

MSHIPA WA JITO / THE OPTIC NERVE

1. Mshipa wa jito ni nini? t'akweleza, Bubakara
Ufahamu kwa makini Izidi yako subira
Iongezeke imani ingawa una hasara
2. Mshipa wa jito ni nini? ni daraja, Bubakara
Lafunganisha kiini kwenye bongo la nidhara;
Lafunganisha maoni na hazina ya fikira
3. Mshipa wa jito ni nini? penye shimo ni nusura
Kujikinga hatarini na kudaki barabara;
Na ukiwa uwandani jito huteza mpira
4. Mshipa wa jito ni nini? Vumilia, Bubakara
Umekuwa masikini kwa kupungukiwa nura
Yamwelea Rahamani ondo hili latotora
5. Nuru ya mato ni nini? ni mizani na imara
Isingepata thamani lulu wala jauhara
Lau mato hayaoni namna zinavyon'gara

6. Nuru ya mato ya nini? ni lengo kwa msafara
Jito ndilo darubini kujua ndia na sura
Ukifika ugenini jito pia ni sitara
7. Nuru ya mato ni nini? ni bahati kama kura
Ni hidaya ya mbinguni ulopawa, Bubakara
Kwa nini, Mola, kwa nini kukunyang'anya mara?
8. Sikufuru, Rahamani, ni mzazi nat'atara
Mwanangu mefanya nini kupokonywa yake nura?
Nanyenyekea nyaoni mrudishie nadhara
9. Azitizame mbinguni ashuhudie imara
Azione zako shani mwezi na nyota king'ara
Ajuwe M'ngu ni nani awe tayari akhera
10. Mshipa wa jito ni nini? ni maondo, Bubakara
Jitegemee yakini uwe ni shujaa bora
Ingawa leo huoni kesho pengine nidhara
11. Twakuomba ya Mannani Allahu Akbara
Twakuomba Rahamani Kibulani na mnara
Daktari wa Mbiguni mtwibu Abubakara?
Amin.

God knows only too well
That this loss is a provocation.

5. What is eyesight itself?

It is the measure and the scale,
The pearl and the ruby
Would have been worthless
Were there no eyes
To witness their luster.

6. What is eyesight itself?

It is the caravan's traffic indicator.
It is the field glasses
To discern direction and identify appearance.
And when you get to strange parts
The eye clothes your nakedness.

7. What is eyesight?

It is a game of chance.
It was once a gift from heaven
Bestowed on you, Abubakar,
But now God has changed his mind
Taking away his gift--but why so suddenly?

8. I am not blaspheming, O God,
I am only a parent groaning,
What has my child done
To deserve this change of plan?
I kiss your divine feet--
Restore his sight.

9. Let him scan the skies again,
Let him witness the design.
Let him bear testimony to the visual miracles of your
creation;
Let him see the moon shine and the stars twinkle again
Let him learn from these who God is--
Let him thus prepare for what comes at the end of it
all.

10. What is the optic nerve?
It is a test of will, Abubakar.
From now on have the will to be self-reliant--
Have the resources to be brave.
You may not see today
But who knows about tomorrow?

11. We call on you, O God,
Allahu Akbar.

We are our own pulpit

And our own minaret.

Medicine Man of the Skies--

Where is your therapy? ²⁰