
File Name	: Chawake 061120
Diarist	: Alice Chawake
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Typist	: Mwendo Communication & Business Bureau

20-11-06

A certain boy called Bruce came to my house to chat with my children. He always come to chat with them and on that day he came and told us that they ran away tonight at their home.

They were chatting outside at night around 8 o'clock night with his mother and other children.

At the same time, they heard a bad sound like they saw a wild animal like a goat. It was like a goat but its head was like a lion and its legs were like a cow. They all ran away going into their houses and slept there. They failed even to go out to urinate that night.

Bruce added that I am sure that it was not a wild animal but Miss Malita has changed to that animal when she died. That animal was coming from the grave yard. It is going to see people in their houses I refused and I told him that he will be summoned by her children. How can a funeral change to a wild animal?

But Bruce said, I am saying the truth that woman has changed to the wild animal and it is troubling many people in these days in the houses.

It firstly went to Miss Innocent the day before and found her cooking in her house. She ran away going into her house. Then after that, it went to Mr. Mpoya and found Wilson outside with his dog.

Wilson saw it and he started to [chase] it away but it did not ran away. Instead of running away, it started to [chase] running after Wilson then Wilson ran away going into his house.

He was shouting so that people should know that that something was happening but nobody came out to see what was happening. When that animal saw that Wilson was nowhere to be seen, it started to [run] after his dog and it managed to kill it.

It just cut down its had [head? hand?] then left. It did not eat anything when it killed it. Now those who know well are talking that it is not the wild animal, it is Miss Malita who has changed to that animal because she was a witch.

I said noting but I just told Bruce to be afraid of people because if Miss Malita's children will hear about that story, they will summon you to tell them how you have known that she was a witch and how she has changed to an animal.

He left the story then he started to chat with his friends. I then took a pail at the same time going to the well to draw some water. The way to the well passed by Bruce's home so that his mother saw me passing.

She asked me to wait for her so that we should be together when going to the well. I waited for her so that we were two. On our way, Bruce's mother started to tell me the same story which her son told me.

She said I was failing to come here to the well alone because the world is now dangerous. If I think of what has happened tonight, I cannot even walk going elsewhere.

Miss Malita has come back from the grave and she has changed to the wild animal but that animal is troubling people very much. It is moving tonight going to see her friends where she was chatting with.

All the people who were friends to her are in trouble. That animal came last night at my house but very fortunate enough that we saw it quickly. I asked her, you are saying that the animal is moving tonight to see its friends, were you a friend to Miss Malita?

She said no, I was not her friend but my late mother was I don't know why she was coming to my house yet she knew that my mother died a long time ago. It has passed some years since she died.

How do you know that she was the one who changed to that animal? I asked. Yes, as you know that Miss Malita was a witch, she had been killing people at her home and her relatives were complaining that she was deleting the tribe.

There was a certain time when she went to the Jando [Chiyao: circumcision/initiation] of Mr. Iweni to dance for the children who were being initiated there. She was dancing through her witchcraft but she was very unfortunate that she was caught red handed by Mr. Iweni the Ngaliba [Chiyao: person who performs the initiation/circumcision; an adviser to the initiates].

She could have died during that time but her children went to say sorry to Mr. Iweni so that Mr. Iweni forgiven her but she was found ill for two months. Her hip was broken since that time, she just staying without going elsewhere.

Now its year, she also went to dance at Nsondo [Chiyao: initiation of girls] house by using her witchcraft. She had the aim to kill some of the initiates but very unfortunate to her that the Nsondo house was protected by the herbs.

It was found that she fallen down again and her hip started paining there. Her children told the Nakanga of that Nsondo to forgive her but she refused. She said that she knows nothing about that woman's illness. She just knows that her all children who she initiated there came back well.

There was nothing bad. If Miss Malita went there tonight through magic and she met with a problem, that much I don't know she tried to look for the different herbs but nothing was helping her. She had been ill from that time and passed some many months while ill.

