

**Rafiki Mpendwa,**

Je humzima? Je Familia yako haijamba? Ni matumaini yetu kila mtu ajambo na mwenye afya njema.

Mwezi uliopita, tulipata nafasi ya kusherehekea Siku ya Kimataifa ya Familia katika Dar es Salaam na tutawapa habari kadhaa kuhusu tukio hili. Kabla sijawazungumzia kuhusu mradi wa 'ugumu wa upatikanaji wa elimu ya msingi' mradi ambao tuliutambulisha kwenu katika jarida letu la Februari 2009.

Ingawaje, kama kawaida tunaweza kupata moyo mara kadhaa, kwanza katika kujitoa kwa marafiki wawili wasiyokuwa na maisha rahisi, lakini hawawa sahau wale wanao fanyanao kazi karibu ambao hawajui kusoma na kuandika Kiswahili.

Wasikilize!

**Dear friend,**

How are you? How is your family? We hope everybody is fine, and in good health.

Last month in Dar es Salaam, we had the chance to celebrate the International Day of Families and we will give you some news of this event, before speaking to you about the project "difficult access to primary school" that we presented to you in our Newsletter of February 2009.

However, as usual, we can find some encouragement first in the commitment of two friends who do not have a very easy life, but who don't forget those working close to them who do not know how to read and write.

Listen to them!

**Awali ya yote, kujifunza kusoma.**

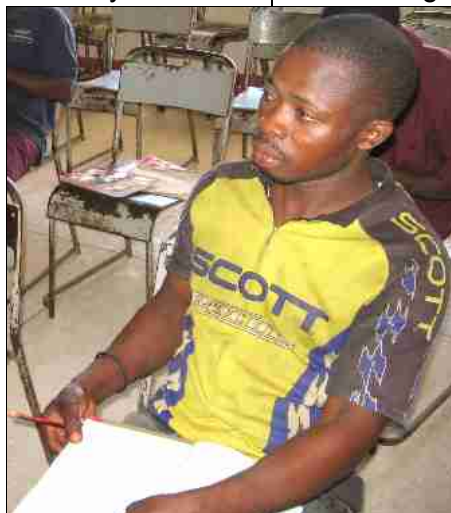
Tunakutana nao katika eneo lenye moshi mwingi kuliko eneo lingine katika soko la samaki la Magogoni. Mama Jesika anatuambia: *"Mimi pamoja na mama Zulfa tunawauzia kuni wakaangaji wa samaki. Tuko makumi kadhaa tunaofanya biashara hii"*. Ni sehemu ya vikundi kumi na vitano vilivyopo hapa katika soko la samaki: wauza mkaa na kuni. Hivi karibuni wafanyakazi wa hiki kikundi waliamua kuchukua hatua kuwasaidia miongoni mwao wale wasiojua kusoma na kuandika. Wali-gundua kwamba kulikuwa na idadi kubwa ya watu wazima wasiojua kusoma na kuandika. Siyo tu katika kikundi chao, bali katika soko lote la samaki. Hivyo waliratibu kozi na mwalimu mara mbili kwa juma, jirani na eneo la kazi kuwawezesha kuendelea kufanya kazi kwa bidii wakati pia wakihudhuria masomo.

Mama Jesika na mama Zulfa wamebahatika kujua kusoma na kuandika na wanapenda kuwasaidia wengine walio tayari kujifunza.

**First of all, learning how to read!**

We meet them in the smokiest area of the Magogoni Fishmarket of Dar es Salaam. Mama Jesika tells: *"Mama Zulfa and I sell firewood to the people who fry the fish. Dozens of us do the same business"*. They are part of one of the 15 trade groups existing at the Fishmarket: the firewood and charcoal sellers. Recently some workers from this group decided to take action in order to help those among themselves who do not know how to read and write. They discovered that there are many adults in this situation, not only in their group, but in the whole Fishmarket. So they organised a course with a teacher twice a week, close to the working place so that it's possible for the hard-working people to attend.

Mama Jesika and Mama Zulfa are lucky to know how to read and write and they want to help those who are ready to learn. With



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Pamoja na watu wengine wapatao kumi, wanashirikiana darasani kuwapa moyo wanafunzi na kuwasaidia kazi zao za ziada katikati ya vipindi. Mama Zulfa anasema: "Nadhani ni muhimu sana kujua kusoma na kuandika, hususan unapokuwa na watoto, kwa sababu

unahitaji kuwasaidia kufanya kazi zao za ziada, pia kupitia na kusahihisha kile walichojifunza".

Anaongezea kusema:

"Hawa wanaojifunza

kusoma na kuandika, wangependa kujifunza haya walipokuwa wangali wadogo bado, lakini familia zao hazikuwapa hiyo nafasi; wala si kosa lao, bali ndivyo hali halisi ilivyo, kwamba hawawezi kusoma au kuandika barua, au hata kusoma ujumbe wa simu".

