

Shabaan Robert

Shaaban Robert was a Tanzanian writer and poet whose exact inspiration for the poem is unknown, as he died in 1962. He is widely admired for his belief that truth ultimately prevails, a theme reflected in his works. Robert spent much of his life working as a civil servant under the colonial government, an experience that shaped his anti-colonial perspective. His position allowed him to observe the flaws and injustices of the colonial system firsthand. In addition to his political insights, he was deeply committed to preserving the Swahili language. Through his literary work, he engaged in cultural resistance against colonial influence and strengthened East African identity.
