

# Gambella Inspection Panel Interviews

## Word-for-Word Translated Transcripts

### February 2014

## Audio File 1

### Interview 1

**From 01:40 to 01:42** – Question ... **Where are you from, your village?**

**From 01:42 to 01:48** – I am from Akado / Pokowu

**From 01:48 to 02:20** – Question ... **You were bit afraid when we met in Abobo. Now you can talk freely without fear.**

**From 02:20 to 04:37** – I give thank to God that we meet once again. I was a bit afraid that is why I looked around before I talked. In reality, the life of the community is totally endangered by the act of government officials. They are dead though they are alive physically. Following the crisis that took place in the region when there was said to have gunmen that are operating actively in the area, the defense forces frequently, made movement to Okuna hoping that they will get the said gunmen, whom they consider as rebels.

**From 04:37 to 05:46** – The villagization program was something that could have been good but rather it has become problematic to the community. It was implemented without the consent of the indigenous community. The government officials promised that when the program is set in all services such as promotion of better education, health care, adequate water supply, installation of grinding mill will be in place. But in the process the promised basic services were not met.

**From 05:46 to 06:30** – Question ... **Was there beating in the process of implementation of the program?**

**From 06:30 to 10:19** – Yes there was large scale of intimidation in the process. Everything was started from Omot Obang here at regional government to woreda administration. There were reports to regional government from woreda administration stated that people reject villagization program. And then those of Omot Obang, the president, Ogatu Ading and Didumo Adar accompanied with Defense Forces/Armies, Federal Police and Special Forces come to give order to farmers to move by force. While they were gearing up to force people there was one Anuak man among Special Forces who rejected the

order to go to force farmers to move to the new location by force. And we heard a shot, a highland police man shot this man who refused the order to death right there. They started shooting, beating and arresting people. I realized that these people come to kill all of us. Since that time many people were arbitrarily arrested and detained, beaten and tortured by defense forces/armies, Federal Police and Special Forces. Life became horrible; communities were forced to leave their field and go to construct their own houses at the proposed villagization site. Those who manage to escaped they hide them in the bush, some fled to South Sudan to seek protection there. Those who remain were threatened to move to the new place by force. Consequently, the field produce of the communities were destroyed by monkeys and thieves. This condition put communities into shortage of food.

**From 10:19 to 10:50 – Question ... Who gave order?**

**From 10:50 to 11:56 –** The order came from the regional government through woreda administration. Defense Forces/Armies, Federal Police and Special Forces were there to beat people up, but the military defense forces were the forces that raped or sexually assaulted women and killing people. The key official were Omot Obang, the president, Ogatu Ading, Didumo Adar and Okwori Omot. Among these key official Okwori Omot, villagization program director, was the key person that gave strong order to move Okuna people to the villagization site by force. When one person in Okuna Doyi said that he would not leave his field, one police fired around his legs threatening him to move by force. It was done to intimidate the community.

**From 11:56 to 11:57 – Question ... How the military sexually assaulted women?**

**From 11:57 to 12:28 –** They didn't do it in front of the people. They did it by taking women to the nearest interrogation room or in the bush as they are pretending that they are taking the women for interrogation, but in middle of this process they will rape women. Some time they don't even do interrogation, they just took the women to rape them. Most of the women don't reject the military demand because of fear for their life. Of course they were doing it by forces.

**From 12:28 to 12:34 – Question ... When did this happen?**

**From 12:34 to 14:52 –** Right after the regional government deployed Defense Forces/Armies, Federal Police and Special Forces to the area to move people by forces. The condition become worst right after the gunmen attacked Saudi Star farmworkers in April or May 2012. Yes it was in May 2012, the time when Defense Forces killed a lot people in Pokadi Kebele. It was in the same month when Defense Forces come and arrest me and let my harvest left unguarded and monkey (Baboon) take advantage of that and destroy my crops. And all of these military abuses continued until last year (2013).

## **Interview 2**

**From 17:29 to 17:49 – Question ... How many Defense Forces/Armies came to arrest you?**

**From 17:49 to 18:39 –** I don't know the exact number. They did come in big number and surrounding my home. Only four of them came inside my compound but others remained outside in ambush.

**From 18:39 to 18:44 – Question ... Where did they took you to? Is it to police station?**

**From 18:44 to 19:32 –** First their aim was to beat me up, when they come they realized that I was alone and they did not beat me, instead they started beating the chairperson of the Kebele badly in front of me.