Mama Zulfa na Jesika wanatumia muda mwingi wa kazi zao kuwasaidia wengine. Mama Zulfa anasema: "Unapokuwa hujui kusoma, unakosa habari na ujumbe, na hii ni sababu ya kukufanya ukose haki zako za msingi kwa kukosa habari. Ninaweza kusema kwamba unakuwa hujakamilika kwa kukosa....Endapo leo watu watajifunza kusoma na kuandika, yatakuwa ni mabadiliko makubwa kwa kizazi kijacho".

Mama Jesika na mama Zulfa wamepata njia yao ya kupambana na umaskini.



ten other people, they participate in the classes to encourage the learners and they help them to do their homework between each lesson. Mama Zulfa says: "I think that it is very important to know how to read and write, especially if you have children, because you want to be able to help them with their homework and to check what they learn." She adds: "Those who learn how to read today would have liked to learn when they were children, but their family could not give them that chance; it is not their fault, it is the reality. They are not happy with that. They are not able to read or write a letter, or even an sms."

Mama Jesika explains that very many people hide the fact that they do not know how to read: "Shabani, my brother in law, participates in this course. I just discovered that he did not know how to read. He always hid it from the family because he was ashamed of it. He told me that he was suffering a lot from that."

Mama Zulfa and Mama Jesika take time from their work in order to help the others. Mama Zulfa says: "If you do not know how to read, you miss news and messages, and it is why you can lose your basic rights because of the lack of information. I would say that you are incomplete, lacking... If the people today learn how to read and to write, it will make a change for the next generation."

Mama Jesika and Mama Zulfa have found their way to fight poverty.

## **Kuhusu Siku ya Kimataifa ya Familia.**

### **About the International Day of Families.**



Kama unavyofahamu, tuliadhimisha Siku ya Kimataifa ya Familia tarehe 15 ya mwezi Mei.

As you know, we celebrated the International Day of Families on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This day gathered nearly 200 people, who essentially came from the neighbourhoods of Dar es Salaam and whom we meet regularly. It was a very nice gathering, as the photos show. The Day was a good mixture of readings, testimonies, music, dance, etc.

Just for helping you to imagine what this day was about, we would like to offer you the testimony from the children of the Tandale street library. They said:

Siku hii iliwakusanya pamoja yapata watu 200 waliotoka sehemu mbalimbali katika vitongoji vya Dar es salaam, watu ambao huwa tunakutana nao mara kwa mara. Kama picha zinavyoonesha, ulikuwa mkusanyiko mzuri sana. Siku ilishehenezwa kwa mchanganiko wa masomo, shuhuda, muziki, dansi n.k.



*"Living as a family we co-operate and help each other in happiness and sadness. We should love each other and not quarrel and share what we have.*

*Our parents are important because they bring us to school, feed us,*

Kukupatia tu taswira ya jinsi siku hii ilivyokuwa, tunapenda kukupa ushuhuda kutoka kwa watoto wa maktaba ya mtaa ya Tandale. Walisema:

*"Tunapoishi kama familia tunashirikiana, tunasaidiana katika furaha na huzuni. Tupendane na siyo kugombana na kupeana tulicho nacho.*

*Wazazi wetu ni muhimu kwa sababu wanatupeleka shule, wanatulisha, wanatuvesha. Baada ya kukua na kupata elimu tutarudisha fadhila kwao kwa vile walivyotufanyia. Kwanza kabisa wanatupa upendo.*

*Wazazi wetu wanatufundisha tusipigane, tuiseme kauli mbaya, tuwaheshimu wakubwa na wazee, tufanye kazi za nyumbani, na wanatupa moyo ili tufanye vizuri shuleni."*

*dress us and when we are grown up we will help them in return. But first of all they give us love.*

*Our parents teach us not to fight, not to say bad words, to respect adults and older people, to do house work, and they give us courage to do well at school."*



## **Jipya kuhusu mradi wetu "ugumu wa kupata elimu ya msingi".**

### **What's new about our project "difficult access to primary school"?**

Mradi huu haujaisha bado, lakini tumepiga hatua ya muhimu. Kutokana na visa saba vya kweli vilivyosimuliwa na wazazi, mabibi na mababu zao, pengine na watoto wenyewe, tumetengeneza kijitabu "Nenda shule"<sup>1</sup> ambacho tunataraja kukitumia kwa namna mbili.

- Awali ya yote, pamoja na wazazi tunaowafahamu katika sehemu tunazoshughurika, ili kuwaonesha kwamba uzoefu wao ni muhimu na umehifadhiwa. Pamoja nao tunataka kuendeleza mazungumzo na mabadilishano kuhusu ugumu wa kupata nafasi za shule za msingi: Itawezekana ama kwa mtu mmoja mmoja au katika vikundi vidogo vidogo vya wazazi ambao wako tayari kutafakari pamoja.

- Pia tunafikiria kwamba kijitabu hiki kitakuwa wasaa mzuri wa kuwasiliana na kukutana na

This project is not finished yet but we made an important step. From seven true stories told by parents and grand parents and sometimes the children themselves, we made a small book "Going to school"<sup>2</sup>, which we want to use in two ways.

