

23 B (Now 23A) 23 B

23 B

(Now, everything you would say, that means it ~~has~~ have come into the tape) (Yes) It will go in (You can start and finish your conversation) Aa, so,

Now, what is there, is that, at first the work was very good. If the fishermen go to sea, the fish, we take it for nothing. But now, it have become very difficult. Now the fishermen, petrol, they cannot buy it, so some of them, even have put their boats down, that they will not work, because, the petrol, the price, they cannot afford.

Because of this, some of the fishermen have even put down their boats, that they have become angry, that they will not go to sea. So, fish have become scarce. Even, the fish we would eat, sometimes become difficult for us.

Even now, the fish, if they send it into this city, ~~there~~ <sup>there</sup> price is high. The price is high there, so if they bring it here, even, you cannot buy it. Now, hundred fishes, even, some cost hundred ten thousand cedis (Hundred herrings?) And I am telling you. The big ones. (Dakar ones?)

Yes, the big ones. It is not Dakar. That type of herrings, it is different <sup>from</sup> between - Dakar. Dakar is £, ...

The Mankoadle and members of - cor-

poration have that Dakar. The Corporation members have Dakar. And about ours, the type of ours, it is not Dakar, it is the small ones and the flat ones like that. And you are going to buy it and sell it ~~at~~ for ten thousand; you also would go and sell it, and received how much? The fishermen, they cannot. But in the olden days, even, these herrings, if you go, it is there, you walk and choose what you like. But now, it is not like that. Now, this have made our living difficult. At first, if the car bring it, the cost, even at all, one basket maybe, the high price, thousand cedis. Now, <sup>only</sup> one basket, if you are bringing it from 'Mfante', four thousand cedis, five thousand cedis; only one small basket. If you come, you will are coming to sell and received how much? So, if some of them come, they loose more. The work, if somebody do it at all, she run away. (So?) Yes, if somebody do it, she run away. Even, some of them cannot; some of them, even, maybe one year she can't stay in her home town. Because, she have lose. So, now we are not in a good position. Something worries us. If we say that, nothing is worrying us, then we <sup>are</sup> ~~lie~~

lying. Something is worrying us seriously  
 so, we are pleading, that they must  
 come and help us, for we have  
 become miserable. They must come and  
 help us. We are pleading. That, ~~we~~  
 the members of the fish group, we  
 appeal that, maybe  $\epsilon$ , they bring us  
 this, some of ~~of~~ these, what we use  
 to catch fishes (Net?) (Net, "Eboa")  
 "Eboa" (Net). Ahead, this ahead, which we  
 use to go to sea. (Net?) Yes (Yes)  
 I mean, Yeji, even Yeji, they use net  
 to catch the fishes. (Aa, so, is it  
 the net that we call it 'Eboa?') That is  
 what they call it 'Eboa' (Yes) It is  
 net. (We, we don't understand Fanti  
 properly) (Fishing net) We appeal that,  
 white man, must bring some to us  
 Members of the fish group, they should  
 bring it.  $\epsilon$ . If it come, we also, we  
 would ~~see~~ know how to ~~do~~ <sup>use</sup> it. They  
 must bring us ahead. They should bring  
 some to us. (Ahead, what is it?) The  
 motor they use to go to sea. (It is  
 motor, that you call it ahead.) (At first  
 they paddle) (Yes, they use their hands)  
 Now, if you don't have that motor,  
 it will not be good. (And it use petrol)  
 And it use petrol, and the price of  
 petrol have gone high, so they cannot  
 go ~~to~~) (Yes) Have you understand,  
 even, the price of the petrol, <sup>now</sup> if they  
 go, they ~~get~~ <sup>bring</sup> some of the fish home

But the price of the petrol is high, if he go, and didn't catch any fish, (then he have loose) he have loose.

Somebody can use petrol, maybe he would buy petrol about 50 to 100,000, when he send it, he didn't get any fish, in this he have loose 0. So next time, the little he would get, he would not sell it at low price. He must deduct that petrol, the dept which he had, he have to deduct it. So, if he deduct ~~it~~ from it, and give it to the women, whom are buying it ~~to~~ at the beach, and it means that you also, if you are from Kumasi here and you are going to buy it, you also, you would not get it at cheaper price. So, if she also buy it, and she is sending it to Kumasi here, she also would not sell it at cheaper price. You see?

