

CultureTalk Tanzania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Masai Families: Roles of Mother and Father**

**Swahili Transcript:**

Natalie: Na nani anayesafisha nyumba na kupika?

Andrea: Mama na watoto wake.

Natalie: Watoto wa kike?

Andrea: eeh watoto wa kike.

Natalie: Je kama kwa mfano kuna watoto, mke wa mtoto na wengineo wanawake wanyumbani pia nao wanaweza kufanya hizo kazi?

Andrea: Eeh kama baba na mama wamezaa mtoto wa kiume na ameoameo atakuwa yule mtoto anasaidia wazee ...

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: ... kufua, kupika kama mda ya jioni, mda ya asubuhi lazima atasaidiana na mama .

Natalie: Sawa.

Andrea: Mmh.

Natalie: Na nani anayenunua vitu vya vya vyakula kama madukani kama na nini ....

Andrea: Baba. Baba ndiye anayenunua na mama ndiye anayepika.

Natalie: Ka kama baba ndiye kila siku atakayekuwa anayaenda nani sokoni ...

Andrea:.... Aaah awezi kwa siku kwa siku.

Natalie: Kwa hiyo sio baba kuwa anatoa hela tu ila anaenda kila sehemu.

Andrea: Mama ndiye anayeenda sokoni kwa sababu mama ni mtu wa nyumbani, baba ni mtu wa kuhangaikia, kutafuta pesa.

Natalie: Aah.

Andrea: Eeh.

Natalie: Kwahiyo baba aleti hela akamapa mama nenda kapike, ka kananunue anaenda kununua na analeta vyakula. Aah sawa.

Andrea: Eeeh.

Natalie: Nani anaye anayelea watoto, kuanzia yani wakiwa wadogo nakuendelea hadi wakubwa.

Andrea: Mama .

Natalie: Mama tu?

Andrea: Mama anasaidiwa na baba , lakini mama ndio sana kwa sababu mama hatoki .

Natalie: Mmhg.

Andrea: Mama anakuwa nyumbani toka azae mpaka miezi mitatu ndio kwa sisi kimila chetu mama anatoka nje , anatolewa nywele ya mtoto , anatolewa nywele na mama, kimila chetu sisi, ndiye anachinja mbuzi au kondoo , ndie anachinja...

Natalie: Mama ndiye anayechinja au watu wengine wanachinja?

Andrea: Baba ndiye anayechinja.

Natalie: Baba ndiye anayechinja.

Andrea: Baba ndiye anayechinja, anaita familia kuwa mtoto tunamtoa nje

Natalie: Baada ya miezi ya miezi mitatu?

Andrea: Baada ya miezi mitatu.

Natalie: Wow, eih, aisee. Aah watoto wanafanya nini, yaani watoto wadogo wakiwa kuanzia wale wadogowadogo hadi wakiwa wakubwa mfano vijana na nini nyumbani wanafanya kazi gani? Mfano kama watoto wenye miaka kumi na nane, watoto wenye miaka sita, saba na kuendelea.

Andrea: Wanasoma wengine wanachunga.

Natalie: Mmhg.

Andrea: Wengine wanasoma wengine wanaenda shule, wengine wanaenda chungu mbuzi wengine wanaenda shamba.

Natalie: Mmh.

Andrea: Kwa hivyo kwa sisi nyumbani kawaida ndivyo tunavyofanya tunapeana zamu, leo Jumatatu, kama ni wanne, Jumatatu ni wawili, jumanne ni wawili, wawili wanabaki kuangalia mbuzi, nyumba. Ndio tunavyofanya sisi nyumbani mpaka sasa mimi hapa nilipo.

Natalie: Aah ooh sawa

Natalie: Je watu wa kiume... katika familia yaani katika jamii yenu, wanawake wanakazi gani, wanaume wanakazi gani, yaani wavulana wanakazi gani, wasichana wanakazi gani? Kuna kazi tofauti tofauti kulingana na wawe ni mwanamke au ni mwanaume na umri wako pia?

Andrea: Eeh kwa sisi wakina mama wakishafikia kama thelathini na mbili na nane na nne hafanyi kazi nje ya nyumba.

Natalie: Mmh.

Andrea: Lakini waume ni wanyabiashara.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: Waume ni watafutaji, niwakulima, niwakuchunga kwa hiyo sisi kama unaoa ukioa mama anakuwa wa nyumbani labda kukiwa kunakazi ya ziada ya karibu yakwenda na kurudi kwa masaa matano kwa masaa sita.