- First of all with the parents we know in our activity places, in order to show them that their experience is important and is saved. With them, we want to continue the dialogue and the exchange about the difficulties to access primary school. It will be possible either individually or in small groups of parents ready to think together.

- We also think that this book is a good occasion to contact and meet some professionals (social workers for example),

<sup>1</sup> Kama unavutiwa katika kuzipata simulizi hizo au kushiriki katika toleo lijalo, usisite kuwasiliana nasi.

<sup>2</sup> If you are interested in receiving those stories or in participating in the next version, don't hesitate to contact us.



baadhi ya wataalamu (mathalani wanaofanya kazi za jamii), si kwa ajili ya kuwapa somo, bali kuwakumbusha kwamba baadhi ya watoto, hususan wanaotoka katika familia za walio maskini sana, hawaendi shule kutokana na sababu nyingi mbalimbali. Inawezekana ikawa hatua ya kuanzia kwa mabadilishano na baadhi ya wataalamu kuhusu suala hili.

Tunapenda kushiriki pamoja nawe baadhi ya sehemu kutoka katika visa hivi.

*Mimi ni Amani M., naishi Dar es Salaam katika kitongoji cha Mbagala. (...)*

*Nina matatizo makubwa na Sadiki mwanangu wa kiume mwenye umri wa miaka 14 ambaye aliacha kwenda shule miaka minne iliyopita. Hiyo ilikuwa kuanzia mwaka 2005, akiwa katika darasa la 3 na alianza kucheza michezo ya utoro. Alikuwa akizunguka sehemu zisizoeleweka, kucheza michezo mibaya, alipigana na marafiki zake, na hakutaka kusoma hata kidogo. Kama asingeacha kwenda shule, leo hii angekuwa tayari yupo katika mwaka wake wa mwisho au angelikuwa tayari ameshamaliza shule ya msingi. (...)*

*Sasa Sadiki anazungumza. (...)*

*Sijui kusoma wala kuandika. Kama nitaendelea kukua bila kuelimika, maisha yangu yatakuwa magumu sana. Mmoja kati ya marafiki zangu na ambaye nilikuwanae katika darasa moja, tayari ameshaanza Kidato cha kwanza katika shule ya Sekondari. Ninapomuona ninajisikia vibaya sana kwa sababu wanapata elimu na mimi sipati. Siku moja nilikutana na Msiba, Mmoja kati ya marafiki zangu, na aliogopa kwamba ningeweza kuwa mwizi. Aliniambia nimuombe babayangu anipeleke shule. (...)*

not to give them a lesson but to remind them that some children, and especially in the poorest families, don't go to school because of many different reasons. It can be a starting point to have an exchange with some professionals about this question.

We would like to share with you some excerpts of one of these stories.

*I am Amani M. I live in Mbagala, a neighbourhood of Dar es Salaam. (...)*

*I have big problems with Sadiki, my son who is 14 and who stopped going to school four years ago. That was in 2005, he was in Standard 3 and he began to play truant. He was hanging around, had bad games, fought with his friends and did not want to study anymore. If he had not stopped going to school, today he would be in his last year or he would even have already finished primary school. (...)*

*Sadiki is now speaking: (...) I do not even know how to read and write. If I continue to grow up without being educated, my life will be very hard.*

*Some of my friends with whom I was at school in the same class are already starting Form 1 in secondary school. When I see them, I feel very bad, because they are getting an education and I am not. One day I met Msiba, one of my former schoolmates, and he was afraid that I would become a thief. He told me to ask my father to bring me back to school. (...)*

Tangu Februari mwaka huu, kijarida hiki kinapatikana katika mtandao wetu wa ATD Dunia ya Nne kwa Kiingereza na kwa Kiswahili ([www.atd-fourthworld.org/-Kiswahili-.html](http://www.atd-fourthworld.org/-Kiswahili-.html)).

Taratibu tutaongeza taarifa na habari katika lugha hizi mbili.

Utajiandaaje na maandalizi ya maadhimisho ya Siku ya Kimataita ya Kuutokomeza Umaskini uliokithiri kwa tarehe 17 Oktoba ijayo? Unaweza kupata msaada kutoka katika kijarida chetu cha mwezi Juni na Septemba, 2008. Iwapo hunavyo tena, tuambie!

*Wako, Timu ya ATD Dunia ya Nne  
ya Dar es salaam.*

Since February this year, our Newsletters are available on the ATD Fourth World website in Swahili and in English ([www.atd-fourthworld.org/-Tanzania.549-.html](http://www.atd-fourthworld.org/-Tanzania.549-.html)).

Little by little we will add more information and news in these two languages.

How are you going to prepare the celebration of the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty, next October 17<sup>th</sup>? You can find help in our Newsletters of June and September 2008. If you do not have them anymore, just tell us!

*Your ATD Fourth World Team  
in Dar es Salaam*