

Swahili transcript:

Upendo: Tulizo nazo Tanzania

Happy: Tuna asilimali nyingi sana

Upendo: Tuna asilimali nyingi mno Tanzania. Sasa je, inakuaje mbali ya kuwa na asilimali hizo nini kila kitu, je kwa nini sasa nchi bado haiendelei labda hali ya maisha, bado uchumi unaendelea kuwa mbovu? Kwamba, je tatizo hapo liko wapi? Wewe unaonaje katika hilo?

Happy: Mimi nadhani kwanza, unajua viongozi wengi wa nchi yetu wao ni matajiri. Viongozi wengi ndio wanaopeleka watoto wao kusoma nje, viongozi wengi wao ndio wapo katika ile top list ya watu ambao ni matajiri. Kwa hiyo mimi nadhani uchumi wetu bado uko chini kutokana na kwamba kuna watu wachache ambao wameukalia, yaani kuna watu wanajichukulia, wanajilimbikizia vile vitu ambavyo yaani kama vile wanaita national cake. Ni hivi, national cake inatakiwa iwe divided katika wananchi in equal pieces. Kama unavyokata keki, unakata katika pieces ziko sawasawa, kila mtu apate hivyo. Lakini katika national cake inakuwa hivi, kuna nusu ya keki iko kwa raisi, robo iko kwa mwananchi, half ya hii iko kwa waziri mkuu, yaani iko yaani hatuna ile equal, yaani equality ya kugawana, yaani ile kitu ambacho tunacho, yaani kama nchi nzima. Kuna watu wachache ambao wana... wana-own hivyo vitu. Kwa hiyo mimi nadhani, hata pia saa nyingine yaani tuseme ignorance. Watu wengi, watu mnajua kabisa kuwa hii ni right yako, lakini utaipiganiaje? hujui. Kwa hiyo yaani, sasa yaani, *I don't know*, uchumi, sijui. Lakini mimi naona watu wengi bado pia hatu... yaani bado kama tuna yaani vile, tumefungwa kiakili. *Ignorance* bado ipo, na pia watu wachache ndio wanaofaidika, na watu wengine wako chini. Kwa hiyo yaani uchumi wa nchi ili upande, mimi nadhani tunatakiwa tuwe tuna *equal sharing*. Na equal sharing itatokea wapi? Nani atakayeleta?

Upendo: Sasa labda katika hapo hapo ambapo umeongea kwamba labda viongozi ndio ambao wanajilimbikizia mali; na kama hivi juzijuzi tumesikia hii scandal ya BOT-Bank Of Tanzania; gavana amefukuzwa kazi na raisi kutokana na ubadhilifu wa pesa. Na hizo ni pesa za walalahoi wengi wa Tanzania ambao hali zao za maisha zipo chini. Sasa je? Wewe unafikiri hapa labda nini kifanyike? Kwa sababu kama hao viongozi ndio ambao wanakula hizo pesa, na sio pesa ndogo; ni mabilioni ya shilingi ambayo ndio wanajinufaisha, wanajenga majumba ya kifahari, wanaishi maisha ya anasa wakati watanzania walio wengi ni maskini na wanapata maisha ya shida. Sasa wewe unafikiri labda ili uchumi huu uweze kukua na vitu kama hivyo vinavyoendelea ili viweze kukoma; kwamba hawa viongozi ambao wanajilimbikizia mali wasiendelee tena na hiyo tabia yao ya kujilimbikizia mali, je? Wewe unafikiri hapo nini kifanyike?

Happy: Kwa kweli ni kazi, yaani ni kitu kigumu sana, kwa sababu nadhani wao ni kama wameshazoea maisha Fulani hivi, life style Fulani hivi. Kurudi katika maisha mengine ni ngumu sana. Lakini siwezi kusema kwamba yaani nina jibu sahihi tufanye nini, ili tuweze kurudi katika...tuwe sawa.

Upendo: Na unaonaje labda maana kuna baadhi ya watanzania ambao wamekuwa kwa kweli wako mstari wa mbele katika kuibua hayo maovu. Na Hata hili sakata la BOT ni kwamba baadhi ya watu na wabunge ndio waliibuka, wale ambao wanatetea maslahi ya watanzania walio wengi. Wakaibua hiyo issue ya BOT. Sasa ina maana mpaka mtu mwingine aje aibue, ina maana hao viongozi wa juu, ngazi za juu hawaoni? Au yale mahesabu yanayofungwa kila leo walikuwa hawaoni kwamba kuna upungufu wa pesa? Kwamba yaani pesa zinatumiwa vibaya ina maana walikuwa hawaoni? Mpaka mtu mwingine aibuke aje aseme? Unaona? Kwa hiyo labda...na nimeona kwamba kutokana na hili sakata hili la BOT hata hii mambo ya madini ya hii nani ya Bulyankulu ulivyoanza kuleta hiyo shida. Tayari wale ambao wako active, ambao wanatoa hizo nani.. hizo scandal ni kwamba wanatishiwa maisha yao, wanatishiwa. Kama yule mbunge huyu Zitto Kabwe, kuibua hiyo issue bungeni ikawa ni shida na akasimamishwa na vikao vya bunge. Sasa hapo wewe unaonaje suala kama hilo?tutafika kweli?kutokana na hiyo hali?

