THE ADVENTURES OF SIMON

A New Beginning in the New Sudan

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BICC in Southern Sudan

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The project aims to strengthen peace and security in Southern Sudan by building capacity on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DD&R) and small arms control. Working with local partners, BICC provides training and education on these issues to members of civil society and the Government of Southern Sudan. The project also aims to raise awareness of DD&R and arms control issues through the use of local media and entertainment.

BICC has been engaged in Southern Sudan since 2004. For more information on our activities in the region, please visit www.bicc.de/sudan.
THE ADVENTURES OF SIMON

A New Beginning in the New Sudan
I'm going out to work now Mother.
Okay Simon, have a good day.

We need your crops to feed ourselves.
No! Please don't! This is all that my family has!
Okay, there's nothing here now, let's go.
Let's take the boy with us, he'll be useful for carrying our stuff.

Anna der terab taki de ashan anna der akulu.
La La moto shilu de yaw haja al usra tai endu kulu
Kalas, mafi haja tani eni kele anna Ruwa.
Kele anna shilu weled de ma anna wou be sayedu anna ma arfa hajatt.

What will we do for food now that our crops are gone?
My poor son!

Anna be amulu shunu aside shelu akel ouw terab Tnna kulu.
Ahaa jena taeyi.
**TWO YEARS LATER**

You're not such a boy anymore, do you think you're ready to handle a gun?

I don't want to kill anybody, but anything has to be better than being a porter--right at the bottom of the pile...maybe I won't have to use the gun...

Yes Sir, I'm ready.

**BAAD SENATEN**

- Ita tani ma weled suker. Ita gi fekir ita be agder amsku silah?

- Ana ma azu katulu aie zol, lakin, emken ayi haja be kun kuwes, emkin ana ma bi istamilu silah.

- Ana Jahiz

**Everyone keeps saying that we are doing this for the good of our people but we just keep harming them. I hate this life and I hate what we are doing.**

- Aih zol gi kelem gali anina be amulu de ashan kwens le nas ta anina. Lakin lisa anina be taab umon, ana ma der hayat de wo an ma de haja al anina gi amulu de.
I can't live like this anymore! We are constantly in fear of being attacked and we're totally defenseless.

My dear, this is the way that life has been for as many years as I can remember. You can't change a thing so it's better that you accept it.

No Mother! I will not stand by while gangs and fighters take everything that we've worked so hard for.

- Anna ma ba esh ze de tani mara! Nann dayeman ge geni makafu gali emken be ja hajemu anu ouw anu ma musalhann.
- Beneya tai de yau terega ta hayat de ze de mini sinin del kulu. Alfat de kulu ita ma bi agder gero hajat, bes rudu ze de.
- La ya mama ana ma badger sibu mujrimin al dayeman be shilu hajat tana al anu jazaf fugu senenn de kulu.

I want to fight for my country and people—I'm going to join the SPLA!

Oh Gloria please don't! The life of a soldier is not for a girl like you. What will your brothers say?

I'm sorry but this is something that I have to do.

- Ana der ruwa dussa ashan kalam tafelet ouw nas tayi. Ana ge ruwa jenett ma SPLA.
- Ya Gloria mata ruwa hayat ta askerio de ma kuwes le banat le inta, yala akwan bi taki biga bi guli shunu?
- Anna mutosef liken de hajo al anu lazem be amulu.

Good, a woman, you can cook for us

But sir, I'd hoped to do something a little more on the frontline...

- De kwas, ya nara, ita be rakabu le rina de.
- Ana der amulu haja tani zi tedreb fi medan.
We can't keep letting these attacks happen in our village!

- Anna ma bogder sibu. Hujum de hasel fi karaya tanina-
- Lakin anina bi amulu shuru?
- Anna kele shakila ma humon kaman!

No! That's not the way to solve disagreements. Let me talk with the elders of the other village, we can solve these problems without further bloodshed.

