

Swahili transcript:

Mojawapo pia ya utamaduni wa kitanzania ni ile hali ya kukaa pamoja na kusaidiana katika shida na katika raha pia. Na pia kuna hili jambo kwa mfano kutembeleana. Kwa mfano nina ndugu zangu, au nina marafiki zangu, na ninataka labda niwatembelee. Mara nyingi huwa hatutoi taarifa, nimeona tofauti na nchi nyingine kama unataka kwenda kwa mtu, ni lazima umtaarifu kwamba ninakuja. Lakini kwa utamaduni wa kitanzania, hatuna hiyo desturi. Ni kwamba unapotaka kumtembelea ndugu yako, au unapotaka kuwatembelea marafiki zako, ni ile tu unakwenda unampigia simu, eeh! uko wapi? nipo nyumbani, aah! Nakuja sasa hivi, na hawezi kusema aah! Usije hapana, au unapiga simu unanza kuweka muda nitakuja, unaweka miada kwamba nataka kuja, kwa hiyo nije lini? hapana. Katika hali halisi ya watanzania ni kwamba unapojisikia muda wowote kumtembelea rafiki yako, basi unapanda basi kama ni daladala au ni taksi, unakwenda kumtembelea, na ni kitu cha kawaida kabisa hatuweki miada katika kutembeleana. Hii ni mojawapo pia ya tofauti za kiutamaduni, nimeona tofauti kidogo na hapa, kwamba Marekani kwamba ukitaka kumwona mtu ni lazima umtaarifu kuwa unakuja, kwa sababu watu wanakuwa na mambo mengi, wanapenda kuweka miada. Lakini kwa Tanzania, watanzania huwa hatuna miada, ni kwamba wakati ukijisikia, nimejisikia kumtembelea rafiki yangu, basi napanda basi nakwenda kumtembelea. Au nimejisikia kwenda kuwatembelea ndugu zangu, basi ninapanda basi nakwenda kuwatembelea ndugu zangu, kwa hiyo hatuna miada. Na tunapotembeleana, mara nyingi, kwa mfano labda nina rafiki yangu ambaye amepata mtoto, labda amejifungua mtoto, mara nyingi huwa tunanunua zawadi, tunanunua zawadi kwa mfano tunanunua nepi za mtoto za kumfunga, au vilevile unaweza ukanunua zawadi kwa ajili ya yule mama, ukamnunulia labda kitenge, au ukamnunulia khanga, ni zawadi muhimu sana kwa ajili ya yule mama na watanzania wengi huwa wanafanya hivyo. Wengi wanunua hasa nguo za mtoto, unaweza ukanunua nguo kwa ajili ya yule mtoto, au ukanunua nepi, au ukanunua kitenge labda au khanga kwa ajili ya yule mama ambaye amejifungua mtoto. Kwa hiyo na unapoenda kumtembelea, basi inakuwa ni furaha, unakabidhi zile zawadi, unamshika mtoto,

mnafurahi pamoja, kwa hiyo vitu vya jinsi hiyo.

English translation:

One of Tanzania's traditions is the habit of sitting together and helping one another during the difficult and the happy times. As an example of how we visit one another, we normally don't inform people we are going to visit them. If I want to visit my friends or my relatives, I just go. I've noticed the difference in other countries. If you want to visit someone, you must inform him that you are coming. In Tanzania, we do not have that practice. If you want to visit your relatives or your friends, you just call them: "Hello, where are you?" "I am at home." "Okay, I am coming." Your friend will not tell you, "Oh! Don't come," or to make an appointment with you as to when to visit her, no. In Tanzania, you can visit your friend any time you like. You take a *daladala* or taxi and go. We don't make an appointment. It is quite different than here in America. If you want to visit someone, you have to make an appointment, because people are very busy. In Tanzania, when visiting someone, we always bring presents. For example, if your friend has been blessed with a baby, you buy a nappy or any gift for the mother who delivered the baby. You can buy *kitenge*, or *khanga*, which is a good gift for her and many Tanzanians do so. Some people buy baby clothes. When visiting, you present your gifts to the mother who has had the baby, and you hold the baby. It is fun.

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