

# Mnafiki

The Liar



**Yanziwa na Desinewa na / Written and Illustrated by:**

**Bena Parker**

Tafsiriwa na / Translated by:

Cam Houser and Idrisse Moussa

Rengeledzewa na / Edited by: Mohamed Loutfy

shiNdzواني, English

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Peace Corps Comoros

shiNdzواني, English  
Ndzواني, Comoros

Vuka mtrubaba maskini akoêshi Fomboni. Wae kakana mpesa be akana zinyama zengi.

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



Wae akana nkuhu kumi na saba,  
na mbuzi kumi, na nyombe  
ntraru, na magondzi maili.

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



Mwenye maskini unu akana mwana mtrubaba uhiria Ben. Wakati Ben atrendra ata arendreha shababi, andrisa hufanya hazi. Hazi yahe de huinga zinyombe, zimbuzi, zinkuhu, na yamagondzi shambani aendre azitsunge maâna bahe kakana nafasi.

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 because his father did not have time.



Kula suku, Ben asivinga zinkuhu kumi na saba, zimbuzi kumi, zinyombe ntraru, na yamagondzi maili ahendra shambani na huregea. Be Ben asitaãbiha maãna kasina tta suku moja ya huangadza vavo apanga dangadzo.

Everyday Ben would bring his father's seventeen chickens, ten goats, three cows, and two sheep to the fields and back. Ben grew bored because he didn't have any time to play so he decided to plan a game.



Ben atshua hushemeledza ha  
mangavu "MWIDZI MWIDZI!!  
VWA MUNTRU ASIIBA  
IZINYAMA ZA 'BANGU!  
NAMUNISAIDIE!"

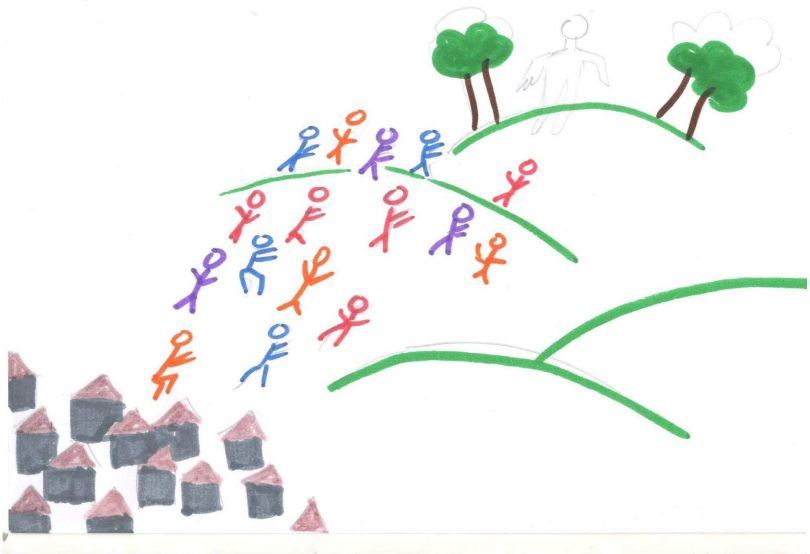
Ben decided to shout as loud as  
he could, "THEIF! THEIF!!  
SOMEONE IS STEALING MY  
FATHER'S ANIMALS! HELP ME"





Wantru wa Fomboni pia wakia izinkeme za Ben. Wantru wa muji wontsi wahea mbio shambani hwendromsaidia Ben.

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



Be baâda wantru pia wawaswili,  
kawapara umwidzi, wampara de  
Ben tu, asitseha, na izinyama za  
bahe pia za shambani.

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



Wafomboni, ha hasira, waregea mjini. Na Ben ajiviwa swafi, avingi zinyama za bahe aregea dagoni.

The angry villagers returned to Fomboni. Ben was very happy and took his father's animals back home.