- Gali de ma tariga ta hilu mashkel uwo kelem gali kele uwo ruwa wnusu ma nas kubar ta mujtamat tani de yala de yau be egder jebu hulul le mashkel del de ouw dom tani ma be defugu.

Meanwhile, back in Gloria's village...

But what can we do?

We should fight back, attack them instead!

How? We don't know who they are or where they come from.

Of course we do. It's the next village. They're jealous of us.

He's right!

We should attack their village!!

- Kef? Anna ma bi arifu union nas munu ouw oumon ja min wen.
- Anna be arifu ouwmon, de mujtama al je ran ta Nina de.
- Oumon endu gera min anna.
- Ayi seyih, kalam toki de saha.

You don't know what you're talking about... Those days have passed.

They don't understand talking—but we'll make them see that we don't stand for this kind of behavior!

- Ita ma aru fu kan et age kelem shunu.
- Ayamatt dak kalas futu.
- Oumon lesa ma ge fahem owu wnusu sambala laken anna be kutu ouwmon aru fu gali anna ma endu aseleb ze de de.

A COUNTER-RAID!
MEANWHILE GREAT CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE IN SUDAN

NOW HEREBIN THE PARTIES JOINTLY ACKNOWLEDGE that the CPA offers not only hope but also a concrete model for solving problems and other conflicts in the country...

FI ZAMA DE BIGA FI TAGIER FI SUDAN

HASA fi ahzab kulu FAHIM CPA ma bi jibu iman baraw, lakin Kaman hilu mashakil fi belet ta arina

As part of the CPA the Government of Sudan and the SPLM have agreed to demobilize some of their troops. These troops will be given reinsertion packages and integrated back into the community.

Radio: ka juzu min CPA hakuma ta jnub one SPLA rudu ashan legato asleha min asaker tonom tenen. be sekenu aomon ouw domu aomon ma mujtmatt tonom.

Did you hear that? Reinsertion packages!

I heard a rumor that if we hand in our guns we'll get five hundred dollars!

What's up Gloria? All of this talk of returning home is alright for you men but what about me?

What kind of life will I have if I return to my village now? I've been a soldier and no man will ever want to marry me.

- De shunu Gloria?
- Kulu de ge wnsu ann kalam ta reja it belett ouw kwe le rajel taki taken owu anna?

- Yatt haya yau anna be rua esh kan anna raja wane? Annakan askeri ouw mafi rajel al be rudu juzu anna.
- Mata wnsu ze de Gloria.
...This is a new start for all of us. A New Sudan! The war has been hard for so many people and we've all had to take paths that we wouldn't have otherwise chosen, but you are a beautiful girl and you will easily find a husband.

...De bedaya jedett le anna kulu. De sudan al jedett! An haya sab le nas keter le zaman towellaken ita beneya jemel ita be lego rajoj guwam.

Now then Miss, we are here to help you settle back into civilian life. That means we take your gun and you give up the ways of a soldier and in return you will be helped with the skills you will need to find a job and live a normal life.

Anna eni be sadu inti ashan bi sibu shokol askeria, yanani bi shilu min inti silah, yala ita bi sibu shokor askeria wa boda haya taki ka muwatan adi.

This process is not open to civilians, only to soldiers who have been pre-registered. We're here to give them an opportunity to return to civilian life so that we can all live in a peaceful Sudan. This is how it works...

De ma haja ta kulu nas wala de bormil bi ta anas jesh el ketim awal ashan be sayedu owmen raje esh la muwaten, adi asan annina be eshe fi sudan al foju salam. De yow haja al be ruwa hasil.

So is it all agreed that we should go to the demobilization camps?

Yes let's go!

I'm in!

Me too!

Fa anan kulu itafik ashan rowan fi khema ta tedrib?

- Ay zol biga bbi kelim. Away arah!

- Ana fogol

- Ana dair!

I've brought my gun. Where's my $500?

I'm afraid you've misunderstood...

- Ana jibu sole tai wenu 500 dolar tai?

- Ana ge kafi ita ma fahimu...

This is the first stage where we register you and take your details, then there'll be a talk about the rules of the camp for the time that you're here.

