

COLLECTION OF 100 NYALA PROVERBS



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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my Grandfather Casper Blasio Okubo, the entire Africa Proverb working group Nairobi and all readers of African literature

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INTRODUCTION

ABANYALA PEOPLE OF KENYA, THEIR PROVERBS AND WISE SAYINGS

1.1 Identification and location

The Abanyala is a small dialect of larger luhya tribe (also known as Abaluyia or Luyia) is a Bantu ethnic group in Kenya. The whole luhya tribe numbers is about 5.3 million people, being about 16% of Kenya's total population of 38.5 million, and are the second-largest ethnic group in Kenya. The Nyala (also known as AvaNyala, AbaNyala or WaNyala) are one of the eighteen tribes of the Bantu ethnic group, the Luhya in Kenya. They number about 5.3 million people, being about 16% of Luhya's total population of 38.5 million, and are the second-largest ethnic group in Kenya. They speak the Olunyala dialect. Nyala refers to both the people and their language. The word Nyala means "clan", and Abaluhya (Abaluyia) thus means "people of the clan". They are located in the Western part of Kenya in Busia district bordering Uganda.

1.2 Culture background

Abanyala culture is comparable to most luyhas' cultural practices. They practice polygamy where one man had several wives in a home called "redala", but today, it is only practiced by few people, usually if the man marries under traditional African law or Muslim law. Civil marriages (conducted by government authorities) and Christian marriages preclude the possibility of polygamy. The political structure of the Abanyala was led by chief together with councils of elders. The father was the head of family unit

About 10 to 15 families traditionally made up a village, headed by a village headman (Omukasa). Oweliguru is a post colonial title for a village leader coined from the English word "Crew." Within a family, the man of the home was the ultimate authority, followed by his first-born son. In a polygamous family, the first wife held the most prestigious position among women. The first-born son of the first wife was usually the main heir to his father, even if he happened to be younger than his half-brothers from his father's other wives. Daughters had no permanent position in Luhya families as they would eventually become other men's wives. They did not inherit property and were excluded from decision-making meetings within the family. Today, girls are allowed to inherit property, in accordance with Kenyan law.

Children are named after the clan's ancestors, after their grandparents, after events, or the weather. Subsequent children may be named after maternal grandparents, after significant events, such as weather, seasons, etc. The name Wafula, for example, is given to a boy born during the rainy season (ifula). Wanjala is given to one born during famine (injala).

100 LUHYA ABANYALA PROVERBS: TRANSLATED INTO SWAHILI, FRENCH, ENGLISH EXPLANATION AND BIBLICAL PARALLELS.

1. Abafua bauma luchehe lwamalwa

Kiswahili: Wafu hawawezi kunywa pombe

French: Les morts ne peuvent plus boire la boisson.

English: The dead have no clear drinking straw.

Meaning: When a problem come it does not inform you prior to its arrival, but it comes when you are prepared for it.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 4:6-7

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

2. Achingokho chibocha orafuva obure

Kiswahili: Pale kuku hukusanyi kula usimuage mtama

French: La ou les poules se rassemblent pour se nourrir on ne jette pas millets

English: Where hens gather to feed you do not throw millets

Meaning: When you have a problem you do not need to tell every person about your problem especial where there are gossipers.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 16:28

“A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.”

3. Akavia kakhuanysivuanga mumasika

Kiswahili: Mazishi hutoa nafasi ya maridhiano

French: le deuil est une occasion de réconciliation.

English: A funeral avails the opportunity for reconciliation

Meaning: When a family is troubled and divided it takes a tragedy or a disaster to bring them together and to resolve their difference

Biblical parallel: Isaiah 53:5

“But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed”

4. Amatsi kauma mwoyo mubi

Kiswahili: Maji hayana ubagwuzi

French: L'eau ne fait pas de discrimination

English: Water does not discriminate

Meaning: You should not show favoritism among the people either by social, economic or any other prejudice in the community or society.

Biblical parallel: Acts 10:34

“So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality.”

5. Amadere kabiri kera indaa

Kiswahili: Kucha wawili huua chawa

French: Deux ongles tuent les poux.

English: Two figure nails crush a louse

Meaning: When people work together they can be able to solve the problem whoever big it may be compared to working alone.

Biblical parallel: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow”

6. Amanii kakho nikahurisia

Kiswahili: Nguvu yako ndio chanzo cha chakula chako

French: Ta force c'est ta source de nourriture

English: Your strength is your source of food

Meaning: What a man is talented or gifted by God is the source of his livelihood. Its upon him to put effect to be able to have a meal or less he will starve to death.

Biblical Parallel: Proverbs 6:9-10

“How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.”

7. Amachaii ni masiro khukhira machi

Kiswahili: Damu ni mzito kuliko maji

French: Le sang est plus épaisquel'eau

English: Blood is thicker than water

Meaning: Those who are of the same womb or related will always protect each other from their enemy even if they had a dispute among themselves.

Biblical parallel: Isaiah 54:17

“No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD and their vindication from me, declares the LORD.”

8. Amavua kabiri sikanyala khukhomana

Kiswahili: Miiiba miwili hawawezi kudungana

French: Deux épines ne peuvent pas se piquer

English: Two thorns don't usually prick each other

Meaning: People who have the same status, kind or tribe in the society rarely harm each other but mostly they harm those who are not of their type or kind

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 14:31

“He that oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.”

9. Amasika orainyia khuvera siomwene

Kiswahili: Usitoe machozi kwa kitu kisicho chako

French: Ne sort pas les larmes pour une chose qui ne t'appartiens pas.

English: Do not shed tear for what does not belong to you

Meaning: Do not claim ownership for something which is not your to an extent you can do anything evil or sinful thing to obtain it.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 3:13-14

“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

10. Ata ovemukesi orie, sonyala khueveka

Kiswahili: Hata huwe mwerevu vipi uwezi kajinyoa mwenyewe.

French: Même si vous été très intelligent vous ne pouvez pas vous raser

English: However clever you may be you cannot shave yourself

Meaning: As a person you cannot achieve everything alone, you need to work with others to achieve individual goals and community goal.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 27:17

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”

11. Ata mundu munyifu akasirikanga

Kiswahili: Ata mtu munyenyekevu hukasirika

French: Même l’homme le plus humble s’est fâché.

