

# Goso, Mallumjo



## Goso the Teacher

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**Goso, Mallumjo (Fulfulde-Adamawa/Yola) / Goso the Teacher (English)**

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Woodi goddo feere, innde  
maako Goso. O donno ekkatina  
bikkoy jangugo ammaa naa haa  
suudu jangirde, haa les leggal  
tummude.



Once there was a man named Goso. He  
taught children how to read, not in a  
schoolhouse but under a calabash tree.

Bee asira feere Lelwa wa”i  
leggal man haa wujja bibbe  
ledde.

Sey nga dimbi leggal man, sey  
tummude yani, fiyi Goso haa  
hoore. Nonnon dum mbari mo.

One evening, the Gazelle climbed up  
the tree to steal some fruit.

He shook off a calabash, and it hit Goso  
on the head and killed him.



Nde bikkon wari tawi mallumjo  
mabbe maayi, don waali haa  
leddi, bernde mabbe metti  
soosey.

Be yidi be dabbita moy mbari  
Goso.

When the children came and found  
their teacher lying dead on the ground,  
they were very sad.

They wanted to find the one who had  
killed Goso.



Sey be nanngi Henndu  
Fombinaaru, be wi'i ndu:

“An on yandini tummude nde  
mbarini amin mallumjo amin  
Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they caught the South Wind and  
said:

“It was you who threw down the  
calabash that killed our teacher Goso!  
You should not have done it!”



Sey Henndu Fombinaaru lorniti,  
“To mi donno mari semmbe  
bana nii, ko wadi mahol loope  
aatata mi?”



But the South Wind replied, “If I were  
so powerful, would I be stopped by a  
mud wall?”

Sey be dilli haa Mahol Loope, be  
wi'i ngol:

“An on darni Henndu ndu  
yandini tummude nde mbarini  
amin mallumjo amin Goso! A  
wadi aybe!”

So they went to the Mud Wall and said:

“It was you that stopped the Wind that  
threw down the calabash that killed  
our teacher Goso! You should have not  
done it!”

Sey Mahol Loope man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana nii, doomburu logan nder am saala na?"



But the Mud Wall replied, "If I were so powerful, would a rat gnaw through me?"

Sey Doomburu man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana nii, faaturu nyaamatam no na?"



But the Rat replied, "If I were so powerful, would I be eaten by a cat?"

Sey be dilli be tawi Faaturu, be  
wi'i ndu:

“An on nyaami Doomburu ndu  
naati nder Mahol ngol darni  
Henndu ndu yandini tummude  
nde mbarini amin mallumjo  
amin Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they found the Cat and said:

“It is you that ate the Rat that gnawed  
through the Wall that stopped the  
Wind that threw down the calabash  
that killed our teacher Goso! You  
should not have done it!”

Sey Faaturu man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana nii, mi habbataake no bee boggol, ko?"



But the Cat replied, "If I were so powerful, would I tied by a rope?"

Sey be dilli be tawi Boggol, be  
wi'i ngol:

“An on habbi Faaturu ndu  
nyaami Doomburu ndu naati  
nder Mahol ngol darni Henndu  
ndu yandini tummude nde  
mbarini amin mallumjo amin  
Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they went to the Rope and said:

“It is you that tied the Cat that ate the  
Rat that gnawed through the Wall that  
stopped the Wind that threw down the  
calabash that killed our teacher Goso!  
You should not have done it!”

Sey Boggol man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana nii, labi ta'atam no na?"



But the Rope replied, "If I were so powerful, would I be cut by a knife?"