After that long time of being ill, she left eating anything and even drinking some water she became very thin since she was not eating but she was just talking very much yet she was failing to sit down.

People knew that she died the day that she left eating but because of her witchcraft, it was found that she was still alive, she stayed for almost 4 months without eating anything and even drinking water but she was still alive.

When her children got tired of looking after her, they went to Mr. Dryson to ask him for the medicine for killing her since they knew that she was already dead but since she was a witch, she was now using her animal's life.

When she died, people stayed at home freely for three days. But when they closed their culture of staying together at the funeral's house for three days, the animal started to come out from her grave going to the people houses to cat [catch?] with her friends who were also witchcrafts.

Then I asked, will that animal be troubling people forever? No, she answered. Her children have seen that their mother has changed to an animal because she was a witch. They know that she has died because of the herbs which they used therefore since they have also heard and seen that she has changed to an animal, they will try to look for other herbs to chase that animal to the grave yard.

They will tell it that it should be staying at the grave yard as its home and not with people who are alive. That animal will stop at the same time. But if they will just be looking at it. It will make an accident because it will not stop coming to see people who are alive.

I had nothing to answer there because at first I thought that she was lying but after hearing to what she said, I knew that it was true and I believed that other people are witches in this world.

THE END

24-11-06

In the afternoon of 23-11-06, the village headman Ntaja came to my house in the evening. I greeted him and he told me that I was chosen to be the secretary of the Muslim Association of Malawi which is in our village of Ntaja and Wysoni village.

That was the time when the Muslims were ready for the Ramadan of 9 days which they call Kurubani. The Headman told me that I should go to Vingula at Luka Mosque with my friends who are the committee members of that group.

We should all go to the Sheikh Yusuf to meet with him so that we should discuss about how we can find goats and cattle for our Mosques. 12 people went there to meet with the Sheikh since he was the one who wrote a letter to us to go there.

When we reached there we found that Sheik Yusuf was not there. He went to look for the goats for Quruban. We waited for him for a long time but he was nowhere to be seen. One of us Mr. Chingaza went to ask his wife about where the Sheikh went. She told him that he was told him that he was away to look for the goats for Kurubani but he knows that visitors will come to meet with him.

He has said that there is another sheikh who will talk with you failing which, you should go to Mphepo village to meet with another Sheikh therefore you should still be waiting for him.

Mr. Chingaza told us what he was told by Mrs. Sheikh Yusuf so that we agreed to wait for him. We stayed there up to 11:00 am so that we got tired. Mr. Chingaza asked Mr. Venyamulani to go to Mphepo to look for the Sheikh which Mrs. Yusuf talked about.

He went there and he did not find him. His wife told him that he has gone to Mazengela Mosque.

Mr. Venyamulani followed him at Mazengela Mosque but he did not find him [there] as well. He was told there that he has gone to Vingula for Dawa meeting. Then he came back and told us everything.

We agreed of waiting again until they meet and start their Dawa. We stayed there up to 3:00 pm but nobody came to meet with us. After some time, we saw Sheikh Binali Beda coming to see us. He greeted us and asked if we were the Sheikh Yusuf's visitors.

Mr. Chingaza told him that we received a letter yesterday calling us the Muslim Association Committee members of our village of Ntaja to come here and meet with Sheikh Yusuf.

Binali said yes. I have received the message from Sheikh Yusuf that I should tell you that you should go back to your homes. He asked you to come here only to tell you that the Muslim Association of Malawi has sent money for buying goats and cattle for Kurubani.

Now here at Vingula zone, there are many Mosques which are supposed to receive those livestock but Sheik Yusuf alone cannot manage to look for all those animals.

Because of that he has decided to ask all the committee members of all the Mosques in our zone to help him buying goats and cattle. Therefore he is asking people to be looking for the goats which must not be over than K2,000 and cattle which is not over K20,000.00 each.

You should be looking for those livestock and ask about the cost of that animal. Then you should come to tell the Sheikh that you have for the goats of cattle then you should come to report, the Sheikh will give you money for buying those animals.