**From 19:32 to 19:42 – Question ... Are you neighbor with the chairperson of the Kebele?**

**From 19:42 to 20:25 –** No we are not neighbor. I lives a bit distance from the chairman where he lives. On that day Defense Forces beat the chairman in my field where I live. They brought him with them when they come for me to beat me up. And when show me in my field they start arguing with each other for few minutes and then they start beat the chairman very badly in front of me in my field.

**From 20:25 to 20:34 – Question ... After the beating they arrest you?**

**From 20:34 to 21:30 –** After the beating they did not arrest me. When they went back to their station they ordered policemen that are from my tribe to arrest me. Policemen came, arrested me and took me to Abobo police station and detained me there for four days. Then for further trial they sent me to prison in Abobo and stayed there for three months.

**From 21:30 to 21:41 – Question ... Why did they arrest you?**

**From 21:41 to 27:33 –** They arrested me because of my son. They alleged that my second born son that fled to south Sudan during the genocide of 2003 might have come back and joined the rebel group that is against the government. They made allegation that I used to help my son in providing him and his group with food. They also said that my other two sons are supporting the gunmen whom they called rebels. My first born son was working for a development agent (DA) in Gambella town and my third born son is a grinding mill operator in Okuna. My third born son was in Gambella town to buy fuel when policemen came and arrested me. When they heard that I was arrested they fled to south Sudan too to save their lives. At about the same time south Sudan government agent arrested my second born son in Juba, but some months ago with good luck he narrowly escapes at Juba airport before he was handover to the Ethiopian government agent who were waiting for him at Juba airport. His name is *[name deleted]*, now both my sons, second and third born are in Kenya.

**From 27:33 to 27:48 – Question ... That mean you were arrested because of your son?**

**From 27:48 to 27:50 –** I was arrested because of both cases, the allegation that my second born son was involved in sabotaging government program and I refused to move to villagiaztion site.

**From 27:50 to 28:17 – Question ... Since deployment of the armies in the area, did armies shoot any person?**

**From 28:17 to 29:19 –** Yes, there were people who were shot at, beaten even a lot of people were thrown in jail. I heard that a lot of people were killed. The most wanted people escaped while the

security personnel are still preparing themselves to arrest. For example [name deleted] was arrested in Dima and was sent to federal prison in Addis Ababa.

## Interview 3

**From 29:19 to 29:28 – Question ... Did you see armies shot dead any person?**

**From 29:28 to 33:26 –** I did not see when they killed people, but they have killed a lot people. There were those who run to away to the bush, the armies follow them to their hideout and killed them there. Sometime they do arrested people and took them to far away from the area killed them there. They are so many people who disappear that way up to now. For example they took some people from Tiershiru Kebele and the whereabouts of those people was not known up to now. As a result of this they relocated Tiershiru people to the new place by force because they were saying that Tiershiru is the main frontier for gunmen movement. The only person they shot but did not die was Magae. They ambushed him on the road between Okuna and Dumbang and shot him at his thigh but he did not die. Then they took him to federal prison in Addis Ababa. The most wanted people were [names deleted]. But they escaped with great difficulties.

**From 33:26 to 33:38 – Question ... What was the occupation of Magae?**

**From 33:38 to 33:43 –** He was student

**From 33:43 to 33:48 – Question ... Why they shot him?**

**From 33:48 to 35:58 –** They think that he was a rebel. They ambushed him on the road between Okuna and Dumbang and shot him at his thigh but he did not die. Then they took him to federal prison in Addis Ababa.

**From 35:58 to 36:15 – Question ... How many were you in Abobo prison?**

**From 36:15 to 38:00 –** We were nine in number who were sent to prison. But when they arrested us we were eleven, four females and seven males. Later on when they took us to police station in Abobo, they released two females since they were breastfeeding. Then we stayed in the prison for three months.

**From 38:00 to 38:25 – Question ... Do these entire problems have linkage with villagization program?**

**From 38:26 to 39:13 –** The main source of all these problems is the implementation of this program which was done without the consent of the community.

**From 39:13 to 40:22 – Question ... This is not good question to ask, I really I don't want to ask you, but I have ask. Did you encounter any rape case?**

**From 40:22 to 41:10** – Actually, rape cases were there but since such case is very sensitive culturally, the victims will not expose themselves to the public to address the case. It is taboo to report such case publicly due to culture influence. Many women were raped, but they don't talk about the ordeal.

