

17.

GFA: This drumming is close to the rhythm pattern of #7, *Keke Badja*, but the language of this one is "*Mibla gbadza, mide mitso, midzo, midzo mide midzo*." This means, "Tighten your war-bullet belt." Our grandfathers had something they called the war-bullet belt; they put the bullet's around it and they always put it on if they had to go to war. It was called *agbadza*. In this drumming rhythm, I am telling people to put their war-bullet belts and get ready to go. Where are they going? The song says, "*Ahõ 'de lia gbã Adzigo*." There are some enemies who are thinking they can come and defeat Adzigo town. Adzigo town is a very strong center for war leaders and warriors, for very strong men who would never give even an inch. They cannot be defeated. In Adzigo town they are fully preoccupied with power; they take themselves to be a warlike people who cannot give up. No one can come and defeat them. I put up the rhythm saying, "Get your things ready for the enemies. Whoever wants to venture, they will see the surprise."

DL: Where is Adzigo?

GFA: Adzigo is a town in the Anlo area. Right now, the nickname of Afiadenyigba, my hometown, is Adzigo.

DL: I am thinking that Adzigo is a nickname of any town that prides itself on being warlike.

GFA: What you say might be correct. My personal view is that during the tribal wars, before we all spread out, there might have been a small warriors' place known as Adzigo. That is something my imagination might tell me. Other than that, the name might not exist today. If you listen to Kpegisu songs they say Adzigo a lot. There is Adzigo in all the histories so maybe it was not one particular town. But in my hometown of Afiadenyigba, now people say they come from Adzigo. A lot of famous Anlo warriors come from there, such as *Saba, Tenge, and Datutsebaba*.

DL: As you point out, the sogo-kidi rhythm in this song resembles the sogo-kidi rhythm in #7.

GFA: Yes, but the tone of "*Mibla gbadza*" is different from "*Keke badja*." This is why I am saying that some songs are close, but if you listen carefully you see the difference.

DL: It almost seems like you are reversing them: here "*gagaden*" and there "*degi gaga*." The timing is the same but the tone . . .

GFA: . . . changes. That is what I said.