

## CHITUMBUKA TRANSCRIPTION

**NARRATOR:** Icho chikawako n’chakuti, pambere wazungu wandize, bakakhalanga (bapapi ) ku Falls kuti para sono ba Ngoni bakwiza kuzakawapweteka, iwo bakabisamanga ku Falls uku ndiko bakakhalanga. Ndipo ndiko ba sekuru bane bakatumbwiranga pa maji nakutora mbewu-mbuto, kuzakagawira banthu para vura yikuwa – ikutumbuka. Bakatoranga mbutu yira nakupereka ku banthu kuti wapande; sono pamanyuma, ndipo batorengye ya mny’umba. Yakwamba mbuto bakatoranga ku Manchewe Falls. Kukaba chiziba; sono bakayakatoranga mbuto pa chiziba cha maji apo, nakwiza nayo ku muzi.

**FUMBO:** *“Ka ma Arabs yakiza kuzakatora bazga (slaves) kuno? Nkhufumba nthena chifukwa ba sekuru wawo ba dada Bingu Bingu bakamuphalira za umo bakabisiranga bana bawo kopa kuti bangatoreka kuwa bazga nama Arabs. Sono ndakhumba ndimanye para mukumanyapo za nkhani ya ntheura iyi.”*

**ZGORO:** *“Mmm!....apo nkhumanya cha.”*

**FUMBO:** *“Kasi, bapapi awa bakasopanga uko wakabisamanga? Para bakasopanga, kasi bakasopanga Chiuta panyakhe mizimu?”*

**ZGORO:** *“Eeee... bakasopanga. Apo bazungu apo bakawa wandize, banthu awa bakazgowera kusopa viwanda. Bakachitora ngati chiziba chawo chira, ndicho ndi chiuta wawo. Sono bakasopanga kukurakura. Kweni kuti bamanye Chiuta sono, wakazabamanyiska mbazungu.”*

**FUMBO:** *“Mungakhumba kusazgirapo lumbiri lunyakhe lwakuyana na nyengo ya Robert Laws; chomene panyengo iyo banthu bakazgoka kuwa ba Kristu?”*

**ZGORO:** *“Aaaa!...ndingamanya cha. Kweni, kuti para Robert Laws wakati wiza, sono ndipo banthu wakamba kumanya uChiuta. Ndiyo Robert Laws, akamba kuwakanira kuti, ‘ivi yayi ndivyawaka...tiyeni tisope Chiuta.’”*

**FUMBO:** *“Chifukwa uli banthu bakamupulikira Robert Laws –wakalekerachi kukana?”*

**ZGORO:** *“Ukaba nga ngubwezi. Robert Laws akabatora banthu aba nga mbabwezi bakhe.”*

**FUMBO:** “Mukumanyapo vichi mwa ivyo vikusambizgikapo mwakukhwaskana na lumbiri lwa David Livingstone?”

**ZGORO:** “David Livingstone pakwiza kuno wakadangira, nanga uli wakafikapo pa Khondowe cha. Wakawerera pasirya apo kweni sono Dr. Laws, wakiza m’manyuma kuti David Livingstone wawerako.”

**FUMBO:** “Kasi, David Livingstone wakaluta ku Lake Nyasa?”

**ZGORO:** “Apa ndingalongosora makora cha.”

**FUMBO:** Pambere Robert Laws wandize, nkhopulika kuti ma Arabs ghakatora banthu bachifipa kuwa ‘bazga’ (slaves). Kasi mukumanyapo vichi vyamalonda gha ‘bazga’ (slaves) abo bakatoreka kuMalawi na Tanzania na ma Arabs?” Asi Robert Laws wakiza kuzakakanizga kutora bazga?”

**The following is therefore, the response:**

**ZGORO:** “Robert Laws wakaba na banthu bakhe kale...bantchito. Kuno ku Khondowe akatorako banthu cha. Banthu banyakhe awo akawatora, ndingawamanya cha. Kweni abo nkhuwamanya abo akaba nawo nga ndi, Uriah Chirwa; awo wakafuma nawo ku Batonga uku; nabafipa banandi. Pakuti ka bukhu kane ndiri kutaya...maso nayo yafwaso. Kweni nkhekumbuka kuti wakaba nawa Ngoni na baTonga... ndiwo bakanyamula katundu kufuma uku kuya uku. Awo bakasangika kuno nakuti akakumana nawo maso na maso bakawa banandi. Nthe ku Junju, kukaba Wirikani Zimakazi kurakura na Harawa Chimbiriri: awo balikulembeka mazina kura...sono kuno kukaba Mwabanga. Ndiwo banthu abo nkhuwamanya ine. Abo vanyakhe abo haa!... yayi.”

