

ROSSIE Jean-Pierre and DAOUMANI Boubaker, 2003, *Protocol of Video 4: Doll Play and Construction Play in Lagzira (Sidi Ifni), Morocco, 31.01.2002*. SITREC-Stockholm International Toy Research Centre, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm – Detailed description of 43 minutes doll play and construction of dollhouses by a 6-year-old girl and her 9-year-old brother with dolls represented by shells, and also of the interview with the father recorded on audiocassette. Video and audiocassette placed in the video library of SITREC.
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VIDEO 4 – DOLL PLAY AND CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN LAGZIRA, 04.03.2002

Lagzira area (Sidi Ifni), Morocco, **04.03.2002**, 43 minutes of play activities
Dialogues during play activity also recorded on audiocassette
Video recorder Jean-Pierre Rossie
Video Panasonic R55 VHS

Players

Halima, girl, 6 years 5 months (13.09.1995), first year of primary school
Fadil, boy, 8 years 4 months (17.10.1993), brother of Halima, third year of primary school

Language and dialogues

Both players speak Teshelhit at home and during their play.
Dialogues recorded on the video and on a separate mini-audiocassette.
Translation of dialogues first in French by B. Daoumani and JP. Rossie (available in manuscript).
Translation from French into English by JP. Rossie.

Place of action

Isolated house, near the asphalt road in the Lagzira area, 4 km before Sidi Ifni and at the foot of a hill where the small Amazigh village Lahfart is located 2 km up road, Atlantic coast, Southern Morocco, in a free area close to this family's traditional house. The filming took place on a rainy day after a rain shower.

Play material

Numerous shells are used as dolls, the ones enveloped in a white gaze represent the bride and the bridegroom, the others are their family members and guests.
Sardine tins figure wedding cars.
Small houses are made with stones and mud.
Part of an old telephone represent a mobile phone.

Family situation

Father 42 years (24.07.1959), unschooled and illiterate, fishing with a rod in the Ocean.
Mother 40 years (1961), unschooled and illiterate.
5 children, 3 girls and 2 boys between 6 and 16 years, all children are school going. The older boy sometimes meet tourists staying with camping cars at Lagzira beach.

Living at subsistence level, no sheep nor goats, collecting mussels. The family lives in its own house build on its property.

No electricity in the house, no television since a long time.

Special Remarks

Both players show a certain embarrassment and shyness when being video filmed for the first time probably due to their little exposure to foreigners, photographing and filming. This has strongly influenced their verbal behavior as the use of language in their doll play is unusual limited even if their on looking older siblings more than once stimulate them to speak by saying to the players "why don't you speak as usual?".

When Boubaker Douamani, their primary school teacher, asked them the following day about their play for the video camera, they clearly stated that they normally perform during such a play activity the wedding festivities and do sing songs related to this event of which some examples were sung on the mini cassette recorder during the interview.

Scenes and dialogues

0. View of the environment and play area with the players.
1. Halima (H) and Fadil (F) drive the car, represented by a sardine tin and in which the bride and the bridegroom are sitting, clearly tracing the road they are following, meanwhile they now and then sing or make car sounds (3'5").
2. View of the play area with the houses and surrounding area (2'20").
3. Close view of the cars being still driven by H and F (2'40").
4. While continuing to drive his car F looks at the camera in a seemingly embarrassed or questioning way (3'35").
5. An older brother, Saïd (14 years), says to the players to proceed with their play activity, what they do (3'55").
6. Close view of a car (5'10").
7. The players just continue to drive the cars around the path (6').
8. An older sister, Khadija (10 years), says to the players "but speak, speak louder, speak" (6'30").
9. H and F look at each other (6'50").
- Dialogue 1: F says to H "speak you".*
10. The driving of the cars is continued while both players make car sounds (7'30").
11. Saïd approaches the players saying "talk, talk, talk louder, talk" (8'10").
12. Khadija does the same (8'30").
13. H arrives first with the car at her miniature house and starts to arrange the dolls while F still drives his car (8'50").
14. H puts the parents of the bride and bridegroom in their correct position, she also arranges the other dolls with the opening of the shell, representing the head, on top (9'10").
15. H continues to put the dolls with their head upright (10').
16. Saïd says to F "go on Fadil, put the car in the garage". H looks in the direction of F (10').
17. H takes a few stones and gives them to F. F sits at his miniature house just after stopping to drive his car (10'30").
18. F works at making a wall and H continues to arrange the position of her dolls (10'50").
19. F and H continue the same activity but F looks once more quickly at the camera (11'30").
20. H looks at F and asks him something while whispering. F throws a stone or mud to H (11'33").
21. While making his wall F asks something to H (11'50").
- Dialogue 2: F to H "bring me some mud"*
22. H then walks away (11'55").