And you also, you have counted it from here, <sup>if</sup> you are going to separate it, you would not sell it 'at' four for 200, you also would sell one for 200. It means all the fish from the sea, till it reach <sup>the hands of us</sup> ~~the~~, who separates it one by one, the price is expensive. You see? All these depends on <sup>only</sup> one thing, it is this petrol, because you have allowed the price of the petrol to be expensive. And if the price of petrol have become expensive you, if you go, the fish you would

get, we have to deduct the money for the petrol. That is why we are now suffering. So, how we sell the fish, now it is not like at first because, the fish, maybe like these "bobi" that small small fish that they mix it with corn for the chicken and the poultry farmers buy it. (Nsesawa) Yes, ~~nsewa~~ nsesawa, small ones we call it Ketae school boys. I remember during all the Akpaon time, one basket even you have bought it at high price, maybe, it was ten do, like what I am doing, and

You see? And today also, one small basket (10,000 (Mm?)) Even, if you get the cheap price, 30,000. So, because of this we, who go and buy some for the poultry farmers, you, you cannot go and buy it, for the poultry farmers to come and buy, because the one who went there the cost of his petrol, he have not deduct it, that he would give it to you, at cheaper price. And maybe, if the the price of the petrol goes down and the good net goes down, maybe, the fish is comes more, we also, we can ~~sell~~<sup>buy</sup> it at cheap price and sell it at cheap price and maybe everybody can buy some. Have you seen?

(And Nana, when you was a child, the living was like that? How was the living?) Pardon? (She want to say)

that, when you was a girl, how ~~was~~ the market? Even, the living in Ghana, how was it?) Ou! at that time, the world was sweet. (Yes, where do you live?) (At that time, where do you live? When you was a girl?) I stayed there. I stayed at Asefo (Do you live in this city?) Pardon? But I haven't been to any place. I was only here. So, even me, I can travel. Myself, I can travel, I can go and load goods to here. But now, I can't go again. Where is the money? (At first, was the money there?) A! At first, the money, ~~is~~ more. If you have <sup>even</sup> 20 in your hands, you can buy more fish. If you have 20, you can buy more fish (20000?) A! you can buy many things, 20000, you can buy many things. Today, if you have <sup>even</sup> four hundred thousand, you can't buy anything. So, it means, at first, it is not like now; but now, if I say, and say and say it, and I am saying that, now, it difficult for us. It is very difficult for us. It is difficult for us. Now the bussiness they are <sup>always</sup> doing in the market, Somebody ~~of~~ them is there, she have money. So, if her friend go and ~~and~~ come and give her some of it, and if she sell it, and get what she would eat, that is all. She cannot go there. She have no money, so if somebody go and come, she would give her some

to sell, If you finish selling it, you give her the money, and the person return. So, if you sell, it and you couldnt sell it, and maybe you spent all the money, after that she summons you. And you have none. So now, our living, it is difficult for us. (And who have the money to travel?)

Where from it? (E, did they trade for a long time?) (She means that, those people who can travel now, where do they get the money, or they have money already, they trade already, that they get money to travel at this time?)

Sometimes, some of them get loans with interest. (Loan with interest?)

Yes, before they can go. If you didnt get loan with interest, you would stay there. Somebody also, she is afraid of the interest. Somebody also, the money, if she is receiving it, she is afraid to received with interest, maybe they would <sup>come</sup> and ask her, so she would not go at all; and she would stay there; she is hungry. Unless the one who have courage. If you dont have courage, here in Ghana, then you cannot work. If you have courage, then you can do a business, this is why.

(So?, and the time you was young to work, when you start to work, have you got money like today, like now?)

(She said, when you start trading, )

at first, when you start trading, how much was your capital?) Oh! even, if you have hundred thousand, you can trade with it. (Yes; would it be very difficult for you to get this, at that time?) Yes, at that, at that time, you would not find it difficult. (30?) Yes. At that time, you would not find it difficult at all. So you, yourself, if you have the money in your hands, even 0, Eh, this cloth, ten cedis. This cloth, which I have put on, I bought it for ten cedis. (So, thousand cedis was very big money.) Oh! yes, if you have even ten, it is <sup>more</sup> ~~large~~ money. This, ten cedis; today, how much? Today, thirty thousand, forty thousand. If you <sup>don't</sup> have forty good thousand, you cannot buy this cloth which I am wearing now, while I bought it for cedi, 2, cedi, eh-eh-ten cedis. You see? So at first, and we were saying, and I said, the world was very sweet. If you have little money, it was more. But now, you cannot get this today - there is none. So now, we are suffering so you must help us. Myself, if I, ~~said~~ it, and say it and I say that, if you didn't help us it would trouble us. Ghana, it would trouble us too much. Mm, so we beg you. You, even the fishermen, you must send us net. If there is something, and it is not good to bring it, and )



you are giving it free to us.

If the thing is there, you can bring it you can bring it, if they bring it at store price, we also, will take it.

We can pay; store price, if you pay, ~~if~~ you come and collect your things. Mmm. It is not that you are giving it to the person free of charge.