English: Even the humble ones kicks

Meaning: Everyone have their limits of patience. Sometimes those you thinking are the most humble and harmless can turn out to be the worst when they are offend.

Biblical parallel: Matthew 21:12

“And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.”

12. Bukonariaka burakuna liraka

Kiswahili: Bora ikae bila kupaliliwa badala yakutopandwa

French: C’est mieux de ne pas sarclé que d’avoir semé.

English: Better it stay unwedded than unplanted

Meaning: Its better you do something small to get a livelihood than not trying or doing anything at all.

Biblical parallel: Colossians 3:23

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,”

13. Busara obusamba mwana burechangakho olububi

Kiswahili: Uji huchoma moto ukimdanganya umepoa

French: La bouillie ne brûle l’enfant que lorsqu’on lui trompe que s’est déjà refroidit.

English: The porridge that burns the child deceives him by forming a coat

Meaning: The person who intend to harm you will always present himself or herself as your friend but in the end they destroy you or make you sin.

Biblical parallel: 1 Peter 5:8

“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

14. Changa na avasio nuwenya osherekea navasio

Kiswahili: Toa mchango kama unataka kufurahia maisha na rafiki wako

French: Faites une contribution si vous voulez vous réjouir avec vos amis.

English: Make a contribution if you want to enjoy life with your friends.

Meaning: No man can live alone, you need family and friends who you depend on and who also depend on you when they are in need.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 17:17

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.”

15. Esiobolanga nende esiokholanga nebiavakhuyasia navyo

Kiswahili: Ukifanyacho na ukisemacho ndio utahukumiwa nacho.

French: Tu seras jugé par se que tu fais et par se que tu dis.

English: What you say and do is what you will be judged with

Meaning: People will always know the kind of person by what you are by you deed and what you say. If you do well then that’s how you will be remembered and vice versa

Biblical parallel: John 7:24

“Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”

16. Emiandu kiringari lume, unyalaokosia

Kiswahili: Utajiri ni kama umande, unaweza kuyeyuka wakati wowote

French: La richesse est comme la rosée, elle peut à tout moment s’évaporer

English: Riches are like dew, they can evaporate anytime

Meaning: You should not boast about your riches and oppress others using what you have, you may have riches and the next moment you don’t. You should use what you have for good.

Biblical Parallel: Proverb 18:11, Job

“A stingy man hastens after wealth and does not know that poverty will come upon him.”

17. Eriuba risichiambo rikola msiani myakona ruanyi,

Kiswahili: Joto la jioni lamfanya kijana mdogo kulala nje kwa baridi

French: La chaleur du soir fait que les jeunes gens dorment dans le froid.

English: The warmth of the dusk makes a young man sleep in the cold

Meaning: What you may think is better or good for you may end up being the worst decision taken.

Biblical parallel: Galatians 6:7-8

“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

18. Esikhiraimbwa okhuria nesilulu

Kiswahili: Kileambacho umbwaanashindwakula kina sumu

French: c’est qu’un chien ne mange pas doit être poison.

English: What a dog won’t eat must be poisonous

Meaning: Everything that the elders and the community are against must be something dangerous, as a child you should always follow the customs and traditions of the community.

Biblical parallel: 1 Peter 3:10

“For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;”

19. Esiduyu sikofule sinunisibwanga nende omwana kwayo

Kiswahili: Sungura mzee hulishwa na watoto wake

French: Un vieux lapin est nourrit par ses lapereaux

English: An old rabbit feeds from its offspring

Meaning: Parents when they get old they become dependent on their children for support and livelihood.

Biblical parallel: 1 Timothy 5:8

“But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

20. Esilari esiao orenarisia

Kiswahili: Usizoe vitu za wengine

French: Ne t’habitue pas à des choses d’autrui.

English: Don’t get accustomed to other peoples things

Meaning: Always be contented with what you have, do not always envy other people things and life.

Biblical parallel: 1 Timothy 6:6-8

“Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.”

21. Esiori nasio mumakhono kao ne esiao

Kiswahili: Ulichu nacho mkononi mwako ndicho chako

French: C'est-ce que tu a dans tes mains qui est à toi.

English: What you have laid your hands on is what is yours

Meaning: Consider what you have as your own, do not count what you are planning to have before you do because it might not materialize.

Biblical parallel: Hebrews 13:5

“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

22. Esirukha siong'one silola sinyala chimbiro

Kiswahili: Kikimbiacho peke yake huona ni bora sana

French: C'est ce qui court de soi, est aperçu comme meilleure.

English: That which runs alone claims to be a good runner

Meaning: When you do something alone, you always consider yourself as the best in the activity you are doing which in most cases it is not true.

Biblical parallel: James 4:16

“As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.”

23. Esioraka nisio esiokesa

Kiswahili: Utavuna ulichokipanda

French: On ne récolte que se que l'on a semé.

English: You harvest what you plant

Meaning: Your action will determine what kind of person you are and how others perceive you. If your actions are good then result of the same will be good and vice versa

Biblical parallel: Galatians 6:7

“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.”

24. Esio mukhulundu alola niyekhare, omusiani sanyala yalola niyemere

Kiswahili: Akionacho mzee wa kamo kama amekaa, kijana mdogo hawezi kuona akiwa ameketi

French: c'est qu'un vieux peut voir étant assis, un jeune ne peut pas étant assis.

English: What an elder see while sitting a young boy may not see while standing

Meaning: Those who are older than us always are more wisdom than us, they have experience in life and when they advise we should be able to listen if we do not want to find ourselves in problems.

Biblical Parallel: Proverbs 1:8

"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching."

25. Esiakhira imbachi muyakanio kwakwisia

Kiswahili: Chochote kimeshinda shoka upepo ndio utakiangusha chini

French: Tout ce qui a résisté à la hache le vent le fera tomber.

English: Whatever has defeated the axe the wind will blow down

Meaning: As a child you should follow your parents' instructions, those who refuse purporting to know more than their parents and continue on the wrong path at the end They are taught by the world.

Biblical parallel: Mark 10:27

"Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

26. Esiri sivi sifukwangwa; ata ingokho simiranga lisa.

Kiswahili: Chochote kibaya lazima kitemwe nje; hata kuku hutema dudu makamasi

French: Tout ce qui ne pas bon doit être vomi, la poule aussi vomi les insectes qui ont la morve.