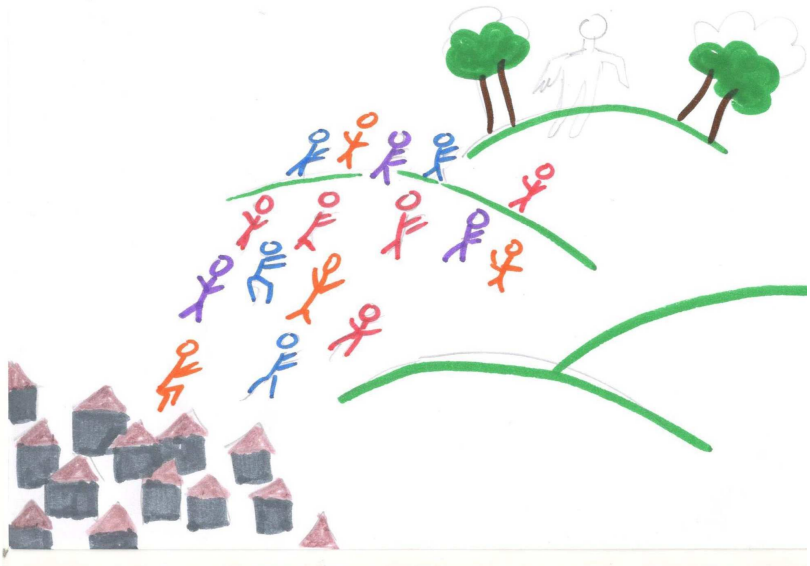
Suku yangina tsena Ben  
ataãmbiha tsena be atsahua  
hufanya ubishi wahe tsena.  
Ashemeledza, "MWIDZI!  
MWIDZI! NAMSAIDIYA!

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



Tsena wantru wa muji wasendra mbio shambani humsaidia Ben.

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



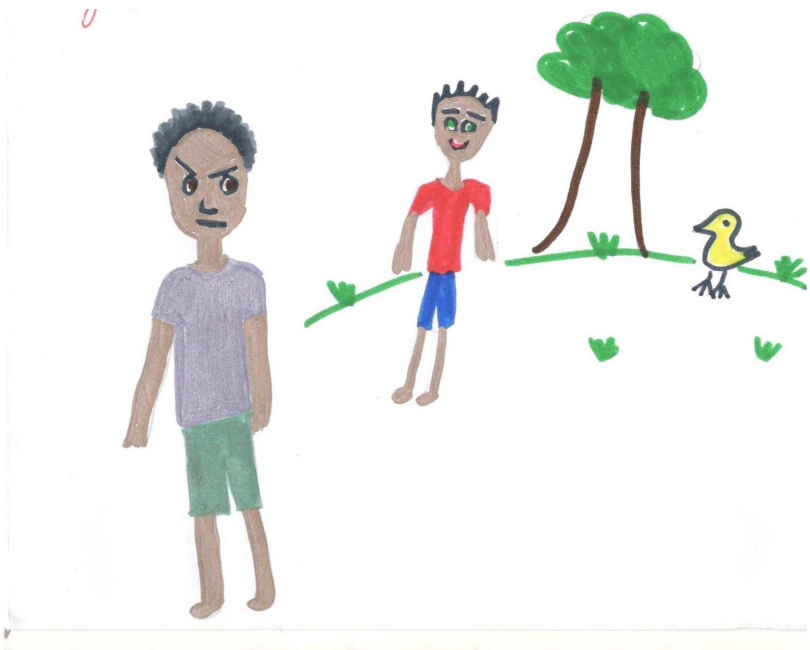
Be tsena, zinyama zikentsi  
shambani ttu na Ben asitseha na  
wantru pia waja.

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



BaBen a mengoni mwa wantru waja hasira. Wakati waregeao hawo BaBen arongowa, "Unu tsi ubishi mwemwa. Zia zitrambo zaho. Suku vutsokao hila wantru kawatsohuamini."

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



Ben atсахua humuvulishiya bbahe.  
Suku yavili Ben avingi zinyama  
shambani na wakati unu atсахua  
hujiviwa hu angalia maingu yavirao.