Natalie: Sawa.

Andrea: Lakini mama ni mtu wa nyumbani kwasababu mama ameletwa nyumbani kwa kulea yule bwana na kulea familia.

Natalie: Je kabla ya kufikia miaka thelathini.

Andrea: Anaweza ....

Natalie: Mfano kabla akiwa ameolewa?

Andrea: Anafanya kazi nje, anaweza kufanya kazi nje.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: Akifanya asubuhi jioni anarudi.

Natalie: Aahh. Nje yaani kama kufanya biashara au?

Andrea: Anaweza kufanya biashara.

Natalie: Vitu kama nini wanauza? Biashara gani yani?

Andrea: Biashara ya mkoani ni biashara ya mahindi, maharage...

Natalie: Vyakula. Na je bangili ule urembo wote ya kimasai wote?

Andrea: Wanauza.. eeh wanauza.

Natalie: Sawa.

**English translation:**

Natalie: Who does the cleaning and cooking?

Andrea: The mother and her children.

Natalie: Her daughters?

Andrea: Eeh, her daughters.

Natalie: For instance, if the family has other children, say, daughters-in-law living in the house, can they do those kinds of chores?

Andrea: Eeh, and if the mother and the father have a son who is married, the wife will also help the elders.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: ...Doing laundry, cooking in the morning and at night, she has to help the mother.

Natalie: Okay.

Andrea: Mmmh.

Natalie: Who buys groceries, for instance, in the shops and...

Andrea: The father. The father is the one who shops and the mother is the one who cooks.

Natalie: If so, the father is the one who goes to the market?

Andrea: Aaah, no, he can't go every day.

Natalie: So he doesn't just give the mother cash, but he also goes to different places (to buy the food?)

Andrea: The mother is the one who goes to the market because the mother is at home, while the father is the one who goes out in the world to try to earn money.

Natalie: Aaah.

Andrea: Eeh.

Natalie: So the father doesn't just bring money and give it to the mother to shop, but he brings food home. Ooh, okay.

Andrea: Eeh.

Natalie: Who takes care of children from the time they are very young until they are old enough to take care of themselves?

Andrea: The mother.

Natalie: Just the mother?

Andrea: The mother, the mother with the help of the father, but mainly it is the mother because she's at home.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: The mother will be at home without leaving for three months from the time she gives birth. This is how we do it, according to our custom. Then the baby's hair is cut. She cuts the baby's hair, according to our custom, then they slaughter a goat or a sheep,

Natalie: Is the mother the one who slaughters the animal?

Andrea: The father is the one who does the slaughtering.

Natalie: The father is the one who does the slaughtering.

Andrea: The father is the one who slaughters the animal and calls the family and lets them know that they are allowing the child out of the house.

Natalie: After three months?

Andrea: After three months.

Natalie: Wow, eih, I see. Aaah, what do children do, that is, kids from the very young ones through the older ones. For instance, the youths? What do they do at home? Or the six-year olds, seven year olds, eighteen year olds?

Andrea: Some go to school while others herd the animals.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: Some will read, while others go to school. Some herd goats while others go to the farms.

Natalie: Mmmh

Andrea: Aaah, ooh, okay.

Natalie: So, what about the males... in the family, in your community, what do women do, what do men do, what to boys do and what to the girls do? Are there different jobs depending on whether you are a male or female, and depending on your age?

Andrea: Eeh, for us, once the women are thirty-one or so, they don't work outside the house.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: The men are the ones who do business.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: The men are the ones who earn a living, who go to the farm and herd. So for us, if you marry, the wife/mother stays in the house unless there is a job near the home where she can go and come back after 5 hours or 6 hours.

Natalie: Okay.

Andrea: But the wife/mother is the one who stays home. After marrying, she must take care of the husband and children.

Natalie: So, what if she is not thirty?

Andrea: She could ...

Natalie: For instance, before she is married?

Andrea: She can work outside, she can work outside.

Natalie: Mmmh.

Andrea: She can go to work in the morning and come home in the evening.

Natalie: Aaah, and have a job outside the house, such as selling something?

Andrea: She can have a business.

Natalie: What sorts of things are sold? What kinds of businesses are there?

Andrea: They can have interregional business where they sell corn, beans...

Natalie: Food. And what about Masai decorations?

Andrea: Yes, they sell those.

Natalie: Okay.

**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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