

Mnafiki

The Liar



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Translated by Ben Bartelmay

Shimwali, English

Mnafiki

The Liar

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Peace Corps Comoros

Shimwali, English
Mwali, Comoros

Pvuka bwana aka maskini akoyenshi Fomboni. Waye kakana mapesa be akana zinyama zengi.

There once was a poor man who lived in Fomboni. He had no money but he had many animals.



Waye akana nkuhu kumi na saba,
na mbuzi kumi, na nyombe
ndraru, na ngonzi mbili.

He had seventeen chickens, ten
goats, three cows, and two
sheep.



Mdrume maskini ino akana mwana mdrume uhiriwa Ben. Wakati Ben ahuwa ata afangniha shababi ahandissa ufanya hazi.

Hazi yahe de upvinga nyombe, mbuzi, nkuhu, na ngonzi shambani Mana wakati ule bahe ngetabu mhogo.

The poor man also had a son named Ben, When Ben was older he started to work. His job was to bring the cows, goats, chickens, and sheep to the field to eat while his dad planted cassava.



Heniusiku Ben ngepvingo nkuhu kumi na saba, na mbuzi kumi, na nyombe ndraru, na ngonzi mbili shambani na huregeya. Haraka Ben atambiha mana kasina ndrongo za ufanya pvavo suku moja atsahua ufanya dangadzo.

Day after day Ben would bring his father's seventeen chickens, ten goats, three cows, and two sheep to the fields and back. He soon grew bored so he decided to play a game one day.



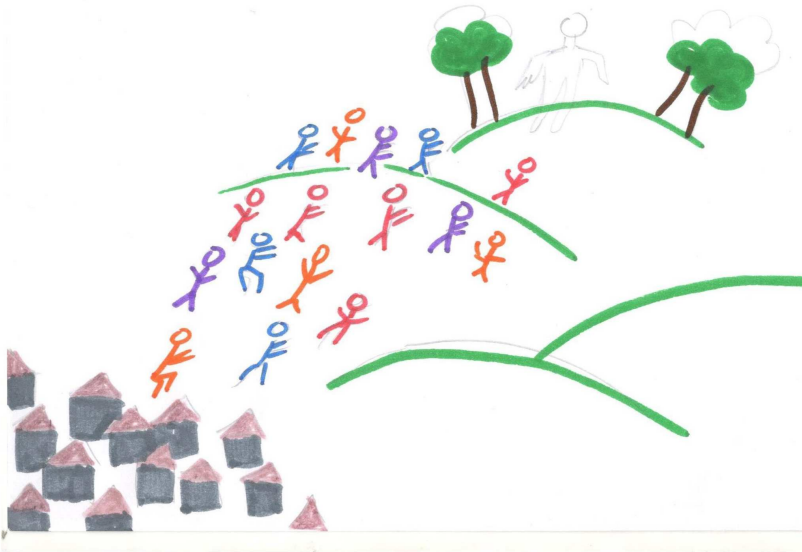
Ben atsahua ushemeledza
hanguvu "MWIDZI MWIDZI!!
NGOVO MDRU AHIBAO
IZINYAMA! NISAIDIYA!"

Ben decided to shout as loud as
he could, "THEIF! THEIF!!
SOMEONE IS STEALING THE
ANIMALS! HELP"



Wandru wa Fomboni pia wakiya fidjo la Ben. Wandru wa muji pia wahe shambani hawenda umhifadhui Ben.

All of Fomboni heard Ben's echoing cry for help. The entire village ran up to the fields to protect Ben.



Be banda wandru pia wawaswili kawampara mwidzi, wampara tu Ben, ngewatseho, na izinyama za bahe pia zikentsi shambani.

But after villagers arrived, they found no thieves, only Ben, laughing at them, with all of this father's animals safely in the field.



Wafomboni ngowana hasira
waregeya Fomboni. Wakati usiku
wakoma Ben ajipviwa swafi tsena
apvingi izinyama dahoni hahe.

The angry villagers returned to
Fomboni. Once the day was over
Ben happily took his animals back
home as well.



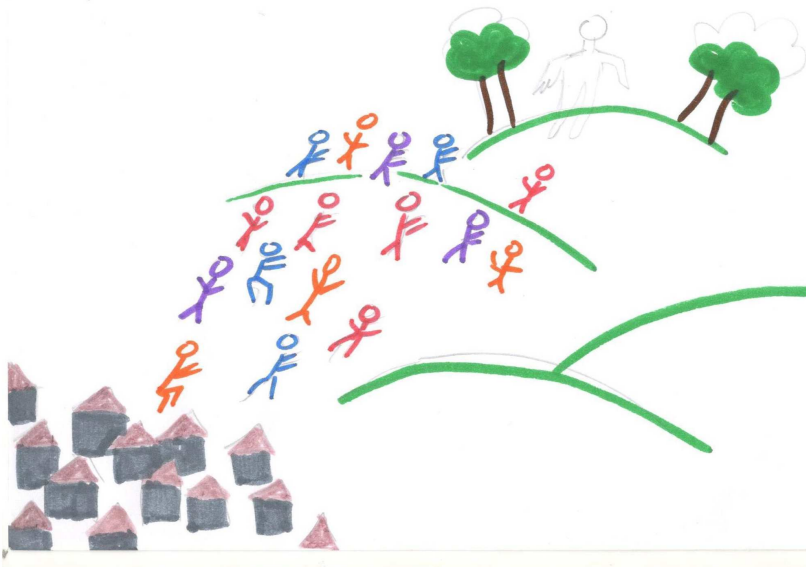
Suku ya dunga atambiha tsena
aja atsahua afanye mzaha wahe
tsena. Ashemeledza, "MWIDZI!
MWIDZI! NAMNISAIDYE!"