English: Whatever is bad must be spat out; not even the hen swallows caterpillar

Meaning: You should always talk against the evil in the family or community without covering it up.

Biblical parallel: Titus 1:10-11

"For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not teach for the sake of sordid gain."

27. Esibi siburire sirakhweholakho.

Kiswahili: Mabaya nivizuri kuyasikia tu siyakufanyikie

French: C'est bien d'entendre parler du malheur, mais pas le connaître.

English: Misfortune should only be heard of but not experienced.

Meaning: Death and calamities are things that you should not wish on someone because when they happen to you, it's a worst experience.

Biblical parallel: Matthew 24:21-22

"For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short."

28. Esifunurwe nomukhasisonyalaorianamayino

Kiswahili: Kilicholetwanamwanamkehuwezikulakwaamani.

French: C'est que la femme a gagné vous ne pouvez pas le manger en paix.

English: What a woman has earned you will not eat it in peace.

Meaning: As a man it's your responsibility to provide for the family. If you let your wife provide for the family, she will keep reminding you and never leave you be in peace until you take up your responsibility as a man.

Biblical parallel: Job 1:20-22

"Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong."

29. Esani yorekere niyekwikusia

Kiswahili: Sahani ambaye umeidharau inaweza hatimaye kukuridhisha mahitaji yako

French: Le plat que vous méprisez peut éventuellement répondre à vos besoins

English: The dish that you despise may eventually satisfy your needs

Meaning: You should carry and respect everyone despite their social and economic status in the community, because one day they may be the only solution to your problem.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 107:9

"For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things."

30. Ibevva ifwichanga mumutengo kweyasio

Kiswahili: Panya hufa kwa mtego wa wenzake

French: Le rat meurt sur le piège des autres.

English: The rat dies on the trap of the others.

Meaning: Sometimes the innocents are caught up in the fight which they have no knowledge off and they end up being the one punished for the mistakes which are not theirs.

Biblical parallel: Exodus 12:29

“At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock.”

31. Imbwa sirulanga ayayinyia sikumba

Kiswahili: Mbwa haiondoki mahali ambapo ilichukua mfupa

French: Un chien ne quitte pas là où il avait pris l’os.

English: A dog does not leave where it picked a bone

Meaning: Where you work or can be able to get a source of income and provide for your needs is where you stay

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 14:23

“In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty.”

32. Imbwa isokonyalanga nga ngyinaa

Kiswahili: Mbwa huchuchuma kama mama yake

French: Un chien aboie comme sa mère

English: A dog squats like its mother

Meaning: As God creation we are all born in the likeness of our kind, having all the features and resembles of our kind.

Biblical parallel: Genesis 1:26

“Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

33. Imbongo inyasiinga nisakula obukonero nirabwao

Kiswahili: Kulungu kike huharibu manyoa zake kabla ya kuondoka

French: la femelle du cerf détruit sa tanière avant de partir.

English: The female deer destroy its lair before departing

Meaning: When a person does something wrong like stealing from the community members, a thief always destroy any evidence that may lead to him.

Biblical parallel: 1 John 3:4

“Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.”

34. Imbwa sisamanga nirakhuyurwe

Kiswahili: Mbwa habweki bila sababu

French: Un chien n’aboie pas sans raison

English: A dog does not bark without a reason

Meaning: You cannot find a grown up or a wise person quarrel or making noise for nothing. There must be a genuine reason for him/her to do so.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 10:19

“When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.”

35. Indawukhi yahuyanga mabere, bulano ikhuya ebichaku

Kiswahili: Fimbo ambayo iliyutumiwa kupiga mtama sasa yapiga takataka

French: Le bâton qui était utilisé pour battre le petit de la vache, est utilisé pour la saleté.

English: The walking stick which used to trash finger-millet now trashes chaff

Meaning: In life you may be a respected member of the community in a certain period of your life, but because of one thing or the other you may lose that and end up being the ridicule of the community.

Biblical parallel: Hebrews 6:4-5

“For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away”

36. Indamu eyadikhe siekhuanyaga da

Kiswahili: Nyungu iliyovunjika hajitengenezi

French: Une cruche casse ne peut être réparée.

English: A broken clay pot or plate does not become whole again

Meaning: When things happen or reaches an end you may not be able to control them like death or a girl getting pregnant outside wedlock.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 3:1-2

“A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son. O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God.”

37. Indamu yadikhanga khumuriangiro

Kiswahili: Nyungu huvunjikia mlangoni

French: La cruche ne se casse qu’à la porte

English: The pot breaks at the door

Meaning: You can have plans to do something but they may go bad the last minute.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 16:3

“Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”

38. Indofu nikhufumamira nikhonoinyeka

Kiswahili: Tembo hutusiwa kama ashapita

French: On n’insulte l’éléphant qu’après son passage.

English: An elephant is only abused when it turns away

Meaning: Do not compare wits or strength with someone who is bigger than you. Always avoid confrontation with such because you may end up being harmed or destroyed in the process.

Biblical parallel: Hebrews 13:17

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.”

39. India yera vana vyeriyoni.

Kiswahili: Kukula sana huua vifaranga vya ndege

French: Les petits oiseaux meurent en mangeant excessivement.

English: Overfeeding killed the bird’s chicks

Meaning: Do not overdo something because when you do it loses its meaning and it may lead to a negative result.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 25:27

“It is not good to eat much honey, nor is it glorious to seek one’s own glory.”

40. Indukhulusi ya machi yakwisia obulalo

Kiswahili: Usugu wa maji huondoa daraja

French: La persistance de l'eau emporte le pont

English: The persistence of the water washes away the bridge

Meaning: When you are consistent and determined to achieving your goals and you put more effort at the end you will achieve what you want.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 2:14-15

“Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world”

41. Ing’obe yabeene okhera noringa esiribwa

Kiswahili: Ukikamua ng’ombe ya wenyewe huwe ukiangalia langoni

French: Tu extrais la vache de quelqu'untout en regardant à la porte.

English: You milk someone’s cow while watching the gate

Meaning: If the activity or an action you are undertaking is not good, then you should always look over your shoulder because you may be caught any time.