- The awel marhala al anina sejulu intum fogo, wa inta bi shulu tafisil. Yala bikun fi hiwar ashan gwanin ta kem de.
Then you will be asked to go and surrender your guns to the authorities.

Next you will be given a medical examination. Many combatants have serious injuries that they need help with.

Third stage is verification. This is where we check that all the details you have given us are true.

- Yala bi asalu itakun ashan bi ruwa selemu asleha takun del le nas al musulun ta hakum.
- Batt dak be keshefu ita. Ashaker keter augu ashan keda omon der musada.
- Shan keda kulu malumatt all ita wedi le anna de anna arufu gali kulu sah.

Next you will be given a camp kit if you have to stay here for more than a few hours—a blanket, some food, just the few things that you will need for a longer stay.

During your time here you will receive counseling. Many combatants have been through traumatic experiences during the war so, if you want to talk about it there is somebody here who will listen.

- Baad de bi wedi le inta ilajat wa khema kan ita be geni. Aktar min saat, wa baterinya wa akil, wa hajat al ita be ihtaj ashan bi geni ketir.
- Fi zaman takun dak de. Itakun akudu kansaling. Ashaker del keter min omon endu Hala nefseyanin fi zaman ta harab de, kan ita der ounusu ana kalam do fì zo’al be asima le ita.

We will do a job assessment survey where we will learn about the skills you already have such as cooking or driving, and we’ll see how we can adapt them to civilian life.

You will be given briefings on how to integrate back into the community and classes on HIV awareness.

- Arina be amulu murun, ashan anina be Aynu hajat yatu al intum bi arufu min bediri ze rakabu wa sugu. Arabia wa anina bi aynu rina be kutu kef fi haya ta askeria.
- Be weri le ita ann kef ita be lemu ma nas fi mujtama taki owu owu durus an ayan ta HIV.
Towards the end of your time you will be given a reinsertion package—a small amount of money and a few possessions to help you re-start your civilian life.

Finally, you will be transported to your village.

Hmm, a civilian life with a job and no more fighting. Actually it sounds pretty good.

Fi neheya ta zaman taki de be wedi le ita gurush beset ouw hajatt tenen beset al be kutu ita bada haya fi mujtana taki.

Be saferu ita le mahal taki.

Haya ta askeria wa sokol, wa mafi mashakil tani de haja tamam.

I'm so excited to be going back home to see my family.

Me too! They'll be so pleased to see me!

How about you, Gloria?

Will my brothers still be angry at me if I return to the village? I don't want to take that chance...

I'm going to Juba to seek my fortune in the city!

Take care!

Good luck!

I'll miss you!

- Owu ita ya Gloria?
- Hal eku tae bisen zalan min anc ka nane rija wara...
- Ana mashi fi Juba, Owu kelem geli; ana ge ruwa fi juba shan rawa jerebu has tae fi medena enak! - Haja kwee anc bi itimane le ital
- Kutu bai min nefaa taki! - Ana bi fekiri ital!

- Ana murtah ashan bi rija wara, ashan aynu usra tai.
- Ana Kaman humon bi kun murtah ashan bi shufu ana.

Buy your delicious roasted peanuts here...

Hmm... I could do that job.

Biyu ful al nightu tamam hina...
- Ana bi gader Amulu sokol de.
BACK IN SIMON'S CAMP...

So according to this agreement the North will no longer attack us and will stay on their side of the border if we lay down our arms and stay on our side.

This is rubbish! We can't trust the government of the North!

Maybe we should surrender our guns and go back home.

WARA FI MANTEKHA TA NAS SIMON...

- Hisob ta itafagia de, nas ta shimal ma bi ja hajimu anna tani mara umon biken fi hudu' tomom wa anna Kaman bi kun fi hudu tanina.

- De kalam batall anna ma be kutu sigo fi hakuma ta shimal
- Anina bi sibu silah wa rija fi bed.

Who wants to be a farmer? It's better to live like this!