But the price we will buy it here, that you reduce it to the person, and he would take it. We would use it for our job, little by little.

So, we appeal to you. About this, try high hard and give us some. (Before then, as at now, where can you get that net for sea?) They bring it from abroad, abroad (Ghanians don't have some) Ghana don't have some (The government import it for them, or who bring it?) Mm, he ~~ex~~ import it to stores and we buy it. People go there to buy it, and they come and sell it to them. So, if you go to some of the store, if you go -  $\Sigma$ , example, Accra, if you go, some of the store, it is only this, which is in that store, and you go and buy some. (Is it expensive?)

# Yes, Have you go and buy some?

The net, have you go and buy some?

As for Ghana, they don't have some.

(We don't have some at here?) No.

(And if you bring goods from some place to here, the price would be expensive like petrol. You see that.)

petrol, it came from some place, that is why the price is expensive) Yes.

(And the fish also is the same?)

The fish is also the same. Mm. As at now, unless the fish, at a certain time, we don't catch it from here.

Even, Some of them can go ---  $\Sigma$  <sup>Far to</sup> Sierra-Leone to catch fish and ~~then~~ bring it here, and could you believe that, this cost of the petrol, can you afford it?

(Herrings also, can they go to Sierra-Leone for it?) Yes, some of them can go there and bring it here. (So?) Yes, those who have ship, this thing, -

(The fishing boats?) Yes, those people, that is where they catch fish. So the big fishes, they bring it from there (So?)

And the day you started trading, where did you get the fish from? Did you travelled?)  $\Sigma$ , when we started the work -

(All of you, when you <sup>first</sup> started the work, did you travelled or you buy it from here?) Oh, myself, I travelled. (Where did you go?) I went to Simpa; I went to

Apam. I went to a town called Emuna, Aakra, Ekumpono, Sirafa, (All of these are Fanti area) I always go, and I went to Accra, Denyama, Boteano,

Kokuobete, Esiyie. All these place, we go and \$ buy fish. All these times, we <sup>always</sup> slept in the car. So, anywhere you <sup>would</sup> hear that the  $\pm$  fish is there, you take car and go, you go and buy some and return. )

So, anywhere you would hear that, there are fish, you can go there.

Now, those who are here, they can go to Nzema, and buy it and bring it, so that is why. (And what did you do, that you know how to sell fish? Where did you learn how to sell fish?) What your mother go will do, any work that your mother will do, you also would take it. Any work, that your mother would do, if your mother cuts and sell smelling fish, you will cut smelling fish. If your mother sells herrings, because she goes with you, it is the same thing that you would also sell. If your mother sells garden eggs, you would sell that garden eggs. If your mother sells yams, you would sell yams. So, this is how the work is.

(Your mother bought ---) My mother sold fish. (Is she a Fanti?) Yes, my mother is a Fanti. So the work my mother did, and my mother have gone, I also have done it. (Did you followed her?)

Ahaa, (And you and your mother did the work, ~~is it~~ it belongs to both of you. Somebody did ---) Eei! My mother did her work, I also, I did my work. (Did you do it together? When you was a child, ---)

Yes, when I was a little child, I went; at that time, it was only my mother, who always go, until a time I grew up, and I started to go for my own market.

(Did you do it for your mother?)

I went for my mother. So I always did it for my mother, till I grew up until my mother sat down, and I did the work. So, at the time she was dying, I did the work and looked after her. So, when she died, I did the work by myself. That was what it. --- (And now you said, you are -- this --; Queen mother of herrings. How did you get that Queen mother? Because, they <sup>watch</sup> ~~watch~~ how <sup>much</sup> ~~your~~ <sup>your</sup> ~~hardworking~~ hardwork depends, before they give it to you. They ~~is~~ If you are not hard working, they will not give it to you. They look to how you can do the work little by little, and they would give it to you. So, then, this man, who is staying this place, --- (Laughter) (He is your secretary) Aa - E, Our mother, Madam Abatom (Madam?) - Abatom, she is dead (Abatom) So, when she left that place, and we called, they brought a certain woman, we called her Madam Nyamedea. Madam Nana Efuwa - At the time Abatom was not there, was there, she followed Abatom little by little, so, what happened is that, we give it to Nana Efuwa. And at the time the woman <sup>also</sup> ~~became~~ became weak and died, and they have to give it to somebody, it was difficult. Because, now the market queenmothers, everybody have a difficult tax. You go would see that --- they are calling you at this place, you would see that, they would say, come, --- E holiday, we are going to this place and so on)