**FUMBO:** “Kasi, mukupemphera ku C.C.A.P.?”

**ZGORO:** “Yayi. Ku New Apostolic.” Basekuru bane wakasopanga ku C.C.A.P. Bakamumanyanga Robert Laws.”

**FUMBO:** “Robert Laws akaba munthu muwemi?”

**ZGORO:** “E-ee, Robert Laws akaba munthu muwemi chomeni.”

## **ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

**NARRATOR:** *Before the White people came our grandparents used to dwell at Manchewe Falls. The main reason for their stay there was that when the Ngoni would come to fight them, they would hide at the Falls. As time for rains was about to start, my grandfather would dive into the well beneath the Falls to collect seedlings. The seedlings he collected from the well were distributed among the people of the village so that they plant them in their gardens. My grandfather would first distribute the seedlings to the villagers before he could take his own share. So the trend was that during the approach of each rainy season, the seedlings would be collected from the well at Manchewe Falls.*

**QUESTION:** *“Did the Arabs come to take slaves from this place?” I am asking this question because, Bingu Bingu’s grandfather told him how parents used to hide their children so that they are not captured as slaves by the Arabs; do you know anything about this?”*

**ANSWER:** *“Mmmm!... I don’t know anything about that.”*

**QUESTION:** *Were these grandparents praying in those places where they used to hide. If they did, to whom were they praying.... Was it to God or their ancestral spirits?”*

**ANSWER:** *“Yes, they used to pray. Before the White People came, our parents were used to praying to their ancestors. They looked up to the well at Manchewe as their god and so they used to offer their prayers right there. They only came to know about the true God through the teachings of the White people?”*

**QUESTION:** *“Would you like to say something more on the history of Robert Laws... mainly concerning the time when the people here were converted to Christianity?”*

**ANSWER:** *“Aaaa!... all what I can say is that, when Robert Laws came, that was the time when the people came to know about Christianity. In fact, it was Robert Laws who introduced Christianity among the people; he said to them, ‘this is not true...stop praying to your ancestors and start praying to the Living God’*

**QUESTION:** *“What made the people listen to Dr. Laws...Why could they not say, ‘no we don’t want to pray to your God... we shall continue praying to the god of our ancestors?’*

**ANSWER:** *“Laws created friendship between himself and the people... they were friends...he took them as his own true friends, and so it was not difficult for the people to listen to his new teachings about Christianity.”*

**QUESTION:** *“What do you know about the history of David Livingstone?”*

**ANSWER:** *“David Livingstone was the first to come here. However, he did not come up to Khondowe... he turned back down there. Now, Dr. Laws came later... that is after David Livingstone had already returned.”*

**QUESTION:** *“Did David Livingstone go to Lake Nyasa?”*

**ANSWER:** *“I cannot clearly explain much on this.”*

**QUESTION:** *“I also learnt that before Robert Laws came, the Arabs came to capture some Black people here as slaves. What do you know about the Arabs and slave trade here in Malawi and Tanzania? Is it true that Robert Laws also came to stop slave trade?”*

***The following is therefore, the response:***

**ANSWER:** *“Robert Laws had his own workers and so he did not take any other workers from Khondowe. I don’t know any other people he took from here. All I know is that, he came with people such as Uriah Chirwa and other Black people whom he took from the Tonga tribe. It’s sad that I lost my record book in which I wrote about these things...even if the book was with me, I wouldn’t be able to read properly because my sight is now very poor. I only remember that he was accompanied by some Ngoni and Tonga people. These people helped carry his luggage as he travelled around. Of course he met a lot of other people here such as Wirikani Zimakazi from Junju and Harawa Chimbiriri and right here, we had Mwabanga. These are the ones who are recorded in the history book and I don’t know of any other people apart from these.”*

**QUESTION:** *“Are you a C.C.A.P. member?”*

**ANSWER:** *“No am not. I am a member of the New Apostolic Church. My grandfather was a member of the C.C.A.P. Church. He knew Dr. Robert Laws very well.”*

**QUESTION:** *“Was Robert Laws a good man?”*

**ANSWER:** *“Oh yes! Robert Laws was a very good man.”*

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