

It was dry season. All the small pools (kaubi) were dried up. Then Wangi Jiwo went fishing. He found some pools and was fishing there. He looked up and saw the sago. "Oh, it's good. It's my sago!" So he went up and cleaned the trunk of the sago. Then he took his fish and went back to the village. When he went another man came to that pool. He saw the sago and said, "Oh, it's a good one. My sago." He came up and saw that the base had been cleaned. He said, "You people cleaned it, but this is going to be my sago." Wangi Jiwo went to his brother-in-law (kowara). He said, "I saw my sago, so you go and cut the trough (sau)." His kowara said, "O.k. I'll cut the sau and tomorrow we'll stay there and make the sago."

In the morning they went to that place. They slept there. When morning came, they cut the sago down. They cleaned the sago, took off the skin and started to beat it. Wangi Jiwo beat and he was singing [sings]. That other man was working in his garden when he heard them singing. He thought to himself, "Who cut down and is now beating my sago?" So he went in and saw the men beating the sago. He went back to his village and greeted the people. "I went to the garden and saw a man. He cut down my sago and is beating it." So he told the people and they said, "Tomorrow we'll go and see that man." Wangi Jiwo and his kawara were beating the sago. They finished and slept there.

As he beat the sago, he sang [sings]. While he was singing all those people went. When they were going the kawara saw their feathers. "Are! kawara, I can see people with their feathers." So Wangi Jiwo went and got the sago basin (gaboy). He took that and covered his in-law with it. Then Wangi Jiwo got up and killed all the people. When he killed all the people, he came back and beat sago. The other man and some of his people came around and saw his kawara squeezing sago. So they got a spear and killed him there. He died. When the man and his cousin were going, the dead man got up and cut the dambi leaves². He put those around his head and tied them with a string. After making the sago the dead man came to his kawara. "It's finished so now we can go back to the village." So they came. When they came close to the village he told his in-law, "Kawara, I'm already dead. I saw you and I was upset, so I helped you with this sago. You can take the sago to the house. But I can't go to the house. Tell my sister I was killed." So he went in and told the woman.

¹. Large blue bird with crest. Breaks upon okari nuts with beak. Feathers used in decorating.

². Used for serving food while in the bush.