



Umthiyi weemfesi



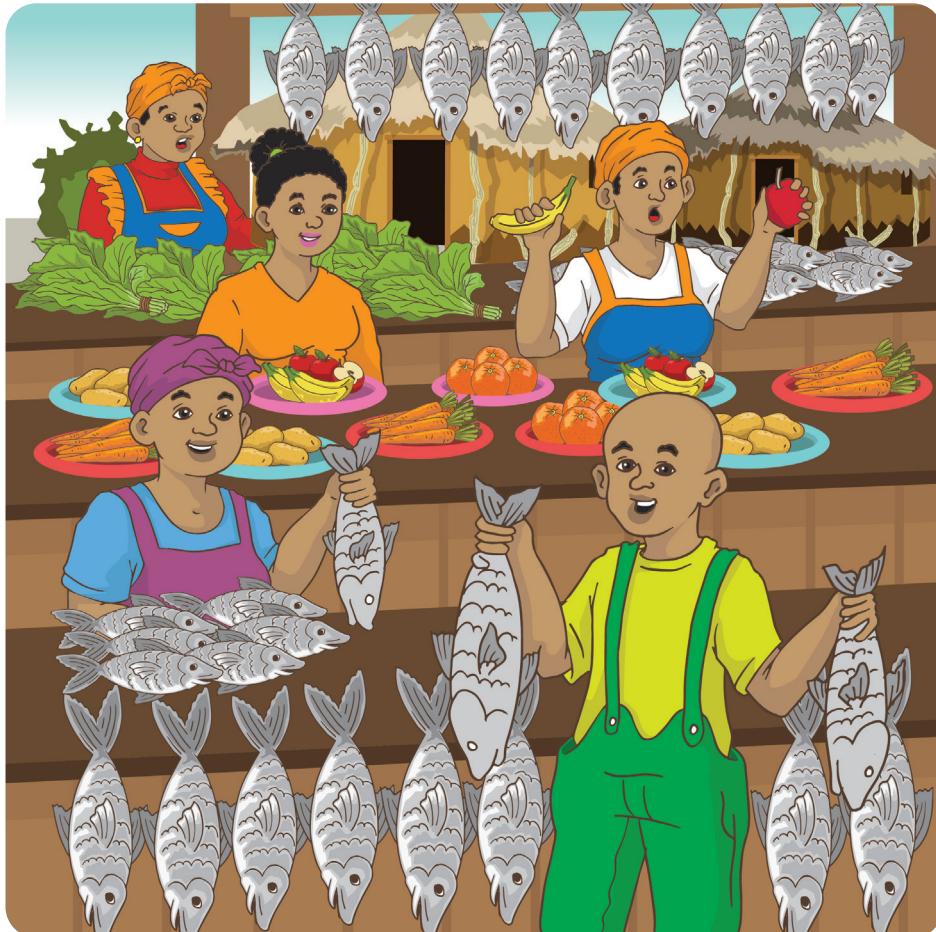
Elias Makhapa



Idamu leMhlabezi laziwa khulu ngeenyoka zemanzini. Abathiyi beemfesi banyula khulu lona leli idamu.

UMakhosini begade amsana ahlala eBhundu. Bekahlakaniphile begodu anetjisakalo. Bekafuna ukwazi yoke into.





UMakhosini nomndeni wakhe babe bahlala
eduze nedamu leMhlabezi. Inengi labahlali
lapha begade liphila ngokuthiya iimfesi.
Abanye bebathengisa iimfesi emarageni,
ngesikhathi abanye bathiyela ukudla
kwaphela. Indlala begade ingaziwa kile
indawo yeBhundu.



UMakhosini naye wayefisa ukubamthiyi weemfesi. Bekahlala abawa uyise bonyana amthengele isithiyo seemfesi.





Ngelanga uyise amthengela isithiyo, wathaba kwamambala begodu wathokoza. Umraro kwaba kukobana bekasaba ukukhamba ayedwa. Wabawa umngani wakhe uSitjhaba kobona akhambe naye. USitjhaba walandula. Wabawa uMkhuzelwa kodwana wala, wamtjela bonyana usaba iinyoka zemanzini.



Uzokwenza njani? Ukufuna kwamambala ukuyokuthiya akwazi ukusiza uyise othengisa iimfesi emarageni. Ukufuna ngehliziyo yakhe yoke. UMakhosini waqina isibindi wakhamba ayedwa. Waphosela isithiyo seemfesi ngedamini bese wahlala phasi eqadi kwedamu. Ngemva kwesikhathi, wabona inyoka yemanzini iduda iza ngakuye.





Wabutha okungekwakhe msinyazana
wabalekela ekhaya ngaphandle kwefesi
nayinye ngalelo langa lakhe lokuthoma.

UMakhosini waba namahloni ukutjho
bonyana ubalekile ngombana abone inyoka
yemanzini. Wathi ayikho ifesi eze eduze
nesithiyo sakhe.



Ngelanga elilandelako, uMakhosini wavuka ngamasa. Waya ebanganini bakhe ukuyobarabhela bonyana bamphekelele edamini. Bala godu, bathi abafuni ukuya eduze nedamu. Basaba iinyoka zemanzini.





UMakhosini usemrarweni. Ngubani ozamphekelela? Wafunga bonyana angeze akhamba yedwa. Kodwana ihliziyo yakhe yabe isekuthiyeni iimfesi. Wabe azicabanga amthiyi weemfesi ophumeleleko endaweni yangekhabo.



UNom. Bhuda wabe amthiyi onelwazi.
Ngelanga elilandelako waya kuNom.
Bhuda ayombawa bonyana akhambe naye
ukuyokuthiya. UNom. Bhuda akhange abe
nomraro. UMakhosini wazizwa athabile
begodu anomfutho wokubamba iimfesi
ezinengi.