Happy: Ukweli ni kwamba hawapendi kuambiwa ukweli. Wale watu wachache ambao wanajitolea kusema ukweli ndio watu ambao wanakuwa.

Upendo: Wanakuwa *victim*.

Happy: Wanakuwa *victim*.Wanakuwa *victim* kwenye hiyo circumstance ambayo wamekuwa wanatetea. Kwa hiyo ndio maana kuna watu ambao wanakuwa wanajitoea, wanasema *OK, let it be*. Wanifanye chochote lakini mimi ndio natetea nchi yangu. Unatakiwa uwe mzalendo kweli kufanya hayo mambo. Watu wangapi ukute wanajua mambo ya ukweli lakini wananyamaza? Kwa sababu wanaogopa.

Upendo: Wanaogopa, maana wanaweza hata wakapata shida, wakauwawa labda, wakafanywa nini kwa vile tu wamesema ule nini ukweli.

Happy: Ukweli

Upendo:Yaah!

English translation:

Upendo: What resources do we have in Tanzania?
[Continued from the previous dialogue.]

Happy: We have a lot of natural resources.

Upendo: Despite having all these natural resources, our economy is still weak, and the living standard of many Tanzanians is poor. What do you think? Where does this problem come from?

Happy: First of all, our leaders are at the top of the list of people who are rich. They send their children to study abroad. So I think our economy is still weak because our leaders are not faithful. They use their positions to gain the riches of our country. It is like comparing it to a national cake. A national cake should be divided into equal pieces. When you cut a cake, you need to cut it into equal pieces, so that each person gets an equal piece. But our national cake is divided like this: half of the cake belongs to the president, a quarter of it belongs to citizens, and the other quarter belongs to the prime minister. We don't share equally in what we have. There are a few people who own everything, and the majority of people are the ones who suffer. Another issue I think about is ignorance. Many people don't know their rights, and even if they know their rights, they don't know how to fight to get their rights. I think in order to improve our economy, we need to share equally, but who will fight for that?

Upendo: Recently, we heard about the BOT (Bank of Tanzania) scandal. The president fired the BOT governor because of his extravagance. This money belongs to poor Tanzanians who pay taxes. Their living standard is poor. What should be done then? Our leaders use the country's money to live luxurious lives, and to build big and nice houses. They have used billions of Tanzanian shillings just for their own luxury and leave many Tanzanians in a life of poverty. So what should be done? What is your opinion? Do we still need those leaders to continue doing what they do?

Happy: It is very hard to change what they do. They are accustomed to leading such a life. I don't think if it will be possible for most Tanzanian leaders to turn back to a normal life.

Upendo: There some Tanzanians who have been revealing the evil done by our leaders to the people in our country. For instance, in this BOT scandal, some Tanzanians and other members of the parliament who wish our country well are the ones who made the scandal public. Do we need to wait till such people reveal all this evil? Does it mean that the top leaders were not aware that something was going wrong with BOT? Even those who are responsible for balancing the accounts every day were not aware that some money was missing in their calculations. I don't get it! After the BOT scandal, the Bulyankhulu scandal¹ was revealed, and the bad thing is that those who are good citizens, who are active in revealing the evil within our society, they are having a hard time because their lives are in danger. They have been threatened with their lives [loss of their lives]. For example, the Honorable Zitto Kabwe, when he revealed the scandal, was suspended from attending the parliamentary sessions. So what do you think? Will we make it if things are going in this direction?

¹ The Bulyankhulu (or Bulyanhulu) gold mine.

Happy: The problem is that those corrupt leaders don't want to tell the truth. Those who volunteer to speak out, they become

Upendo: They become victims.

Happy: They become victims in this circumstance. That's why there are some people who just do and say, "Let it be." It really takes courage to speak about wrongdoing to the public, because there are so many people who know the truth and they remain silent because they fear for their lives.

Upendo: Yeah! They remain silent because they might be killed for speaking the truth.

Happy: The truth.

Upendo: Yeah!

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.

© 2003-2008 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated