Women's Songs (Sorohabora)

Women's Song 1

Singers: Kunuhuaka and Wa'abiyu. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

These songs were performed shortly before the Hegeso men's pig-kill. The first one refers to the dancing that is anticipated after the distribution of the pork. Note that the male singers are likened to birds, a metaphor that is widespread in the ceremonial life throughout the Mt Bosavi—Lake Kutubu area of the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. \square online example 13.

1.	wabo bird togebe is this it?	medo'ane to sing	dobo'owua spoken of			
2.	bi'a bi'a bird togebe is this it?	medo'ane to sing	dobo'owua spoken of			
3.	ya bird togebe is this it?	<i>koa</i> Raggianna	ũ <i>bo</i> headdress	so'ane to hang	down	dobo'owua spoken of
4.	fore hornbill togebe is this it?	me sings	<i>ya</i> bird	sore sore	medo'ane to sing	dobo'owua spoken of
5.	hubage feathers togebe is this it?	ũ head	ho'ane to insert	dobo'owua spoken of		

6.	furubu furubu togebe is this it?	gugu'anege to flower	dobo'owua spoken of		
7.	ya bird togebe is this it?	bi'a bi'a	medo'ane to sing	dobo'owua spoken of	
8.	ya bird togebe is this it?	sore sore	medo'ane to sing	dobo'owua spoken of	
9.	amena men dawa-o dawabo	yagenebo Yagenebo	<i>u'ubi</i> children		
10.	kaibutage Kaibutage dawa-o dawabo	<i>u'ubi</i> children			
11.	baiga Baiga dawa-o dawabo	sabe Ridge	<i>u'ubi</i> children		

- 1. The *wabo* bird that we have been speaking of for so long Is this it?
- 2. The *bi'a* bird we have been speaking of Is this bird singing now?
- 3. The bird-of-paradise feathers that hang down Is it these here?

- 4. The hornbill and *sore* bird Is it they who are singing now?
- 5. The Chimbu men's black head feathers Are these hanging from men's heads?
- 6. They have been saying that the *furubu* tree will carry many flowers Is it now going to happen?
- 7. The *bi'a* bird we have been speaking of Is this bird singing now?
- 8. The *sore* bird that has been singing Is it this one singing now?
- 9. The children of Yagenebo *Dawa*
- 10. The children of the mouth of the Kaibu River *Dawa*
- 11. The children of Baiga Ridge Dawa

Singers: Kunuhuaka and Wa'abiyu. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

Kunuhuaka's eldest son, Bebe, joined the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and eventually was stationed in Manus Island. This song, one of many that Kunuhuaka composed for her son, describes his departure. Traditionally, enemies were referred to as 'wasps' and as hawks and other birds of prey. (Figure 6 in this volume is a music transcription of lines 8–11.)

□ online example 14.

	tĩngi	burusumaremo	arı	viba'ae	
7	wasp	burusama	house	gone	
	<i>bi</i> here	sinae abandoned			

2.	tĩngi wasp bi here	so'aremo so'a mo'aye left	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
3.	<i>ya</i> bird <i>bi</i> here	aiyaberemo hawk sinae abandoned	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
4.	tĩngi wasp bi here	ka'oremo ka'o tinae abandoned	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
5.	<i>ya</i> bird <i>bi</i> here	ibibiremo ibibi mo'aye left	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
6.	ya bird bi here	ãgegaremo hawk mo'aye left	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
7.	tĩngi wasp bi here	burusumaremo burusama sinae abandoned	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
8.	bi'a rifle bi here	foreremo large tinae abandoned	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone
9.	<i>bi'a</i> black palm <i>bi</i> here	ka'aroremo bow and arrow mo'aye left	<i>ari</i> house	viba'ae gone

10. amena yiya men we dawa-o dawabo	kui sago yerebi yerebi	kenege mid-rib ibuhe'o dawabo		
dawa-o	yerebi	ibuhe'o		
	•			
dawabo	•			
	•			
1. amena oro	oo yerebi	dawaho		
men bambo		aawabo		
dawa-o				
dawabo				
	_			
 Into the house of the bu Abandoning this place 	rusama wasps you have	gone		
Abandoning this place				
	asps larvae you have gon	ie		
Leaving here				
3. Into the hawk's house y	ou have entered			
Departing	Departing			
4. Into the <i>ka'o</i> wasps hou	Into the <i>ka'o</i> wasps house you have gone			
Abandoning this place				
5. Into the house of the <i>ib</i> :	ibi hawk you have entere	ed		
Left here	V			
6. Into the house of the $\tilde{a}g$	Into the house of the <i>ãgega</i> hawk			
You have abandoned thi				
7. Into the house of the <i>bu</i>	rusama wasps you have	gono		
Abandoning this place	rusumu wasps you nave	gone		
	1.0			
8. Into the house of the big You have left here	g rifle			
Tou have left field				
9. Into the house of the mo				
You have gone, leaving	tnis place			
10. We are the men of the S	ago Bark clan			
Dawa				
1. We are the men of the y	erebi bamboo clan			