Biblical parallel: Jude 1:7

“Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire”

42. In’gombe ikhuyani ichakanga mulutoro

Kiswahili: Ng'ombe bingwa huanzia kuonyesha utotoni.

French: Un taureau fort se fait voir dès la naissance.

English: A champion bull start from birth.

Meaning: A child who is destined to be a great person in life always shows while they are still young. They show their potential and capability at an early age.

Biblical parallel: Romans 1:20

“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse”

43. Ing'ombe siamala obunyasi obwosi khunyanga.

Kiswahili: Ng'ombe haiwezi kumaliza nyasi zote kwa siku moja

French: Un évache ne peut pas terminer tout l'herbe dans une journée

English: A cow cannot finish all grass in a day.

Meaning: Life is a journey and when you work you cannot achieve all your missions within one day but undertake steps bit by bit to achieve it.

Biblical parallel: John 14:6

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”

44. Ing'u yaborera olwanda, khata onyire khunyerekho.

Kiswahili: Fisi aliambia jiwe ,hatakamaweweumeamua kukimya , mimi nimekunyia juu yako.

French: L'hyène a dit à la pierre qu'elle se mettra sur elle car la pierre est trop calme.

English: The hyena said to the stone, even if you chose to remain silent, I have excreted on you

Meaning: You need to be a person of your own principles and stand with them, saying what exactly what you believe in and not to impressing anyone. Always stand and fight for what you believe is right even if the mass is saying or doing otherwise.

Biblical parallel: 2 Thessalonians 3:6

“Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us”

45. Ing'okho isakulanga riloba khubera vana vaye.

Kiswahili: Kila kuku huchimbaardhini kulisha kifaranga chake

French: Chaque poule gratter le sol pour ses poussins

English: Every hen will scratch the ground for its chicks

Meaning: Every parent will do everything to ensure their children are feed and protect from the enemy that may harm them.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 91:1-2

“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence”

46. Ing'we iranga imbusi yomudakha

Kiswahili: Chui mara nyingi huua mbuzi ya maskini

French: Le léopard dévore souvent la chèvre d'un pauvre.

English: A leopard often takes a poor man's goat.

Meaning: Those who are poor are mostly the one who are targeted and oppressed by those who are rich. Their valuables are taken away from them just because they cannot defend themselves.

Biblical Parallel: Proverbs 14:21

“Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.”

47. Khola olole

Kiswahili: Kua uone

French: Lorsque tu grandis tu es entrain de voir.

English: Grow up and see.

Meaning: There are things which cannot be explained but you need to experience them in life to know.

Biblical Parallel: Proverbs 22:6

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it”

48. Lekha khulomaloma ka rioni mundalo ya madimwa

Kiswahili: Usipige domo kama ndege aliye kwenye shamba la maindi.

French: Ne claques pas la bouche comme l'oiseau qui est dans le champ des maïs.

English: Do not chatter noisily like a weaver-bird on the maize corn field

Meaning: Always mind what you say, let what you say be something which is constructive and not that which is destructive.

Biblical parallel: Ephesians 4:29

“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear”

49. Machai karulanga asalakwe

Kiswahili: Damu hutoka kwasababu ya kukatwa (huwezi kuwa na damu bila kukatwa)

French: On ne saigne que lorsqu'on est blessé.

English: Blood flows from a cut (you cannot have blood flow without being cut)

Meaning: For every event that occurs, happiness or disagreement in the family or community there must be a beginning for it. Everything has causes which come to show in the latter stage.

Biblical Parallel: Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

50. Mayoni akafwanana kaburukhanga khulala

Kiswahili: Ndege ambazo ni sawa hupaa pamoja

French: Les oiseaux de la même espèce volent ensemble

English: Birds that are similar fly together

Meaning: people of the same characters and interest are more likely to be seen together than those who don't share the same characters or interests.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 12:26

“One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray”

51. Muhaye wowasio sanyalakhukhumala likwe khumukongo

Kiswahili: Mke wantu mwingine hata akuwe mremebo, hawezi kuosha uchafu wote juu ya mgongo wako

French: La femme de quelqu'un ne peut pas laver le dos d'un autre homme.

English: Another man's wife however pretty she is, cannot wash all the dirt on your back

Meaning: It is important as a man to be contented with your wife. Admiring another man's wife will always lead you to committing a sin.

Biblical Parallel: Matthew 6:33-34

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own”

52. Mukonyi waamachi nioburiranga vivi nikanyaswivua

Kiswahili: Mtu ambaye hutafuta maji huwana wasiwasi zaidi yakiharibiwa.

French: La personne qui va chercher l'eau est agitée, lorsqu'on Sali l'eau.

English: The person who fetches water is more troubled when it's wasted

Meaning: The people who use his effort and energy to obtain something always does not feel well when it is misused by the person who do not know what it takes to obtain it.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 39:4-5

“LORD, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered—how fleeting my life is. You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you; at best, each of us is but a breath.”

53. Mundu samanyanga inyanga yaye yofua

Kiswahili: Akuna ajuae siku yake ya kufa

French: Personne ne peut prédire le jour de son décès.

English: You can never tell the day of your death

Meaning: We are all uncertain of tomorrow, live every day and make it count like it was your last. Will live only by the grace and will of God and we can be taken any time.

Biblical Parallel: Romans 11:6

“But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace”

54. Mundu mkara akovanga ngeni euanya waye

Kiswahili: Mtu mvivu hupenleka nyumbani samaki aliyeoza

French: Un paresseux ne ramène à la maison qu’un poisson pourri

English: The lazy one takes home a rotten fish

Meaning: People who are lazy in the community end up the last in everything. They usually beg for meals and they mostly get spoilt or left-overs

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 13:4

“The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied.”

55. Mundu mrema achekhanga khukulu khuwasio

Kiswahili: Mlemavu huchekelea ulemavu wa rafikie

French: Un infirme s’est moqué de l’infirmité de son ami.

English: One with unshapely leg ridicules the unshapely leg of his friend

Meaning: You should not be quick to judge other people’s action without assessing your actions first. We should always try to amend our own mistakes before we judge our brothers or friends.

Biblical Parallel: Matthew 7:1-2

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you”

56. Mundu orenyala novechanga owamberi okhefumia

Kiswahili: Mtu ambaye hawezi huwa wakwanza kujivunia

French: celui qui est incapable est le premier à se vanter.

