



A'FRA ABAA 1

by Oteanankanduro

ABSTRACT

I'm all there is in one body, one spirit, one soul: Not man, not woman; not wo-man Not broken, not silenced, not eclipsed I'm just the hue of mankind —Human! That's all there is It's all I'll ever be.

Hasford Ato Kwamina

Music Album

Prologue

My name is Oteanankanduro, healer of snakebites. A'fra Abaa is a promise I made to my inner child, to acknowledge her voice and his spirit, these components that linger to keep my body and old soul in line and alive. Anyone that finds this Album (Vol. 1) has found one of the treasures of Ghanaian ancestors whose souls have been preserved in these seven lullabies as a reminder that no one is left alone, neither the dead or the newborn (Child/Child at heart).

Seven is divine. Seven is complete. A'fra Abaa was released on 4th March 2019, in honour of the Greatest Ancestor of All, Miriam Zenzile Makeba, who once said: "I look at a stream and I see myself: A native South African, flowing irresistibly over hard obstacles until they become smooth and, one day, disappear – flowing from an origin that has been forgotten toward an end that will never be." And here we are, any one song you listen to on A'fra Abaa is in remembrance of an origin, and with all seven kept, taught or shared, there'll be no end.

To harness A'fra Abaa's full power; treat it like a lullaby: Sing it when you are happy, bored, and sad; sing it with your children and family. When you need rest, let it put you to rest.

Otubele: I read somewhere that a child will play with anyone unless you tell them not to. It's good

to be precautionous but not when it roots from sheer hatred. Love, and guide your child to do same without discrimination.

Seniwa Dedende: Child, don't be rude! We mean the best for you. Come see for yourself.

Baby Kaafo: Protect a child's innocence, they can be too generous with their hearts and wolves are always lurking in sheep clothing to take advantage.

Hena Ba Ni: That's my child! It's mine whatever it looks like.

Toboli: Show your child the monster but don't encourage it to be afraid.

Due Due: "A child gets character from the mother and spirit from the father." Masculine energy is essential to growth. Stay vigilant man! Woman, nurture the boy to become a conscious man.

Tuutuu Gbovi: Time to close your eyes, fall into the arms of nature and let her repair what's broken, restore what's lost.

FEATURED ARTIST

NIX

My brother calls himself Nix. Sometimes he's a rapper. Most times he's annoying, yet when we agree on something, his passion soars through the roof. Otubele is proof.

LYRICS

The lyrics to the A'fra Abaa Album, written below this page are in the Twi Language, Ga and Ewe (Gbe). Twi is the primary language of the Akans of Ghana and some Akans in Côte D'Ivoire. Twi is widely spoken in Ghana and seems could someday become the official first language of Ghana. Ga, traces its roots to Nigeria with similarities in some words found in the Language of Yoruba. Ga is the Language of Accra. Ewe from the mother Language, Gbe, is spoken by at least three million people with several dialects. Fon(gbe) is to Benin and Ewe(gbe) is to Ghana, predominant in the Volta Region with their various dialects depending on tribe and location. Like the other languages, Twi also comes in dialect. You'll find and if equipped be able to tell the differences in the Akuapem, Fante, Akyem and Asante dialects in which some of these songs are sung and written.

ALPHABETS GUIDE (PRONUNCIATION)

A, a = a in amount, e in err

E, e = ay in bay, ea in eat, i in bid

Ɛ, ɛ = ai in air

I, i = I in Immanuel

O, o = o in bone, u in put

Ɔ, ɔ = o in oil

U, u = o in tool, u in bull

Ky = ch in church

Tw = /tschu/ u in put

Kw = qu in aqua

Gy = gy in gyrate

Ny = ng in sing

N, n = n in need, ng in sing

Y, y = y in yeast

(SPECIALS: EWE & GA)

Ò = oa in oats

Ɖ = t in tease, r in round (stress r)

À = a in bat

Ã = an in gang

Í = ea in eat

f = short sound of blowing air over hot tea

ɣ = sound as f but heavy as w in wood

ɖ = rolling r sound

ɠ = ng in sing

È = e in egg

~ = any letter with the tilde sign above it is a nasal sound of that letter.

ẽ = e in egg but nasal

X, x = h in hot

Teach. Yourself, children and family.

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OTUBELE

Otubele!
Akpe ne akpe!
Otubele!
Akpe ne akpe!

Fekyere kaawa ni ofee (fee)
Onini ni ofee (fee)
Aboa ne kaawa (waa)
N'ofee n'ofee (fee)
N'ofee shika-

Ntoblo one
N' o two
Na aba, na aba
Bam bam bam!

Ntoblo one
Ntoblo two
Ntoblo-
Ohin mama
Ohin papa,
Awa 'waa 'waa 'waa
Etoe 'toe 'toe 'toe

Ntoblo one
Ni o two
Na aba, na aba
Bam bam bam!

