

One time when people were living in the village, the little boys and girls were eating sembegi fruit. An old lady begged them to give her some to eat, but they refused. For that reason one morning early she put her little girl in the string bag (roro), and carried her down, walking until she came to the sembegi tree. Now the tree she saw was one that was standing in an area that had been cleared by an old man. She went to the trunk, and broke off the end of a branch to hang up her little girl. Then the old woman climbed up to the top of the sembegi tree and began eating. When she did this, a tovei (march fly?) flew quickly away. It bit the penis of the old man. Then he cried, "Aga! Why does tvei bite my penis?" That is why he said to his grandchildren, "You stay here playing while I go and come back." So the old man went out and looked up to the top of the sembegi tree. He saw the old lady who was still eating. So he said, "You! Who said you could come and eat my sembegi?" The old woman said, "Are! While the little boys were eating I became tired of begging them so I came, I saw, I came up and I ate." So he said, "I had intercourse with your daughter!" The old woman said "Aga! If only you would do that with me, when you became tired of me you could go to my young daughter as you are saying." So the old lady said, "You go cut some leaves and spread them out at the base of the tree while I come down." He cut some leaves, went to the trunk and spread them out. When he finished he said, "What should I do?" The old woman said, "You lie down. Look outwards towards me while I jump down and lie on top of you." The old man lay with his eyes looking upwards. The old lady came down beneath her branch. She sat and then lifted up her skirt and defecated. The old man's face, nose and eyes were all covered with shit. This is why he got up and went to the river to wash his face and eyes. While he was walking, the old woman came down and took out her little girl. Then she hung on (over her forehead) her nonti full of sembegi and carried it back to the village.

The old man finished washing himself and came into the village. He said to his grandchildren, "Come and look in my hair for lice." They went and when they looked through their grandfather's hair for lice, they saw shit in the hair. They said, "Abu there's shit in your hair!" He said, "Where! Shit?! These are rotten taro tops. I took them to go and I was planting them. They became stuck. That's not shit." So he said.

Notes:

Sembegi: -85- kind of tree fruit; yellow, small and round. - has yellow nut inside. January and Feb.

iwayessin -85- cleared area around the tree, showing that it was him, he probably saw the fruits and so cleared it and it became his - only used for clearing around trees.

tovei -85- When people are talking about you this fly will come to you, buzz around and perhaps suck blood; when someone is stealing the fly buzz around suck blood of the thief.

- W. says sometimes they suck blood because they are hungry.

86- "If only you have intercourse with me, you would get tired of me then you should go to my young girl as you're saying"

87- relieving you say afuufu.

page 2

excreta itself is tee.

Willie thinks that he heard this one as a small boy. - anybody could tell this kind of story.

Of the woman begging - Willie was bemused by this - said that she must be a 'child-lady'