So, if you didn't get somebody who is strong and <sup>strict</sup> serious, who can force the girls to follow them to go at any-time, that your group would not be out. You can see that, the plantain sellers, orange sellers, they are going, and maybe this, fish sellers, the fish, if your leader, because she is weak, and you don't get people to follow, it means ~~any~~ everytime you are late. As they <sup>watched</sup> ~~watched~~, they saw that, this woman, she is strict, so if we take her and fix her at that place to lead us, she can control the women and also settle matters, you would see that somebody have collect somebody's fish,  $\epsilon$ , she would not pay and it will turn to fighting, and they are cursing and so on. If you didn't get somebody, which is, 'excuse me to say' who have knowledge, and again she is strict, it will bring troubles. I looked into it properly, and said, no: we will take this woman and fix her, and if this woman is fix there, she can help us. Truly, ~~we~~ since we appoint her, she is helping us. Everyday, she settle cases in the market. Every blessed day, she settle case. The one who bought somebody's fish and didn't paid, she have loose, so she will not paid. She knows the way she will talk for both of them to do what? to understand, that was why we appoint her the Queenmother. (The day

(You have done well) Thank you.

(Mama, you also, you have done well.

You also, ~~did~~ <sup>have</sup> you become the Queenmother for a long time?) Not too long (About how many years?) Maybe, I take it for about eight to ten years. (Ahaa) (You have done very well. (The day your mother travelled, did you go with her or you stay in the market here?)

If your mother travelled, you go with her (You don't stay in the shed?) Yes, you go with her. If you didn't go with her, you will not know the work

(True) You must go with her. You go with her and watch. (And if you go, what do you do, that you would get fish to buy?) Many people want fish?) Oh, we asked. (Ahaa, whom do you ask?)

If you walk, if you walk on the ~~road~~ road, and you would ask; Sometimes, you would go and meet that, ~~the~~ there is a village where there are some of the fresh fish, you ask where they got fish? She said, Oh, maybe the fish, we got it at Mowire, or we got it from Simpa, and you take a car and go. Truly, also, if you go, the fish is there on the fire and you would buy some. That is why.

(And at that time, there were many people like now. People who sold fish?)

At that time, the people, <sup>they</sup> were not too much. (So?) Yes, at that time, there <sup>was</sup> were not too many people, so, if you bring )

it, the fish, they bought it very well. But now, if everybody pick up her basket, she goes, she is going to search for some to buy. If she go and come, and even, they didnt buy it she would use the money and run away.

[Oh, at that time, all we know about it is that, the Fantis go and bring the fish. And some of them<sup>are</sup> also there, some of the Fantis who are at Mfantia, they also bring the fish. But now, all of the Ashantis meet meet on the road, All of the Ashantis travel and buy it, they go to Fanti and buy it and send it here, so it have become too much]

(As so now, it is not only the Fanti who travel?) No. Now, it is not like that, all the Ashantis go there. (And the day you, the day, you and your mother went, what have helped you in your business?) My mother, if I go with her, and if we return and sell it, what I do is that, when I was a girl, I take a small basket like this; and if I am going, all my money, maybe 20, (20 cedis) twenty cedis. And if I go and<sup>we</sup> buy the goods, I also buy the broken ones, (Ahaa) the broken ones, and I tie the end, and put it inside, inside the car (Yes) If I come, I sell it. At that time, head scarf, two shillings, head scarf, two shillings, one shilling and sixpence.

The one in boxes, so if I come, I buy

some. If I sell, that means, my mother's money, I am not among. (So?) If we finish selling it, ei! If we finish selling it, nowadays, ~~more~~ there are more jealous, now, we are suffering while all the children have jump on people; that time, it was not like that. Even, your mother's money, you, you don't know what you are using it for, so you will not take anything. You are not jealous of anything. So, if I go and buy <sup>that</sup> hundred and give to me like that, if I come, if I come and sell, it will double. So immediately I ~~have~~ finish selling it, I enter the market, maybe powder, and I would buy if it is head-scarf I need I would buy, and I would give it to somebody to keep for me. Even, my mother, she would not see it, so, she would never see it (so, when you was, when you was a <sup>small</sup> child, and you did this?) I was grown up. (So?) Yes I have secondary development of breast. I was grown up. But all these times, this modern money, it was not in ~~the~~ your eyes. (~~And~~ And you did it all for your mother?) Yes, you do it for your mother. At all these time, anything you do, you don't think of it. If she finished, she would go and buy food-stuffs, you go and ~~price~~ prepare rich 'fufu', you eat, what are you thinking again? You are not jealous of anything.)



This clothes, how much? Two shillings and sixpence, you buy one to cover your waist. What do you need again?