English: The person who is unable may be the first one to boast

Meaning: The person who gives tales of him being the great person in war mostly turns out to be the coward. You should always wait for others to praise and tell of your bravery.

Biblical parallel: Jeremiah 9:23

“Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches”

57. Mundu wefumia mwene arima khungira

Kiswahili: Mtu anayejisifu mwenyewe ni kamaaliyepanda njiani

French: Celui qui se loue est comme le cultivateur qui sèmesur la route.

English: He who praise himself cultivate on the road

Meaning: To know the kind of person you are let your family and friends tell you. If a person evaluates himself in most cases he gives a decision which is biased favoring them.

Biblical Parallel: 2 Corinthians 10:12-13

“Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.”

58. Mundu owefumia vululu yarukhanga ngochofwa

Kiswahili: Anayejigamba kuwa shuja hukimbia kukiwa na shida

French: Il s’est vanté être brave lors des difficultés il s’enfuit.

English: He who boasts of bravery runs a race of his lifetime

Meaning: Those people who always boast do not mostly live to the expectation of their claim. They lose the respected that they had from others because of bragging.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 25:14

“Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give”

59. Nasaye akhonyanga owekhonya mwene

Kiswahili: Mungu humsaidia ajisaidiaye mwenyewe

French: Dieu aide celui qui s'aide.

English: God helps he who helps himself

Meaning: To be able to ask others to assist you solve a problem, you need to show interest by starting to do so or show effort by using what you have to solve the problem.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 4:13

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me"

60. Nevilayi okhuria vidongere via madimwa khuhira okona injala

Kiswahili: Afathali kula mabakio ya maindi kuliko kulala njaa

French: Mieux se nourrir du reste des maïs que de dormir affame.

English: Better to feed on the husky maize meal than to sleep hungry

Meaning: You should always appreciate the little you have and stop complaining all the time because others wish they had that little that you have.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 4:19

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus"

61. Ngira siboreranga mkendi esiri imberi

Kiswahili: Njia haimwonyi mtembeaji kilicho mbele

French: La route ne met jamais en garde le promeneur, c'est ce qui est devant lui.

English: The road does not fore-warn the traveler

Meaning: When you choice a certain direction in life, you usually do not know what lies ahead. Every decision that you make is very important to your future. It's therefore important to make the right decision so that you do not regret later in life.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 16:33

"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord"

62. Nivilaye khukosia mwikho wao khuhira huvaa nende injala

Kiswahili: Afathali kupoteza mtu wa karibu kuliko kuwa na njaa

French: Mieux vaud perdre un proche que de mourir avec la famine.

English: Better lose a dear relative than suffering an outbreak of famine

Meaning: It is better to have a problem which will affect you only for a while than having a problem which will be long and devastating to you or to the community.

Biblical Parallel: Ephesians 5:25

“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her”

63. Niwenya huria esitaki siangombe ira yao

Kiswahili: Ukitaka kula sehemu bora ya ngombe ua wako

French: Si vous voulez manger la meilleure partie de la vache, tue pour toi seul.

English: If you want to eat the best part of the cow, kill your own

Meaning: If you want best thing in life, it is upon you to work hard on your own to obtain them but not let others to it for you. They will always get the best and bring you remains.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 6:6-8

“Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.”

64. Nokisa ingu inakhuria

Kiswahili: Ukimficha fisi mwishowe atakukula wewe

French: Lorsque tu cache quelque chose a l’hyène, finalement elle te dévorera.

English: If you hide a hyena it may eat you in the due course

Meaning: Bad habits or characters need to be condemned with intensity it require, if left unchecked it will come to destroy the same people who protected it.

Biblical parallel: Leviticus 20:13

“If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them”

65. Nowenya okhumanya mundu, chianaye khulukendo.

Kiswahili: Ukitaka kujua tabia za mto, nenda nayeye safarini.

French: Si vous voulez connaître l’habitude de quelqu’un voyager avec lui.

English: If you want to know someone, go with him on a journey.

Meaning: Do not judge a person by their appearance or you first encounter with them, but take time to know their personality and character before you judge of who you think they are.

Biblical parallel: Romans 14:12-13

“So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother”

66. Noboola ochia okhikula muriangiro, ikurira orio.

Kiswahili: Ukiamka kufungua mlango, basi itabidi ufungulie aliye mlangoni.

French: Si vous répondez à la porte, vous devez ouvrir pour celui qui frappe

English: If you answer the door you should open for the one who knocks.

Meaning: When you decide and start to do something, you should not quit on the way but see that it is done to the end.

Biblical parallel: 2 Timothy 1:12

“This is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me”

67. Nolonda esiingokho iria siwarie ingokho

Kiswahili: Ukifwatilia alacho kuku bila shaka hutamla kuku.

French: Si tu poursuis ce que la poule picore, sans doute tu mangeras la poule.

English: If you pay attention to what chickens eat you will never eat a chicken

Meaning: In life when you decide to do something do not listen to what other people are saying that you cannot do it. If you have the confidence that you can do it, go ahead and do it.

Biblical parallel: 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things”

68. Okenda no mwivi avecha mwivi

Kiswahili: Ukitembea na mwizi, utakua mwizi

French: Si tu marches avec un voleur tu seras aussi voleur.

English: If you walk with the thief you may end up being a thief.

Meaning: Your friends that you spend a lot of time with will definitely influence the way you think and behave.

Biblical Parallel: Proverbs 13:20

“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm”

69. Oburere sibumanyanga omwami

Kiswahili: Kuteleza hakumtambui mfalme

French: Le sol glissant ne reconnaît pas un roi.

English: Slippery grounds does not recognize a king

Meaning: The environment does not discriminate and it takes everyone equal. It does not care about your social or economic status, it treats everyone equal.

Biblical parallel: Acts 10:34

“So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality”

70. Obwaro kukwichango mumakoba

Kiswahili: Mashua huanguka ufuoni

French: Le bateau chavire au moment où il se rapproche de la rive

English: The boat capsizes just when it approaches the shore.

Meaning: Sometime you may do something with due diligence from very beginning. With that energy you started with you should finish with it because sometimes this go wrong when you are almost making you not to achieve you goal. The evil always come when you start to tire.

