Glossed Text

See p. 39–40 in:


A. *Manje indaba wena ai ’bambile skul?*
   now why you not went school
   Tell me, why have you never been to school?

B. *Ai ’bambile skul, lo baba ena ai facile lapa*
   not went school the father he not put to
   Why didn't I go to school? My father never put me
   *skul. Ai ’khona skul lapa. Muva ena buyile skul.*
   school not is school there later it came school
   in school. There was no school nearby. Later a school
   *Lo skati yena zonke gane mangane mangane*
   the time they all child small small
   was built. When they were all young – very small –
   *mangane, sistela ga thina ai ’fundile, muva sistela ga*
   small sister of we not studied later sister of
   our sister hadn’t gone to school; later the next sister
   *mina ai ’fundile, muye tombazana yena ’fundile.*
   I not studied another girl she studied
   didn’t go to school either; the next sister did go to school.
Lo mabili yena fundile lo English, nangu
the two they studied the English there, you are
Two of them studied English; you know the

ena shatile lapa Stanger, muye ena shatile
they married in Stanger another she married
one got married in Stanger, and the other married

lapa Drift. Zonke thina blangwile izolo... umshato.
in Drift all we meet yesterday wedding
in Drift. All of us gathered at yesterday's wedding.

A: Ubani ai bambile skul?
who not went school
Who didn’t go to school?

B: Lapa khaya ga mina? Mina na muye sistela ga
in house of I I and another sister of
In my house? My sister and I,

mina, mabili. Thina mabili guphela ayi bambile
I two we two only not went
the two of us. Only the two of us did not go.

A: Wena ai fundile lo English ga kbuluma nje?
you not studied the English to speak indeed
So you didn’t learn to speak English?

B: Hakke. Nangu lo Krish ena buya, ena kbuluma
no there, you are the Krish he comes he speaks
No. You know Krish comes and speaks

ga English. Mina phinda yena.
with English I repeat him.
in English. I repeat after him.
A: Wena az bichana?
you know a.little
You know a little, then?

B: Az je bichana. Mina phendula, noko yena ai
know indeed a.bit I answer if he not
I do know a bit. I answer sometimes. If he doesn’t

az, futhi... yena az goto, lo fana
understand too he knows but the boy
understand, I repeat...the boy knows though,

yena az.
he understands
he understands.¹

¹ She probably means Tamil here.