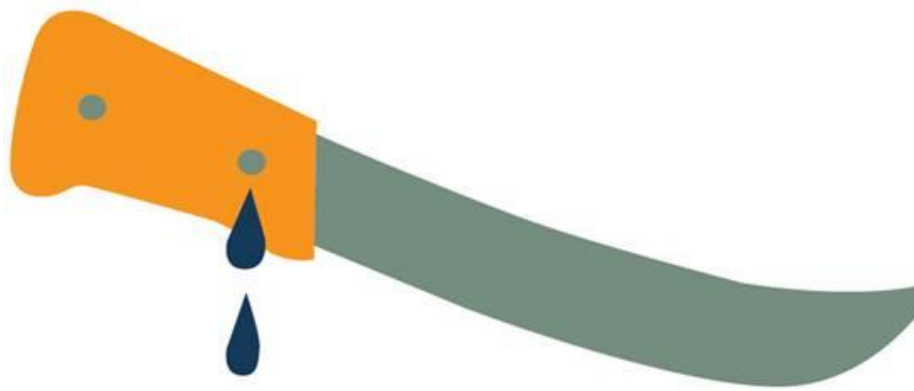
Sey be dilli be tawi Labi, be wi'i ki:

“An on ta'i Boggol ngol habbi  
Faaturu ndu nyaami Doomburu  
ndu naati nder Mahol ngol darni  
Henndu ndu yandini tummude  
nde mbarini amin mallumjo amin  
Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they found the Knife and said:

“It is you that cut the Rope that tied the  
Cat that ate the Rat that gnawed through  
the Wall that stopped the Wind that  
threw down the calabash that killed our  
teacher Goso! You should not have done  
it!”

Sey Labi man wi'i, "To mi donno  
mari semmbe bana nii, yiite  
wulatam no na?"



But the Knife replied, "If I were so  
powerful, would I be burned by a fire?"

Sey be dilli be tawi Yiite, be wi'i  
nge:

“An on wuli Labi ki ta'i Boggol ngol  
habbi Faaturu ndu nyaami  
Doomburu ndu naati nder Mahol  
ngol darni Henndu ndu yandini  
tummude nde mbarini amin  
mallumjo amin Goso! A wadi  
aybe!”

So they went to the Fire and said:

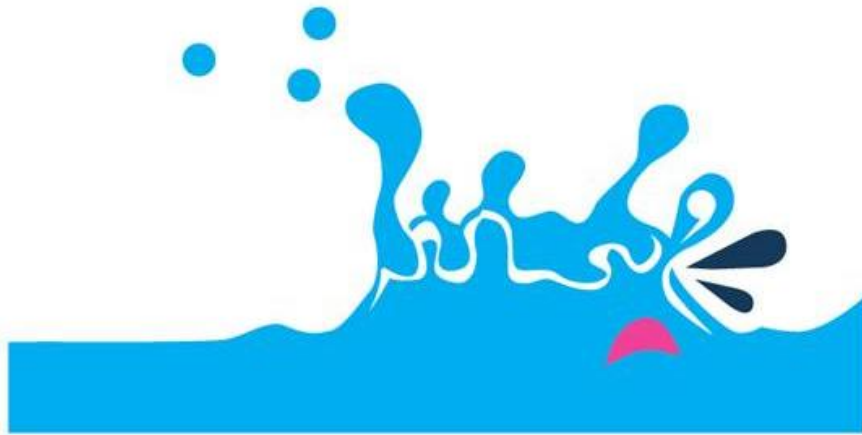
“It is you that burned the Knife that cut the  
Rope that tied the Cat that ate the Rat that  
gnawed through the Wall that stopped the  
Wind that threw down the calabash that  
killed our teacher Goso! You should not  
have done it!”

Sey Yiite man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana nii, ndiyam nyifatam no na?"



But the Fire replied, "If I were so powerful, would I be put out by water?"

Sey Ndiyam man wi'i, "To mi donno mari semmbe bana ni, nagge yaratam no na?"



But the Water replied, "If I were so powerful, could I be drunk by a cow?"