You don't think of anything. It ~~was~~ not like now, now, today, even if your child is there, he would collect all your property and sell. There are jealousy; all the small, small children have become jealous. If it was like at first, when we walk with our mothers, maybe the old ladies, they ~~dead~~ died. (Mm!)

If it was like now, maybe now, no old lady would put on cloth. ~~The more~~ Today, the modern children, stealing.

But at that time, my mother, if she is going, she carries a basket of like this, full of money. It is on my head always, I walk around and around and around with it. If you walk with it around and around and around, and again, you come and put it down. The fish is there, if she buy some, she says pays it, and you continue paying it. The day she didn't go, you can go. But now, now, <sup>even</sup> a child, maybe she, as you turn your eyes, the money, she want to go away with it, and it would be a debt for you. But

now, you cannot do that. Even you, now, you cannot give money to a child that, take and do business with it.

Even, she would not give it to you again. If she finished, she would again, even, take you to court in addition

So at first, as I am saying, I said at first world, it is not now. Now, it is difficult (If you go and bought fish, If you go, have they smoked the fish already?) They have smoked it, they have smoked it and arranged them on counters (Yes) If we go, when we get there, the fish, they have smoked them and arranged them on huts and even again, they are catching the fresh from the sea, so it was even very beautiful. They poured it on the ground in groups. The fish, even some fresh, and it is jumping. But now, - (So, it is not that you have to go and wait for them to go and catch catch it from the sea and smoked it?) No. (So, if you go, it is ready) If you, there are some on <sup>the</sup> fire some are already in the oven. (So, if you, would not keep long in the town?) You will not keep long. [As soon as go, the woman, maybe she have a husband] Every three days, you can return [Her husband go and bring the fish. He have divided it with her wife. Her wife, so, if you go, he have smoked it and you go and talk about the price. If she say the price, if you talk about the price and you agree, the quantity you need, and your basket] and you buy it. [And you arranged it. So, if you go today, even, if you

reached there this morning, you came  
do it always, tomorrow morning, you will  
bring it] (So, is it like that now?)

[Now, it is like that, but it means, the  
fish, because of the petrol, and the fish  
is not there, because they cannot go,  
if you go, you would walk around  
there and get tired. The quantity you want  
to buy, if you go to one town, even  
you will not get as much as you need  
unless the little you would get, you conti-

nuce to go to another town and do...  
you go and search for some and add  
it to it again. It is not like as first  
when they catch it plenty. This, if you  
go, <sup>even</sup> they call you themselves] One town,

if you go, the fish, they have smoked  
it plenty and it is there, and you  
would go and buy some. [But now,  
even you, who are going to buy it  
from there and bring it here, you are

begging before they give you some  
to buy. It is not like first. You  
are begging, before they they give  
you some to buy. And why? So,

maybe, <sup>even</sup> one town, one town, if you  
go there, what you would get, it would  
not be sufficient for you to return;  
unless you continue to one town and  
search for some and add it to it  
before you can return] (So, at the  
time you brought forth a little child,  
did you travel? at the time you )

little children were there) Oh, you can go. (So?) Yes (Did you leave her in this town?) Yes, if you leave her here, and you go. Now, I have little the little children. I send them to day nursery. I send them to day nursery and I stay; I walk around by myself. At four, they bring them.

So, you can do anything you are doing. (Is that what you did? Yes.

(Because you went to cape, do you continue going?) Now? (At first.) Ah, oh, at first, if you go, the next day, you return (Yes, and who take care for the children for you at your home?)

Oh, you have children there. Your child who take care of the children is there. Your husband also is there. He also will take care of them. (Do you ~~stay~~<sup>stay</sup> with your husband at the same house?)

Yes, we stay at one house. (Do you stay with your mother?) My mother is there. You also stay with your husband. So, if you are going, and you send them to your mother and you go. It mean, at first, if you come you are coming to cook and give some to your mother to eat. So, if you are working and, <sup>even</sup> you give the child to her, she would receive her. At first, you are the person who is putting the food on fire, and your mother will get some to eat. So, if you

leave her to her, that, Oh mother, look after these children, and I am travelling and would return, She would receive her and you go and return (So, you will not worry?) No (And at that time, that time, the money you receive, the profit you receive, can it is it sufficient, can it look after the children?) Oh, at that time, even the money, we use it for nothing. It can always look after us. It was enough for the children. It means, the school fees - - - - - it was not very much; books, the price was not high. If you buy more books, maybe sixpence, three pence, if you buy more books, sixpence, three pence. If you are buying more books, at least, ~~cedi~~ hundred cedis, then you have bought more books. But now, it is not like that. So now, looking after the children, even, some of them can't look after them. It is difficult (All your children did they go to school?) Yes. (And you, have you been to school?) Who? (School?) Myself? (Yes) Oh, myself, I didn't get vacancy. I couldn't go. Ei! Your mother is going. You follow her little by little. She would not take school for anything (She would say go) No, oh and you are serving her, she would say, stop school and go and follow

her. (She won't allow you to go?)

