KOUDJAY

Creole to English - Poetic Translation

Yon lè pou plante	*A time to sow*
Yon lè pou rekòlte.	*and a time to reap.*
Yon lè pou travay	*A time for work*
Yon lè pou koudjay.	*and a time for leisure.*
Jodi-a se repoze.	*Today we rest.*
Jodi-a se banboche.	*Today we celebrate.*
Majòjon, pran devan,	*Drum major, lead on,*
Mizisyen annavan!	*Musicians, play on!*
Bat tanbou joue tronpèt,	*Beat the drums, blow the trumpet,*
Violon ak clarinet.	*Play the violin and clarinet.*
Mizisyen, kantado, an nou taye banda	*Musicians, singers, let's show them what we got.*
An nou chante, danse merenge, kalinda,	*Let's sing, dance meringue and kalinda,*
Jodi-a se koudjay.	*Today is the big feast!*
Nap fete tèt kale	*We will party like there's no tomorrow*
San danje, san traka	*With no fear, nor danger*
Nap chante, nap danse	*We'll sing and dance*
La vi-a mande sa.	*As life requires it.*
Tout la sent jounen nap travay	*All day long we've been at work*
Nap redi, nap fè bèl bagay.	*Laboring, making a difference.*
Nou plante, nou plante,	*We sowed and planted,*
Nou simen, aroze.	*We scattered and watered.*
Kouniea, an nou repoze,	*Now it's time to relax,*
Nou dwe repoze, danse merenge	*We must take a break and dance meringue.*
Kouniea, an nou banboche,	*Now it's time to let go,*
Danse kalinda, danse, zouke	*Time to kalinda and 'zouk'*
Annatandan nou rekòlte.	*While we await the harvest.*
"Un temps pour chaque chose,	*"A time for everything,*
et chaque chose en son temps"	*and everything in its time."*
Se yon pawol sakre ke nou dwe obsève	*That is a sacred quote that we must observe!*
Mizisyen annavan, jodi-a se koudjay	*Musicians, play on, it's party time!*
Taye banda, danse, zouke,	*Dance and 'zouk' like there's no tomorrow,*
Jodi-a se koudjay	*Today is "Koudjay"!*
-Gabriel T. Guillaume	

Philosophie de "Koudjay"

"Un temps pour chaque chose et chaque chose en son temps… Un temps pour rire, un temps pour pleurer…un temps pour planter, un temps pour récolter…" dit l'Ecclésiaste. L'existence humaine exige un certain équilibre, une harmonisation des activités de la vie. Le travail est essentiel, mais le loisir doit maintenir sa place pour un épanouissement authentique de l'être humain.

-Gabriel T. Guillaume

Philosophy of "Koudjay"

"A time for everything and everything in its time… A time to laugh and a time to cry… A time to sow and a time to reap." says Ecclesiastes. Human existence requires a certain balance and must harmonize life's activities. Work is essential, but leisure is vital for an authentic development of mankind.