

Swahili transcript:

Aaah! Makabila mengine walikuwa wanawachagulia watoto wao wachumba wa kuwaoa. Kwa mfano labda wazazi wanapenda labda mimi Upendo niolewe na mtu au kijana ambaye wao wanamwona labda ndiye ambaye atanifaa labda katika maisha yangu, kwa hiyo ilikuwa ni wazazi ndio ambao wanachagua kijana wa kumwoa binti yao, hata upande wa kijana wa kiume kwamba wazazi wake ndio wanasema okay kwa mfano mume wangu anaiwa Sixfrid, wanasema aah! Sixfrid tunadhani wewe ukimwoa fulani ndio atakuwa mke wako labda mzuri au atakuwa ndio mke mwema katika familia yako. Kwa hiyo ilikuwa ni upande wa wazazi, wazazi wa kiume wanamchagulia mchumba mtoto wao wa kiume, kwamba wanatafuta ooh! tungependa umwoe labda binti wa kwa fulani, labda kwa mzee Fulani kwa sababu wanaona labda yule ana tabia nzuri au vipi, vitu kama hivyo. Kwa hiyo ilikuwa ni wazazi ndio ambao wanaamua kwamba kijana wao amwoe nani au binti yao aolewe na nani. Na hiyo ilileta matatizo katika familia hizi ambazo wanachaguliwa wachumba, kwa sababu wanakuja wanaoana lakini si kwamba wanapendana, ni kwa vile wazazi wameamua. Na ilikuwa mzazi akiamua kijana au binti anakuwa hana la kusema ni kwamba lazima akubaliane na wazazi wanachokisema, kwa hiyo ilileta shida katika familia hizi ambazo wachumba walichaguliwa, kwa sababu wao wenyewe hawakupendana ni wazazi ndio walipenda, kwa hiyo wanakuja wanaishi maisha ambayo sio mazuri, maisha ambayo si ya upendo, si ya utii, si ya kuheshimiana kwa vile hawakupendana wao wenyewe. Kwa miaka ya hivi karibuni mambo yamebadilika, na ni vijana wenyewe ndio ambao wanaamua kwa mfano kijana wa kiume ndiye ambaye anaamua kuwa mimi nataka nimwoe nani, na msichana ndiye ambaye anaamua mimi nataka niolewe na nani kwa sababu ni suala la mapenzi kati yao kwamba binti amempenda na kijana kampenda, kwa hiyo wakipendana wanakwenda wanatoa taarifa kwa wazazi wao na ndivyo ambavyo taratibu za uchumba na mahari na mpaka harusi zinafanyika. Kwa hiyo katika miaka ya hivi karibuni mpaka sasa ni kwamba vijana wenyewe ndio ambao wanaamua wenzi wao wa maisha kwamba kijana anaamua mimi nataka kumwoa Fulani na wazazi wanakubali, na binti anasema mimi nimepata

mchumba nataka niolowe na Fulani, na wazazi wanakubali, kwa hiyo vijana sasa wanaoana wao ambao wamependana wao wenyewe, sio suala tena la kuchaguliwa mchumba.

English translation:

Aaah! In other tribes, they had the custom of choosing the fiancé for their sons and daughters. For example, if my parents preferred that a certain man marry me, it would be an obligation. I had to marry that person. Taking another example, my husband is named Sixfrid, and if his parents had preferred a certain young lady for their son, Sixfrid was required to marry that young lady. So it was the parents who decided who could marry their son or their daughter. This brought many problems to these families, because they married not because they loved each other, but because their parents made a decision for them. It was customary not to refuse what your parents decided; young men and ladies had no choice. They had to obey what their parents said. That caused them to have unhappy married lives with no love between them, no consent. Life in general was bad simply because they did not love each other. The marriage was decided upon by their parents and not by them. In recent years, things have changed. It is the young lady who decides whom she will marry. A young man decides whom he wants to marry, as well. It is a matter of love between them. So if a young man finds a young lady whom he loves, he tells his parents, and the preparations for marriage begin.

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