Ibu he'o dawa

Singers: Kunuhuaka and Wa'abiyu. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

This song describes the aeroplane that took Kunuhuaka's son Bebe away from Hegeso and to his posting with the Papua New Guinea Defence Force. The Foi term *bare*, which means 'canoe', became used for any motorised vehicle they came to know, most commonly the aeroplane, and in this song, Kunuhuaka comments on the relationship between canoe and aeroplane. \square online example 15.

1.	bare canoe	yuramaboba'ae pull + take		
	<i>bi</i> here	mo'aye left		
2.	bare canoe	arurudiba'ae crooked		
	<i>bi</i> here	tinae abandoned		
3.	duma mountain	hunabu Hunabu	<i>orori</i> peak	huboba'ae pierced
	<i>bi</i> here	<i>tinae</i> abandoned		
4.	duma mountain	<i>dagerabo</i> Dagerabo	<i>orori</i> peak	<i>huboba'ae</i> pierced
	<i>bi</i> here	mo'aye left		
5.	<i>ibu</i> river	<i>suki</i> Suki	fufaboba'ae fly away	
	<i>bi</i> here	sinae abandoned		
6.	duma mountain	a'o cloud	hua pierced	uboba'ae has gone
	<i>bi</i> here	sinae abandoned		

7.	duma mountain	<i>buru</i> black	<i>orori</i> peak	huboba'ae pierced	
	<i>bi</i> here	mo'aye left			
8.	bare canoe	arurudiba'ae crooked			
	<i>bi</i> here	tinae abandoned			
9.	bare canoe	<i>yura</i> pulled	<i>uboba'ae</i> has gone		
	<i>bi</i> here	sinae abandoned			
10.	kui sago	<i>kenege</i> mid-rib	<i>dobo</i> clan	<i>ka</i> woman	bamo that
	<i>ba'a</i> boy	<i>terewaro</i> Terewaro			
11.	oro bamboo dawabo dawabo	yerebi yerebi	dobo clan	ba'a boy	bamo that
1.	The aeroplane pulled him inside He has left this place				
2.	The aeroplane, as crooked as a canoe It left this place				
3.	It crossed the top of Mt Hunabu Leaving this place				
4.	Over the crest of Mt Dagerabo It abandoned this place				
5.	It flew away to Abandoning tl	the land of the inis place	Wage River		

- 6. Through the cloud covered mountains it went Leaving here
- 7. Over the top of the dark blue mountain It left this place behind
- 8. The aeroplane, as crooked as a canoe It left this place
- It pulled him inside and left Abandoning this place
- The woman of the Sago Bark clan Her son, Terewaro
- 11. The *yerebi* bamboo clan boy *Dawabo*

Singers: Kunuhuaka and Wa'abiyu. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

1.	ĩ	huni	mabo	kabore	
	eye	beckons	steals	girl	
	na	wae			
	I	not			
2.	ya	huni	mabo	kabore	
	hand	beckons	steals	girl	
	na	wae			
	I	not			

3.	fufuruforabo wander na I	kabori girl iyo'oyebe is not me?			
4.	iri tree na I	irikaro twigs wae not	<i>gõ</i> string bag	hagibu carrying	<i>kabore</i> girl
5.	amena men dawa-o dawabo	oro bamboo	yerebi yerebi	dobo clan	
6.	amena men dawa-o dawabo	ira tree	ma'aru ma'aru	dobo clan	
1.	The kind of gi	rl who looks ar	ound furtively		
2.	The kind of gi That's not me	rl who beckons	s towards men	with her hand	d
3.	The kind of girl that wanders around searching for men I'm not that kind				
4.	The kind of girl who throws twigs at men's feet That's not me				
5.	The men of th	e <i>yerebi</i> bambo	o clan		
6.	The men of the <i>ma'arua</i> tree clan Dawa				

Singers: Kunuhuaka and Wa'abiyu. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

A woman complains about her maltreatment by her husband: 'You beat me because I don't do all these tasks, but you have never told me to do them,' she sings. I online example 17.

1.	u'ubi child nena no reason	kama female doma'ae say	ere mind	dibure said	
2.	wãsia pitpit nena nothing	neri neri dee say	<i>hirima</i> plant	diburo talk	
3.	wãsia pitpit nena nothing	kamua kamua dee say	<i>hirima</i> plant	diburo talk	
4.	nami pig nena nothing	buru black dee say	kirari rope	ma take	dibure said
5.	busu kin nena no reason	u'ubi children do'abobi should say	ere mind	<i>dibure</i> said	
6.	ira tree nena no reason	doʻa doʻa dee say	ga base	<i>ke</i> burn	di'ame said perhaps

7.	kui sago	<i>hu</i> pound	tirarude pith shredded	ma take	<i>diburo</i> talk
	nena no reason	dee say			
8.	kare women's	kui sago	ini cook	<i>diburo</i> talk	
	nena nothing	dee say			
9.	amena men	oro bamboo	yerebi yerebi		
	dawa-o dawabo				
10.	amena men	<i>ira</i> tree	ma'aru ma'aru		
	dawa-o dawabo				
1.	Look after our little girl, you say You tell me nothing				
2.	You want me to But you have s		-		
3.	You want me to plant <i>kamua</i> pitpit But not a word have you said to me				
4.	Take the black pig rope, you say But did you say anything to me				
5.	Look after your maternal clan's children But shouldn't you tell me first				
6.	Burn down the <i>do'a</i> trees and make a garden But you have told me nothing				
7.	Prepare sago for washing I heard you say nothing				

- 8. Cook mid-day sago, you want But I have heard nothing
- 9. The men of the *yerebi* bamboo clan *Dawa*
- 10. The men of the *ma'aru* tree clan *Dawa*

Singers: Yiakahua and Ama'a. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

I discussed this song in *The Empty Place* (Weiner 1991:25). The subject is the hand of a man who planted vegetable crops in his garden, which has been stilled by death.

1.	sona	sa'ara	hirimaboya
	sona	sa'ara	planted + taken
	<i>ya</i> hand	derege motionless	
2.	<i>kima</i>	kamua	hirimaboya
	pitpit	kamua	planted + taken
	<i>ya</i> hand	kenage stiff	
3.	wãsia	wayane	hirimaboya
	pitpit	wayane	planted + taken
	<i>ya</i> hand	<i>derege</i> stone-like	
4.	wãsia	diame	hirimaboya
	pitpit	diame	planted + taken
	<i>ya</i> hand	kenage stiff	

5.	ira tree dawabo dawabo	namani namani	<i>dobo</i> clan	<i>yaroge</i> Yaroge	ma'ame thing	
6.	wa'ari palm dawabo dawabo	dobo clan	hasobe Hasobe	ma'ame thing		
7.	ira tree dawabo dawabo	namani namani	<i>dobo</i> clan	ma'ame thing		
8.	wa'ari palm ba'a boy	dobo clan sega Sega	ka woman	mege only	ba that	ma'ame thing
1.	He who planted the <i>sa'ara sona</i> His hand is cold					
2.		inted the <i>kar</i> stiff and life				
3.	He who planted the <i>wayane</i> pitpit His hand is dead					
4.	He who planted the <i>diame</i> pitpit His hand is still and without life					
5.	He of the clan of the <i>namani</i> tree, Yaroge Dawa					
6.	She of the clan of the <i>wa'ari</i> tree, Hasobe <i>Dawa</i>					

- 7. The man of the *namani* tree clan Yaroge
- 8. The child of the *wa'ari* tree woman only The boy Sega

Singers: Yiakahua and Ama'a. Recorded 4 November 1984 at Hegeso village.

In this song, the women make an equation between the covering over of a man's traces on his land and its reappropriation by another man, which among the Foi is usually a man from the same clan. This process of internal succession to a deceased man's habitual territory is a normative and collectively sanctioned process; nevertheless, in the context of this mourning song, in light of the feelings of loss caused by a death, it may be construed as theft of land by the deceased's relatives. $\mathfrak I$ online example 18.