Biblical parallel: Revelation 2:23

“And I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works”

71. Obulirara saboreranga arekere mayoni khumulilo

Kiswahili: Mtegaji ndege hafayi kusema pale mitege zake ziko

French: Un oiseleur ne doit pas révéler le lieu où il a piégé.

English: A bird trapper should not reveal the secret by the fire place.

Meaning: You should not tell everyone your secret to your work or source of livelihood because they may use it to drive you out and live you without any source of livelihood.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 29:20

“Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him”

72. Obulala bwalwanga omuchela kuli

Kiswahili: Daraja huwekwa mahali kuna muto.

French: Un pont n'est construit que là où il ya une rivière

English: A bridge is laid where there is a river

Meaning: For any forgiveness or reconciliation to take place, there must have been a disagreement between two people or groups in the community.

Biblical parallel: Ephesians 4:32

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you”

73. Okhumba khurihere sihurisia in'gombe khun'gwa machi.

Kiswahili: Kufura kwa chura akumzui ngombe kunywa maji.

French: Une grenouille qui enflée ne peut pas empêcher la vache de boire l'eau.

English: A swollen frog does not prevent the cow from drinking water.

Meaning: If you know you are doing the right thing, do not listen to critics of those who do not want you to achieve your goal because they cannot stop you.

Biblical parallel: Ezekiel 3:19-210

“But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die for his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. Again, if a righteous person turns from his righteousness and commits injustice, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die”

74. Okisa amalwaye kalolokhanaga narira

Kiswahili: Anayeficha magonjwa, hufichuliwa na kilio

French: Celui qui cache sa maladie se révélera par des pleurs.

English: He who hides diseases will be revealed by weeping

Meaning: Everything that you do in darkness or secret, in the end or one day they will be revealed for everyone to see.

Biblical parallel: Luke 12:3

“Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetop”

75. Okona mpaka ichuri yera rarangene

Kiswahili: Alalae hadi usubuhi huua babaye

French: Quiconque dort jusqu'au matin tue son père

English: He who sleeps till morning kills his father

Meaning: Every father always wants to be proud of their son. If a son is involved in bad behavior or don't conform to the community norms, he becomes an embarrassment to his father and family.

Biblical Parallel: 17: 1-2

“Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife. A servant who deals wisely will rule over a son who acts shamefully and will share the inheritance as one of the brothers”

76. Okwibula khuhira okhunja

Kiswahili: Kuza kunashinda kunia

French: Donner naissance est mieux que d'excréter

English: To give birth is better than to excrete

Meaning: When you have children, they become a source of pride and will assist you when you are not able to provide for yourself. Being a new creature and turning from bad to good is always something to celebrate about.

Biblical parallel: Acts 2:38

“And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”

77. Olumkhwilwo renja noloohusamba

Kiswahili: Kuni utafutayo ndiyo hukuchoma

French: Le bois de feu que tu cherche, est celui qui te brûle.

English: The fire wood you fetch is the one that burns you

Meaning: If you don't correct your child when they misbehave, and defend them when they do bad, one day they will turn on you and embarrass you in front of your guest.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 13:24

“Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him”

78. Olukhanyaa omwene okhanywe nende vandi

Kiswahili: Ji heshimu mwenyewe uheshimiwe na wengine

French: Respecte toi et les autres vont te respecté.

English: Self-respect breeds respect from others.

Meaning: For other members of the community to hold in high esteem, as an individual you need to do the same. What you do and what you say will be gauged by others on how to deal with you.

Biblical parallel: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body”

79. Olusala olwambiniorukhuyanga injukha

Kiswahili: Fimbo iliyo mkono ni ndio hutimia kuua nyoka

French: c’est le bâton qui est dans ta main qui est utilisé pour tuer un serpent.

English: The stick in hand is what you use to kill a snake.

Meaning: To achieve your goals in life, do not think so much about what you don’t have but use what you have to get what you want in life.

Biblical parallel: Malachi 3:10

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need”

80. Olurimi lwoserera silwodekhia khava

Kiswahili: Lugha ya kuchumbiana sio kama lugha ya ndoa.

French: Le langage des fiançailles ne pas le même que celui dans le mariage.

English: The language of courtship is not the same as the language in marriage

Meaning: The strategies and ways you use to acquire something is not the same strategy you use to maintain it.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 18:22

“He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord”

81. Omuriro kwa machanga okuorera aree

Kiswahili: Moto mkali ni vizuri uuote kutoka mbali.

French: On se chauffe à distance lorsque c’est un grand feu.

English: A fierce fire is best basking from a distance

Meaning: It is important you avoid people who cannot control their anger because you may be hurt if you are in their way.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 37:8

“Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil”

82. Omwana okenda muno akhira ngina makesi

Kiswahili: Mtoto atembea sehemu mingi hushida mamaye akili.

French: Un enfant qui voyage surpasse en sagesse sa mère

English: A child who travels surpasses the mother’s wisdom.

Meaning: Children are usually in better circumstance and privileged than their parent, thus they are likely to know more than their parents.

Biblical parallel: Ecclesiastes 4:13

“Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice”

83. Omwana achichanga ayainia obwoba.

Kiswahili: Mtoto huzuru mara kwa mara mahali alipata uyoga

French: l’enfant ne fréquente que l’endroit où il a déraciné un champignon

English: A child frequents a spot where he uprooted a mushroom

Meaning: You should always safeguard and put effort in your place of work where you get your daily bread.

Biblical parallel: 1 Corinthians 10:31

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God”

84. Omwana niekure ari “ Papa husambe esiaeki”

Kiswahili: Mtoto akisha shiba humwambia mzazi wachome mahali pakueka chakula.

French: Lorsque l’enfant est rassasié, il dit à ses parents de brûler le grenier”

English: A child having eaten enough say, ” Father, mother lets burn the granary”

Meaning: When we are in need that is when beg for what we need, but after we obtain what we want we do not see with any value our provider. When we are in trouble we always turn to God and pray for our needs, we always want gains of the flesh and forget when we become comfortable after He provide us with what we need.

Biblical parallel: Ephesians 2:3

“Among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.”

85. Omwana mufuiri yesimirisia atanimuluma

Kiswahili: Mtoto yatima huvumilia atakiwa na njaa

French: Un orphelin a toujours persévéré, même lorsqu'il est affame.

