

There were two mountains called Wasironi and Wadada. Under those two mountains there were two villages, Waronai and Budiaai. There they lived.

They used to go to their gardens, work there and come back to the village. They were working and staying in their own village. Pigs were eating their gardens all the time. They used to go out and work in the garden and when they returned to the village the pigs ate in the garden. People thought that it was a big pig but really it was a big snake. So every day the people would make a fire to keep the pig out. But every night that snake would come in and start to eat all of their taros.

It went on until their wives said, "Oh, you are men. You should go to the garden and kill this pig. This pig doesn't come sometimes, it comes every night. So you must kill this pig or our gardens will be all spoiled." So the people made a fire and sat together. Then they said, "All right during the night two men will go out and kill that pig."

So the next day the people went to the garden and worked all day. In the evening they returned. Then two men took their spears and went out to kill the pig. They went slowly into the garden. As they went in they heard a noise. When they looked they saw taro leaves moving so they went over there. When they reached the spot they could see nothing for that snake was lying still under the leaves. One man said, "I can't see the pig. What is this? It's not a pig, it's a big snake!" So he said to his friend, "You come and have a look." When his friend looked and saw that big snake he got frightened and said, "We'll go home." But the first man said, "We'll wait and see where this snake goes and rests. We can tell the people and they will come and kill the snake." So those two men stood and watched the big snake. When it finished eating the taro it went out into the big kunai grass. So the two men went to the village. In the after they told the chief.

When it was getting dark the Kawo made a fire and all of the people gathered around. When they had gathered the kawo said, "All the time we thought it was a pig that was eating our gardens, but it is a big snake. So tomorrow you all get your spears and we will kill that big snake." So the people said, "We must kill that big snake. When it is finished with the garden it will come up into the village. It came from a different place - so we must kill that big snake." The two men said, "We saw the big snake and where it lives so when we get to the garden we will show you."

So early in the morning when the rooster was crowing the young boys tied their feathers, got their spears. When all of the people finished decorating themselves they went to the garden. When they got close the chief said, "When we go in I will throw the first spear. You must all follow. We will then cut off the head of that big snake."

So all of the people stood around the big snake. The chief threw his spear and then everybody started throwing their spears. All of them threw their spears and killed that big snake.

When the snake was dead, all of the people sat down, chewed betel nut, rolled their smoke and rested.

After chewing the people said, "Ove! Carry the big snake to the village, butcher it and eat it." The big snake said, "Ove! Carry the big snake to the village, butcher it and eat it." So everything the people said was repeated by the snake. They got string, tied up the snake and carried it to the village. There the people said, "Ovei! Get firewood and bring it and we will cook this snake." The snake said the same words. So the people went into the bush and brought firewood. The snake said to the people and said, "Ovei! Get your knives and butcher this big snake." The snake said, "Ovei! Get your knives and butcher this big snake." When the snake was cut up the ladies put down wood and pots and then they cooked the big snake. And when it was cooked the people said, "Take the pots out from the fire and we will eat that big snake." And the snake said, "Ovei! Take the pots off of the fire and we will eat that big snake. So they got the pots off the fire, they sat down and ate that big snake. All of the people of that village ate the snake - even the dogs and pigs, they ate the bones.

At that time a girl from Wasironi came to Wadada and got married there. She was staying at that village when they did this. She was pregnant and her husband died. She became kenna. So the people there took a bit of that snake to that woman saying, "This is a bit of your share." But the woman said, "Aree! I'm pregnant so I won't eat that snake. Take it away. Take it away quickly because my children might wake up and hear about that snake and cry for some. So take it away."

So they took the snake back. But all of the people of that village ate the snake - the men, women, boys and girls, even pigs and dogs - they ate that snake. When they finished eating that big snake they chewed. When it was night they all went up to sleep. When all of them went up, no one came out early in the morning no one came out even when the sun was right up. All the people in that village, dogs and pigs were all dead.

Only the kenna with her children didn't die because they didn't eat the snake. She said to her children, "You go and see your uncles (yaase) because the sun is right up and they are not down yet." So the children went to the houses and opened the doors. They didn't know that their uncles were all dead, so they came back and said to their mother, "They are all still asleep." They stayed and waited and waited until the sun was high. The mother said, "Aga! They are sleeping too much! You go up and see them." So the children ran up to the house. They saw them lying down so they came back and said, "They are still sleeping." So the mother went to the house. When she looked in she saw that all of the people lying there were all dead. So she went to all of the houses and found that everyone was dead - even the pigs and dogs. All were dead.

So she went to the house and said to her children, "Get your things. We will go to my village and tell those people to come and bury all of these people." So they got their things and walked all the way to the village. When she came into the varo the people said, "Oh! Our daughter - your sister - is coming back to see us." When the people were saying that she started to cry and went in. She told them what happened. She said, "If you go to the village you will

find no one there. They are all dead. They are all lying in their houses. I didn't eat the big snake so I'm alive with my children."

So all of the people in the village came and dug a hole to bury all those people. Then they returned to their village. When the kenna's children grew up she told them what had happened. When they were old enough they got married, took their wives and went to their own village. Their wives gave birth to babies. They exchange (teyodi) with each other to get married. Over time there were plenty of people in that village again. Now they are living in those two villages Wasironi and Wadada.