No. She would not allow you to go.

(At that time, at your time, when you was a child, some people also allow their children to go to school.)

Some of them go to school. Yes, some of them go to school (But

your mother, she don't want you to go) Yes, and if you are going,

"you are going" and you are leaving her alone. This is the story. If

she is going to anyplace, you follow her, if she is going, you follow her

(You alone?) Yes (Didn't she gave birth to any child again?) Mm. Boy,

but me, I am the only girl. If she is going to anywhere, you follow her

If she is going ~~here~~ there, you follow her

(The Fantis, they want to send their girls to school, but the Asantis, they

don't do that) No oh, (But the Fantis allow the girls to go to school always)

[ I believe that, the Fantis who are in Cape, they are the people who can

do that thing. But those who travelled to here, the majority, it is only the trading

business they are doing ] Marketing, trading, money, ~~only~~ this is the only thing we

are looking for. (So, did your have money? Your mother, have she got money?)

Yes, she have money. Yes. And my uncle ~~is~~ was also there. And my uncles

also, have money. (And those who, you )

Start with them, start trading with them at the same time, who have got money? (Those people, who you start trading with them at the same time, who have got money?) Eh, somebody ~~them~~ have got money, Eh, the trading we are doing now, how we are trading, if you are not careful, you would not see it [Even the little you have would finish] (So?) Yes. (And what did you do, that, --- what did she do, that somebody get money than the other?) Eh, about that case, mm, ~~exp~~ except this man. (You cannot know)

No. (So, those ~~the~~ people who you started trading with them, that herring trading, at that time, you said, the work was very good. Is there anybody, who through the trading in herrings, try to do any property, like building a house, or did something, at that time?)

Mm, maybe, some of them tried and build a house, some of them tried and built more houses. Some of them tried and built a house. (Fish Sellers?)

O, fish sellers, some of them tried and build a house. My mother Efua Yaaba, she is building a house.

[Madam Fosua -] Madam Fosua built a house. Aba Tom, she built a house, three houses. And - [Oh, ~~many~~ more] Madam Ama Donko, she built a

house. So many people built houses. The elders grown up's, grown up's, the grown up's, (The first ones?) Oh, they built houses. The grown up's, all of them built houses, a house, at that time the cement price was not high. But many grown up's didn't have knowledge. Only the mud house, they built it more. (Your mother also tried hard) My uncle, when he got money, our ~~uncle~~ uncle, he got money quickly. He bought, he was at Cudbury, and he bought cocoa. So, at that time he don't want her sisters, if he lied to them, then he ~~received~~ collect the money. (Ouh!) If he lied to them, he said, Oh, bring the money, and add it to the money, <sup>so that we can</sup> ~~and~~ build a house. And the women also, were foolish, they followed their brother. So, he built a house. Now, <sup>even</sup> this house, where we are living, it is ours, (But it belongs to you uncle?) Yes, he built it for us. It is a storey building. Now, this house, were we are living now, we don't rent a house. (Yes) Ehee, (We thank God) (But your mother, even, the money he gave to him, it was not in vain.) Mm, then, he have left some for us. He have built one for his children, he have built one for us )



(And he have given you a little money, that if you are travelling But the money, he gave, he gave he gave, is he leaving his children and give the money to you, that, you, get this? Eei, what is this story! About this, he would not never give it to you. He have brought forth many children. Can he look after his children, and also look after you? He have given you a place to stay, can he also give you money? (Is he alive or dead? Is he alive?) He is dead. (So, you, who have given you money for trading?) Me? Some things are funny. (When you was a girl, somebody gave you, somebody lend you money?) My husband have given me <sup>little</sup> money for trading. (Your husband, is he a Fanti? Did you met him in this city, or at Cape?)

At here. (There are more Fanti people in Kumasi.) Mm, ei! This place, this city, the Fanti's have taken this city as their own. [Yes, even, the Fanti's are increasing more than us. We, we, who own's our city] The Fanti's are too many here