He is not giving out cash to the people until they are sure that they have found it somewhere. When we heard that, all of us were not happy because goats for selling are [scarce]. We can find 2 goats here and maybe other two goats at Ntamba.

We can fail to find a cow here but we can find it in Mangochi. How can we come back to take money and go back there to buy again yet it is too far and people in these days are busy preparing their lands. Can we have that time? Why is he failing to give us money for buying those animals and tell us to come here with all the goats which we can buy and money if we have failed to buy other goats.

Sheikh Beda refused. He said that other people are not good. We are fearing that if we give you some money, you can accept to leave Malawi going elsewhere therefore things cannot be good.

Mr. Chingaza asked, we have heard that our fellow Muslims in other villages have received some money here to buy some goats. Why is it failing to us.

Why are you telling us to go and look for them without money yet you know that we cannot find goats at one house. We can find goats very far like at Ntamba even in Mangochi District.

But Beda refused. He said that other people are very clever. They don't use all the money which they are given by buying goats. They can buy few goats in order to have the remaining money.

That is why we need you to go and fetch for those goats then come with the owner of that goat to collect his money.

Mr. Chingaza said that he will wait for Sheikh Yusuf because he was the one who asked us to go there. Myself, I failed to wait for the sheik, I asked my friends to allow me leaving them because I had nothing at my home like relish and water.

I was coming back with Miss Chrisy and Miss Youngson.

At Mandawela, we met with Mr. Layisan he asked me to tell him where I was coming from. I told him that I went to the Mosque to meet with Sheikh Yusuf about Kurubani Programme. Have you received the money for buying goats? He asked.

I said no, they have told us that we should go and look for the goats then we should go there with the owners of those goats including the goats so that the owners should receive their money on their own from the sheikh.

How much money have they received to buy goats and cow here?

I don't know. I answered. Mr. Layisan said that they are doing that deliberately they were cattle. They were told that they should be buying goats for K3,000 each and cattle for K35,000 each.

But those people are telling people in other Mosques that they should be buying goats up to K2,000 each and cattle for K20,000 each. In addition to that, they are buying goats for K1,500 each and K17,000 each cow.

Which means that the other money will be for them. He added that there was a certain time last two months ago when I received a call from a certain Indian man in South Africa.

He was asking me about the cost of goats and cattle here in Malawi. I told him that it is K3,000 a goat and K35,000 a cow. Because of what I told him, they made their budget according to what I said.

But these people here would like to steal other money from that budget. They will lie to the owners that they bought goats at a price which they told them. The other problem is that, the people are wrong, they have taken the religion as their way of earning money.

Kurubani is the Sadaka which God told his people that they should kill the best animal which they love and depend on in their kola. The goat or cow should not have any problem. When buying goats or cattle, they should not ask the owner to sell them at a cheap price.

If they have said that their goat will start at a high price, just allow them and pay the money but these Sheikhs are doing the opposite. They need to buy those animals at a very low price so that the other money should be for them.

In these days, there is no religion but business, people would like to be rich through religion. If our fellow Muslims who are rich have sent money to help at the Mosque you shall find that those money will not do any job there.

The elders who have positions at that Mosque will just share those money and maybe other Muslim members will know nothing that some money came to help at their Mosque.

Those people have nothing at their God. What they would have earned from God is that they have already used here. I then said that I will not go there again even if they will call us again to take those money.

I cannot manage to go to a very far place like at Ntamba without money then tell the owner of a goat which I would like to buy to follow me at the sheikhs house to receive his money for his goat.

I cannot try to tell someone to give me his goat without money. If he was told to buy some goats for the other mosques, he will do it alone until he finishes that job. We left there and Mr. Layisan said bye to us.

THE END

24-11-2006

On the same day, when we were coming back from Vingula, I was with two friends. I was with Miss Chrisy and Miss Dalesi. On our way, Miss Dalesi was talking about a certain woman who has cost her marriage, Miss Chrisy is a sister in-law of Miss Dalesi. Miss Dalesi's late brother married Miss Chrisy. Since they are in-laws, they also chat together and share some secret stories.