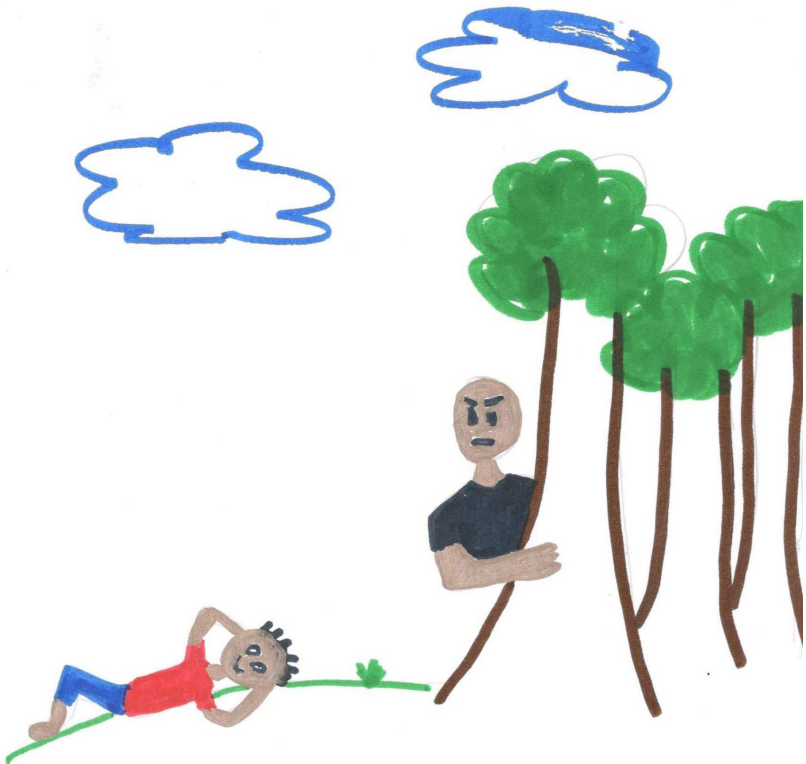
Ben decided to listen to his father.  
The next day Ben brought the  
animals to the fields and this time  
decided to amuse himself by  
watching the clouds pass by.





Ben kasimuona mjeni asilawa  
paharo mana asiangalia binguni.

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



Ben akia inyombe irongoa "mu" na wae amuono mjeni asiiba nkuhu, nyombe, mbuzi, na magondzi ya bahe. Ben ashemeledza, "MWIDZI! MWIDZI! TSILAVA! FULANI ASIIBA ZINYAMA 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 ne kaona muntru hata huja mbiyo humusaidia. Ashemeledza tsena, "MWIDZI! MWIII..." kabla mjeni kamua na hulawa na zinyama zahe.

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



Ben afu weke wahe maâna kavwatsi wantru wamwamini maâna wae awambia ntrambo nyengi. Bahe asiwona hamu swafi wakati aendra shambani hahe hu zunguha Ben maâna karegea dagoni ula shahula sha uku. Bila zinyama zahe, BaBen afu haraka maâna kasina shahula hata.

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.



## Reading Questions

1. BaBen ana zinyama za ntrini?

1. What animals did Ben have?

2. Maâna ntrini wantru kawaja humsaidia Ben?

2. Why didn't people come to help Ben?

3. Ben ana haki hufa awu huenshi?

3. Did Ben deserve to die?

4. BaBen afu jeje?

4. How did Ben's father die?

**Samahani, nahika uwono nkosa, awu  
usitsaha shiyo shangina, awu una fikira  
la hwangiha shiyo... tafadhwali  
unambie harimwa:  
pcvcwhcomoros@gmail.com**

**If you see any mistakes, want another  
book, or want helping writing your  
own book please contact me at:  
pcvcwhcomoros@gmail.com**

**Marahaba ivo wasoma!**

**Thanks for reading!**

**Cam - Bako Mkoni**