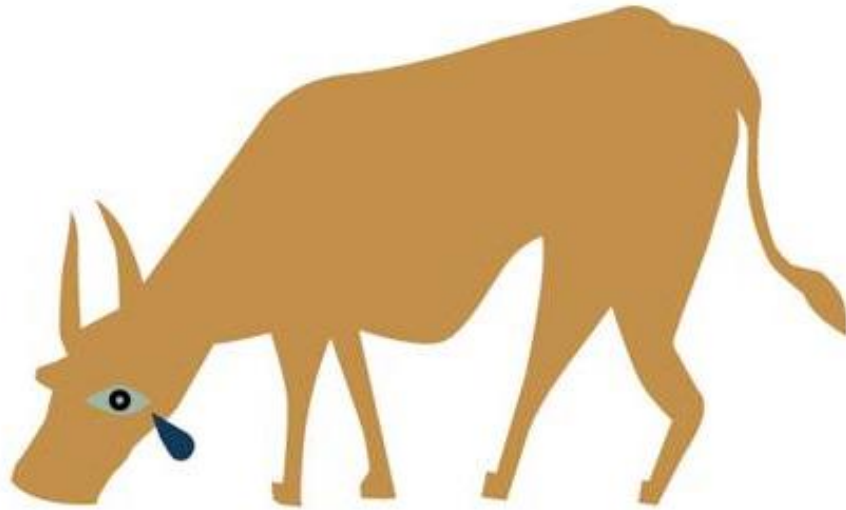
Sey be dilli be tawi Nagge, be wi'i  
nge:

“An on yari Ndiyam dam nyifi Yiite  
nge wuli Labi ki ta'i Boggol ngol  
habbi Faaturu ndu nyaami  
Doomburu ndu naati nder Mahol  
ngol darni Henndu ndu yandini  
tummude nde mbarini amin  
mallumjo amin Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they found the Cow and said:

“It is you that drank the Water that put out  
the Fire that burned the Knife that cut the  
Rope that tied the Cat that ate the Rat that  
gnawed through the Wall that stopped the  
Wind that threw down the calabash that  
killed our teacher Goso! You should not have  
done it!”

Sey Nagge man wi'i, "To mi donno  
mari semmbe bana nii, mbuubu  
ngaatatam no na?"



But the Cow replied, "If I were so powerful,  
would I be bitten by a fly?"

Sey be dilli be tawi Mbuubu, be wi'i ngu:

“An on ngaati Nagge nge yari Ndiyam dam nyifi Yiite nge wuli Labi ki ta'i Boggol ngol habbi Faaturu ndu nyaami Doomburu ndu naati nder Mahol ngol darni Henndu ndu yandini tummude nde mbarini amin mallumjo amin Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they found the Fly and said:

“It is you that stung the Cow that drank the Water that put out the Fire that burned the Knife that cut the Rope that tied the Cat that ate the Rat that gnawed through the Wall that stopped the Wind that threw down the calabash that killed our teacher Goso! You should not have done it!”



Sey Mbuubu man wi'i, "To mi donno  
mari semmbe bana nii, lelwa  
nyaamatam no na?"



But the Fly replied, "If I were so powerful,  
would I be eaten by a gazelle?"

Too, be ndilli be hefti Lelwa kam.

“An on nyaami Mbuubu ngu ngaati  
Nagge nge yari Ndiyam dam nyifi  
Yiite nge wuli Labi ki ta’i Boggol ngol  
habbi Faaturu ndu nyaami  
Doomburu ndu naati nder Mahol  
ngol darni Henndu ndu yandini  
tummude nde mbarini amin  
mallumjo amin Goso! A wadi aybe!”

So they found the Gazelle.

“It is you that ate the Fly that stung the Cow  
that drank the Water that put out the Fire that  
burned the Knife that cut the Rope that tied  
the Cat that ate the Rat that gnawed through  
the Wall that stopped the Wind that threw  
down the calabash that killed our teacher  
Goso! You should not have done it!”



Hilni Lelwa dow bikkon man heftiri nga. Ngam maajum nga walaa wolde.