**From 41:10 to 41:20** – **Question ... What is the purpose of moving people to the new place?**

**From 41:20 to 44:27** – The aim of the government is to reserve enough land and give it to investors. It is also a technique that is made to gather this tribe at one place and kill them all without missing one. The money that World Bank donated became a tool to finish our tribe from the land. The money is not utilized well on the expected goal. It has become a fund to capacitate the strength of armies rather than promoting basic services to the poor and innocent community. It is to kill us with.

**From 44:27 to 44:39** – **Question ... Who were investors who were given the land to leases in Okuna?**

**From 44:39 to 47:46** – No investor. When I was consulted to discuss the issue of land, I opposed it in loose statement saying that the land has been helping us and will help us, but if you do investment on your own accord do it, but we will not be responsible for any incident that will occur as a result of such investment. When they realized that the owners of land are bold in such statement, they failed to bring in investor. The proposed investor was a domestic investor who is from Tigray. The name of the firm is Bazain and the owner is Berhane Giday.

**From 47:46 to 48:10** – **Question ... Throughout villagization program, what bad thing happened to you?**

**From 48:10 to 49:30** – The serious problem was that we left our fields and our harvest were destroyed by monkeys and thieves. Due to this we faced shortage of food as government did not give us food though it promised.

**From 49:30 to 49:34** – **Question ... Who participated in building?**

**From 49:34 to 50:04** – Students and communities were the one who clear the camp and built the huts

## **Interview 4**

**From 50:04 to 50:58** – Before I talk I want to know more about your mission. We know that your mission was studying our culture but now you come in different way. What is your coming all about? As my origin is Luo, we want to speak truth because we fear God. Therefore, when I talk, you will know my truth.

**From 50:58 to 01:02:10** – **Interviewer...** *That is really good question. Well. I know that you speak the truth. We are four in number when we come. The purpose of our coming is because of the complaints that were submitted to World Bank by your son outside the country. Anuak outside submitted complaints to World Bank as problem was done to their people in Gambella throughout the process of the program. Since the money was donated by world to Ethiopia government, for development purpose and the money*

*was not utilized well and not allotted to the target, as stated by the complaints, the World Bank sent us to investigate whether the money was utilized well or not. Therefore, our mission is to hear from you being the indigenous people. We were banned not to do such investigation but after tough discussion we were allowed to come. When we go back we will make report on what we hear from you and we observed. World Bank is like UN. It is powerful than federal government. It is good that what happened to you is known to the world.*

**From 01:02:10 to 01:02:23 – Question ... What is her name? Your name?**

**From 01:02:23 to 01:02:33 –** My name is *[name deleted]*

**From 01:02:33 to 01:02:40 – Question ... How many kids you have?**

**From 01:02:40 to 01:03:14 –** I have four children, one pass away. They are three boys and one female.

**From 01:03:14 to 01:03:18 – Question ... How about you, what is your name?**

**From 01:03:18 to 01:03:58 –** My name is *[name deleted]*

**From 01:04:05 to 01:17:26 –** The purpose of the government is to take over our land. They told us that we must be moved to the new place to reserve enough land for investors to generate income for the government. The benefit is to the government. The indigenous community will not get anything from such investment. They gave land to Indian investor. The government deployed armies in the area to protect the investor. The investor does not sale the produce with the community. The fund of World Bank is not utilized according to what is expected. Development agents are not maintained well to do their work. The government is meeting its own interest. Those who submitted the complaints to World Bank are right. We did not see good thing done with the help of money from World Bank but only suffering of our people. Since the overthrow of Durge Regime in 1991, we did not see change but killing. The killing started since then in different ways because of natural recourses we have. We are not given authority to exercise in our land. Our right is not kept. In my area, the villagization program was not proper. The land was missionaries occupied become the site of the program. In the process our community refused to move as the site selected for them is swampy and is not good for settlement.

**From 01:17:26 to 01:17:36 – Question ... What they have built in Akado?**

**From 01:17:36 to 01:18:19 –** They did not built clinic and school. We are using the old clinic and school which were built by Missionary. We have four water wells in Akado Kebele: there was an old one which was drilled by Missionary, one was drilled by Catholic, other one was drilled by the government and the fourth one they are still working on it.

