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The carpenter came to maintain my house. He was putting iron sheets [on the] roof. Then [I] was asking him about Mrs. Gama the late. I asked him if Mrs. Gama is sick because I saw her as if she was sick. She was so weak that time I met with her.

He said that she was Mrs. Gama long ago before the death of her husband. When the bureaus were working. But now she is becoming thin and also weak Mrs. Gama is not sick but she is thinking more about her husband. "Did you know what happened after the funeral ceremony of her husband?" He asked me.

I said no.

"That is why you are asking," he said. He continued by saying that the relatives of her husband have taken everything which have belonged to their family. They have given her only two telephone bureaus and one house. But instead of thinking about the death of her husband she is living in a prostitute life. That is why she is becoming thin. And he is sure that she have got a virus of Aids.

Then I asked him about a disease [and] her husband.

He said that her husband have killed a man who have married his first wife. The man was coming from Mulanje District. What happened is that Mr. Gama married his first wife and their marriage divorced, so he married another wife (this wife) then his first wife got married to a certain man who was coming from Mulanje. Then Mr. Gama was feeling jealousy to him because he did not want that wife to get married with [the man from Mulanje]. So he told the man that if he is not leaving his wife, he will kill him. But [the] man was not paying any attention on what Mr. Gama was telling him.

So Mr. Gama went to a traditional doctor and [told] him that he must make medicine to kill a husband of his first wife. The traditional doctor tried his best but he failed. So Mr. Gama just wasted his money to give that traditional doctor.

But the second husband knew about it. Then he made his medicine to kill Mr. Gama so Mr. Gama felt sick for a short time and died. Some people were saying that he died because his friend have sent back the medicine which he wanted to kill his friend so his medicine have killed himself.

So people did not feel pity on his death, only his second wife. His relatives have taken everything because [she] did not bear a child with him. So they said that they will not

give her anything. She must get married to another husband and he will buy things for her and use them.

That is why she is making prostitution because she is thinking that maybe one of the men will marry her. But nowadays are becoming clever because they are asking their friends about ladies to marry, so they will not marry that lady. Those women who are not giving expectations for themselves they will not get married because [they] are selling their bodies.

Conversation No. 2.

Mrs. Janna was passing by my house. We greeted her and I asked her where she was coming from.

She said that she was coming from Admarc to buy maize. But she found that there is no maize at all, vendors have finished all maize which was there. So she was going home to ask her husband for a permission of buying maize from vendors.

Then a carpenter said that if she will buy maize from vendors she will not have another appetite of buying maize from vendors.

I asked why.

He said that because maize is too expensive from vendors. They buy one bag of maize at Admarc at a price of K850 and sell the same bag of maize at K1500 people are buying it because they don't have somewhere to buy food. They think that to stay with hunger at house, it is better to buy food at a high price. For the adults can stay but the young ones can not manage to stay with hunger. And this price of maize is better for the people who are working. But to those who are just staying in the villages it is difficult for them to catch up to this price.

Sometimes they do wake up early in the morning and take firewood they do ask for a piecework for that day at any house which is around Mwendo. When they will be returning back, they do buy food for that day only. And waiting for the food of tomorrow. God have made a secret thing for those poor people because I never heard that there is someone who have died with hunger.

But he do give them intelligence of getting food for their families. But those people do have big families to compare with the rich families. I don't know how go God have made this different. I said.

Mrs. Janna said that it is better for her because her husband is a fisherman so he do catch fish and sell it to people and took the money to buy food. And sometimes he do exchange fish with flour. So that is how they are surviving so we can see that there are different ways of getting food.

To me, I don't know what I can say because I do depend on my professor Susan Watkins.

Then Mrs. Janna said that I will be like a dog without my work. I must praise God for giving me this job I said that God must bless my professor Susan Watkins for telling me to write diaries for her because I do rely on her. Then a carpenter said to me that the spirits of my parents are on Susan so that she must take care of you as your parents.

You are enjoying the life as if you have got parents so you must know that you are staying with your parents although they have died. They do make security among you so that nobody can not do something wrong among you although you are only children at you compound. So you must pray hard for the spirits of your parents so that they should not turn their faces to see on the other side. But they must always see on you.

I said that it was true. Then Mrs. Janna departed and leave us there. She said that maybe she will use that road again when she will go to the market to buy maize from vendors because she did not have food at her home. We released her.