23. F still builds the wall adjoining his small house. Meanwhile H is walking further away (12”).
24. F looks shortly in the direction of H but continues to build the wall (12’25”).
25. H is still searching for mud at some distance (12’50”).
Close view of H building the wall of a small house with stones and mud, close view of this small house with two cars in the garage (12’50”-15’20”).
26. F speaks to H who answers (15’).
Dialogue 3: F to H “eh!”, answer inaudible.
27. H asks F to come to her (15’20”).
Dialogue 4: H to F “Fadil”, F answers “what?”. This is repeated four times. Then F says to H “What do you want?” and H answers “come”.
28. F stands up and goes quickly to H (15’25”).
29. F arrives at the place where H is searching (15’45”).
30. F takes a few stones in both hands and returns to his small house (16’20”).
H follows him quickly with some other stones in her hands.
31. F arrives at his small house putting his stones down (16’45”).
32. H arrives at her small house and puts her stones there, she immediately starts to manipulate some mud (16’55”).
33. H begins to build a little wall for a small house using only mud and quite near her first house (17’15”).
F is already working at building a new wall.
34. H and F look at each other and whisper while continuing their activity (17’25”).
35. Close up of H’s wall making, she has six pieces of mud already lying nearby on a plastic and takes one of these. She puts it in line with the first part of her new housewall (17’50”).
36. F is putting stones on the lower part of the angle wall he is constructing (18’30”).
37. H still tries to adjust the second part of her new housewall to the first part (18’48”).
F continues his building.
38. H and F talk to each other. H takes the plastic plate with mud bricks and puts it before her house (19’).
Dialogue 5: F to H “bring some mud, hey you bring some mud, bring that one there, bring”, H “what?”, F “that mud there, bring that mud there”, H “what?”, F “bring that mud there, the mud”, H “wait”,
39. F takes the plastic plate with the remaining mud bricks away from H’s house and puts it next to his house (19’10”).
H continues to arrange her wall.
40. F rubs some mud from the ground and uses it for the house he is building (19’30”).
41. H looks at F and talks to him. (19’35”).
F throws some mud to H, she works it with both hands to make it into a brick, then puts it after the other two bricks.
42. H and F talk to each other while continuing their job (20’20”).
Dialogue 6: F “bring the mud Halima”, H “what?”, F “bring the mud”, H “what?”, F “bring the mud (2x), bring the mud, hey you! bring the mud (2x), hey Halima bring some mud”.
F takes the plastic plate and hits the ground with it to make the remaining mud fall of.
43. H takes some other mud, makes a brick with it and puts it in row with the other bricks (20’25”).
F uses the plastic plate for a while.
44. F whispers something inaudible to H (20’37”). H walks away.
45. F talks louder to H who is at some distance and looks in her direction (20’48”).
46. F continues to build his house (21’).
47. Detail of H’s house and of the threshing floor (21’20”).
48. F throws mud on the wall of his second house, then he flattens the sides of the wall with a stone in one hand and the plastic plate in the other hand (21’40”).
49. H comes back and gives some mud to F, then she takes the rest of the mud to the wall she is building (22’25”).

50. H works the mud with both her hands (22'40").
 F throws some more mud on his wall.
51. F and H continue to build their house (22'56").
52. F takes a few stones (23'21").
53. F asks H for mud but she does not do it (23.25").
- 00. Finally, H brings some mud to F (23'25").**
54. F then takes some mud away from H's place (23'30").
54. H shows her resentment and F throws some mud back to her (23'46").
55. F and H continue to work with their mud (24'20").

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Interview with the players by Boubaker Daoumani

Recorded on mini-audiocassette

Lagzira area (Sidi Ifni), Morocco, 04.03.2002

Players

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Place of action

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Interview with the players

This interview reveals the following information:

- As well Halima as Fadil bring their bride doll and bridegroom doll sitting together in the wedding car (sardine tin) to the small houses.
- During the construction play Fadil takes the role of a bricklayer because he already knows well how to build a small house and Halima who is not yet so qualified is the bricklayer's helper.
- When Fadil assembles the shells representing the invited people on two rags he is putting them in place to have dinner.
- When their game is over everything is left in place and protected with some covers so that the animals will not destroy everything. Yet, this still happens and at the beginning of new similar play session reconstruction must take place.
- Fadil and Halima always play together, for exaple ball games
- During the wedding ceremonies, when driving the wedding car etc., Fadil and Halima sing Teshelhit songs, as well traditional ones as new ones heard on the radio or on cassette.

The players mention these songs have been mentioned by the players on the mini-audiocassette after the interview with their father.

These songs are:

1. The large scarf is only nice when accompanied by the henna (on a woman's hands and feet), on the foot there is a slipper and this way it is nicer, my brother (or friend).
2. He won, he got her, the one who has patience, I swear it, he will win.
3. The chain has lost its pieces of gold and its precious stones.
4. The small tea table is well placed and the beauty (bride) is well seated next to it.
5. If your house (of the family-in-law) is far away stay the night over with us. If your house is near go to your place. (kind of joking song sung by the bridegroom's family to the bride's family during the ritual dispute when the bride is taken to the bridegroom's place.
6. Religious song in relation to Allah
7. Car from Tisnit you leave everybody here and you run to go where? (One of the songs their older sister has learned them).

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Interview with the players' father by Boubaker Daoumani

Recorded on mini-audiocassette

Lagzira area (Sidi Ifni), Morocco, 04.03.2002

Language

Interview in Teshelhit.

Translation of interview first in French by B. Daoumani and JP. Rossie (available in manuscript).

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Place of action

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Interview with the father

This interview starts with giving the authorization to film the player's game.

Then the father gives some general information on the household and its members.

He also stresses that Halima and Fadil often play together on the same spot in front of the house.