English: An orphan always persevere even when hungry

Meaning: Sometimes life is unfair, you need to struggle and keep trying when things are not good till they change for the better.

Biblical parallel: Job 29:12

“Because I delivered the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to help him”

86. Oraavula indamu yao humukeni ovira

Kiswahili: Usivunje chungu chako cha kupika kwa sababu ya mgeni anayepita.

French: Ne casse pas la casserole pour un visiteur qui passe.

English: Do not break your cooking pot for the passing guest

Meaning: You should always accord your guest the hospitality they deceive, but do not overstretch yourself to impress your guest who may not value your effort at all. This may live you in the worst state than you were before he came.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 2:3

“Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves”

87. Orabulila malako ka vakhongo vaye achichanga avyi

Kiswahili: Asiyeskiza maagizo ya wazee mwishowe upotea

French: Celui qui refuse d'entendre les conseils des anciens est perdu.

English: He who refuses elders advice hunts with the crooks

Meaning: As a child if you do not heed to the teaching given by your parents, you will find yourself in bad situation like being jailed.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 10:23

“Doing wrong is like a joke to a fool, but wisdom is pleasure to a man of understanding”

88. Orachia ruanyi okonya mukhaye adekhianga abwe.

Kiswahili: Asiyetafuta mke nje ya ukoo wake huoa toka kwao

French: Celui qui ne cherche pas une femme hors de son domicile, se mariera à son domicile

English: He who does not venture out marry from his home

Meaning: If you do not work hard in life then you will always just be contented with the little or nothing and you may not live to our potential.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 6:10-12

“A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man. A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech”

89. Orahamanga nende mukhongo wao

Kiswahili: Usishindane na mkubwa wako

French: Ne te concurrence pas avec un supérieur.

English: Do not compete with your superior

Meaning: A child should be obedient and follow instruction from those who came before because they know and have seen more than it. Those who don't follow instructions most of the time find themselves in a bad place.

Biblical parallel: Deuteronomy 4:39-40

“Know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. Therefore you shall keep his statutes and his commandments, which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time.”

90. Oramenya siorererua nisioria

Kiswahili: Mahali umealikwa ugenini, kifungua kinywa si lazima.

French: là où on est invite on n'ouvre pas sa bouche.

English: Where you are a guest breakfast is not a right

Meaning: When you are in a new place, you should not expect things to be the same as you know it, you should accept changes, live and what they do without contradiction.

Biblical parallel: Ecclesiastes 7:9

“Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools”

91. Orari na vekho avechangi nende vecha

Kiswahili: Asiyekua na wa kwao ukimbilia rafiki

French: Celui qui n'a pas un familier se précipite vers un ami.

English: He who has no relatives takes on a friend

Meaning: As human being we want family or friends who will always be there for us, in good and bad time in our life.

Biblical parallel: Galatians 3:28

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus”

92. Orajonga norapata esiwenya

Kiswahili: Usiwe na uchovu kabla ya kuidhinisha matarajio yako

French: Il ne faut pas se fatigue avant d’avoir atteint son ‘objectif.

English: You should not tire before your destination

Meaning: If you are looking for something, always work hard to get it and do not relent until you have attained what you wanted.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 14:23

“In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty”

93. Orava nende wasiwasi,

Kiswahili: Kua na subira, majaribio yasikupate

French: Soyez patient, pour n’est pas être tenté

English: Be patient, do not be tempted

Meaning: To have good thing in life you have to be patient, taking short-cuts in life may get you into big trouble.

Biblical parallel: Psalm 37:7-8

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil”

94. Oreka mdamba amwarira

Kiswahili: Anayedharau malaya hujipata amelala naye.

French: Quiconque méprise une prostituée finira au lit avec elle.

English: He who despise a prostitute end up in bed with her.

Meaning: Do not judge a person because of what they do before you know the cause and reason why they do what they do because one day you may find yourself doing what they do.

Biblical parallel: Matthew 7:5

“You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye”

95. Orinda viahuria viaye vinyire arichanga nende mkeni

Kiswahili: Agonjea chakula chake kipoe bila shaka atakila na mgeni.

French: Celui qui attend que sa nourriture s'est refroidisse mangera avec visiteur

English: He who waits for his food to cool shares with visitor

Meaning: If you wait for the perfect condition to do something, then you may not be able to achieve anything. Work hard and you will see the benefits of your work.

Biblical parallel: Jeremiah 17:10

“I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”

96. Ovulayi vuingi vunyasianga

Kiswahili: Shibe mingi yaleta madhara.

French: Trop de satisfaction conduit à des difficultés.

English: Too much satisfaction leads to waste

Meaning: You should not overdo something because the initial objective may be over passed and it may not be of meaning again. Always measure and do what is required.

Biblical parallel: Proverbs 23:2

“And put a knife to your throat if you are given to appetite”

97. Owenya vyiosi yakosa vyiosi.

Kiswahili: Mtaka yote, hukosa yote.

French: Si vous voulez tout, vous perdez tout

English: If you want everything, you lose everything

Meaning: Those who are not contented with what they have, always go for more but they end up losing everything. As a person you should be focused in the area that you know you are comfortable and contented.

Biblical Parallel: Matthew 16:26

“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul”

98. Sionyala khuosia mwana wavene vilai

Kiswahili: Huwezi kuosha mtoto wa mtu kwa kuridhika mzazi

French: Vous ne pouvez pas laver un enfant est satisfaire ses parents.

English: You cannot wash someone's child to the parent's satisfaction

Meaning: We all have different way we carry ourselves and do things; someone else may not manage to conduct an activity as you would do it yourself.

Biblical parallel: Ecclesiastes 7:20

"Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins"

99. Ubokosi bukhira bululu

Kiswahili: Ukarimu washinda kuwa mkali.

French: La politesse est mieux que la dureté

English: Politeness is better than harshness

Meaning: As a person who needs something from others you need to exercise humility and willingness by to be corrected and not to despise instruction you are given.

Biblical parallel: Philippians 2:3

"Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves"

100. Vikingi viiranga ingokho

Kiswahili: Mende wadogo huuajogoo

French: Les petits cancrelats tuent un coq

English: Tiny bugs kill a cock

Meaning: However small you may be, when you work together using your numbers you can be able to defeat any problems which seems to be big that is facing the community.