UNom. Bhuda wabe idamu leMhlabezi
wabe alazi njengobana azazi yena.
Wathatha uMakhosini wamus a kelinye
ihlangothi ledamu lapho ebegade kungekho
iinyoka zemanzini. UMakhosini wazizwa
atjhaphulukile ngalesi isiqunto.



Baphosela iinthiyo zabo bese balinda
ukubona ukusikinyeka.

Isithiyo sikaMakhosini sabonisa
ukusikinyeka. Lokho begade kutjho bonyana
sibambe ifesi.





UNom. Bhuda walayela uMakhosini bonyana
asidose msinya.

UMakhosini wadosa isithiyo sakhe
kwaphuma ifesi ehle nekulu.

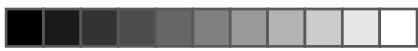
UNom. Bhuda wathebula isithombe sefesi
begodu wathatha nobukhulu bayo.



Isithoyo sikaNom. Bhuda naso sabonisa ukusikinyeka. Wadosa, waphuma nebhaburi.

Ngalelo ilanga, omunye nomunye wakhamba aphethe ifesi ezandleni zakhe.





UMakhosini wadana lokha isikhathi
sevakatjho likaNom. Bhuda siphela.
Wakhumbula kobana uNom. Bhuda begade
alisizo kangangani. Bekangakathabi kobana
gadesi sele azakukhamba ayedwa ukuya
edamini.



Gadesi besele akwazi ukubamba ifesi
ngamalanga.

Nanyana bekayedwa, wabe akhumbula koke
uNom. Bhuda amfundise khona.



UMkhuzelwa noSitjhaba bambawa
kobana abaphe ifesi. Besele banetjisakalo
yokukhamba naye. Bebafuna ukufunda
kuye. UMakhosini besele ayikutana
yokuthiya iimfesi ebanganini bakhe.



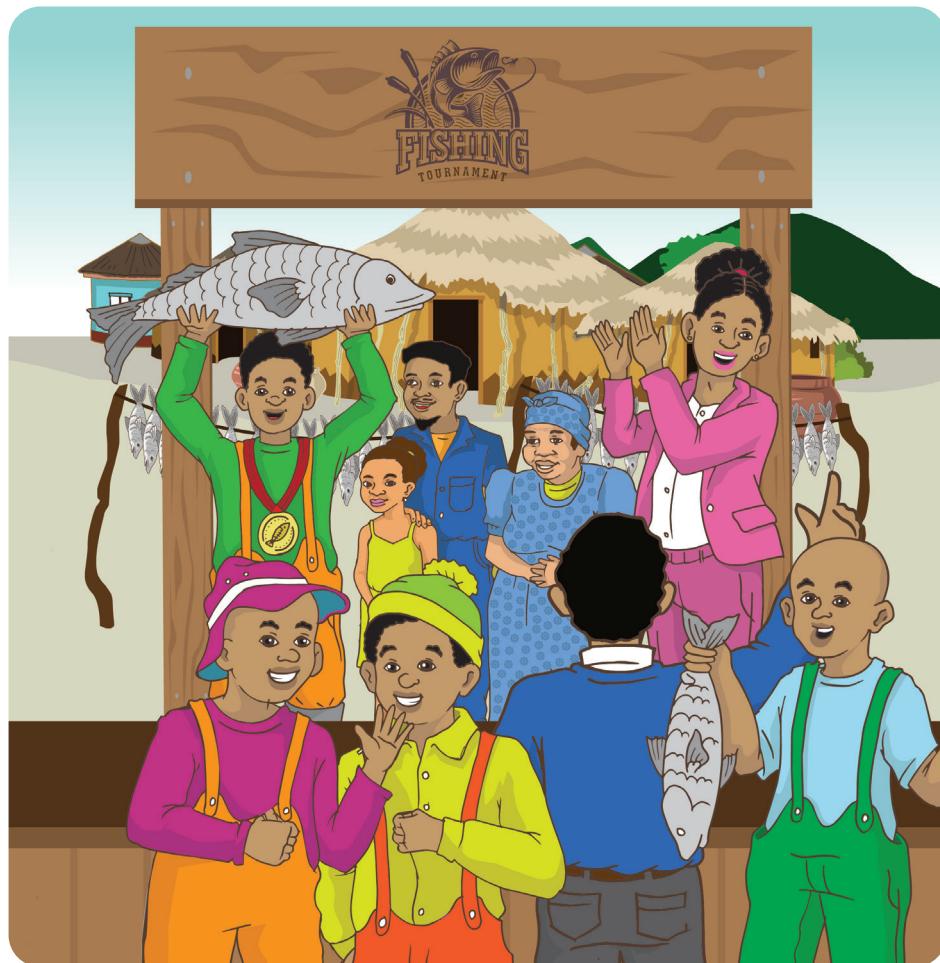


UMakhosini wathoma isiqhema esiqjinileko sabathiyi beemfesi. Amalunga wokuthoma kwaba nguMkhuzelwa noSitjhaba. UNom. Bhuda naye waba yingceny e yesiqhema lesi.



Mvanje uMakhosini uthethe unongorwana wokuba mthiyi odumileko endaweni yekhabo.

Izolo begade kuliphaliswano leminyaka ngeminyaka edamini leMhlabezi. Abathiyi bakude neduze bezile.





Isiqhema sikaMakhosini sithumbe
ibhigiri nemali ezinkulungwana ezihlanu
zamaranda. Namhlanje basemnyanyeni
obanjelwe ekhabo likaMakhosini, mnyanya
wokugidinga ukuthumba kwabo.