1.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	kone white	<i>ibu</i> creek		
	<i>memo</i> another	ga'ae possesse	es			
2.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	<i>da'arefai</i> Da'arefai	<i>ibu</i> creek		
	<i>memo</i> another	ga'ae possesse	es ·			
3.	ba'a	na'a	suanobo	ibu		
	boy	your	fish dammed	creek		
	aodoba'aye					
	let bush o	cover it				

4.	ba'a boy kigiba'ae bush cove	na'a your ered	nafa nafa	kobo taken	ibu creek
5.	ba'a boy ibu creek	na'a your aodoba'd let bush	<i>ibu</i> creek <i>aye</i> cover it	waya'areha Waya'areha	
6.	ba'a boy memo another	na'a your ga'ae possesse	dabahabo Dabahabo	<i>ibu</i> creek	
7.	ba'a boy aodoba'ay let bush o		<i>baruagahabo</i> Baruagahabo	<i>ibu</i> creek	
8.	ba'a boy memo another	na'a your ga'ae possesse	orege Orege	duma mountain	
9.	ba'a boy aodoba'ay let bush o		domege Domege	ibu creek	
10.	ba'a boy memo another	na'a your ga'ae possesse	<i>igiri</i> Igiri es	ga source	ibu creek
11.	ba'a boy kigiba'aye let strong		<i>munusuhabo</i> Munusuhabo	<i>ibu</i> creek	

12.	ba'a boy memo	na'a your ga'ae	faya'a Faya'a	<i>tonore</i> island	
	another	possess	es		
13.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	so'a So'a	duma mountain	
	aginobobo let anotho		,		
14.	ba'a boy	na'a your	<i>yegi</i> fish	<i>kobo</i> taken	ibu creek
	kigiba'ae bush cov	ered			
15.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	ira tree	sabe sabe	hũga larvae
	gamage later	aginobo	ba'ae ther steal it		
16.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	<i>gibi</i> bush fowl	moge eggs	
	aodoboba bush cov				
17.	<i>ba'a</i> boy	na'a your	buduru buduru	<i>hũga</i> larvae	
	viraba'ay let them				
18.	orohuĩ Orohuĩ	<i>ibu</i> creek			
	aodoboba bush cov				

19.	ba'a boy aodoboba' bush cove		ira tree	waria waria	bu'uni trap
20.	oro bamboo ira tree	masiba masiba waboba' let them			
21.	ba'a boy aginoba'a let anothe		metega hidden	kui sago	
22.	ba'a boy aodoboba' bush cove		<i>oro</i> bamboo	taru great	ira tree
23.	ba'a boy kigiboba'a tree cover		dabi cave	<i>bu'uni</i> trap	
24.	ba'a boy kigiboba'a tree cover		ibu creek	suanibibi dammed-ea	ten
25.	ba'a boy ira tree	na'a your waba'an let them		<i>ibu</i> creek	
26.	amena men ba'a boy	oro bamboo tereward Tereward)		

27.	kane vine na'abo to you	baniyu baniyu dibige stated	<i>ka</i> woman	mege only	ba that	ma'ame thing	
28.	kui sago	<i>kenege</i> mid-rib	dobo clan	ka woman	<i>ba</i> that	ma'ame thing	
	ba'a boy	<i>bebe</i> Bebe					
29.	ira tree na'abo to you	yaro ma'aru dibige stated	dobo clan	ka woman	mege only	ba that	ma'ame thing
1.	Boy, your						
2.	Boy, your Belongs to		Creek				
3.	Boy, your Another l						
4.	Boy, your Has been		the <i>nafa</i> fish vith bush				
5.	Boy, your Waya'arehabu Creek The bush has hidden that creek						
6.	Boy, your It is anoth						
7.	Boy, your Covered v	aabo Creek le					
8.	Boy, your Mt Orege It is another's						
9.	Boy, your Domege Creek Bush reclaimed						

10.	Boy, your Igiri Creek It is someone else's now
11.	Boy, your Munusuhabo Creek Let the jungle claim it
12.	Boy, your Hegeso longhouse It is another's
13.	Boy, your Mt So'a Stolen
14.	Boy, your fish creeks Bush covered
15.	Boy, your <i>sabe</i> tree grubs Another man will eat them
16.	Boy, your bush fowl eggs Hidden by the bush
17.	Boy, your <i>buduru</i> tree grubs Turned into butterflies
18.	Orohuĩ Creek Bush covered
19.	Your <i>waria</i> fruit traps Jungle hidden
20.	Your <i>masiba</i> bamboo Tree hidden
21.	Your secret sago palms Now another will eat them
22.	Your <i>taru</i> bamboo Later will be eaten
23.	Your cave deadfalls Bush covered
24.	Your fish dam creeks Jungle taken

- 25. Your Aiyebo'ao Creek Let the trees come
- 26. The man of the *yerebi* bamboo clan Boy Terewaro
- 27. The woman of the *baniyu* fruit It is I who speak to you
- 28. The woman of the Sago Bark clan The Boy Bebe
- 29. The *ma'aru* tree clan woman
 I your mother am speaking to you

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