

Swahili transcript:

Ningependa pia kuzungumzia suala zima la mahusiano,nikiwa namaanisha kwamba hasa kwa vijana ambao wanatarajia kuoa au kuolewa. Kwa taratibu za kitanzania,na watanzania wengi huwa kwa sasa ni vijana wenyewe ndio ambao wanakaa na kuongelea suala zima lakuhusu kuoa au kuolewa.Kwa mfano kijana amempenda msichana, anamwambia,anamwita anamwambia kwamba mimi nakupenda na napenda nije nikuo, kwa hiyo anamchumbia yule msichana. Na yule msichana kama nae pia amempenda,basi anamkubali na anamwambia sawa,na toka hapo wanafanya taratibu za kuwaona wazazi. Mara nyingi ni upande wa kijana wa kiume ambaye anatoka sasa anaenda anawataarifu wazazi wake, na wazazi wake wanatuma wawakilishi kutoka katika ile familia kwenda kupeleka taarifa upande wa wazazi wa msichana, kwa hiyo wanapeleka tunaita kupeleka posa, kwamba wanaenda kuchumbia sasa katika ile familia. Kwa hiyo wakifika,na yule binti anakuwa tayari amewataarifu wazazi wake,katika familia nyingine kwamba binti pia anaweza akawataarifu wazazi wake,lakini katika familia nyingine au katika makabila mengine, binti haruhusiwi kuwaambia wazazi wake,ni mpaka wale ndugu upande wa kijana wa kiume ambaye anataka kumwoa watakapoleta barua ile rasmi kwamba wanakuja kumchumbia. Na taratibu hii iko katika makabila mengi, utaratibu wa kuchumbia kwamba wanakuja ndugu kutoka upande wa mwanaume wanakuja kwa wazazi wa binti na wanaleta ile barua,baadae wazazi wa binti wanawaambia sawa subiri tutawataarifu, kwa hiyo wale wazee wanaondoka, na upande wa mwanamke wakishakubali kwamba na wao wanaridhia labda binti yao aolewe na yule kijana, wanatuma tena taarifa kwa upande wa mwanaume kwamba wamekubali. Kwa hiyo wakishapata hizo taarifa, upande wa mwanaume ndugu wanakuja tena kuongelea sasa suala zima la mahari,kwa hiyo wakishaongea, wazazi wa binti wanakaa kikao kama wanandugu, wanakaa kikao na wanaamua labda mahari iwe nini. Asilimia kubwa ya makabila ya kitanzania na taratibu zao wengi wanapenda mahari ya kutumia wanyama, kwa mfano ng'ombe au mbuzi au kondoo na vitu vinginevyo.

English translation:

I would like to talk about engagement, especially for young people who are getting ready to get married. In the Tanzanian tradition and for many Tanzanians nowadays, young people sit together and talk about marriage. For example, if a young man loves a certain young lady, he tells her. He calls and says "I love you and I want to marry you," and that is how he gets engaged to that young lady. And if the young lady loves him, she accepts and says "okay." At that point, they start the whole process of meeting the parents. It is always the young man who first goes to his parents and tells them he has found a woman he loves and wants to marry. Then, his parents send representatives from his family to the parents of that young lady. They are getting ready to talk to the parents of that young lady about marriage. Sometimes the young lady is allowed to tell her parents that she has found the one she loves and whom she wants to marry. However, in other families or other tribes, a young lady is not allowed to tell her parents until the representatives from the young man's family come and present an official letter of engagement. This tradition still holds in many tribes. First the representatives or relatives of the family of the young man come and present the official engagement letter. Then the parents of the young lady accept that letter and tell them to wait until they get a notification of whether they have accepted the engagement or not. So those people leave, and the parents and relatives of the young lady sit and discuss the engagement. If they accept, they send their representatives to the parents of the young man to say, "We consent to our daughter marrying your son." After receiving the good news, the relatives of the young man come again to the family of the young lady to discuss the dowry. So the parents and relatives of the young lady sit together and discuss what the dowry will look like. A large percentage of Tanzanian tribes like to use animals such as cows, goats, and other things for the dowry.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.