

## Funerals in Rural and Urban Areas

### Shona transcript:

Parufu pakasiyana kutown nekumusha. Nekuti parufu kokumusha pakafiwa pano pane dzimba dzakawanda kudai vose vanouya pano handiti Panenge pakany... pane runyararo vose vanenge vachingouya vachiziva kuti vamwe vachibva kure vachiziva kuti kwafiwa. Chero vamwe hama dziri kumadhorobha dzinouya dzichiziva kuti kwaitika rufu. Saka ikoku kumusha haku kwakan.. kwa kana konoitwa ma ma zvemutown zvosara kuti...Kumusha munhu anovigwa ikoko. Achivigwa ikoko eee kunongotsvagwa ee pa pa mukatarisa ma few meters away kubva pamba vochera bokisi. Pamba poga poga vanotorine graveyard yavo yavakaita saka ipapo ndopavanochera guva vobva vachengeta munhu vari ipapo. Kana kouya muno mutaundi munhu aka pakaitika rufu pano vanouya ee ishamwari dzako dzinokuziva. Vapanext door kana vasingakuzivi vasiri shamwari dzako havatouyi. Unotonzwa vachitoita noise maradio achirira imi muri parufu. Ende futi ee kokumusha ko pakusiyana kwacho nekumusha futi kokumusha kunenge pakuchengeta munhu kwakati chippei, hakudhuri pane kwemudhorobha. Uchati kana munhu ashayika ee pachadiwa kuti wotenga eee iro guva kwaunochengeta kumasi.. kunonzi kumakuva kwacho kunochengetwa munhu. Kunobhadharwa munhu anoendeswa ku, eee, kuma tingati kudii kunaana Doves kunobhadhagwawo mari ee saka zvinhu zvese izvozvozvo unoona kuti imari dzese dzinemge dzichingodiwa saka unoona kuti kwakatosiyana chero ee madays aunogara ose iwaya. Munhu akangoita madays akagara akareba imari yose inenge ichingoramba ichingowedzera. Kana vakuenda kunomuchengetawo ikoko vanhu vanenge varipo vanodawo transport kubva ipapo. Zvese unenge uchiona kuti chii imari dzese dzinenge dzichingodiwa. Pane kumamisha vanhu vanongoti munhu akashaika vamwe vanongoti mhanya kune mazuvaano kune masitoro ariko kune va macarpenter anogadzira mabhokisi. Vanongonotora bhokisi vouya vogadzira munhu vonomgogezesa munhu uyauya. Vakuru varipo vana mhai, vana mhama vana mbuya vogadzira vopfekedza munhu uyauya vomuisa mubhokisi. Vanhu voenda kunochera guva ravo votonomuchengeta.

### English translation:

There is a difference between rural and urban funerals. Because at a rural funeral... if someone dies here, [people from] all these homes surrounding us come here, there will be silence. Everyone will come, knowing that... others coming from far off, knowing that someone has died. Relatives who live in the city also come knowing that there is a funeral. So in the rural areas, umm... ah... they conduct... umm, umm, the urban system is surpassed in that... in the rural areas the deceased is buried there. On the burial, umm, a spot is located a few meters away from the home, where the grave is to be positioned. At every homestead, they have their own graveyard; that is where they bury their dead. In the urban areas, say someone dies, there is a funeral here, only your friends and those that know you will come. If your next door neighbors do not know you or if they are not your friends they will not come. They can actually make noise with their radios while you are at

a funeral. And also, umm, the rural system... the difference [of the urban system] with the rural system... in the rural areas the burial is cheaper, it is not as expensive as it is in town. If someone dies [in the urban areas], umm you will need to, umm, pay for the grave...umm at the graveyard where they bury the dead. You have to pay. The corpse is taken to... umm, to... what can we say... to places like Doves and you have to pay so for all these services, you will be expected to pay, so you see that there is a difference [between the rural and the urban], even, umm...all the days that you are kept there [Doves]. If the corpse is there for a long time, the bill is increased accordingly. When they decide to go for burial, they have to organize transport for all the people. So you see that for all these activities...money will be needed. In the rural areas, in the event of the death of someone, they will send you [referring to any other surviving relative around] to... especially these days we have many stores as well as carpenters that can make coffins. They<sup>1</sup> bring the coffin, prepare the corpse, they also bath the corpse. The elders present, the mothers and the grandmothers, prepare the corpse, bathe it and then they put it in the coffin. The people then dig the grave and bury the dead.

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<sup>1</sup>‘They’ is referring to the elders and the other people that may be involved. They get the corpse ready for burial. This may include bathing and dressing the deceased.