If we give up our guns, our enemies will come and take our cattle and our homes.

They will take our guns and then who will defend us?

- Munu yau der kun muzari? Ouw kwes kon zol ge esh ze de.
- Kan anna semu asleha tanna, adu tanna be ja uw be shelu hayuwanatt tanna, ouw beyutt.
- Oumon be shelu asleha tanna, yala munu yau be hamni anna?

Good, then we agree not to trust this supposed peace agreement and to continue fighting.

Yes!

That's right!

We all say so!

- Tamam, anna keli ma amin fi itefageya ta salam de ouw keli anna estemer shakle.
- ayi ayi!
Commander, I want to talk with you. This is crazy to go on fighting. Why should we continue to live this terrible life when there is the opportunity for peace?

What's the matter with you? Have you become scared? Do you no longer love your country? Or do you just not care about your friends and comrades?

- Dabit, Ana der kelem ma ita, kalam ta mashakil de bigga haja ta mujrimin. Le anina lisa gi kum fi hayat batal de, u de zaman ta salaam.


No! It's not that! Of course I do! But I think we have an opportunity to be part of a change.

You're a stupid boy to believe in these lies! We are the ones who will save this country. Don't you want to be part of this great fighting force?

- Ma kida, Seyi ana hebu belet tai! Lakin anagi fekir anina kana kan bi kum fi ger de ma batal.

- Ita shab awir ya ita gi fekir kalam ta kidhib de! Anina ya nas al bi sayid belet de. Ita ma der kum mubarib?

This is wrong. I do not want to do this anymore.

This is no great fighting force. It's just a bunch of thugs taking advantage of a situation. We've done so many bad things. And I don't want to be part of it anymore.

- De galatt, anna ma der amulu de tani.

- De ma shakle al tegel laken de bes mujereeman you ge intehez fursa de. Anna ma amulu hajatt al batal. Anna ma der kun juzu min nas al ge amulu hajatt de tani.
Give us your money, we'll take your watch too, what else do you have?

There's not much here

You're a pretty girl you can come with me

We'll take this cassava

- Wadi le nina gurush taki, wa Kaman anina bi shilu sa taki sawa , ita indu shunu tani?
- Mafi hejat katir hina.
- Anina bi shilu bafra de.
- Ita biniya giyafa tali ma ana.

Mortar attack!!

It's the SPLA!!

- Hajemu mara !!
- de SPLA !!
Hi, are you heading to Juba? Mind if I join you?
Sure, it's nice to have the company.
So what takes you to Juba? Work?

- Kef, ita ge rowa fi Juba. Keli anna rowa sawa?
- Kues, Musharak tamam kwes kan anna rowa sawa.
- It age rowa le Juba le sunu? Shokol?

Well, kind of...
...To be honest, I didn't have much choice. I had to leave home.
Oh?

- Nesia mafi haja al fadul, ana fat min bet.
- Fi kido?
We had a pretty good life. It was hard but we were happy...

I've been thinking, I reckon I'm ready to take a woman and make my own home.

- Anna ge esh haya al kwes, ouw haya al sab lekea anna mubsutan...
- Ana gi fakir ana kolas bi shilu mara, yala bi kum ma be-tai.

I know what you mean, I've been thinking about that myself.

What are you two talking about? You're both still young and I need you here still. There'll be no marrying just yet.

- Ana arif ito gasid sunu, ana Kaman gi fekir kida.
- Itakum gai sunu? Itakum lisa yal sukerin, anader itakum hina mafi jez hasa lisa.

I am a man, I should do what I want.

Yeah, who does he think he is? [hiccup] old man!

- Ana bega rajil, wa ana ba amul aja al anader.
- Ayua, ogifekir O ya munu? Ajus!
Look at you, you should be ashamed!

Don't talk to me like that old man! I'm not a boy anymore! Look! See who's the man around here now!

James be careful with that!

-Ainu gisim taki, fadja taki mafi.
-Mata kelem ma ana zede, ana ma weled suker, ainu munu ya weled hina!
-James amuke hisabak!

