

Swahili transcript:

Upendo: Nilitaka tuongeelee kuhusu maisha ya familia za kitanzania. Maisha halisi ya familia za kitanzania yakoje?

Happy: Aaah! Maisha halisi ya familia za kitanzania kwanza tuna...tuna *extended family*. Hatuishi kwenye nyumba kama baba, mama na watoto tu, kwenye hiyo nyumba utakuta mtoto wa mama mdogo, mtoto wa shangazi, babu, bibi, mjomba, wote mnaishi kwenye nyumba moja. Kwa hiyo ni ngumu sana kukuta familia ya kitanzania inakuwa na familia yaani kama vile wanavyoisema wenyewe familia-ni baba, mama na watoto. Kwa kitanzania hiyo, haipo.

Upendo: Na nini imepelekea labda familia za kitanzania utakuta kuna babu, bibi, mjomba, shangazi, wifi, binamu wote wapo humo ndani?

Happy: Nini ni zaidi ya upendo. Ni upendo tu kama jina lako (kicheko)Upendo. Mimi nadhani kwa sababu yaani tumeshazoea kupendana ile, kuonana yaani wote mnakuwa kama..yaani wote mnajionma mko sawa. Manalelewa wote katika..kwa mfano mimi tumelelewa na watoto wa mama mdogo ndani ya nyumba. Na mimi hao ni dada zangu, na ni kaka zangu yaani kabisa, yaani siwezi kumwita sijui..ndio ni binamu, lakini ni watu ambao ni wa karibu. Kwa hiyo yaani kutokana na ile kulelewa kwa upendo, na pamoja na kujiona kwamba ninyi wote ni wamoja, ndicho kinachopelekea nadhani familia nyingi kuwa wanaishi pamoja katika nyumba.

Upend : Ok. Na hali halisi ya maisha ya Tanzania, je wanaweza wakamudu maisha ya kuwa na familia kubwa kama hivyo? Je, maisha yanakuwa ni mazuri ndani ya nyumba au ndio inakuwa basi tena tufanyeje.(kicheko)

Happy: Aaah !kuna wengine, kwa sababu kuna familia ambazo ni matajiri, watu wa saizi ya kati, na watu maskini. Nadhani wengi wao labda ni watu wa saizi ya kati ambao bibi yupo ndani ya nyumba, babu yupo, nitakachokula mama na watoto, na bibi atakula hicho hicho. Hata kama ni kidogo, tunapeana kwa nafasi, yaani tunagawana kutokana na kile ambacho tumepata. Sio kwamba mimi, kwa sababu mimi ni mama na watoto wangu ni hawa watatu, tutakula chakula sana kwa sababu ninyi sio part ya familia yetu, hapana. Familia nyingi nadhani zinaishi kutokana na hali halisi. Yaani kama nyinyi ni maskini, mtakula kutokana na umaskini wenu ; kama ni matajiri, mtakula kutokana na utajiri wenu ; kama ni wa hali ya kawaida, mtakula kutokana na hali ya kawaida.

English translation:

Upendo: I would like us to talk about Tanzanian family life. How do they live?

Happy: Tanzanian family life is based on the extended family. This means that in a single family, you will find children from other relatives, like an aunt's children, grandpa, grandma, and uncles. All these people live in one house. It is hard to find a Tanzanian family that has only a father, mother and their children, but you will find other relatives living together with them, and it is considered as one single family.

Upendo: What causes many Tanzanians homes to have extended families?

Happy: Is it all about love like your name Upendo [Upendo means love]? [Laughter.] We are used to loving one another; that's why we have extended families. And we respect one another, and each one feels welcomed in a family. In our home, we were raised with my aunt's children. I regard them as my sisters and brothers, not as cousins. Because of love and how we have been raised, we are a united family. This is another reason for such homes to have extended families.

Upendo: When you consider the income of many Tanzanians, can they afford to live with such a big family?

Happy: As I pointed out earlier, lifestyles differ from one family to another due to income. There are people who are rich; others live a standard life, and others are poor. So it depends on the family, but the big issue here is all about love, that's it. The family lives according to what they can afford, and there is no difference between the children who were born from that family and other children from extended families. Whatever the family gets will be shared by all the people in the family. If the family is poor, it will live according to its poverty, and if the family is rich, the same thing. It will live according to its riches.

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