Miss Dalesi said that being a prostitute is not a good thing. Many people especially women are losing their marriages because they don't get satisfied with what they have.

Because of that reasons, that is why AIDS is easily spread in our country. Miss Dalesi said that, I have experienced that many women like sex and not money. Many women do not like to stay without having sex for several days.

For example a certain woman at Chidziwitso has her husband in South Africa. He went there last year. But though he is there, he always sends goods and money to his wife for easy communication with her.

Her friends in the village were admiring her that her husband loves her and he is a good man because he was sending things and money to his wife oftenly as if he was here so that he was knowing her problems.

But what that woman has done is very shameful. She knew that her husband does everything for her and she lacks nothing but she fell in love with the village headman Matemia, the person who has nothing.

The village headman Matemia is just a headman but he is a poor person. Matemia has nothing at his house and he is a drunker man. When he is drunk, he don't respect himself. He mostly urinate and even his feces come out in his trousers.

His wife mostly complains that he is not good that his wife should be washing his feces like a child. But it has happened that someone who has a good husband in South Africa is having sex with Mr. Matemia. What happened for people to know that those people were in love? Miss Chrisy asked.

What happened was that Matemia has a phone number for that woman. He was mostly calling her talking with her. She firstly received a call from her husband telling her that he will be back in December. When she heard about that, she told her other sexual partner that her husband will be back soon in December.

Matemia agreed with her that they should meet at Vingula forest at a certain day at around 4 o'clock p.m

Unfortunately, the day for her agreement came and her brother in-law came to her house to chat with her. Since she knew that she had a journey going to meet with her other sexual partner, she was trying to finish all her job that she had at her house.

She asked her brother-in-law to wait for her because she was going to the bore hole to draw some water. She forgot that her other sexual partner can call her at any time.

She was just thinking that their agreement to meet at Vingula forest was enough. She left her phone with her brother in-law then she was going to the bore hole.

When she was away, the call came from her other sexual partner so that her brother in-law answered the call. The in-law asked, who are you talking with me at my phone? He asked. Matemia answered, its me Matemia, how are you today he answered deliberately that I am fine.

What is your problem my friend? He said I wanted to remind you about our agreement. Please do not Miss, you should come at the time that we agreed. At

what time should it be? He asked changing his voice to a woman voice. Matemia told him that it should be around 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

But before she departs, he will call her again so that she should know that he has gone there or not. They agreed and the brother in-law thanked him then stopped talking.

When his sister in-law came, he told her nothing he just thought of chatting with her until that 4 o'clock so that he should know how she can leave him going to her other sexual partner.

Another reason was to wait for the call so that Matemia should be known to him on that day. He stayed there up to that 4'clock and his sister in-law was not happy. She started to look like an ill person.

As soon as the time came, Mr. Matemia called his sexual partner so that the brother-in-law knew that something was happening. He wondered to see that the phone was just calling but the owner was failing to answer.

The brother in-law forced her to answer the phone so that the woman had nothing to do. She tried hard to answer the call Matemia asked her where are you? She said I am at home why asking me like that?

Matemia said I am Matemia I called for a long time but you did not answer me. Have you forgotten about 4'clock that we should meet at Vingula forest. Are you ready?

The woman failed to answer, she said that I don't know that I have talked with you about that journey. But her brother in-law answered. He said no, you should not refuse. That man is your other sexual partner. You agreed with him that you should meet today at Vingula Forest at around 4'clock.

Can you give me your phone? She gave him the phone then he added saying that, I would have gone home earlier at around 11 o'clock a.m but I wanted to see what will happen here today.

When you went to the well to draw some water, that man Matemia was calling you and I was the one receiving that call since you were away. He promised that he will call you before 4'clock in order to let you know that he has already gone to the place where you agreed to meet. He will be there waiting for you.