I know what I'm do-

BANG!

Anna arufu ka nana ge amulu shunu -

What have I done??

So that's why I had to leave my village and never come back.

I'm sorry to hear that. Well, we'll be in Juba in a couple of hours at this pace then we can both start a new life.

-De shunu you ana amul de?!

-De you haja amul ana jeer min ber wa ana ma bi reja.
-Malesh, anina bi kum fi Juba wa boda shweya u bi bada hayat jedid.
SIMON FINDS A JOB...

That was a good day's work. I'm impressed with you Simon and you seem honest. Here's today's pay and be back here first thing in the morning.

SIMON LIGO SHOKOL...

- De kan shokol tamam ta yom al awal. Ana murta ma ita Simon u ita zahir zol nesia. De ya gurush taki ta alela, wal taal bkrab sabah.

I'll have some peanuts please

- Ana bikun der ful.
- Faja.
- Malu hiya bi ataku tamam...

Certainly

What a kind smile she has.

That beautiful peanut girl, I can't get her out of my head. I really want to know more about her. Tomorrow I'll ask her to take a walk with me when she's finished work.

Gloria, you are so beautiful. You're the first friend that I've made in Juba and I'd like you to be my girlfriend...

- Bit jemil ta ful, ana ma bagder shilu hiya bara min ras tai. Anader ariftu ketir an hiya. Bukra ana bashalu hiya kan shokol to inta kan obagder dor ama ana shweya.

...in fact, I'd like you to be my wife!

Gloria, ita bit jemil shedid. Ita awel sabi analigo fi Juba. Anader kele ita kum habib tai...

- Nesia, anader keta kum mara tai.
Now I will have to tell him the truth and I'll lose him forever...
I would love that, Simon, but I can't.
You don't know about my past. I used to be a fighter in the SPLA.
Oh Gloria, I understand. Please don't worry. I too have a past that I am not proud of but that was a different time.
- Hasa anabi weli nowuo hagiga yla obi sibu ana...
- Ana Kaman zatu hibu Simon de lakini ama ma bi agder.
- Ita ma bi arif, ana kan shakila ama haraka shabiya.
- Ya Gloria, anafahim, mata zalan ana Kaman endu hajat gadim ma kues.

Now we're in a New Sudan, we have new lives and you are my beautiful peanut girl and I want to marry you!
But now I also have a confession to make. I have just arrived in Juba and I have nothing with which I can pay the bride price.

- Lakin dak kan zaman tani, hasa anina fi Sudan jedid ma hayat jedid. Ita bit tai ta ful al jemil, wa ana der joz ita.
- Ana Kaman endu kalam ashan bi ofi, ana ja fi Juba gerib ana maendu gurush al bi dafa uze mali le usra teki.

That's okay, we can stay in Juba a while. Then when you've earned enough money we'll go to my village together.
This is such a good life I never knew I could be so happy. I just have to keep working so that one day I can afford to marry Gloria...

- Mafi mushkila, anina bi geni fi Juba lahadi ke ita ligogurush yala anina bia ruwa fi belet tai sawa.
- De zahir mara al kwes ana ma seded gali ana bi kun murta kida. Ana bes lazim bi shtakal be gua ashan ana bi ligo gurush ta usra ta Gloria...
ONE DAY, ON SIMON'S WAY HOME FROM WORK......

I beg that the spirits forgive me for all the terrible things that I did while I was a fighter.

Son, you have been cleansed. That former person and life have passed and you are welcome back in our community.

WHAT'S GOING ON? IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF CEREMONY.

- YOM WAHED KA SIMON TALA MIN SHOKOL...
  - Fi shunu hina, gi zahir kan shikil ta iris.
  - Ana be noudi min roho al kodos kele a fi anan ayana haja batal an'a amulu zaman an'a kan muharib.

- Hajat batal ketir wa ana wahed min fogo.

- Weled, ita biga nedif, zol wa haya al gadim intaha kalas, inta marhab fi mujtama.