SENIWA DEDENDEE

Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Wo maame frε wo oo

Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Ose me mbeyε den?
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Ose bedzidzi!
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Eben edziban a?
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Fufu na mmenkwan.
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa

Seniwa dedendee
Seniwa dedendee
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa

Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Wo maame frε wo oo
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Ose me mmeyε den?
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Ose bedzidzi!
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Eben edziban a?
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa
Fufu na mmenkwan.
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa

Seniwa dedendee (Adlib)
Seniwa dedendee
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa

Seniwa Deden-ah
Seniwa Deden-ah
Seniwa Dee-ah
Seniwa Deende- (ah)
Seniwa dee (ah)
Seniwa de-ee (ah)
Seniwaaaa...(ah)

Seniwa dedendee
Seniwa deedende
Seniwa dedendee Seniwaa

BABY KAAFO

Baby, Kaafo
gme omami ete?
Ete lai.
Mini (ni) eshi eha bo?
Eshi mi apapa.
Hã mi eko maye.
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le

Baby, Kaafo
gme omami ete?
Ete lai.
Mini (ni) eshi eha bo?
Eshi mi apapa.
Hã mi eko maye.
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ihaa bo fai
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le
Ke mmami ba, makee le

Baby, Kaafo
gme nye papa ete?
Ete lai.
Mini (ni) eshi eha nye?
Eshi wo apapa.
Hã wo eko 'woye.
Wohaa nye fai
Wohaa nye fai

Wohaa nye fai
Wohaa nye fai
Ke nye papa ba, makee le
Ke nye papa (mami) ba, makee le
Ke nye papa ba, makee le
Ke nye papa (mami) ba, makee le

Yaa Yaa wushi ooo!

HENA BA NI

Akwadaa 'i whana ne ba?
Agya Kwasi ne ba.
Momfa ne nko abease-
Abease na nkasee wo
Momfa ne nko onyinase-
Onyina bebu abo me ba
abo me ba
abo me ba
Onyina bebu abo me ba
abo me ba
abo me ba
Onyina bebu abo me ba ee.

Abofra 'i hena ne ba?
Eno Asi ne ba.
Momfa ne nko bease-
Mmease na nkasee wo
Momfa ne nko 'nyinase-
Nyina bebu abo me ba
abo me ba
abo me ba
Nyina bebu abo me ba
abo me ba
abo me ba
Nyina bebu abo me ba ee.

Afra 'i whana nye ba?
Agya Kwasi nye ba.
Hɔmfɔ no nkɔ bease-
Abease wɔ nsoensoe
Hɔmfɔ ne nkɔ onyinase-
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba
abɔ mo ba
abɔ mo ba
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba
abɔ mo ba
abɔ mo ba
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba-

Mbofra nyina' asa
wɔdze mproprowa abɛ m'
mope n' dem ara, dem ara
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba
Kasee behien' abease
dem ara, dem ara
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba ee...

Hɔmfɔ no mmam' 5x
Kye-kye-kye...
Nana...
mmɛɛmɛɛ-mɛmɛɛ-mɛɛmɛɛ-mɛmɛɛ

Mbofra nyina' asa
wɔdze mproprowa abɛ m'
mope n' dem ara, dem ara
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba
Kasee behien' abease
dem ara, dem ara
Onyina bobu abɔ mo ba ee...
Wɔmfɔ no mmam!

mmɛɛmɛɛ-mɛmɛɛ-mɛɛmɛɛ-mɛmɛɛ.

TOBOLI

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!

3x

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!

4x

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!
Toboli e, toboli e, toboli eee...

4x

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!

5x Call & Response

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!

Nye gutɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo
Nye gutɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Naɖe na xɔagbe le asiwo nam oo,
Dzedzevi nye loo-

Toboli e,
Toboli nu,
Toboli na,
Toboli!

Nye ɔ̃tɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo (Toboli)
Nye ɔ̃tɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo (Toboli)
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Naɖe na xɔagbe le asiwo nam oo,
Dzedzevi nye loo (Toboli)

Nye ɔ̃tɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo (Toboli)
Nye ɔ̃tɔ fe dzedzevi 'ye lo (Toboli)
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Naɖe na xɔagbe le asiwo nam oo,
Dzedzevi nye loo (Toboli!)

Newo kpuie hã loo
Newo kɔ hã loo
ɔ̃tɔtile gba dzaa ne loo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Mega fa vi le zãme nam oo
Naɖe na xɔagbe le asiwo nam oo,
Dzedzevi nye loo -Toboli!

DUE DUE

Due due, Barima, due due
(hmm hmm)
Due due Barima due due
(Wokyem so na wada, due)
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due
(Da o, da o, due due)
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due
(Wokyem so na wada, wada, due)

Due due, Barima, due due
Due due Barima due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due

Due due, Barima, due due
Due due Barima due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due

3x

Due o!
Due due, Barima, due due
Due due Barima due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due
Abofraba ama wada wada, due due

3x

Abofraba ama wada wada, due due

Due o,
Due o, due due
Due
Due o, due

Due due, Barima, due due
Due due Barima due due
Abofraba ama wada wada,
due due, due.

TUUTUU GBɔVI

Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi

Dadaa mu le ahoemin o
Papa mu le ahoemin o
Dadaa mu le ahoemin o
Me ke o la fa vi anu
Ao dzedze vinye
bɔnu bɔnu bo

Ao dzedze vinye

Bɔnu bɔnu bo.

Me ka fo wo
Pauluvi a?
Tu ta (ga) ne ma fui na wo
Ao vinye,
Mmm ao vinye o
Ao dzedze vinye,
bɔnu bɔnu bo.

Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi
Dada me le afea me o
Papa me le afea me o
Ao dzedze vinye
bɔnu bɔnu bo

Me ka fo wo
Pauluvi a?
Tu ta (ga) ne ma fui na wo
Ao vinye,
Ngbafã vi o
Ao dzedze vinye,
bɔnu bɔnu bo.

Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi
Tuutuu gbɔvi

Dada mu le ahoemin o
Papa mu le ahoemin o
Dada mu le ahoemin o
Me ke o la fa vi anu
Ao dzedze vinye
bɔnu bɔnu bo