

# COMMUNITY SONGS IN GARIFUNA

*By Myrtle Palacio*

*January 2009*

## INTRODUCTION

The Following are four “community songs” by T. V. Ramos taken from a hymn sheet dated November 19<sup>th</sup> 1962. The hymn sheet was given to me by Mr. Solomon Cayetano of Dangriga now deceased. It is an exact replica of the songs on the hymn sheet including the topic “community songs”.

Although history has mainly named T. V. Ramos as the leader during the struggle for the recognition of a “Garifuna Day” etc., there were other leaders who worked alongside him, as referenced in the letters to authorities commencing 1941 and in folk tales or oral history. These leaders were as referenced from the signatures on the 1941 Resolution attached:

- *Catarino Benguche (father of Nurse Patricia Benguche)*
- *Mathias Avaloy (father of Benjamin, Leonie "Cook", & Ned Avaloy)*

According to folk tales Catarino Benguche was the Secretary and was well known for his abilities in the writing and speaking of the English language.

## THE SONGS

### 1. Buchar Wadibu

Sung to the tune of “*Art Thou Weary Art Thou Languid*”

Buchar wadibu gurewey hadibu san

Garagu yen dibu san ma

Guraby barani, rownya bamuga,

Eme-ra-gua-ba.

Aranse hadibu luma Bongio

Wa tibu saran Luagu?

Fudu wati luhabu, fudu wati lugudi

Luma low-ba.

Bigira diwa san bibuga agu-u  
Hamon wadu-hen-u binadu  
Mabuiga, wayentia, hownisunguby  
Awan gura gien.  
Ariha banya bisanigu, ariha banya bibanya  
Anyagura geyegua ba-u?  
Y-ri-ti hagarigu, y-ri-ti haguruen,  
Aya hua gua.

## **2. Agamba Humaitia Lumali Hesu**

**Sung to the tune of “*Listen To The Voice of Jesus*”**

Agamba humaitia lumali Hesu  
Niduhenu nugo  
Bimeti rogia hamalali irahunu  
Magamba humuti Saran?  
Beluhu ma naguburigu beluhuma irahunu  
Wama Munadon  
Madiseda humatia mararama humatia  
Dison wa y.  
Nidagume wamatia hababuri wamulenu  
Ya Danigrig  
Bugawoga wayentia bugawoga hayentia  
Lu y fulasu le  
Ligialme wayahuaha ligialme wasagriha  
Gani haba nasiu won  
Madiseda humatia mararama humatia

Dison wa y.

Huru wa my arabu ligia wan by programu

Habu Gar-nagu

Fayeime taxi fayeime renti

Derel dan won

Garani gilia katey le by

Nebegu

Madiseda humatia mararama humatia

Dison wa y.

### 3. Marchad Wamatia Nebegu

Sung to the tune of “*Onward Christian Soldiers*”

Marchad wamatia nebebu

Kaimo lubaron wurib

Baruina wamai tia waguruan

Hesu ligiaba waba

Christi ligiatia Abureme

Lichuguna lagiyeru le

Lubaron wamatia wagani leby

Arudaha wamy wafadira lu.

*Koras:*

*Marchad wamatia nebebu*

*Kaimo lubaron wurib*

*Baruina wamai tia waguruan*

*Hesu ligiaba waba*

Meferidira wamaitia waganyeru

Marugaba lamugawa Mafe

Kaimo liudaran Christi

Meredaha wama tia ya

Adadagara tia winanile

Inigira hanufude gua

Kaimo tbaron nebegu

Hereti wamalali lu.

*Koras:*

A yante lurubu Sudara

Habuinchar luba Bondio

Nebegu lubaron wamatia

Ayangura fadrigu waba

Mafanrer gia wamatia

I isanigu waga aba Mutu

Ahan Wener sungua tuagu

Lubion Abureme.

*Koras:*

#### 4. Haliayen San Nigrama

Sung to the tune of “*Where is my Wondering Boy Tonight*”

Haliayen san nigrama gunyel tia

Le wuguri-ra le hisienti nu,

Le irahu le lanina nigundagul,

Le now-u-wa ha naruna rugo.

*Koras:*

*O, Haliayen san nigrama?*

*O, Haliayen san nigrama?*

*Inigira wi-u-wi-u gua nanigi*

*Luruma char-u-wow lichugu un*

*O, Haliayen san nigrama?*

Haliayen san nigrama gunyel tia

Ansa mebelugil luby;

Ariha-ne hamuga yon leheru Numa,

Nigrama le now-u-wa ha.

*Koras:*

Haliayen san nigrama gunyel tia

Weredi numuti ha-y lumadagu,

Luwaria uma le lania ferdiguow

Luba hisienti nigrama nu.

*Koras:*

Haliayen san nigrama gunyeltia,

Fagua beluha yagura Pomona Ridge

Kame San Industrial School tuguya yen?

Luba furendei howni wasanigu.