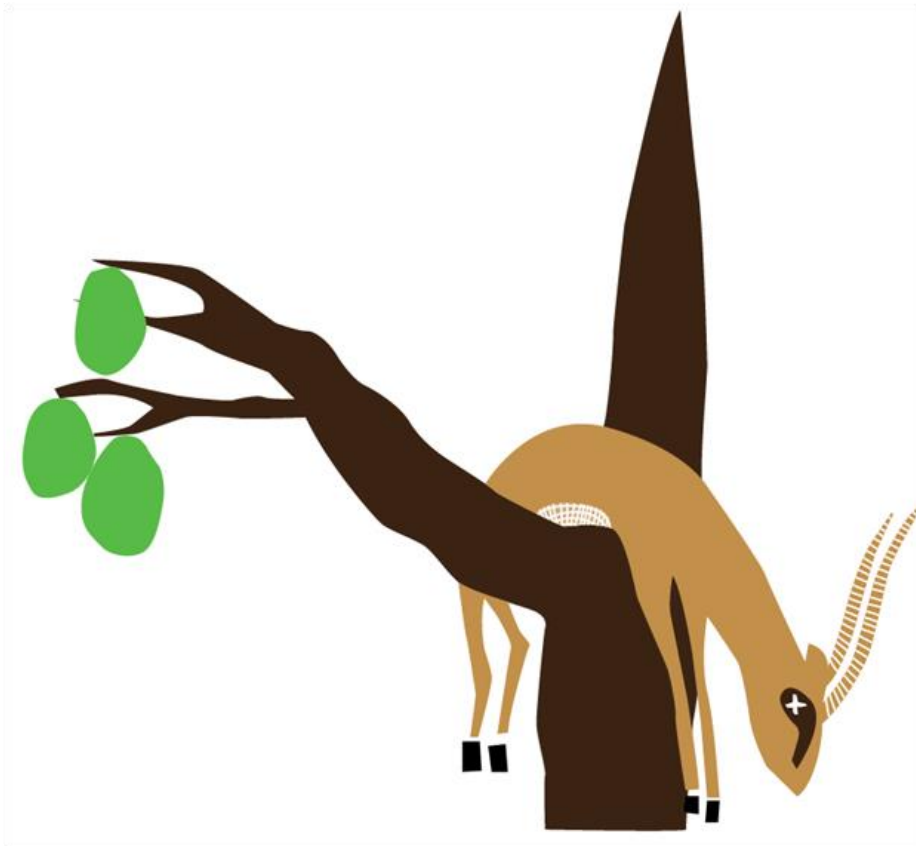
Sey bikkon wi'i; "An on yandini tummude nde fiyi mallumjo amin haa hoore, o maayi! An on haandi hiiteego!"

Nonnon boo kannga amti nga.

The Gazelle was so surprised at being found at that he had nothing to say.

Then the children said, "You are the one that threw down the calabash that hit our teacher Goso on the head! You are the one that must be punished!"

And indeed he was.

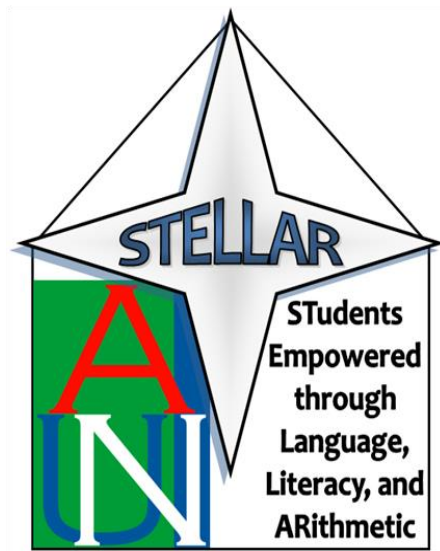


## **Lartu ko a faami!**

1. Dume wadi mallumjo Goso?
2. Moy bikkon man arti wulli?
3. Dume Faaturu, Labi, Ndiyam bee Nagge jaabiri bikkon?
4. Noy bikkon wadi haa be hefti mo mbari mallumjo mabbe Goso?

## **Check Your Understanding!**

1. What happened to Goso the Teacher?
2. Who did the children accuse first?
3. What did the Cat, Knife, Water, and Cow each say in response to the children?
4. How did the children discover who really killed Goso?



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