on the flute]
Oo! Amalwa mughoyire.


Ee, Ee, Ee, ah ah ah
Ee, Ee, Ee, Ah, Ah, Ah,
Ee, Maama, I know your tricks
You Britishers, now that you have come
Let me explain to you.
My spirit is accustomed to cultural things, I tell you
Let me explain to you.
Now that Kasata is here, let him explain to you
Cultural values began long ago, and you all know that
What Kasata has achieved, we are telling you
These endongos you see, were there for a long time
Even the rattles, which are rattling, you have seen these cultural things.
These cultural things began long ago
The group members sing of things that concern reckless drinking
Piririya [crude liquor] ruined my home.
We sold the bicycle
The children at home suffered in silence
And the women were taken away.
Lunkuya came and drank here, friend he stole a cow!
Because of over indulgent drinking
Friend, Pirirya came - it destroyed my home.
The children went away and the women were taken
And we even sold the car
Because of over indulgent drinking
Ee, ee, Maama!
Those who travel at night
Children, let me explain, the spirit.
Staff members, let me explain,
Now that Sosi has arrived, Gasita is seated
Staff Eriasa has arrived, and Lasidi is here
Now that Magidu has come
You, from America, let me explain to you.
As you have sat down
What things we do, I will go step by step
Maama, let me explain - beer
Truly we saw everything
This beer we drink, destroyed my home
Ah!, crude liquor destroyed my home
Ah! Ah! Ah!

----
In truth, whoever bears you a baby boy
In truth, you give her money
Whoever bears you a girl, you also give her cloth
Ah!, Ah! Ah!, Maama
Ee, Ee, Ee, Maama, I bid farewell, I'm going.
Naiwumbe, Ee!, is departing, let me thank her although she is far
Ee, Ee, Ee! [Naiwumbe is his wife]

Item 9. Piririya. Lusoga text:

Ee, Ee, Ee, ah ah ah
Ee, Ee, Ee, Ah, Ah, Ah,
Ee, Ee, Ee, Maama, engeri dhaimwe ndhidhi
Abangereza imwe ghemutuse,
Muleke zne mbainyhonyhole
Omwoyo gwamala ebya Culture ndikugho
Muleke nze mbainyohyhole avakulala
Kasata ghatuuse, muleke abainyonyhole
Ebya Culture byavaira, ere mwena mwabibona
Kasata Group kyekoze, erikuwaya
Endongo dheumbona, ebya Culture mwabibona, dhona dhavaira
N'ensasi edhikuba, ebya Culture, byavaira
?
Abekibiina n'abaayemba, ebintu ebyokunywa okwedalabye
Piririya, yaite amaka gange
Negaali twatunda
Abaana mumaka baaguma
N'aabakazi baatwala
Lunkuya baanyhwa ghano: muna, yaiba ente!
Bigambo byakunyhwa kwedalabya
Muna Pirirya yaidha - yaita amaka gange
N'abaana baagolola, n'abakazi batwaala
Aye n'emotoka twatunda
Bigambo byakunyhwa kwedhalabya
Ee, ee, Maama!
Abo abatambula obwire
Abaana leeka, mbainyhonyhole, omwoyo
Aba Staff, mbainyhonyhole
Era ni Sosi bwatuuse - Gasita bwayaime
Staff Eriasa bwatuuse, oteku Lasidi bwatuuse
Era Magidu bwatuuse
Lwe omw'America nkwinhyonyhole
Era ni bwayaime
Ebintu byetukola titusaaga nvakulala
Maama mbainyhohyhole omwenge
Era ni twabibona
Omwenge guno gwetunyhwa gwaita amaka gange
Aye Pirirya yaita amaka gange
Ah! Ah! Ah!
----
Kyoka, akuzaalira omwana omulenzi
Kyoka omughangamu essente
Akuzaalira omughala yena omughangamu olugoye.
Ah!, Ah!, Ah!, Maama
Ee, Ee, Ee, Maama, Nsibula ngolola
Naiwumbe Ee!, agolola muleke, mwebaze alighala

Ee, Ee, Ee.