A few days later Ben was bored
and decided to play his joke
again. He screamed, "THEIF!
THEIF! HELP!"



Wandru wa muji ngowadao mbyo
hawenda umsaidia Ben.

Again, the concerned villagers
ran to the fields to help Ben.

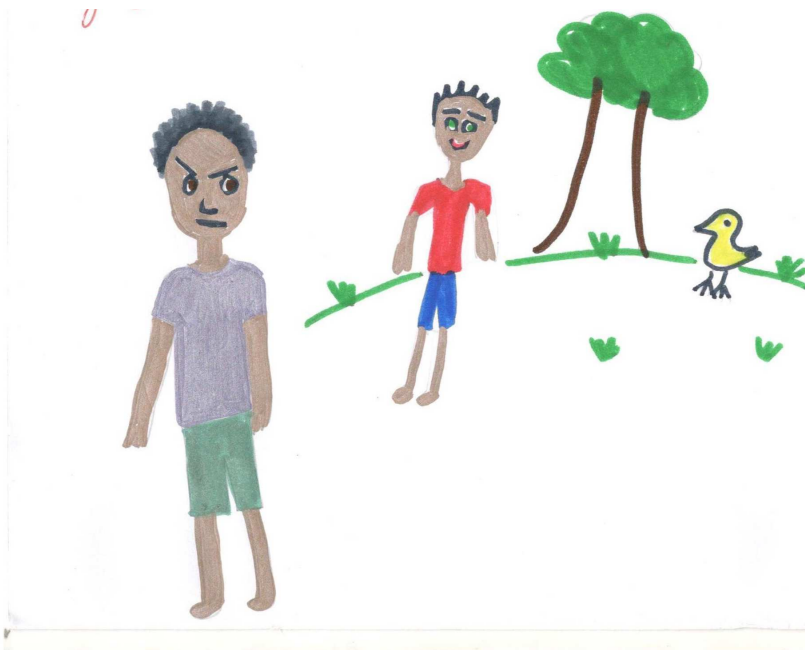


Be tsena, zinyama zikentsi
shambani tu na Ben atsehe alafu
wandru pia waja.

But again, the animals were safe
in the field and Ben was laughing
when everyone arrived.



Ben's father was among the angry, concerned villagers. As everyone was walking back to their homes, Ben's father said, "That's not a funny joke. Stop with your lies. If there ever is trouble no one will believe you."



Ben decided to listen to his father.
The next day Ben brought the
animals to the fields and this time
decided to amuse himself by
watching the clouds pass by.



Ben kasimwona mjeni alawawo
mpaharoni mana ngengalio
mbinguni.

Ben did not notice a stranger
coming out of the forest because
he was looking at the sky.



Ben akiya nyombe irongoa "moo" ngemwono mjeni ngehibo nkuhu, nyombe, mbuzi, na ngonzi za bahe. Ben ashemeledza, "MWIDZI! MWIDZI! TSIHULAPVIA! FULANI NGEHIBO IZINYAMA ZANGU KWELI!"

Ben heard his three cows "moo" and saw the stranger stealing all his father's chickens, cows, goats, and sheep! Ben shouted, "THEIF! THEIF! I PROMISE! SOMEONE IS ACTUALLY STEALING MY ANIMALS!"



Ben angalia Fomboni tsena kasiwona ta mdru amba ngejo amsaidie. Ashemeledza tsena "MWIDZI! MWIII..." kabla mjeni kamu uwa, alwa na zinyama zahe.

Ben looked down at Fombouni and saw that no one was running to help him. He screamed again, "THIEF! THEEE..." before the stanger killed him and left with all his animals.



Ben afa weke wahe mana kapvusi ta mdru amamini mana waye awahada bahe ngena hamu wakati anda malavuni hawenda ujuwa mana ndrini Ben kaja dahoni aja ala shahula. Pvatsina izinyama zahe, bahe Ben tsihale afu handza.

Ben died alone with no one who believed him because of his lies. His father was so sad when he went to the fields to see why Ben didn't come home for dinner. Without his animals, Ben's father soon died of hunger.



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**Samahani, nahika uwono nkosa, awu
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**If you see any mistakes, want another
book, or want helping writing your
own book please contact me at:
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Marahaba ivo wasoma!

Thanks for reading!

Cam - Bako Mkoni