SO MANY TERRIBLE THINGS, AND I WAS PART OF THEM.

- Is that James?
  - James it's great to see you!

- De James sei?
  - Inta James, kef!

- Hi Simon
  - My god--what happened to his hand?

- Kef Simon.
  - Ya rabana, fi shunu hasil le ida to?

MY FRIEND, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

- Sabi tai, fi shunu hasil let inta?

- Bad ana wosul fi Juba Hayat
  - kna batal, ana ma agder ligo shokol, ana fetishu
  - kulu pahal hina lahodii an'a biga zehjan...

AFTER ARRIVING IN JUBA LIFE WAS HARD. I COULDN'T FIND WORK EVEN THOUGH I LOOKED AND ASKED EVERYWHERE. I BECAME DESPERATE...
Then I found a pile of scrap metal. Some of it looked like abandoned ammunition or shells that hadn't exploded but it looked pretty safe.

Soon I was making good money from collecting the metal and selling it around the city.

- Yala na ligo hajat bi ta sila al karab u Kaman, lakin kan zahir maendu mushkila.
- Ana kan biligo gurush ketir min hadid al ana bil legitu wa ana bi taboi fi medina.

But one day I was collecting metal and-

BOOM!

- U fi yom wahed ana ligitu hadid ana asma...
- Ana fagidu ida tayi wa ragidu ana fi mshefa zaman towil.

I lost my hand and was in hospital for weeks.

Now it's even harder to find work than before.

That's terrible James! I'm so sorry. I'll do everything I can to help you.

- Wa hasa biga batal shedid wa sab ashan ana mobiligo shokol.
- De haja batal ya James, malesh. Ana bi amulu haja al ana bi aged sadu inta.
Meanwhile back in Gloria's village times are also hard...

Run to the bush!
There's an attack!!

U FI BELET TA NAS GLORIA LISA FI HATAR
Nuswan gi jere fi hajab, Fi hujum!!

Our guns were stolen!
They came into our tukuls and took our guns!

Oh no the elder is injured!!

- Seregu asleha tanna! Omon dakalu fi jwo tanna ouw shelu asleh del.
- Nas al ajusen Kaman aogu fi zaman ta nakama de!!

The County Commissioner calls a meeting of both villages...

Revenge for these acts of criminality and violence only lead to more revenge and an endless cycle of fighting.

WALI TA BELED ASADU GALI KELI NAS MA DUSMAN.
- Muhafiz ruwa hajemu nas al nakamu omon gubal keda de.
We have called this meeting to bring an end to the cycle of violence between our communities. Therefore we have agreed a settlement. Anyone breaking the peace from now on will be fined in cattle.

- Anna na ejtema te ashon keli wegefu mashakel ben mujtamatt de. Ouw anna wmsulu le hal al sekenu nas del.

We appeal to the authorities of this region to bring law and order to the people so that we do not have to defend ourselves with our guns. We ask you to protect the region and disarm the people.

- Ouw anna asadu musulen ta mujtama de keli amulu gawanen ouw nezam fi nus tanna ashon keli anna ma ja katulu batt tonna anna der keli itakun hafizu belett.

That's all very well but it may be awhile before the authorities can protect us. Who will help us in the meantime?

- De kulu kuwes lakin de ma be hasel. Gubal nas kubar ta hakuma ma hafizu anna. Munu yau be hafizu anna fi zaman de?
MEANWHILE, AT AN NGO IN EUROPE...

Did you hear? The Sudanese have signed the CPA!

Finally!

So, fighting with the North has ended, but I hear there's still shooting in the South...

FI MAKTAB TA MUNAZAMA...

- It asuma, sudanin mada CPA

- Akiran
- Yala, mashakil bega mafi, laken lesa fi asleha ge drubu fi jonub

The South really needs a lot of help for development...

But everyone still has a gun and it's not safe

Would you go and work there if they did not have guns?

- Junubin failan der shokal ouw musada katir le tenmeya...
- Lakin ouw mafi hala amneya.
- Ita bi ruwa shtakal enak kan mafi silah?