**TRACK10. Olumbe Lw'amaani. English translation.**

Ah!.
Death is powerful - death will kill me
Ee, Ee, Ee. Ah, Ah.
Death is powerful, Maama, death killed me.
Ee, etc.
They will share out my wealth at the burial ground
Laisa - you there - death is the end of all
Death is powerful, It does not just kill one person
Even if you are rich. It makes you leave your house.
Even if you are rich, It makes you leave your children
In truth, death is powerful
Maama, death is the fate of all
Baaba, death is the end for all
I tell you, even if we are many
I tell you. It ate my mother.
Secondly, it ate my father.
It! Death is powerful.
Maama, even if you have a lot of money
It makes you leave your riches, your wives and your land.
---
Baaba, even if you fight for land
Baaba, that land accepts all the dead.
Maama, even if he's a white man
You, dear one, even if you're an African
Maama! Even though he's a little one
Hey you! However you might look
Death - Eh! Death is powerful
In truth, it makes you count your joints (you feel pain in each joint).
In truth, I thank our friends in the group
Kasata Group, thank you for your work
It doesn't matter what they do. I'll never enter a jail
Those Culture people, I also thank them for their works.
I also thank the respectable clansmen gathered here, you've heard what I said
Clansmen, gathered here - today I started with many ventures
That person you see who is the parent of Twaha [the singer's brother]
Do you think he will know the day of death? He will not.
Indeed it will be a big day when that one dies. It doesn't matter what his state will be
Baaba, although you spend much of your time in books,
You will have to leave them
Friend, no matter who you are! Friend, you will leave your house.
[It even] Makes you leave the wife you married yesterday
It makes you leave the bicycle you so readily bought,
Makes you leave behind the footprints you made in the earth
Makes you leave behind the chickens that you lovingly reared
And makes you leave behind the pen you learned to use
Makes you leave behind Waragi that you drank all day.
For Muslims, it makes them leave their [celebratory] rice
Death is powerful. In truth, death is powerful
Mother, however I am, spare me, even when I'm blind
Maama, even if you are healthy.
Baaba, it doesn't matter how you drive
United Nations, in truth we thank you openly
You people with the videocamera - we are praying for you to prosper.
Surely they should give us bread.
In truth for our Uganda, we pray that Museveni continues his work
God is powerful who enabled Museveni to be sworn in and thus bring peace to the nation.
I also thank the Culture Office, [especially] our friend from Iganga, in truth, I also thank you.
The duty that you do at the expense of your own affairs.
To have come here to Kamu Kasata's at Nakisenyhe.
God, we wish our clansmen peace
Also Kasata, let him have long life.
A jealous person!
A small spirit, my Babirye [daughter] will never appreciate what you do.
Mutesi [his wife] is there at home
Where is Nakagola? [his mother]
My heart thinks of her [Mutesi]. She will never sit in one place.
Baaba, even if she cultivates to grow food, my friends, she will never change.
The spirit is quick, but never settles in one place
Where is Mutesi? My wife, where is she? - the persistent one
The one who cared for Kamu Kasata all the time.
We pray for peace for her. Thanks be to God.
The one who created the white men, in truth, is the one who created this world.
The youths gathered here, my friends the R.C's. {Resistance Councillors}
I also thank you for the duties you carry out
And please, don't give - don't give up.
Endongo player - play up!
I can't hear the fiddles! Where has Sosi gone?
Where has Gasita gone? Ii! Babirye.
Where has Eriyasa gone? - the special elder.
Where has my Kamu gone? I can't forget that one.
I thank all of you
----
Aa, Aa, Aa!
I thank those who saved us [the National Resistance Army]
Aa, AA, Aa!

TRACK10. Olumbe Lw'amaani. Lusoga text.

