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**2014 Dagbani Words**

Learning some basic Dagbani words before going to Dalun can be a great way to socialize with the community! Here are some common words and greetings to get you started. As you read along, listen to the corresponding audio recording entitled “2014 Dagbani Lessons” in order to understand the pronunciations.

Animals and Objects

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sheep | Piao |
| Horse | Wahu |
| Cow | Nahu |
| Cat | Jankuno |
| Dog | Baa |
| Goat | Bua |
| Butterfly | Sakwao |
| Termite | Cham |
| Chicken | Noo |
| Guinea Fowl | Pini |
| Bird | Noombla |
| Elephant | Wobga |
| House | Yilli |
| Home | Yinga |
| School | Shukuru |
| Tree | Tiya |
| Sun | Wuntanga |
| Car | Lori |
| Motorcycle | Moto |
| Slippers | Namda |
| Pants | Jim jun |
| Shirt | Li ga |
| Skirt | Ba torro |
| Farm | Puuni |
| Charcoal | Sala |
| Rain | Saa |
| Ball | Bolli |

Food

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Food | Ben zierigu |
| Breakfast | A seeba ben zierigu |
| Lunch | Wintang ben zierigu |
| Supper | Nyung ben zierigu |
| Porridge | Coco |
| Bread | Panu |
| Eggs | Gala |
| Water | Kwum |
| Banana | Borraday |
| Plantain | Kodu |
| Rice | Shinkafa |
| Maize | Kawana |
| Groundnut | Sima |
| Okra | Mana |
| Mango | Moongu |
| Pineapple | Alafee |
| Rice ball | Shinkafa pila |
| Meat | Num day |
| Onion | Alibalsa |
| Yam | Nuli |
| Stew | Pam |
| Fufu | Sakoro |
| Tizet | Sahm |
| Fruit | Bong wuela |
| Shea nut | Tama |
| Cheese | Wagashee |

Morning greetings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dasiba | Good morning |
| Nna | Response |
| Ti massim | The morning is cool |
| Nna | Response |
| Agbira | Did you sleep well? (loosely translates to “how are you” at any time of day) |
| Eh, Gombien | Yes, I slept well |
| Ka wula | How are you |
| Alafee | Fine |

Afternoon greetings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Antiree | Good afternoon |
| Nna | Response |
| A tuma be wula | How is your work |
| Alafee | Fine |
| Na guarum | “What’s up” |
| Nna | Response |
| Ka ya ka chana | Where are you going? |
| N chanla shukuru | I’m going to school |
| Na wuni labsina | God grant you a safe return/journey |
| Ami | Amen |

Evening greetings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Anula | Good evening |
| Nna | Response |
| Karre be wula | How are you |
| Alafee | Fine |
| A yuli | Your name? |
| N yuli Katie | My name is Katie |
| Karre be wula | How are you |
| Alafee | Fine |
| Kawula | How are you |
| Alafee | Fine |
| Agbira | Did you sleep well? |
| Gombien | I slept well |
| A malee alafee | Are you okay? |
| Ii | Yes |
| A ma be wula | How is your mother? |
| O mala alafee | She is fine |
| A ba be wula | How is your father? |
| O mala alafee | He is fine |
| A biele be wula | How is your junior sibling? |
| O mala alafee | She/he is fine |
| Na wuni song | God grant you luck (can be used like “goodbye”) |
| Ami | Amen |