I have seen what you are doing with other men yet my brother is away. He is helping you in any way and he is loving you, you know that he will come very soon in this coming month, but what you are doing is very bad.

I am going home to tell my relatives about what has happened here. She started crying at the same time and she was telling her brother in-law that she knows nothing about that man.

Maybe he got her phone number from someone or that he made a mistake. It was a wrong call but she has no other sexual partner. But her brother-in-law refused.

He said that he cannot get what she was talking. What I know is that Mr. Matemia is your other sexual partner therefore I am going home to tell my relatives. Those people will know what to do with you.

He went to his home leaving her crying. He went to tell his relatives and he gave them the phone which he took from his sister in-law. The man's parents were very furious so that they told that man and other relatives to go there and take all the things which their child (son) was sending to her.

They went there to take everything apart from her clothes. But all other things like TV's, radios, bicycles, pots, plates, blankets, bed sheets and other things. They took all of those things waiting for her husband to hear about that story.

At the same day, he went to call his brother in South Africa and he told him everything on how he caught her red handed. The man has also said that they should take everything which he was sending to her including the phone.

They should just leave her with her clothes he sent for her to be putting on [wear] since she was the one cooking for him when he was here living together with her.

He has also added that he has no interest in talking with her again. If she has found another sexual partner it has shown to him that he was doing nothing to her. That man Matemia is the one who knows sex very well than him therefore he cannot compete with her.

He lastly told his relatives that they should allow that woman to get married to that village headman. I don't think that I can manage to continue that marriage [since] she has another sexual partner. I am soon coming there but I will just look for another woman to marry and leave her to continue with her new marriage.

Miss Chrisy answered very sorry and shameful indeed Mr. Matemia is not a good man to fall in love with. Look, she has lost her marriage because of sex only. It is true that many women need sex and not a good marriage.

That is the same as what Madiresi did. She knows that her husband will come very soon from South Africa and he is helping her but she was having sex with a man selling charcoal.

Can that man help her [like her] husband was doing? She has just killed her future. Though the village headman Ntaja told her that, you should be waiting for the owner of that marriage.

I was just laughing so that Miss Dalesi was furious. She asked me are you still laughing at what Madiresi has done? I said yes but I don't know what to do.

Then Miss Dalesi answered, can that help? If people are failing to control themselves from having sex with other men who are not their other sexual partners.

AIDS will be there until our death. Nobody will control nature and nobody will manage to avoid AIDS since [we] are failing to protect our own bodies. Nobody knows that we have no time to thank our husbands who are helping us. Of course there are other men who are mistreating their wives so that the woman can think of having another sexual partner in order to have a help from them. But there are other men who are very good.

Other women are enjoying this country because of their husbands. They just hear from other people that other men are very cruel and they don't help their wives. But you can see that those women do not depend on their husbands only yet they are lacking nothing.

That woman has lost her marriage yet her husband will come very soon to see her from South Africa.

Does her husband know that his wife was caught with a call by his young brother? I asked. Yes he was told on the same day about what she is doing so that her husband told his relatives to go and take all his goods except a phone and the woman's clothes.

But everything which he sent should be taken. It means that when he will be coming, he will not go to his wife first he will come to his relatives and stay there. He will be told everything he will just go to divorce her.

Miss Chrisy said that is okay since she has received a gift for what she was doing. Before she spreads disease to her husband and other men, people have known fast that she is a prostitute and to leave her is not wrong. We started laughing then we left there.

THE END

27-11-06.

Gift was with his young brother. They were going to Vingula to their shops to open since they ran their business there. They found me at my house shouting at my young son that he was doing silly Gift asked me.

Have you already initiated this son of yours or that you are waiting to have enough food this year? He asked me. I told him that I know nothing because this son is young and the other son is also very young.

I wanted to initiate them at the same time but that cannot happen. Michael is very rude yet he is the youngest son in my house. He cannot manage to respect his elder brother.

