From Charles, the clothes-maker

No kente* weaver or designer of boubou
Is needed here.
No suit maker, akwete** or asoke,***
Not even the wearer of agbada****
Is needed here,
To lend a hand
To our intricate patch-work.

We are rich in spinning and weaving,
Cutting and threading,
Building our own garb,
With our own hands.
Do not pontificate
Or complicate
The effort of our spiders,
Threading a pattern
In our grand design.

* Brightly coloured cloth, locally woven in Ghana.
** Locally woven cloth, produced in the southern Igbo area of Nigeria.
*** A kind of material that is Incally produced by Yoruba people of Nigeria.
**** Big flowing gown now popular in many parts of Africa.