(At first, the Asanti Ashanti's, they like, they don't like to sell fish) [No] So, the Fanti's came more. So, after this, they came to join us) The Fanti's, it was fish selling,

cloth selling, it was only the Fanti's. The Fanti's only. (Cloth<sup>is</sup> also the same. Why is it that, they are too many in, I understand that, if you go to Fanti to buy fish, you must be a Fanti. But if you go to store to buy cloth, why is it that, only the Fanti's do that?) [Ah, do you want to say that, the fish comes from Fanti, so, only the Fanti's, maybe ~~must~~, only the fish. (Yes) (They know that, maybe the Fanti's must work on the fish. [They didn't do it] (Ahaa, and the clothes also, the Fanti's have join it more, why is it so?) At that time, the Ashantis, they don't like work. They liked to work on the farm. (They don't like trading. They don't like trading,) They like only the farming. (so?) That is why it is so. About them, working in the farm, ei! (So, now, have you a sheel on the fish line?) I have one there. (Now, somebody go and bring it to you, or you buy some and sell?) At here, some people go and bring it to us. (So, do you have somebody, who you give her your money to go and bring it to you, or maybe — ? Do you have somebody, who, ~~you~~ if you give her your money, she can go and bring it to you. She

Can go and buy it for you: And you will share the profit. It is like eat some and I eat some. Yes, that is why. The same thing about yam. If you get a good person, whom you like her, you give her <sup>your</sup> money, and she would travel, she would go and come. If she return and you have one penny <sup>as</sup> profit, you give her one penny and you also would take one penny. (Now, you cannot travel anymore.) No. (Your mother, also, did she do the same?) Yes. (At first, do they always do that?) Eei, no. At first, my mother, she can go always. (Yes, but when she became an old lady, did she do it?) Now, if she become's an old lady, she cannot go again. Because she <sup>have</sup> become an old lady, that is why I go there myself. (Oh, she gave the money to you, and --.) and I go and buy it and bring it here. [Eh, more over, also, this, you see how difficult is the living now, lorries are scarce, so somebody is in Fanti, and this is the work she is doing. So, if she arranged the fish, she put it in a car, and you also, who is in Kumasi here, she would bring it to you. If you finish selling it] If you can only speak the true, [if you finish selling it, you rap the money and send it to her, and she would use it to pay)

the dept, and again, she would arrange another one and bring it to you. And it means that, one is here, and one is also ~~at~~ at Fanti. If the Fanti send it, and you also sell it. If you finish selling it, you send the money to her. Because, how she bought it, all the price, she will do eh, palm kernel, they can use palm kernel as the prices. Maybe, the palm kernel, each one is ₵1000, so if she add twenty on it, you could see know that, she bought it ₵20000 from there. You also, you have to manage that, the transportation and those people, who would carry it to you and so on, you would try and sell, and maybe, that twenty thousand, you would get little on it, and it ~~is~~ that would be your profit. So, she, if she is here, and she would send it to you here. If you finish selling it, and you rap the money, and if you found anybody you know, if you give it to him/her Her-she would, <sup>and give</sup> send it to her ]

(They would not run away with the money ) [ No ] Oh then, they did well. ) Then, it is not difficult. They would not take it. They would not run away with it. ] So, do you have a customer like that? ] [ Do you have somebody, who can manage as I am saying? ] No. I give the

money to the person, and she would go and buy, and return it. (You have seen that now, they send the fish through big cargo cars to here. (Sometimes, did it get rotten on the way?) [NO, because-] They smoked it very well, so, some did not get rotten; if you didn't smoke it very well, it would get rotten, but if you smoked it very well, it would be very fine, and you would bring it. [It is one thing, maybe the car may broke down on the journey; Ehee, if the car didn't broke down on the way, then it would come. If at first, the road was not very good, and it would take us about two days, before it would reach us. But now, the road is good. So, if she start by this time, even she have started by this time from Fanti, maybe about three o'clock, till five o'clock, she have reached here, and deliver the fish. (So, at that time, you would not be worried?) [Eh, at that time, the road; Most of the problems, is because of this, at first, the road was not good. So, the car may not reach here, (and it would spoil) and, sometimes, when she smoked it, she didn't brought it, it was not dry, and it was fresh. Next day, when you open it, it would not be fine. And it means, that, you, )

It is debt — So, in the olden days, if you see that somebody's fish, it has become debt, it is because of these things, maybe the car didn't reach her early, and the fish has rotten. But ~~it was~~ not very common that she have bought fish for sale and it have become debt, it was not very common.

Unless the car brake on the journey and the fish get rotten. But now, yourself, how you bought it from there, the price you bought it, when you reach here, the price ~~would~~ have reduce. Then, whatever you do, you would loose] (Why is it so?) [It is all because of money problem. The price you bought it from there, it is big, so at the time you brought it fresh to this place, if you say you are selling it, even, the price you bought it from there, you would not get the Fanti people to buy it.