In addition to that, these two sons are very young they don't manage to bathe by themselves. I always bathe them. Now if I initiate them, who will be bathing them? I have other elder sons but they cannot accept to be bathing these two years.

When I shall see that Bowman has grown up so that he has started to bathe by himself, I will initiate him. Gift told me that though there is nobody to be bathing them, I should try my best to initiate them because initiation is now very good.

Many people even the Christians have known that initiation is very good especially Jando [Chiyao: circumcision/initiation]. Men who were circumcised are better than those who were not circumcised. Any sexually transmitted disease including AIDS can be easily protected by being circumcised.

You can see that in these days, even our President Bingu have agreed that circumcision is very important and that is why he has announced on a radio that all men should be circumcised.

A man who is not circumcised has a skin, which has covered his fore skin. It is that skin which keeps some diseases for a long time in their bodies if they are infected with them from their sexual partners. But those who are circumcised, are very lucky because they have no place to keep any disease when they have taken it from women.

There is no chance and no way for the person who is circumcised to keep a disease in his body at his fore skin. Do you mean to tell me that men who are circumcised cannot get infected with AIDS virus because they have no place keeping the virus? I asked.

He said no. A man who is circumcised can found infected with AIDS accidentally. If the virus has ran into his blood at the same time, He can get infected with AIDS. But if you are lucky that it hasn't entered in your body, you cannot get infected. But those who are not circumcised, these people have the whole chance of getting infected with AIDS.

These people have the place for keeping diseases and even the virus. They have no protector so that they can get any disease at any time. Bingu has said the truth that all the men in Malawi should be getting that circumcision and see how that disease will be spread in our country.

How about women, Do we have a certain way of protecting ourselves from getting infected with AIDS? He said no. If there is a certain method of protecting your bodies from getting infected with AIDS, that method will be out at any time.

The government will try to announce it at the radio so that women should be following that method. Okey but what you have said is not enough for me. I think through sperms, one can get infected with AIDS now both men who are circumcised and those who are not circumcised both of them have sperms which they release to their sexual partners through sex.

How can you protect there because other people are sure that any sexually transmitted disease is easily spread through sperms and blood. Every man has blood and sperms. Every man do release when having sex with a sexual partner. How can those sperms be protected from entering into the vagina.

Gift answered that everything which comes out from the man's body or a woman's body can be kept in a skin which a man who is not circumcised has. But for those who are well circumcised cannot meet with those problems easily.

Of course men who are circumcised can also get infected with AIDS or any other disease but not as easy as how the non circumcised men can be. Those who are not circumcised keep those diseases in their fore skins for a long time which means that the virus does multiply when they are kept there.

Circumcision is very important and it is needed. In addition to that those who are not circumcised will not enter into the paradise. If Jesus was circumcised why not a human being? Those who are not circumcised, will not meet with God. That is the word of God. We should know that.

I answered him that I have no words since you men are the ones who get circumcised and not women. I will try to let all my sons to be initiated so that they should protect themselves from getting AIDS, we left there.

THE END

30-11-06

I went to work at Touzeni CADECOM club with my friends. Other people were passing by where we were working and they started talking about us.

Those people were three men and the one who put on [wore] a blue shirt was laughing at us and he was telling his friends that look at those silly people. They have left jobs in their houses and they have come to work here yet what they will harvest there will be taken by the committee members only.

All other people there will just work for nothing. Only the village headman maybe will be given some of what they will harvest. The village headman Ntaja was there. She was asked to come with her husband to hear what the club members will be talking.

That woman heard what people who were passing by were talking and she let us all hear what she heard. At the same time the village headman answered. Those are non initiated men.

They are the Ngoni people from the hill areas. They know nothing. Can people leave their jobs in their houses for nothing. Those people are supposed to be initiated and know the good culture. In these days everyone should be initiated.

His wife answered, you are saying the truth. Last year, many men were initiated at Matemia and Khalima villages where many Ngoni people stay. What happened was that Sheikh Binali Beda had Dawa at Khalima where many people went.

THE END