

**Swahili transcript:**

Upendo: Sasa labda, tungezungumzia kuhusu uchumi wa Tanzania. Uchumi wa Tanzania upoje labda unavyoona Happy?

Happy: (kicheko) Aaah! topic ngumu! Uchumi wa Tanzania labda naweza kusema kwa kweli bado uko chini, bado tunaendelea. So, hatu.. yaani hatuwezi kuulinganisha uchumi wa nchi yetu na nchi kama Marekani; si kweli, bado tupo..we are still developing. Ndio maana tunaitwa developing countries, hatuitwi developed countries; bado tunaendelea.

Upendo: Ok. Na unaweza ukasemaje, labda je maisha kati ya wale watu wenye kipato na watu ambao labda...kwa ujumla yaani maisha hasa yaani yapoje? Yaani, je kuna watu ambao ni matajiri sana yaani na maskini labda, hali halisi ipoje? Katika hali halisi ya maisha ya watanzania walio wengi ?

Happy :Aaah! Kwa kweli, maisha ya watanzania bado kuna gap kubwa. Yaani ile gap ambayo iko kati ya tajiri na maskini bado ni kubwa. Kwamba sio kila mtanzania, yaani unajua watanzania hatuwezi sema kwamba sisi ni maskini. Kuna watu ni matajiri, kuna watu wana mahela; bali, je, katika hao matajiri wenye mahela ni wangapi? Majority ya watu ambao wapo katika nchi wana nini? Hiyo ndio difference. Lakini ukitaka kuangalia kwamba kati ya matajiri na maskini, gap ni kubwa sana. Kuna watu ambao wana maisha yako luxurious hata Marekani nadhani unaweza ukawa huyaoni. Lakini, katika hiyo hiyo nchi, kuna watu ambao wana maisha ni ya chini hata hawajui jioni watakula nini; hawajui kesho watakula nini. Kwa hiyo yaani kuna gap kubwa sana kati ya tajiri na maskini. Na sio kwamba kila mtu Tanzania kwamba ni maskini.

Na pia, kuna watu ambao wapo katika level ya kati. Wananchi wa kawaida ambao wako katika level ya kati ambao wana chakula asubuhi, mchana na jioni; wanakula vizuri, wanapeleka watoto wao shule, wana hela za kuweza kujisaidia wao wenyewe; lakini, je? Wamewekeza nini kwa ajili ya watoto wao? Hiyo, mimi hiyo ndio naona ni definition ya kusema kwamba mtu Fulani ni tajiri; tajiri in what sense? Ana vitu Fulani kwa ajili ya akiba ya watoto wake. Hata kesho na kesho kutwa akiondoka, babako ana mradi, babako ana nini. Lakini, kama mna maisha tu ya kawaida, na mnachotegemea nyinyi wazazi wako walichokupa sanasana ni elimu, wewe utajiiita katika, yaani wewe sio tajiri, na wewe sio maskini, wewe uko katikati; yaani wewe ni mtu tu wa kawaida ambaye hau...*you're no worried* about kula, shule, maisha, kesho utafanya nini, vyote hivyo utafanya lakini bado maisha yenu yapo ni ya kawaida. Kwa hiyo nadhani kuna nchi ambazo ni tajiri wamejitosheleza katika kila kitu. Huduma za jamii ziko sawa, wanapata. kwetu sidhani kama ni hivyo. Huduma za jamii bado pia zipo chini, kwa hiyo yaani nadhani uchumi wa nchi yetu bado tunajitahidi yaani, we are still struggling kuupeleka juu lakini sijui ni itachukua miaka mingapi? ili tuweze kuwa huko juu. Lakini *we are trying*.

Upendo: Okay. Sasa wewe labda unafikiri tatizo labda ni nini? Tatizo hasa ni nini? Labda ni watu wenyewe wavivu wa kufanya kazi, au labda ni serikali au labda ni viongozi? Au ni nini sasa tatizo ambalo linafanya mpaka leo uchumi bado uwe unasuasua, kwa sababu kitu ambacho mimi nafahamu Tanzania sio nchi maskini. Tanzania ni nchi kama nchi ni nchi tajiri. Kwa sababu tuna hizo kama tuliongea kuhusu mbuga za wanyama ambazo watalii wanakuja kila mwaka

Happy: Tuna Tanzanite, unakumbuka tulisahau kuzungumzia?

Upendo: Tuna madini ya Tanzanite Tanzania;tuna madini mbalimbali, tuna dhahabu, tuna vitu mbalimbali sana vya asilimali nyingi sana tulizo nazo Tanzania.

### **English translation:**

Upendo: Let's talk about Tanzania's economy. From your perspective, how do you view our economy?

Happy: (laughter) Tough topic! What I can say is that our economy is still weak. We are still developing. We cannot compare our economy with another country like America, no. That's why we are called a developing country and not a developed country.

Upendo: Okay. What about the living standard of most Tanzanians? Are there some people who are very rich and others who are poor? In general, what is the reality of living standard of most Tanzanians?

Happy: There is a big gap between rich and poor people. I cannot say that Tanzanians are poor, because there are some people who are rich, and they have money. But when compared to the number of Tanzanians who are rich and the majority who have low income, the gap is very big. There are Tanzanians who live luxurious lives. Even in America you will not find such a kind of life. But in the same country, there are poor people who don't even know what they will eat in the evening, and don't know if they will get food tomorrow. In other words, they don't know how they will survive because of their standard of living. So there is a big gap between rich and poor people in Tanzania.

Additionally, there are people who live at an average level. They have food to feed their families. They can send their children to good schools, and they have money to sustain their daily lives. But what have they invested for their children's future? For me, the definition of a rich person is someone who has made investments for the future of his children. A person who is capable of providing food for their family, who can send their children to school, but doesn't have anything for the children's future, I categorize as one who lives at a standard level. He is neither a rich or poor person. A child from such a family is not worried about food, education, or clothes. Nonetheless, after having all this, what is next? Education is the most important thing your parents can give you.

There are rich countries that can satisfy their citizens. They have education and other social needs, but in Tanzania, social needs are still neglected. Our economy is still down, and I don't know when it will improve. We are still struggling to strengthen it. Maybe after many years we will succeed.

Upendo: Okay. So what do you think? Where is the problem? Is it because people are lazy, or they don't want to work? Or is it we don't have good leaders in the government and that's why our economy is still below level? I know that Tanzania as a country is not poor at all. Our country is rich when we talk about tourism in Tanzania. We have a lot of national parks and each year, many tourists come to Tanzania.

Happy: We have Tanzanite.

Upendo: Yes, in Tanzania we have Tanzanite, gold and a lot of natural resources.

**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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