**From 01:18:19 to 01:18:30 – Question ... About in Pokumu, were people moved to one place, too?**

**From 01:18:30 to 01:20:38 –** Putok Kebele resident were told to move to Burgohi and resident in Eliya Kebele were told to move to Asula Adak, but they totally refused to move. Villagization program in those

area did not work because the proposed site were once wet land or rocky area which were not suitable for anything.

**From 01:20:38 to 01:20:54 – Question ... How many people arrested in Eliya Kebele?**

**From 01:20:54 to 01:22:20 –** Yes, a lot people were arrested but were set free. Even there was one man who one of his arms was cut off while he was in custody in the truck.

## Interview 5

**From 01:22:20 to 01:22:45 – Interviewer: Anything you want to add, it is your turn.**

**From 01:22:45 to the end –** The people of Pokadi Kebele opposed the program but when the government persisted in urging, we said let it be done. Then the woreda administration deployed police and militia to the site to protect the community during the construction of houses. Unfortunately, the defense/armies came and talked with one villager to be shown the place where polices are deployed. When they were shown they went and when they reached the scene they started firing at polices and militia killing five of them including one teacher and one farmer. The spared ones run into the bush. The aim of the government is gather us and kill us in one place. In general, it is to kill us for the available natural resources in Gambella. My blame goes to World Bank. Why does World Bank donate fund to Ethiopia government to kill people with? The genocide of 2003 was planned well but the date was missed with the help almighty God. In past our children fled and joined TPLF to fight together for their right. But after the fall of Durge regime TPLF turned its killing against Anuak when it implored the strength of them. So to kill all of us is to create new technique, villagization program. At this, we will be killed easily.

In the process of villagization program there are some people unaccounted for who were kill by the armies. I did document the following victims' names those who were killed in my area:

1. **[name deleted]** he was a teacher his origin place from Pokadi Kebele
2. **[name deleted]** he was 12 grade graduate student his origin place from Pokadi Kebele.
3. **[name deleted]** he was policeman his origin place from Opuamoro Kebele in Gambella Woreda
4. **[name deleted]** he was militia his origin place from Tanyi Kebele in Abobo Woreda
5. **[name deleted]** he was militia his origin place from Dumbang Kebele in Abobo Woreda

Those three guys were deployed by the government there to protect the civilian in Pokadi Kebele.

When the community saw this killing they decided to leave the area but I try level best to convince them not to do so. I said that whosoever kills will be killed by God. When we went to Abobo to pay ransom, army said that they are sorry for the killing they made.

If you are really from World Bank, why shouldn't our right be kept? Those who submitted complains are doing right thing. You said that the money from World Bank is to get pure water but now become red blood to us. TPLF said that next time women will not be left not to leak any single information to the world. The defense force is not to protect but to kill us. The money of World Bank

is used to buy gun and to kill us for our natural resources. Therefore, be a good agent of World Bank to make a good report.

-End

# Audio File 2

## Interview 1

**From 00:00 to 00:09** – **Question** ... What is your name?

**From 00:09 to 00:11** – My name is *[name deleted]*.

**From 00:11 to 01:48** – We went to the site we were the one who clear a camp site, who collected building wood poles and grass, and built our own home by ourselves. The gov't did not even do single thing, for example we were told that the gov't will bring tractors to ploughed farmland for us to be ready for weeding, it never happen. We were told that the site will built by the gov't, it never happen. Even food, we have to find our own way to get food to eat at the site. The promised that gov't was saying about food, it never happen. After while the gov't start bring 50 kg sack of wheat as ration food, but 50kg sack of wheat was divided for five (5) people, it was not enough.

**From 01:48 to 01:52** – **Question** ... How Anuak ate wheat? Usually Anuak don't eat wheat.

**From 01:52 to 03:26** – True, Anuak they don't ate wheat. Most of the time, they used to bring the wheat to Gambella town and grind it. After it becomes flour, they used it as local bread to eat it. After a while they change wheat with corn sack. We felt better at that, but the problem was we have to bring it to Gambella town to be grind it. Matter fact there were nothing was done to assist us by the gov't. Everything were left up to us to be able to do by ourselves. When UN agent saw that we are in need assistance, they came and put big tent down at site. The gov't chases them away right away. The gov't said to UN agent that this is not refugee camp, it is villagization camp. That was the time when most of us decided to move back to original home. For me, I moved back to my original home because the gov't fails to deliver their promises.

