

dialogue translation:

Nde Tim wadinoo lebbi joyi ley
Teenengu, ndunngu naati.

When (after) Tim had spent five months in Tenenkou, the rainy season began. (literally, "the rainy season entered")

Toŋo ngoo fuddi.

The rains began.

Bii-Aadama'en fuu mbeltii*ki*.

Everybody was happy. (literally, "the children of Adam, human beings")

Hikka ana weli sanne, saabi
ndiyam heyi.

This year is very good, because there is enough rain (water).

Ilam dam naatii gese dee fuu.

The flooding has reached all the fields.

Rowani woniraano nii?

Last year it wasn't like this?

Ndiyam naatii seeda tan.

There was only a little flooding. (literally, "water entered a little")

Heewaali.

It wasn't much.

Kasin dam yaawii beebude.

Furthermore, it quickly dried up.

Hitaande ndee fuu, remoobe
mbaasii dañude haaju mabbe.

During the entire year, farmers weren't able to get/have what they needed.

Kamŋe kaa, rowani ŋe keydi!

As for them, last year they went hungry!

Nden kaa, ebe mboowno ñaamude
maaro tan.

In the old days, they were used to eating only rice.

Jooni, ebe mbocwi gawri e
bambaari fuu!

But now, they are accustomed to both millet and corn! (Rice is the preferred food, while corn is the least favorite. Eating corn used to be a sign of famine.)

Yalla hikka ŋuranii ŋe?

Hopefully this year is better for them?

So ndiyam naatii, maaro heewko remete.

Ko be ngadata e maaro ngoo?

Be ñaaman maa be cottan?

So maaro ana woodi, ko buri heewde heen yimbe ñaaman koye-mabbe.

Ko heddi koo, be cottan, keba kaalisi, cooda haajuuji mabbe fuu.

When there is flooding, lots of rice is cultivated.

What do they do with the rice?

Do they eat it, or do they sell it?

When there is rice, the majority of it people eat themselves.

What is left, they sell, and with the money, they buy whatever they need.