Ah - Olumbe lw'amaani, olumbe lwandhita
Ee, Ee, Ee. Ah, Ah.
Ah - Olumbe lw'amaani, Maama, olumbe lwandhita
Ee, Ee, Ee. Ah, Ah.
Baligabana ebyange emagombe
Laisa - Yeije, olumbe lwamala
Olumbe lw'amaani, tilubala mulala
Nighoba mugaiga, lukulesa enyhumba
Nighoba mugaiga lukulesa abaana
Kyoka, olumbe lw'amaani, Maama, olumbe lw'amala
Baaba, olumbe lw'amala
Nkukobere nighetuba abangi
Nkubobere olwalya ni Maama
Kabiri olwalya ni Baaba
Ii, Olumbe lw'amaani
Maama, nighoba ni bunda enene
Lukulesa emaali, Era lukulesa abakazi,
Era lukulesa ekibandha
Baaba, nigholwanira eitaka
Baaba, eitaka tiriboola
Maama, nighaliba muzungu
Yeije, nigholiba omwirugavu
Maama, nighekaliba akato
Eraiwe, nighaliba afanana atya.
Olumbe eh! Olumbe lw'amaani
Kyoka, lukubalisa eningo
Kyoka, nebaza banaife abekibiina
Group Kasata, mwebale omulimo
Nighebalikola batya. Nze tiringira ikomera
AbaCulture, mbuboona mbebaza emirimo
Abataka, boona bakungaine, era muwuliire bibyo.
---
Abataka bakungaire - olwalero ntandiise bingi.
Oyo azaala, Twaha y'obona
Alazehga munaimwe talimanyha
Kyoka, oyo Iwalifa lukulu, era iwe nighaliba atya.
Baaba waire, osiiba mubitabo, baaba luklulesa ebitabo
Baaba nigholiba otya! Baaba lukulesa enyhumba
Lukulesa omugole yeyafuna eigulo
Lukulesa egaali yewagula toyenda
Lukulesa ebigere byewatambulaku duniya
Lukulesa enkoko dhewasiba toyenda
Lwakulesa ekalamu yewamanyha okughandiisa
Lukulesa Waragi yewasiiba tonyhwa
Abasiramu, lubalekesa omutyere
Olumbe lw'amaani. Kyoka olumbe lw'amaani
Maama nighendiba ntya, nighendiba muzibe
Maama, nigholiba mulamu
Baaba nighovuga atya
Abensi engaite kyoka tubasabira mu...?
AbaVideo, boona tubasabira bageedhe kyoka batughenga omugaati.
Kyoka Uganda yaiife, tumusabira Museveni akole
Katonda wamaani, eyatwikiza Museveni okutebenkeza eigwanga
Nib Culture Officer, boona mbebaza, munaife owe Iganga, kyoka wena webaale
Omulimo gwokola, okwerekereza ebibyo
Noidha ghan, ewa Kamu Kasata, ghano muNakisenyhe.
Mukama abataka, tubasabira emirembe
Kasata yena emirembe, tumughe oyo obwibuka
Omwoyonge Eh! Omwoyo omutono, Babirye wange
Alieka eyo Mutesi
Nakagolo aligha?
Gudhubye bwabwire. Talityama ghalala
Baaba, nighalima enimiro, banange talikyusa
Omwoyo mwangu aye tigutyaama ghalala
Mutesi aligha? banaife omuguminkiriza.
Eyakuuma Kamu [Kasata] okutuusa emirembe
Tumusabira mirembe, Katonda yebaals
Eyatonda abazungu, kyoka, n'eyatonda n'ensi eno.
Abavubuka abakungaine, banaife ab RC's.
Mwena mbebaza emirimu gyemukola
Era mwena timutoola, mutatoola okwo
Omudongo yongeza.
Obudingidi tighulira. Alazegha Sosi?
Agiregha Gasita? Ii-i Babirye.
Agiregha Eriyasa? Omutaka omutongole
Agiregha Kamu wange? Oyo t'imwerabira
Mwena mbebaza
-----
Aa, Aa, -
Nebaza abalokozi
Aa, Aa, Aa -.