**From 03:26 to 03:32** – **Question** ... How many of you and your children went there to the site?

**From 03:32 to 03:56** – I have five (5) children, but I went there to the site with one, the disable one. The rest of my children are in Nairobi, Kenya.

**From 03:56 to 04:02** – **Question** ... How long did you stay there before you move back to your original home?

**From 04:02 to 04:09** – I did spend one year there.



**From 04:09 to 04:46** – **Question** ... Anuak used to live normal life without any problem, what do you think made the gov't to decide to move the Anuak to villagization camp?

**From 04:46 to 05:15** – We were told that all Anuak have to move to villagization camp so that the gov't arrange for them farmland to farm and gov't services. That is why some people like me agree to join the program.

**From 05:15 to 05:28** – **Question** ... How was water issue? Do they have water wells station, and how many?

**From 05:28 to 05:49** – There was one well there. And also they try to dig another one on the side of the road, but they didn't finish it.

**From 05:49 to 05:56** – **Question** ... How was the population? How many of you join the program?

**From 05:56 to 07:46** – I really don't know the exact number, I think we can reach to 1000 people who join the program. There are few people who are still there. A lot people, like me and some other friends moved back to their original home. One of the factors that make to move back was we accused that we were supporting the rebel.

**From 07:46 to 8:30** – The time we were there, we were not happy because of so many reasons. What the gov't was telling us that they will deliver basic services; turn out to be not true. We don't know what did happen to the gov't promises.

**From 08:30 to 08:36** – **Question** ... Were you been given the farmland to farm?

**From 08:36 to 08:50** – Yes, they give me farmland to farm.

**From 08:50 to 09:00** – **Question** ... Who did slash-and-burn for you?

**From 09:00 to 09:16** – I was the one who did all of that hard work. Those who have money, they did slash-and-burn by hiring people.

**From 09:16 to 09:20** – **Question** ... Did they give you corn seed?

**From 09:20 to 09:42** – No, they did not. They only give us machete knife. That was the only thing they did help us with.

**From 09:42 to 09:50** – **Question** ... Which month was it when you start moving to the site?

**From 09:50 to 10:02** – They start talking about the program in February and in April we start moving to the site.

**From 10:02 to 10:09** – **Question** ... In which month did you cultivation?

**From 10:09 to 10:32** – We start cultivation in ETY July 2002 (March 2010).

**From 10:32 to 11:00** – **Question** ... Since you were been relocated in April until October 2002, what assistance were you depending on?

**From 11:00 to 11:25** – We were receiving ration food per a month from the gov't , but it was just a name for ration food. The fact was we were not depending on gov't ration food instead we were depending on our own way of survival.

**From 11:25 to 11:28** – **Question** ... So those who are still living there, are they still getting the same amount of ration food from the gov't?

**From 11:28 to 11:41** – To be honest with you I really don't know because I totally stop going there. Maybe they are getting assistance I don't know.

**From 11:41 to 11:59** – **Question** ... Okay at time did you get the best possible results from your cultivation? Was the farmland fertile?

**From 11:59 to 12:26** – Not really, but if it is ploughed maybe it will.

**From 12:26 to 12:32** – **Question** ... Is there any clinic at the site?

**From 12:32 to 13:20** – Yes, there was one clinic there, but there is nothing in it. No medicine. There is one nurse who happens staying in Gambella town and comes to works at any time/day he want. I don't call that clinic is a clinic. By the time I was there people used to come to Gambella town for treatment when someone gets sick.

**From 13:20 to 13:22** – **Question** ... About school? Is there school there?

**From 13:22 to 14:00** – Yes, there is school at the old site at far distance from us. There was no school built at our site under the new villagization program.

**From 14:00 to 14:36** – **Question** ... What was the gov't saying to those who decided to move back to their original home?

**From 14:36 to 14:58** – I don't know about the other people. In my case for example no one talk to me, may be because I totally stop going there.

**From 14:58 to 15:43** – **Question** ... At the beginning, which group of Anuak category were targeted to be relocated?

**From 15:43 to 16:10** – Their target was those who don't have job. Like me, I was one of those who don't have income.

**From 16:10 to 16:26** – **Question** ... Before you and the rest of people who were relocated to the site, what were you surviving on for living?

