

**Swahili transcript:**

Upendo: Na je kuhusu suala zima labda la heshima mle ndani, inakuaje? Kwa mfano unaweza ukanieleza kuhusu familia yenu labda mnaishije katika familia yenu mko wangapi labda na mnaishije mle ndani?

Happy: Aaah !Mimi kwetu ni dada, na nina wadogo wasichana wawili, wavulana wawili; na wadogo zangu wananiheshimu. Lakini, hawanipigii magoti kama ambavyo walitakiwa wawe wananiheshimu dada yao.

Upendo: (kicheko)Ehee?

Happy: Aaah !lakini nikiamka asubuhi wale wadogowadogo kwa sababu mdogo wa mwisho ana miaka kumi na tatu ananiamkia-shikamoo dada Happy; lakini mdogo wangu mkubwa anayenifuata ana miaka ishirini na moja, ataniambia tu-mambo?

Upendo: (kicheko) Ehee?

Happy: Umeamkaje? au saa nyingine hata haniambii hata mambo, atanza tu kuniambia chochote kile. Lakini heshima ipo. Hata wadogo zangu hao wavulana ni wakubwa, ni warefu, nawaangalia hivi, lakini wananiheshimu. Kuna yaani kuna sehemu...kuna kuna mpaka ambao kuna vitu ambavyo tukaongea, tukataniana, lakini kuna mpaka pia wa heshima. Wananiheshimu. Aaamm!

Upendo: Na kuhusu wazazi wenu?

Happy: Aaah! Wazazi, hilo kwa kweli sio suala hata la kufikiria mara tatu, inatakiwa tu uwaheshimu. Yaani hiyo, penda usipende, kwa sababu unakaa katika nyumba yao, unatakiwa ufuatae..ufuatane na sheria zao. Wakikuambia unarudi saa kumi na mbili ndani ya nyumba, sio nyumbani kwangu pale; saa kumi na mbili itabidi tu nijitahidi niwe pale ndani ya nyumba kwa sababu hiyo ndio heshima ambayo tunayoiongelea. Ni lazima uwasalimie asubuhi ukiamka. Hata kama kakuudhi jana babako au mamako, ufanyeje? lazima tu umheshimu; yaani hakuna..hakuna njia, ni lazima umheshimu.

Upendo: Na katika familia nyingine nimeona, hususani katika familia za nchi nyingine zilizoendelea; hapa pia katika sinema zao, filamu zao nyingi nimeona; ni kwamba utakuta mtoto anaweza akajibishana na mama yake. Labda mama yake labda kuna kitu mtoto labda hajakipenda, mama yake yupo mle ndani, labda ndani ya chumba cha mtoto. Mtoto anaweza akamwambia *mama-away, away from my room!* Yaani anamwambia-ondoka, ondoka chumbani kwangu. Je, katika familia halisi za kitanzania kitu hicho kipo?

Happy: Kwa kweli, yaani hiyo haipo. Ila, kuna watoto ambao ni watukutu wanafanya hivyo. Ila kwa familia, yaani kwa ile kabisa mila na desturi za kitanzania, *you're not even*

*supposed to raise your voice* mbele ya mama yako. Yaani naweza nika...nikapandisha sauti yangu mbele ya mdogo wangu, lakini sio kwa mama. Hata kama anakuonea, anachokuambia sicho, nyamaza;msikilize. Mimi najua, kwa mfano sisi mama yetu ametuambia..huwa anatuambia kitu kimoja-wakati mimi naongea, usinijibishe; nyamaza tu nisikilize. Ninakuwa na hasira nimekasirika, lakini kuna muda ambao nitakuwa nipo sawasawa. Nifuate niambie mama, ulichofanya, moja, mbili, tatu, nne, tano; si sahihi. Lakini kwa kipindi kile kwa sababu yeye ana hasira na wewe una hasira mkiendelea kujibishana, sidhani kama itakuwa..mtafikia katika sehemu nzuri ; na pia sio heshima. Kwa hiyo mimi ninachoamini ni kwamba hata kama mzazi wako atakuudhi, anakugombeza, anachokuambia si kweli ; nyamaza tu. Kuna muda utapita. Hata baadae, kesho yake, mfuata, mrejeze, mwambie-mama au baba, hiki moja, mbili, tatu ulichofanya si sahihi. Hicho ndicho kinacho-apply nyumbani kwangu, nyumbani kwetu.

**English translation:**

Upendo: Tell me how many you are in your family and how do you behave with regard to respect in the family.

Happy: I am the oldest sister in our family. I have two sisters and two brothers, and my younger brothers and sisters respect me as their sister, but they don't kneel down as they were supposed to be doing when they greet me, according to our African culture.

Upendo: (laughter) Ah ha...

Happy: When we wake up in the morning, our last born who is 13 years old, used to greet me with "*Shikamoo.*" *Shikamoo* is a respectful greeting used by younger ones to greet older people. My older sister who is 21 years old used to greet me with "*Jambo.*" *Jambo* is used by youth of the same age/age mates, which means "How are things?"

Upendo: (laughter) Ah ha...

Happy: She may ask me "How are you this morning," but sometimes she doesn't even ask how I am. She may start telling me other things, but we do respect one another. My younger brothers are taller than me but they respect me in spite of their height. We can make jokes but there is a limit. They cannot make jokes which cross the line. We respect each other.

Upendo: What about your parents?

Happy: There is an obligation to respect your parents. So long as you live in their house; you must follow their rules. If they tell you that you must be back at 6 PM, you must be there at 6 PM. When you do that, it shows you respect your parents. In the morning, you must greet your parents, even if your father or your mother bored you yesterday. In the morning you must greet them, whether you like it or not.

Upendo: I have observed other families in films from developed countries. In their films, a child can argue with her mother. If a child doesn't agree on a certain issue with her mother, and if her mother is in the child's room, the child can tell her mother "Get out of my room." Is there such a thing in Tanzanian families?

Happy: No, in many families there is no such a thing; but there are naughty children who can do such things. In the Tanzanian culture, you're not even supposed to raise your voice to your mother or father. I can raise my voice to my younger sister but not to my mother. Even if you know that what she is telling you is not true, you must calm down and listen to her. Our mother used to tell us "When I talk to you, just listen. Don't argue with me, because when I talk I might have anger. Just listen. You can talk to me at another time when my anger is no longer there." There is a time when you can tell me that those things you confronted me with are not the way you described. But when your mother confronts you, and you challenge her back, that shows no respect. You may not reach an agreement. I believe that even if your parent bores you, just be calm when he is confronting you. You must wait for some time and when you see he is in good mood, just follow him and tell him that what he did to you was not fair. This is what is appropriate in our house.

**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.

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