

**Swahili transcript:**

Kama nilivyosema mwanzoni kwamba kanga ina maana, sio suala tu la mtu amevaa kanga, lakini unapovaa kanga angalia ile kanga yale maandishi yanamaanisha nini. Na tunatumia kanga pia kama zawadi, kwa mfano, labda ndugu yako au rafiki yako amepata mtoto, kwa hiyo unanunua kanga yenye maandishi ambayo yanaendana na lile tukio la kupata mtoto. Kwa mfano kanga kama hii niliyosema ambayo imeandikwa hongera sana, ni kanga nzuri ya kumpelekea rafiki au ndugu ambaye amepata mtoto, kwa sababu unampongeza hongera sana ni jambo ambalo linafurahisha na linapongeza. Vilevile tunavaa kanga katika misiba, kwa mfano katika misiba, mara nyingi akina mama wanavaa kanga mbili. Kwa mfano amevaa kanga moja hii ya chini, anachukua na kanga nyingine anajifunika. Kwa hiyo kanga anajifunika namna hii, tunajifunika kanga mara nyingi tunapokwenda kwenye misiba mbalimbali. Kwa hiyo ukifika Tanzania, na hususani kama ukienda kwenye misiba na kwenye mazishi, mara zote utawakuta wakina mama wamefunga kanga mbili, moja anakuwa amejifunga kwa chini, na nyingine amejifunika kwa juu. Na zile kanga ambazo wakina mama watavaa kwenye misiba, ni tofauti na kanga ambazo atavaa akiwa nyumbani. Kama nilivyosema kanga inakuwa na maandishi na inategemea, kila tukio na kila jambo linakuwa na maandishi. Kwa mfano kama misiba kuna kanga ambazo zinaandikwa “pole sana”, au “jipe moyo Mungu atakusaidia”, ni katika kuwafariji wale wafiwa. Kwa hiyo kanga ina matumizi mengi kwa jamii ya kitanzania. Tunavaa kanga tukiwa nyumbani, tukiwa tunapika au tukiwa tunafanya shughuli zetu nyingine, vilevile tunachukua kanga, kanga inakuwa kama zawadi ya kumpelekea rafiki au ndugu yako kama labda amepata mtoto au amefaulu mitihani unampongeza, unampelekea kanga ambayo ina maandishi ya kumpongeza. Na vilevile tunatumia kanga katika kuwabebea watoto mgongoni, tunabebea watoto mgongoni. Na kama nilivyosema pia tunavaa kanga katika misiba. Mara zote ukifika Tanzania, katika misiba mbalimbali utakuta wakina mama wamevaa kanga, na sio kanga moja, mara zote inakuwa ni kanga mbili. Kwa hiyo vazi la kanga ni vazi ambalo ni muhimu sana kwa jamii nzima ya kitanzania kwa sababu ni vazi ambalo linawaliwa na

akina mama na mabinti. Na mara chache sana utawakuta na wakina baba nao wanavaa kanga, lakini wanavaa kanga wakiwa nyumbani au wakiwa mara nyingi wakiwa vyumbani. Si jambo la kawaida kumkuta baba au kijana njiani amevaa kanga, wataonekana ni kitu cha tofauti. Atavaa kanga labda akiwa nyumbani amepumzika. Na mara zote huwa wanavaa kanga labda wakina baba wakiwa vyumbani na si katika sebule. Kwa hiyo kanga ni vazi ambalo linavaliwa na watanzania hususani karibu wote, hasa wakina mama na wasichana.

### **English translation:**

As I said earlier, *kanga* has proverbs. It is not just about wearing a *kanga*, but when you wear a *kanga*, you need to know the meanings of that *kanga*. Also we use *kanga* as a present. For example, if your relative or friend has been blessed with a baby, you buy a *kanga* with sayings that relate to the event of a birth. For example, this *kanga* has a proverb which says “*hongera sana*” which means “congratulations.” It is a good present to send to your relative or friend who has been blessed with a baby, because you congratulate her for having a baby. We also wear *kanga* for burial ceremonies. Women are always the ones who wear *kanga*; they normally wear two *kanga*. For example, she wears one *kanga* below her waist, and another one she wraps on top. So if you come to Tanzania and have the opportunity to attend burial ceremonies, you will see women wearing *kanga* like this. The *kanga* which women wear in burial ceremonies are quite different from those they wear at home. As I said, every *kanga* has writings that depend on the event, because each event has its own sayings. For example, in burial ceremonies, people wear *kanga* which have sayings like; “I am so sorry,” or “Take heart, God will help you,” - all about condolences. So *kanga* is a dress which means a lot to the Tanzanian society. We wear a *kanga* when we cook or do other household chores. We also use *kanga* as a present to send to a relative or friend after the delivery of a baby, or when she has passed an exam. So you bring her a *kanga* which has sayings to congratulate her. Also we use *kanga* to wrap up our babies, and we use *kanga* to carry our babies on our backs. So *kanga* dress is a very popular dress which all women and young ladies wear. Sometimes men also wear *kanga*, but they wear a *kanga* when they

are in the house, especially in the bedroom. It is not normal for a man or a young boy to wear *kanga* outside; it would be regarded as an unusual event. He wears a *kanga* when he is in the bedroom resting, not in the sitting room. So *kanga* is a kind of dress which all Tanzanians wear, especially women and young ladies.

**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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