**From 16:26 to 16:44** – I was depending on income that I earn from selling local Alcohols, like “bourthi”, “Araki”, and so on. With the money I got from selling alcohol, I can buy food in the market and feed my family. That is what I am surviving on until today.

**From 16:44 to 16:50** – **Question** ... How many kids you have?

**From 16:50 to 18:29** – I have five (5) kids. Two of them are not here in Gambella at the moment. The youngest one he is student at the university in Gondar, Ethiopia. The other two are in Kenya.

**From 18:29 to 18:35** – **Question** ... Is this is your home or belong to someone else?

**From 18:35 to 18:43** – It is my home.

**From 19:36 to 19:58** – **Question** ... Okay let me take back, which branch of gov’t come and tell you about villagization program?

**From 19:36 to 20:16** – It was “Gibirina” (Gambela Region Agriculture Development Office).

**From 20:16 to 20:30** – **Question** ... Were there people who refused/reject villagization program?

**From 20:30 to 20:38** – Well in Gambella there are those who went and more refused, but the program was rejected in place like Abobo, Okuna, Gog, and along Openo River by many people.

**From 20:38 to 20:52** – **Question** ... And what gov’t did to those who reject villagization program?

**From 20:52 to 21:22** – Here in Gambella nothing I heard of, but in some other places some people lost their life.

**From 21:22 to 25:14** – ..... Repetitions .....

**From 25:14 to 26:16** – **Question** ... I heard that the main reason why the Anuak were targeted by the gov’t to be relocated is their original place to be given to investors. Is that claim was true?

**From 26:16 to the end** – Yes, it is very true. That was the hidden agenda behind this villagization program. Most of us realized it when we learnt that some places in Gambella town were given away to investors. This was one of the factors that make us to reject the program. It is upsetting me when a place where you was born and rise and grow-up in being given to someone without you being consulted.

The End

## Audio File 3

### Interview 1

From 00:00 to 00:07 – **Question** ... What is your name?

From 00:07 to 00:12 – My name is *[name deleted]*

From 00:12 to 00:18 – **Question** ... Okay start your story from the beginning?

From 00:18 to 00:44 – We were told that those who have low income and the elders women are need to be relocated. So that they can lives with their children and grandchildren there at the new location. And then we went. We start clearing the area, cutting the trees down, building our own home, and farming.

From 00:44 to 01:42 – After the military actions, arbitrary arrests, beatings, and torture; rape and sexual violence, me and some other people decided to moved back to original home. By that time when we were at the site we used to receive a ration food that not enough for one person being divided for two people and small cup of cooking oil per a month. Before I left the site every month we used to suffer a lot because of no enough food until the next ration food came and distributed. This suffering let us to come to Gambella market and buy food with our own money and bring the food to the site to survived on. After the military actions, those who decided to stay they have to farm, if they don't farm, they will not get food. Ration food came in a while and not enough. People are suffering. If you didn't farm, for example me I didn't farm, I will stay here in original home I will not going back there unless I farmed my farmland.

From 01:42 to 02:40 – The gov't did not support us even the security was an issues that we were worry about. A lot of my neighbor men were subjected to be beaten, torture and arrested by military forces, the forces that supposed to protect us. Those men were accused off that they were rebel supporters and they were hiding the rebel. But the question is if the gov't gathering us here in villagization program name and knowingly there are rebel there at that area, why the gov't didn't provided us security forces for our safety? So I think the gov't itself is rebel. Why the gov't uproots us from our original home and throws us there and turns around accused us that we are rebel supporters? Gov't supposed to be our protector. That was our life at the site. So many people left the site and now they are calling everyone who left the site to come back and pay their gov't tax.

From 02:40 to 03:24 – [she is repeating herself]

From 03:24 to 04:02 – We were not given tools to works with. It was only machete knife that was given to us to clear a camp site, cutting small limbs and tree branches with it. That is all. Whatever the gov't promised us that will be provided, it turns out to be lie. For example, school; we were the one who were forced to build it. We did our level best to make villagization program success, but the gov't fails us. They did not fulfil their promises.

From 04:02 to 04:15 – **Question** ... How many months or years did you stay there before you moved back to your original home?

From 04:15 to 04:18 – I was there for two years.

From 04:18 to 04:39 – **Question** ... Did you relocated there to the site with your children?