Because, this, the Ashanti, who is coming to buy it, to ~~the~~ sell it ~~at~~ at the village, if she didn't buy it at good price, and if she goes, she would loose. So, if she comes, she want it at cheap price. You, also, didn't get it at cheap price at that place

So, you sit around it, and sit around it, and the fish is rotten, or if they don't buy it, all you have to do is )

to reduce it, and you loose.  
 That was why the Queen mother was saying that, there is somebody, who, maybe, she would not go to her home town <sup>for</sup> about a year. Because, the fish she brought to her home town to sell, it has become a debt. So, if it becomes a debt, <sup>if she come</sup> nobody would receive her, she would get nothing, and it means that, she must use her ----- turn to some place and come. You see? So, she have become a hide-out. But at first, if it becomes a debt, it is because the car broke down on the way, so it becomes a debt. Even at all, if it becomes a debt, if you go and return, you would come and settle your debt. You see? At first you would go and return to settle your debt.

But now, remember and know that, if you go and bring it and you loose, it is not that, you are coming to settle the debt. The debt, it is lies ahead on you everyday, and it is waiting for you. You see? Because, you would not get it, as at first, when we get it at the beach, now, you would not get it from there like that. Now, the price has become expensive there. He don't have money to buy the petrol. When he went, he lost, the debt on the petrol is about )

1100,000. So, if he goes, the little he would get, he would not play with it. He want to settle the old debt, so, you, who is going to buy it to this place, the price is high.

..... the price, is given to you, as you buy it from there, if you come and reduce it, you have loose.

Your money, has become a debt; All the labourers, who carried it, have become a debt. So, the work has become difficult to you.] (I beg you Nana, it seems to me that, now, if you go to the market, you would see that, the herrings some are too fresh. Do they smock it here, or they put it - - - - Very fresh they brought it from cape - - - - At that time, some was very very fresh<sup>at</sup> here ) Then, they smock it here. (Do they smock it here? So, - - - - They smock it here. They smock it at Market. The big ones, that big herrings. They smock it at market. (So?) Yes. [That one, it is (Dakar) - (Frozen) (Yes, the iced ones) (That iced one. That is what they go and bring it, and they smocked it here, and bring it to the market. But fresh from<sup>the</sup> sea, there is none here so, you cannot bring it to the market.] So, the one they smock it here, and the one you bring it from cape, which one is expensive?) Normally, the one )



they smock it here, sometimes are expensive] (30,?) [Because, if you go and buy one carton, that carton, the <sup>quantity</sup> ~~numbers~~ in it, it would not reach 100. Do you understand. If you open the carton, and count it, you would not get hundred, Maybe, you would <sup>not</sup> get hundred. So, the one from here, is expensive than this one from cape. Then, the one from Cape, if it comes, even market, the one they have arrange it, maybe, the big ones, mabe, even two is two hundred. You see? But the frozen ones, if they smocked it and bring it to the market, you would not get one for 200. It is expensive] (But the fish from cape is tasty than the one from here.) [Eh, any kind of fish that is in a fridge, is not tasty. \* The fresh one from sea, is very tasty] The time you was a nursing mother, and you did no~~e~~ work, what was, what plans do you have in the work. (She said, at the time you was a nursing, at that time, what kind of work, what <sup>some</sup> was the difficulties in it? Because, <sup>some</sup> business are sweet, and some are not sweet. At that time what was (●) the most difficulties in that job?) Oh, if you have a child, it is difficult. If you have a child, it is very difficult, if (●) you are

working, if you carry. Eei, it is difficult. Your child is crying, the goods also, they are buying it, how can you sell it? So, you have to pamper the child always. That was why some people couldn't allowed their children, in the olden days, couldn't allowed their children to go to school. It is because of this thing. (Yes)

When she was selling the goods, she would tied the child on your back; you see? And you are caring for the child, so that, she could have time to buy and sell, and get something to buy food for you to eat. That was <sup>the reason</sup> why most of the people couldn't go to school.

At that time, Day Nursery and these things, it was not there, so, all of us, we couldn't go to school. The story, this is how it is. (Yes I have understand) (~~You was~~ You was saying that, Eh, because of the high) price of petrol, many people have laid down their boats. At first, though, I don't know, was there more fish in the sea, than now? Or there are more fish now?

Fish, there are fish. (Are there more fish in the sea, like at first?)

It is there (So, is it because, the people don't go and catch them, that is why it is scarce?) Yes,

because, you have no petrol, this story. The fish also, they have run into deep sea, you see? If you don't buy the petrol, and use the machine to chase the fishes, at first, the fishes, they come to the bank of the sea always. So some people can go to sea, and catch the fish and bring it home and go and catch again and return. But now, it is not like that. (Then, it means, the fish in the sea, it is not too much like at first.) Oh, no. [Eh, the fish in the sea, it is not because they are not there, it is there] It is there. [But in the olden days, at the time, when this woman was a girl, we don't use—

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