

CultureTalk Tanzania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Growing Film Industry

Swahili transcript:

Upendo: Hebu niambie kuhusu filamu za kitanzania.

Happy: Aaah! Filamu za kitanzania sasa hivi kwa kweli zimekua sana. Ni tofauti na miaka ya nyuma. Kwa kiasi kikubwa sasa hivi wasanii wengi wa Tanzania wamekuwa wakijitahidi sana katika suala zima la kutengeneza filamu.

Upendo: Ok. Na, je kuna soko zuri labda la filamu au?

Happy: Aaah! Mimi si mtaalamu sana, lakini kutokana na watu ambao nakaa nao, walionizunguka, wakiongelea kuhusu filamu ; sasa hivi imekuwa ina hela kidogo, tofauti na miaka ya nyuma. Ndio maana hata Tanzania sasa hivi tuna filamu nyingi ambazo wanakuwa wanazi...wanazitoa kila labda baada ya muda fulani. Kwa hiyo, ni tofauti sana na miaka ya zamani.

Upendo: Na umesema kwamba katika miaka ya zamani aah! Soko la filamu halikuwa kubwa sana kama ilivyo sasa. Na unafikiri labda ni kwa nini sasa filamu imekuwa ni..ina soko kubwa sana kuliko ilivyokuwa zamani ?

Happy :Nadhani pia changamoto kwa nchi kwa mfano kama Nigeria, ambao wana filamu nyingi sasa hivi ukiangalia katika...kwa mfano nchi za kiafrika sina utaalamu sana lakini utaangalia kwa mfano kama Nigeria wamekuwa na filamu nyingi sana wanazitoa katika kipindi cha muda fulani. Kwa hiyo nadhani hiyo ni changamoto ambayo nchi nyingine kama Tanzania wanapata. Kwa hiyo, soko zima la filamu nadhani sasa hivi linakuwa kwa kiasi kikubwa kutokana na changamoto za nchi nyingine za kiafrika.

Upendo: Aaah! Na labda niambie ni kundi gani hasa la watu ambao wanatengeneza filamu, je labda ni watu wazima au vijana, au watoto au?

Happy: Mmmm! Nadhani ni mchanganyiko; kwa sababu kuna watu wengine unaweza kuona kwenye filamu kuna wazee, kuna pia kuna watoto, na kuna vijana. Lakini nadhani kwa asilimia kubwa ni vijana wa umri kuanzia miaka ishirini na kuendelea. Na watoto sio watoto wadogo sana, labda miaka kumi, kumi na moja.

Upendo: OK. Na inasaidia vipi Tanzania katika hili soko la filamu sasa, je inawasidia labda watu kupata pesa au?

Happy: Mmm!Nadhani ina..kwa nchi nzima, kwa kweli siwezi kusema. Lakini kwa wasanii wenyewe, nadhani pia inawasaidia kupata jina; na pia inawaunganisha na watu wengine. Kwa sababu, kwa mfano kama hapa juzijuzi kuna filamu moja ime...ime...walikuwa wanatengeneza wamarekani, kuna watu ambao ni watanzania

wanaishi Marekani pamoja na wamarekani, na pia na watanzania. Kwa hiyo kwa wao kutokana na kuona zile filamu ambazo zinafanywa na watanzania zimeweza kuwapa jina watanzania, na wale watu wameweza kuja Tanzania na kutengeneza filamu; inaitwa Bongo Land II. Kwa hiyo, hiyo filamu imeweza kuwa released kama miezi minne au mitano iliyopita mwaka jana(2007)

Upendo: Vizuri. Na, unaweza ukaniambia jambo jingine lolote kuhusiana na filamu za kitanzania?

Happy: Mmm! Filamu za kitanzania pia zimekuwa..zimewekewa criticism. Kwa mfano, kuna article moja niliisoma inasema Tanzanian films is a Nigerian syndrome. Ni kwamba yaani tunachoonyesha katika filamu nyingi za kitanzania, sio kile ambacho ni halisi. Kutokana na kwamba wanaijeria wao labda wamekuwa sana wakionyesha kuhusu mambo ya uchawi, na watanzania sasa hivi movies zao nyingi utaona filamu zao utaona sanasana zinakuwa na mambo ya kutisha, damu, uchawi; kitu ambacho sio kweli (kiutamaduni wa kitanzania).

Upendo: Kwa maana hiyo ni kwamba Tanzania hamna mambo ya uchawi au?

Happy: (kicheko) Aaah! Yapo, lakini sio kwa kiasi kikubwa ambacho labda wanaijeria wanacho. Kwa hiyo yaani watanzania wamekuwa waki-copy sana kile ambacho wanaona kutokana na filamu za ki-Nigeria, ambacho kwa reality ya Tanzania sio kitu ambacho ni halisi.

English translation:

Upendo: Tell me about the film industry in Tanzania.

Happy: Tanzania's film industry is growing; it is not as it was in the past years. Nowadays, many Tanzanian actors demonstrate much progress in making films.

Upendo: Okay. What about the market?

Happy: I am not that much a specialist, but according to the people I live with, they say the film market is growing faster than it was before. That's why nowadays in Tanzania, they release films in a short period of time.

Upendo: You said that long ago, the film market was not good compared to how it is now. What do you think is the reason for that?

Happy: I think that competition from other African countries like Nigeria, which has been releasing films from time to time, led Tanzanian actors to get involved in the film industry. So the film market in Tanzania is growing due to competition from other African countries where their films have been successful.

Upendo: Which group is involved more in acting? Older people, youth or children?

Happy: People of different ages can be found in movies, but the majority is young people from age 20 and above, and children from the age of 11 years old.

Upendo: Do actors benefit from their job? Are they getting enough money?

Happy: How the whole country benefits, I don't know. But as for the actors, it helps them make connections with other actors around the world, and, in doing that, their names are recognized all over the world. For example, recently there was a film made by Tanzanians who live in the United States and other Americans and Tanzanians who live in Tanzania. The film is called Bongo Land II. The film was been released last year, in 2007. Due to that, Tanzanians actors have become known to America and not only that, it made Americans come to Tanzania and make a film in Tanzania.

Upendo: That's good. Can you tell me anything else concerning Tanzania's films?

Happy: Mmm! Tanzanian films have been criticized for being copied from Nigerian films. What we portray in our films doesn't reflect real-life situations in Tanzania. There's an article I read about it that says "Tanzanian films are a Nigerian syndrome." Many of the Nigerian films portray things like magic, killings, bloodshed and things that are threatening. And now, many Tanzanian films also portray such things, which are not part of our Tanzanian culture.

Upendo: So do you mean that in Tanzania there are no such things?

Happy: Aaah! [laughter]. There are, but not as much as Nigerians have portrayed in their movies. Tanzanians have been copying what they see in Nigerian films, which for Tanzania, is not true reality.

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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