Biblical parallel: Romans 8:28

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

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APPENDIXES

A RESEARCH PROPOSAL FOR COLLECTION OF ABANYALA PROVERBS AND WISE SAYINGS

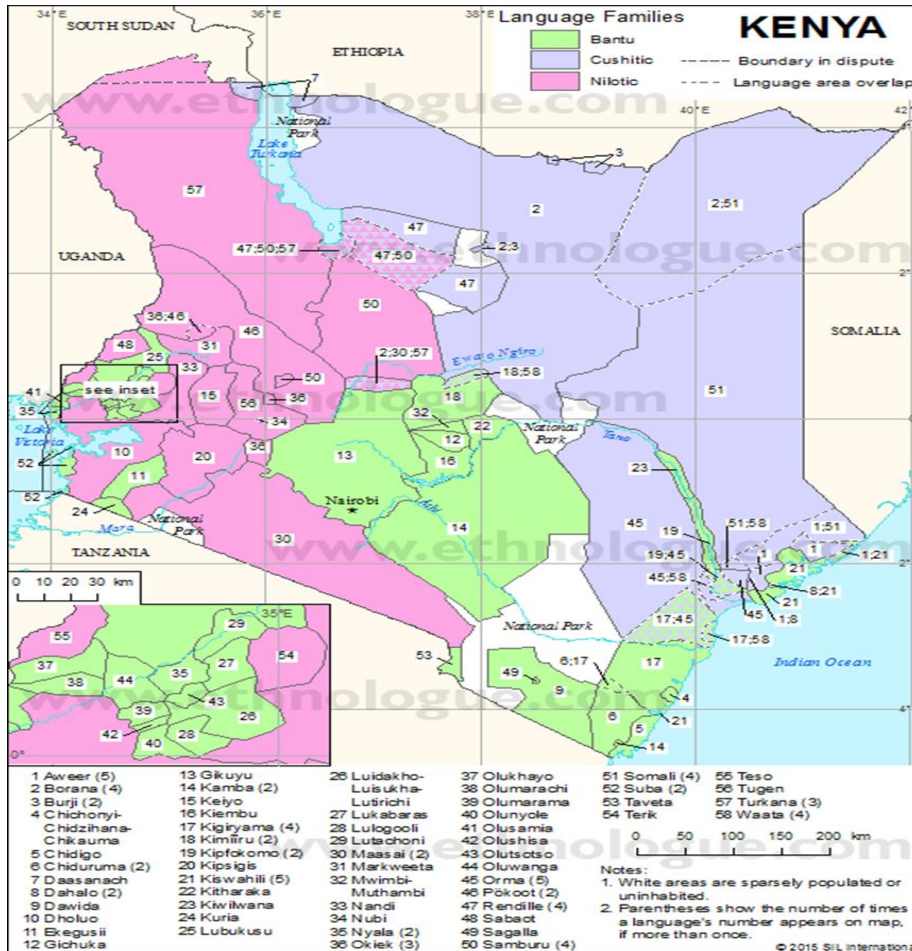
By Kevin Namatsi

(Kenya)

INTRODUCTION

The Abanyala is a small dialect of larger luhya tribe (also known as Abaluyia or Luyia) is a Bantu ethnic group in Kenya. The whole luhya tribe numbers is about 5.3 million people, being about 16% of Kenya's total population of 38.5 million, and are the second-largest ethnic group in Kenya. Anthropologists believe that the progenitors of the Luhya were part of the great Bantu expansion out of Western-Central Africa around 1000 BC.[clarification needed] In sharp contrast with anthropologists, the Luhya history records[clarification needed] that they migrated into what is now Kenya, from North Africa in a kingdom they call Misri. Today Misri is Egypt. The current inhabitants of Egypt call it "Masr".

THE ETHNOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE ABANYALA ETHNIC GROUP IN KENYA



Luhya refers to both the people and their language. There are 18 (and by other accounts, 19, when the Suba are included) tribes that make up the Luhya. Each with a distinct dialect. The word Luhya or Luyia in some of the dialects means "clan", and Abaluhya (Abaluyia) thus means "people of the clan". Other translations are "those of the same hearth."

The seventeen tribes are the Bukusu (Ava-Bukusu), Idakho (Av-Idakho), Isukha (Av-Isukha), Kabras (Ava-Kabras), Khayo (Ava-Khayo), Kisa (Aba-Kisa), Marachi (Ava-Marachi), Maragoli (Ava-Logoli), Marama (Aba-Marama), Nyala (Ava-Nyala), Nyole (Aba-Nyole), Samia (Ava-Samia), Tachoni (Ava-Tachoni), Tiriki (Ava-Tiriki), Tsotso (Abatsotso), Wanga (Aba-Wanga), Batura (Abatura). They are closely related to the Masaba (or Gisu), whose language is mutually intelligible with Luhya. The Bukusu and the Maragoli are the two largest Luhya tribes.

The Nyala (also known as Ava-Nyala, Aba-Nyala or Wa-Nyala) are one of the eighteen tribes of the Bantu ethnic group, the Luhya in Kenya. They number about 5.3 million people, being about 16% of Luhya's total population of 38.5 million, and are the second-largest ethnic group in Kenya. They speak the Olunyala dialect.

Nyala refers to both the people and their language. The word Nyala means "clan" and Abaluhya (Abaluyia) thus means "people of the clan". Other translations are "those of the".

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this research on Abanyala tribe are:

- i. To collect one hundred proverbs and wise sayings from the Abanyala people, from the elders and their general community.
- ii. To translate these proverbs and wise sayings into English, Kiswahili and French, for reference by a wider group of readers.
- iii. To find Biblical parallels to complement the Christian point of view.

JUSTIFICATION

This will help people to enrich their communication skills by using these proverbs and wise sayings and finding their application in their real lives.

METHODOLOGY

The writer will research and collect Abanyala proverbs and wise sayings from the Abanyala community in Kenya. The teaching and a Bible parallel will be added to each. One hundred of these proverbs will then be recorded for translation into Kiswahili, English, and French and be published in a booklet.

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BUDGET

1.	Data gathering and processing	\$ 180
2.	Typing and printing	\$ 100
3.	Binding	\$ 70
4.	Transport	\$ 100
5.	Miscellaneous	\$ 50
TOTAL		\$ 500