Of course! It would be much easier to promote peace and development, not to mention build trust between communities

But if everyone gave up their guns, who will protect them from bandits and such?

- Tabann! Be kun sahel ashan zol be sayedu fi majal ta salamm ouw tenmeya, ma asna be sheja sega fin us ta mujtama.

- Lakin kan cya zol wadi silah toe mun bi hammi umon min nas al ge ja hajemu ounon de.
What about the police?

There aren't enough police, and they're not properly trained. People are forced to rely on themselves to protect their homes and cattle.

- Yala oh Bolis

- Mafi Bolisia kifaya ouw ma derebu umon kwa ge asuru nas ashan kali omon hamis badun tomon barau ouw beyutt ma haywanatt tomon.

But this only causes more problems!

The people of Southern Sudan should realize for themselves that they need to give up their guns; otherwise, there'll be little development.

- Lakan de Kaman bi jbu mashkil keter.

- Nas ta junu sudan kele lahizu arufu le nefso tomon gali kele omon selimu silahat tomon ouw ze de ma be kun fi tenmeya.

Yes, but the government needs to provide reliable and trustworthy police to protect the people.

That's true...

Agreed...

- Away lakin itakum Kaman kele jibu Bolisia katir ashan bi sadu umon fi zaman ta katar.
SURPRISE!!
Brother, what a surprise!
What are you doing here?

Who is this man?
This is Simon.
He’s...my boyfriend.

- MUSTAGARAB!
- Ita mustagarab fi shunu, wa into ge amulu shunu eine?

- De munu?
- De Simon uwo sabi tai.

What?! You are living unmarried with this man?

And you! Taking my sister without paying any bride price!
Do you have no respect?

- Shunu? Ita ge geni ma ouw uow ma juzu ita?!

U ita! Ita salu okot tai wa it ma dafa mal? Ita maendu ehteram?!

But I love her and I want to pay!
I have been saving so hard and
I was going to come to you as
soon as I had enough money.

You’re a grown man,
how come you can’t
pay a bride price?

I was a fighter against the
GOS and I was never paid
when I was a soldier.

- Laken Anage hebu owuo wa ana der dafa!
Ana lesa ge lemu gurus ouw kana anna bega jahes anna be ja dafa.

- Ita rajil kebir, ita ma bi dafa mal kef?
- Ana kan muharib, ouw kan ma ge wedi le anna gurush.
As a soldier you must have done many bad things and we cannot have this evil in our community. You must be purified.

I really want to pay the bride price but I don't have the money. And I want to do the ceremony, but I don't know if they will accept me. What am I going to do?

Why don't we go back to my village and talk to the rest of my brothers? I'm sure they'll understand. This is the New Sudan.

- Ze muharib ita amulu hajat batal ketir, wa nina maderin fagara fi usra ta nina. Lazim ita bi nedhifu aulan.

- Ana der dafa mal, lakin ana maendu gurush. Wa ana der amulu iris, ana marif kan umun bi rudu ana. Ana bi amulu shuna hasa?
- Le onina mabi reja fi hila to anina yara anna be ruwa wonusu ma akwan t'ai. Ana arif umun bi fahim. De Sudan jedid.

Gloria welcome back! My precious daughter!

I love Gloria and will provide a good life for her. I am willing to be purified and will pay a bride price as soon as I can.

- Gloria marhab!
- Binia tai el jemil de!

- Ana hebu Gloria u anina bu kum ma hayat tamam. Ana der kum nedif u an bi dafa mal ka nana ligitu.

Simon, we cannot allow you to live with Gloria if you cannot pay a bride price for her now.

Yes, this is unacceptable.

How will you pay?

What should I do?

- Simon, anina ba bi rudu ita gaid ma Gloria kan ita ma bi dafa mal to hasa.
- Ayua, de magi rudu.

- Ita bi dafa o kef?

