

## **GLOSSARY**

Àbb: to loan, to borrow

Àdduna s-: the world, life; variant: àdduna g-

Àggali: to finish, to end, to complete

Alhamdulillaahi rabbil aalamin: praise be to God, Lord of the universe! (Arabic)

Aw: to go by, to pass through, to pass by

Baat b-: speech, saying, word, voice, throat

Banque b-: bank (French)

Bari: to be numerous, much, a lot; variant of bare

Billaahi: by God, I swear (Arabic)

Bind: to write

Bokk ci: to belong to, to share in

Bóóy b-: servant, houseboy, (from English); girl (Urban slang) [the

confusion arises here because Jibril only knows bóóy to mean a

jigéén]

Caabi j-: key

Chef de village b-: village chief (French)

Cinq cent mille: five hundred thousand (Francs CFA) (French), about \$1000

Comme: as, since (conjunction) (French)

Convoquer: to summon, to call (French)

D'accord: okay (French)

Dab: to catch up with

Deux jours: two days (French)

**Dimbale:** to help

Don: only

Doole j-: strength, power

Dóóri Waar: to go and hit the fields, an idiom for liggééy (Urban)

**Dugg:** to enter

to heal, to cure, to resovolve Faj:

Famille b-: family (French) **Feebar:** to be sick

**Fééte:** to face, to be facing toward

**Fey:** to pay

**Garab g-:** remedy, tree

Gënal: to be better for, from gën

**Gendarmerie** b-: equivalent of State Police or Highway Patrol station (French)

**Géwël g-:** bard, griot

Ginnaaw: behind

**Góór g-:** man

**Jaam b-:** dishonorable person, no-good person, slave

**Jaaxle:** to be concerned, to be worried

**Jafe-jafe j-:** trouble, hardship

**Jàpp:** to grab, to take hold of, to help [in this case]

**Jeex:** to be finished

Jël: to take

**Jom j-:** loyalty, self-esteem, self-respect

**Jour tant:** such-and-such a day (French)

Kaña g-: rat
Kaso b-: jail

**Kayit g-**: paper

Laa ilaaha illa laaha: expression of astonishment [literally, "there is no God but God," from

the testament of Muslim faith] (Arabic)

Lebal: to lend

**Lékool b-:** school (from French)

**Maanaam:** meaning, that is to say, "I mean," for example

*Madame*: Mrs. (French)

Mandarga w-: symbol, mark, sign

**Mbindaan m-:** housemaid

**Mbokk m-:** relative, fellow

Moos: indeed
Naan: to say

Naaw: to be bad, ugly

Ñàkk: to lack, to be without

Nangu: to accept

**Nàtt b-:** part, portion, measure, contribution to a tontine

**Ndékki:** to eat breakfast

Ne: to say

**Nite:** to be honest

**Njaboot g-:** family

Njaqare g-: anxiousness

Nuyu: to greet

**Palla-Fuuta b-:** member of Fula ethnic group originally from the Fuuta Jalon region of Guinea;

Lebu Wolof variant of Pël Fuuta.

**Papier b-:** paper (French)

**Parce que:** because (French)

**Police b-:** police station (French)

**Porter plainte:** to sue (French)

**Poson:** poison (from French)

**Pourtant:** yet, however (French)

**Quoi:** filler typically used to finish sentences in urban Wolof (French)

Raasaatu: to deal with every person, to ask help from any person you meet

Ràkk j-: younger sibling

**Rëdd:** to sign, to trace, to draw to a line

**Res:** to take in charge, to take responsibility for, a truncated form of responsable (from

French; Urban)

**Rëy:** to be big, noble

**Rusloo:** to be shameful, from *rus*, "to be ashamed" and the suffix *-loo* meaning "to make

someone else ..."

**Seeti:** to see, to visit

Sept cent cinquante mille: seven hundred fifty thousand (Francs CFA) (French), about \$1500

**Seq:** to deal with, to be involved with

Sëriñ b-: Sir

**Signer:** to sign (French)

**Sonn:** to be tired

**Tàgg:** to praise

**Tanta b-:** aunt (from French)

**Teg ci:** to place, to put, to add something to

**Teggi:** to take out, to remove, opposite of *teg* 

Tontine b-: mutual savings group [In Senegal, most people do not keep bank accounts, and

seldom have access to formal credit and savings institutions. In order to save money or have access to an emergency cash reserve, they join one or more *tontine* groups. Each member contributes the same amount every period, and each takes a

turn receiving the group sum (equal to what he or she contributed)]

Wax: to say

**Wér:** to feel better, to be heathy

**Wopp:** to be ill

Wuyu: to answer

**Wuyuji:** to go and answer [from wuyu and the suffix -i meaning "to go and ..."; when -i is

added to a verb ending in a vowel, it becomes -ji or -iji, as in ngenteji, "to go to a

baby-naming ceremony"]

Xaalis b-: money

Xarit b-: friend

**Xéy:** to go work in the morning

**Xonqaay b-:** redness [the -aay suffix often indicates an abstract quality, like rafetaay, "beauty."

In this case the reference to the redness of the Palla-Fuuta is pejorative]

Yaakaar: to hope, to think (in some contexts)

Yaatal: to be friendly with, to be open with, to be generous with [from yaatu]

Yax b-: bone

Yax bu rëy: important or noble origin

Yééx: to be slow

Yem: to stop

Yomb: to be easy

**Yónni:** to send

**Yor:** to carry, to possess, to keep, to take care of (in some contexts)

Yumpaañ j-: uncle's wife