From 04:39 to 04:46 – No because the condition was not good. I was there alone.

From 04:46 to 04:51 – **Question** ... How many children you have?

From 04:51 to 04:54 – I have four (4) children.

From 04:54 to 05:40 – ..... **Interview pause** .....

From 05:40 to 05:49 – **Question** ... Were you been given a farmland and cultivated it?

From 05:49 to 05:59 – Yes, I was given a farmland and I cultivated it the first year. But since I moved back to my original place I could not be able to cultivated it again.

From 05:59 to 06:04 – **Question** ... Was the farmland which was given to you, was it fertile land?

From 06:04 to 06:35 – No, it was not fertile land. It was sandy land. It was somehow good land to grow peanuts.

From 06:53 to 07:02 – **Question** ... During your stay at the site what was the most difficult thing you have face?

From 07:02 to 07:21 – Life was horrible, very bad, no enough ration food, no clinic and we used to come back to Gambella town for treatment if someone get sick.

From 07:21 to 07:24 – **Question** ... About water ?

From 07:24 to 07:55 – There was one well water which was not install properly. We did not even use it. Most of site residents in our area were pitching water from the pond that we have dug by ourselves.

From 07:55 to 07:56 – **Question** ... About grind mill?

From 07:56 to 08:02 – There was not grind mill for us, but there was one grind mill at far distance from us at the old Kebele (1990s villagization program).

From 08:27 to 08:31 – **Question** ... How was the population ? How many of you been relocated?

From 08:31 to 09:00 – We were many. Some of us were relocated on the other side of Open River. In our area we were about 800 to 1000 people.

From 09:00 to 09:04 – **Question** ... About the clinic?

From 09:04 to 09:38 – There was no clinic built for us. But there was one an old clinic that was abandoned and it was out of services for long time. We were forced to rehabilitate it. There was one health personnel; he was come once in a while because he lives in Gambella town. No medicine at the clinic either.

**From 09:38 to 09:45** – **Question** ... About the School? If any, is it built by gov't?

**From 09:45 to 10:00** – There was one school. That school was built in 90s and located far distance from us, but we were force to rehabilitate it.

**From 10:00 to 10:25** – **Question** ... When you decided to move back to your original home, what the gov't said to you?

**From 10:25 to 10:50** – Up to now they are looking for me. They want me to move back to the site, but I don't want.

**From 10:50 to 10:56** – **Question** ... Who did you talk to directly?

**From 10:56 to 11:13** – Gov't talk to villagization program director to our Kebele leader to me.

**From 11:13 to 11:36** – ..... **Interview pause** .....

**From 11:36 to 12:07** – **Question** ... Okay let's go back to the beginning of villagization program, how you were inform about the program and by who?

**From 12:07 to 13:45** – They started it by conducting a meeting in every Kebele. Those along the Openo River bank did their meeting there and we, those who living around Gambella area did our meeting in Yichai Kebele. The first gather we were mixed, we have highlanders and Nuers among us. The next day we were segregated, they told highlanders and Nuers that this villagization program is not for you. This villagization program is for the Anuak people only. After all of that they told us about the program package. And no question to ask we were told to start clearing a camp site, cutting small limbs and tree branches. All of this mobilization was done by Kebele leaders and villagization program directors.

**From 13:45 to 14:04** – **Question** ... When they order you to clear a camp site, were you getting paid?

**From 14:04 to 14:30** – No, we were not getting paid, even no ration food for us at that time. We were told that everyone have to clear her/his place. We used to go there carrying our own food to eat during lunch breaks.

**From 14:30 to 14:31** – **Question** ... How did you get to the site?

**From 14:31 to 14:38** – By car, they will come in the morning pick us up and drop us off in the evening time.

**From 14:38 to 15:17** – She is repeating herself.

**From 15:17 to 15:21** – **Question** ... How long did it take clearing the site?

**From 15:21 to 16:09** – One month, but right after we finished clearing the site we were told to clear some hectares of land for the organization.

From 16:40 to 16:55 – **Question** ... Which month was it when you start going to clear the site?

From 16:55 to 18:14 – We start going to the site in April Ethiopian calendar.

From 18:14 to 18:26 – **Question** ... What was the main reason was given to them that they have to move?

From 18:26 to the end – It was not clear to some of us. They said we have to move so that we can lives together.

THE END