- Ana bi amulu kef?
CAN YOU HELP SIMON SOLVE HIS PROBLEM?
HERE ARE SEVERAL DECISIONS SIMON CAN MAKE.
PLEASE SELECT THE ONE THAT YOU LIKE THE MOST,
OR SUGGEST YOUR OWN.
YOU CAN MAIL IN YOUR ANSWER TO THE JUBA POST,
OR GIVE IT TO YOUR NEAREST JUBA POST REPRESENTATIVE.

Ita bi sayid Simon ma mashakil to kef? Hina fi hajat tani Simon bi agder amulu Kede shilu wahed al ita hebu, wa Kaman kan ita der kutu taki. Ita bi rasulu jibu taki na Juba Post, wala wedi fi maktab ta Juba post al fi gerib.
**PLEASE CIRCLE THE DECISION YOU THINK SIMON SHOULD MAKE, OR PROVIDE YOUR OWN**

**DECISION 1**
I can offer 3 cows now. The rest I will provide later. I need some time to speak with my family.


**DECISION 2**
The only way I can pay a bride price now is by stealing cattle. I can use my gun.

- Al haja wahed ana bi agder dafa mal bi kun ka nana seregu bagar. Ana bi shilu silah tai.

**DECISION 3**
This is the New Sudan. Gloria and I do not have to stick with tradition.

- De Sudan Gedid. Gloria ma ana ma bi amsk hayat te zamoan.

**DO YOU THINK SIMON SHOULD DO SOMETHING ELSE? PROVIDE YOUR SUGGESTION HERE!**

Ita ci fakir Simon T amulu iyha haja? Fakir taki hiril
Please suggest a decision Simon should make. Mail in your decision to the Juba Post or hand it in to your nearest Juba Post representative.

The Juba Post can be found at:

The Juba POST
NCA Compound
Juba, South Sudan
thejubapost@yahoo.co.uk
www.thejubapost.com
BICC at a glance

BICC is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting peace and development through the transformation of military-related processes, functions, activities, assets and structures effectively and efficiently.

While disarmament frees up resources that can be employed in the fight against poverty, conversion maximizes outcomes through the careful management of such transformation of resources. It is in this sense that they together contribute to increasing human security.

Having expanded its span of activities beyond the classical areas of conversion that focus on the reuse of military resources (such as the reallocation of military expenditures, restructuring of the defense industry, closure of military bases, and demobilization), BICC is now organizing its work around three main topics peacebuilding, arms, and conflict.

In doing this, BICC recognizes that the narrow concept of national security, embodied above all in the armed forces, has been surpassed by that of global security and, moreover, that global security cannot be achieved without seriously reducing poverty, improving health care and extending good governance throughout the world, in short: without human security in the broader sense.

Peacebuilding: BICC is working in the area of peacebuilding. In addition to post-conflict demobilization and reintegration of combatants and weapon-collection programs, the Center aims to contribute, among other things, to the development of concepts of security sector reform with an emphasis on civil-military cooperation, increased civilian control of the military, and failed states.

Arms: To this end, BICC is intensifying its previous efforts in the fields of weaponry and disarmament, not only through its very special work on small arms but also by increasing its expertise in further topics of current concern such as non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, arms embargoes and new military technologies.

Conflict: BICC is broadening its scope in the field of conflict management and conflict prevention, including tensions caused by disputes over marketable resources and transboundary issues such as water. These three main areas of analysis are complemented by additional crosscutting aspects, for example, gender, pandemics, or environmental protection. Along with conducting research, running conferences and publishing their findings. BICC's international staff are also involved in consultancy, providing policy recommendations, training, and practical project work. By making information and advice available to governments, NGOs, and other public or private sector organizations, and especially through exhibitions aimed at the general public, they are working towards raising awareness for BICC’s key issues.
This is a story about a boy named Simon who grows up in Southern Sudan during the civil war. After the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005, Simon is faced with a number of opportunities and challenges that come with adjusting to a new life, like finding a new job and getting married. In the end, he has to make an important decision that will not only determine the course of his future, but also affect local peace and security.