TRACK 11. Okusamira appeasement ritual - see track notes.

TRACK 12-13 Mary Yange - See track notes.


Ee, Ee, What's the matter Baliraine?
Ee, Ee, What's the matter Baliraine?
I talk about what I saw, my spirit is firm
I have seen you, I am glad
Oh! My spirit is sick, dear me it is yearning
Let me call Namukuve.
The one who cannot sing, will not please his mother
Listen to the clans I'm naming
Oh listen, Naigaga, mother-in-law, maama
She is there, Naigulu Kanwa
There she is, Naigulu [?] Baaba
She has also been eaten by sickness
I am of the mushroom clan, Namwanda of the mushroom clan
My spirit is strong
Ee, I dreamt last night that I hadn't eaten. What's the matter daughter?
Surely let me call on [?] Bitimbito Ngobi
Totem of the bushbuck clan
Let me call Waikere Kidoodo
[?] Hear how it sounds
My spirit, let me go and call on that girl Namumbya
I know[she's of] the goat clan
Let me sing for the girl Nandhego
That is the civet cat [clan]
Eh! Let me call on Namugabo
I saw the hooded crow [clan]
Where is Nakisuuyi, child of the antelope clan
I'm happy to see her too
Friends, let me sing for Namulondo
I saw a monkey early
Ee, the girl Nawanango
What's the matter, girl Namulumba
Let me sing for the girl
The name is Namukuve
Oh, oh, oh Ya!
What's the matter, Baliraine
So what's the matter, Baliraine
Oh! I want the baby
So, how have you fared, spirit, Banegaine
[?]
[Xylophone plays louder, drums also]--

**TRACK 13-14 Baliraine. Lusoga text.**

Ee, Ee, Obaire otya, Baliraine?
Ee, Ee, Obaire otya, Baliraine?
Refr. Ee, ee etc.
Yenze ndogera byenabona nze, omwoyo gwaguma
Yenze mbaboine, ku nsimye
Oh, omwoyo mulwaire yenze okunhanha
Ndhete Namukuve
Ataidhi kwemba talisaaka kwinina
Wulira ebiika bye ndheta
O, wulira Naigaga nazaala, Maama
Alyeyo Naigulu Kanwa
Oh wuyo Naigulu Kanwa nazaala Baaba
Yena olumbe Iwa mulya
Yenze ndiwa katiko, namwande owakatiko
Omwoyo gwanala
Ee, naloose obwire tyaliira, obaire otya? omuwala Nakagolo
Kyoka, kandhete kwoyo bitimbito ngobi
Omuziro ne - ngabi
Oh, ndhete kwoyo Waikere Kidoodo
- - - ? wulira bwevuga
Oh, omwoyo kanje ndhete kwoyo omuwala Namumbya
Embuzi ngidhi
Oh, kanembere kwoyo omuwala Nandhego
Enfumbe neyo - - -
Eh, ndhete Namugabo
Eikoova nalibona
Aligha Nakisuuyi? -
Omwana ow'empala
Yena oyo nsimye okumubona
Bana kanembere kwoyo omuwala Namulondo
Enkembo mpwine okugibona
Eh, Omuwala Nawanango
Obaire otya omuwala Namulumba
Oh, kanembere kwoyo omuwala
Erinha Namukuve
Oh, Oh, Oh, Oh, ya
[Cues xylophone and drums to play louder]
Oh, Oh, Oh, obaire otya Baliraine?
Ati, obaire otya Baliraine?
Oh nenda bwa mwana
Ati obaire otya omwoyo Banegaine
-?
[Xylophone plays louder, drums also]-
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Further Reading.


Kintu: 'Kisoga music', Uganda Teachers' Journal ii/2 1940


P.R. Cooke: "Orchestral Melo-Rhythm in Southern Uganda", *For Gerhard Kubik - Festschrift on the occasion of his 60th birthday*, (Frankfurt, 1995), 147-160